



NEVADA EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL (ECAC)
POLICY & FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE
PUBLIC MEETING
Thursday, August 8, 2024, 1pm-2pm

*“Nevada’s children will be safe, healthy, and thriving during the first eight years of life,
and the system will support children and families in achieving their full potential.”*

This meeting was held via Zoom videoconference

Minutes Summary

1. Welcome, Call to Order, and Roll Call

Elysa Arroyo and Brenda Morales-Solorzano, Subcommittee Co-Chairs

- Elysa Arroyo called the meeting to order at 1:05pm
- Sabrina Jones conducted roll call

Members in Attendance (#7):

- Anna Marie Binder, Parent Representative
- Ashley Dines, Parent Leadership Coordinator, The Children's Cabinet
- Brenda Morales-Solorzano, Co- Chair
- Brianna Cambra, Provider Support Director, The Children’s Cabinet
- Elysa Arroyo, Co-Chair
- Lela Gonzales, ARP Project Manager, The Children's Cabinet
- Patti Oya, Office of Early Learning and Development Director, Nevada Department of Education

Members Not in Attendance (#3):

- Brian Cullen, CCDP Fiscal and Data Manager, DWSS
- Marty Elquist, SEED Director, The Children’s Cabinet
- Nicole Martin, CCDP Social Services Program Specialist III, DWSS

Public in Attendance:

- Brandi Hearst, Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council Administrative Coordinator, Office of Early Learning and Development, Nevada Department of Education
- Denise Tanata, Early Childhood Systems Consultant, The Children’s Cabinet
- Karen Chessell, Nevada Department of Education
- Kelissa Plett-Merritt
- Rachel Stepina, Preschool Development Grant Birth-5 Grant Manager, Office of Early Learning and Development, Nevada Department of Education.
- Rosa Tamayo, Family Leadership Coordinator, The Children’s Cabinet
- Sabrina Jones, Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council Systems Specialist, Office of Early Learning and Development, Nevada Department of Education
- Tiffany Olivas, ECCS Manager 2, The Children’s Cabinet

2. Public Comment #1

Public Comment was offered during this agenda item regarding any item appearing on the agenda. No action may be taken on a matter discussed under this item until the matter is included on the agenda as an item on which action may be taken. The Co-Chairs may impose a time limit of three minutes. Public Comment #2 will provide an opportunity for public comment on any matter within the Subcommittee’s jurisdiction, control, or advisory power.

- No public comment



3. Approval of a Flexible Agenda (*Discussion for Possible Action*)

The Subcommittee motioned to approve a flexible agenda.

Elysa Arroyo and Brenda Morales-Solorzano, Subcommittee Co-Chairs

- Brenda Morales- Solórzano-motioned to approve the flexible agenda
- Anna Marie Binder seconded the motion
- Members unanimously voted, motion passed, flexible agenda approved

4. Approval of June 13, 2024 Minutes (*Discussion for Possible Action*)

The Subcommittee approved the June 13, 2024, meeting minutes.

Elysa Arroyo and Brenda Morales-Solorzano, Subcommittee Co-Chairs

- Brianna Cambria motioned to approve the June 13, 2024, Minutes
- Patti Oya seconded the motion
- Members unanimously voted, motion passed, June 13, 2024, Minutes approved

5. Workplan Progress Review (*Discussion for Action*)

The Subcommittee reviewed any workplan updates or current action being taken on any workplan activities.

Elysa Arroyo and Brenda Morales-Solorzano, Subcommittee Co-Chairs

- Sabrina Jones shared Policy Priorities Survey document on the screen.
- Elysa Arroyo, reviewed Policy Priorities as related to the subcommittee workplan, she reported that the results align with the current Strategic Plan.
- The top three priorities results:
 1. Early Childhood Governor's Office (Prenatal to age three to align with policy and fiscal decision making.
 2. Implement an Early Childhood Integrated Data System (ECIDS) to improve service delivery
 3. Establish Support and Resources to ensure equitable engagement of parent/families in leadership and decision making.
- Tiffany Olivas mentioned she appreciate the results being share and thought the results were interesting.
- Anna Binder mentioned that she appreciates that the results were shared and asked if she could still comment on the survey.
- All members agreed that the Policy Priorities Survey results should be shared with the Executive Leadership Subcommittee.

6. In-Depth Examination of Fiscal Map (*Discussion for Possible Action*)

The Subcommittee reviewed a presentation of how to navigate the fiscal map and its contents.

Denise Tanata, Early Childhood Systems Consultant, The Children's Cabinet

- Denise Tanata explained the Children's Cabinet work on State/Local funding using the Children's Cabinet Fiscal map
Summary:
 - Gap analysis looks at funding streams and services, if we served all eligible populations in this area for this program, how much would we need monetarily.
 - Example- Child Care subsidy, what is the real cost of quality care and how much are families in need receiving? how much funds do we need to fill this gap?
 - Step 1. Maximize fed funding
 - DE-obligation of federal funds
 - For example: 2.2 billion in Medicaid funding that has gone back to Federal govt from Nevada
 - We are researching why so much goes back



- Continue looking for other grants and funding that NV may not be utilizing or even underutilizing
- If NV implemented new revenue sources, what could those sources generate?
- Small review of local (city/county) funding sources to see what potential options we must help generate funding
- Step 2 Updates to include a couple of fiscal years
- Depends on federal reports being done and available
- Looking for a team to review financial analysis ... a team member from ECAC Policy would be beneficial as we know how to read and evaluate finance reports.
- Anna Binder- Expresses excitement and wants to pass this down to Clark County to see the overview/ trickledown effect and will help with the Asks and gives a grounding/snapshot of where we are going and fighting for Universal Pre-K and if they (Children's Cabinet) are paid for developing the Grant.
- Denise Tanata: We do have the capability to include Local Funding Streams, we had to limit to Fed/State funding as the budgets are available. If county budgets were available, we could include them.
- Anna Binder- Is there a way to ask for the budget/funding sources locally?
- want to make sure we had our trainings done first so our team understands what we can or can't do. We need to have the correct "Asks"
- Anna Binder- I remember we helped pay for their work through a grant
- Denise Tanata- Are you referring to the Fiscal Map project?
- Anna Binder- Yes
 - **Phase 1** 0-24 months fiscal map paid for by national Children's philanthropic program 0-24 months
 - **Phase 2**- Early Childhood Map Fiscal Report paid for by grants from Division of Welfare Services, Child Care Development Program/Children's Advocacy and Reliance grant
 - **Phase 3**- Gap Analysis Fiscal Report paid for by grants from either the Division of Welfare Services, Child Care Development Program, or Children's Advocacy and Reliance grant
- Tiffany Olivas- Interested in local funding, Carson Douglas ECAC doing an event in Carson City having an Early Childhood bite-size business Symposium...using "kids Count" data, it would be interesting to engage our local community to build and then lead to more engagement to get local ECAC's and community together.
 - Children's Funding Project showed what sources of funding was returned from Nevada, if you were able to Dive into what funding went back to the Fed government would you share with us?
- Denise Tanata- I'd be happy to share, and I would like to ask for support. It's disheartening to not serve people when we have the funds but not resource or agency to funnel it to. We don't offer services because of lack of resources but we had the funds, and we couldn't utilize and now fed govt getting our earned funds back we need to focus on the large amounts and ask why.
 - Do we need to do our projections different?
 - How do we get the funds spent if we don't have the resources in place for families to utilize?
 - How do we get the resources without the funds?
- Anna Binder- We have had hiccups in Grants, we try to not return the funds and figure out how to recategorize the grants, it's work- spend them...I freed up time and can help investigate how funds were spent and how much went back to Feds for NV
- Denise Tanata recruited Anna to help... Denise mentioned training she wants people to attend if they can
- Denise Tanata - I am putting together the list of the Nevada Team to receive training sometime in September to have at least 1 if not 2 to participate in that training. Anna has signed up for that, is anyone else interested in that?
 1. Maybe add this to agenda



7. Discuss Agenda Items and for Upcoming Policy and Finance Subcommittee Meeting

(Discussion for Possible Action)

The Subcommittee discussed agenda items for the next subcommittee meeting.

Elysa Arroyo and Brenda Morales-Solorzano, Subcommittee Co-Chairs

- Denise Tanata suggested October for Gap Analysis,
- Sabrina Jones to make a note to talk to Denise Tanata when October Agenda drafted

8. Public comment #2 (Discussion for Possible Action)

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Elysa Arroyo and Brenda Morales-Solorzano, Subcommittee Co-Chairs

- Patti Oya- The Joint Interim Committee of Education meeting has been rescheduled to be at 9:30am on Thursday, 8/22/24, Agenda not posted yet

9. Adjournment

Elysa Arroyo and Brenda Morales-Solorzano, Subcommittee Co-Chairs

- Elysa Arroyo adjourned meeting at 2:02pm

Selected Action Items

- Present Policy Priorities Survey results during the leadership meeting
- Discuss returned funding and Fiscal Map Training

One Sentence Summary

- The Subcommittee discussed Policy Priorities Survey results, an in-depth examination of the Fiscal Map, and agenda items for the upcoming September meeting.