



NEVADA EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL (ECAC)

PUBLIC MEETING

WEDNESDAY, July 17, 9:00 am-12pm

This meeting was held video conference:

Minutes Summary

1. Welcome, Call to Order, Membership Update and Roll Call

Tiffany Alston, Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council Chair

Patrice Gardner, Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council Vice Chair

- Tiffany Alston called meeting to order at 9:05AM
- Sabrina Jones conducted roll call
- Naysedi Badillo reviewed instructions for joining different language channels.

Members in Attendance: (16)

- Edith Farmer – Seat A
- Karissa Loper Machado- Seat C
- Joan Jackson – Seat D
- Dr. Lori Ann Malina-Lovell – Seat E
- Carrie Paldi- Seat H
- Stephanie Vega – Seat I
- Tiffany Alston- Seat J
- Patrice Gardner- Seat K
- Brenda Morales-Solorzano- Seat L
- Vacant- Seat M
- Marty Elquist- Seat N
- Abbey Bernhardt- Seat O
- Vacant- Seat P
- Jennifer Butler – Seat R
- Dr. Linda Young- Seat R
- Elysa Arroyo- Seat R

Members Not in Attendance: (5)

- Tami Conn – Seat B
- Arielle Newell-Rollins – Seat Q
- Tina Springmeyer- Seat R
- Dr. Diane Nicolet- Seat F
- Dr. Jenna Weglarz-Ward- Seat G

Public In Attendance: (52)

- Alexandar
- Angela Hamilton, Early Childhood Outreach Educator, Las Vegas County Library District

- Anna Severens, Education Program Professional, Department of Education, Office of Early Learning and Development
- Anna Villatora, Early Childhood Comprehensive System Specialist, The Children's Cabinet
- Annete Dawson Owens, Children Advocacy Alliance
- Ashley Dines, Family Leadership Coordinator, The Children's Cabinet
- Belz and Case, Government Affairs by Rewatch
- Ben Dickerson, NWRPDP
- Brandi Hearst Early Childhood Advisory Council Administrative Coordinator, Nevada Department of Education, Office of Early Learning and Development
- Brianna Cambra, Provider Support Director, The Children's Cabinet
- Bruno Showers, The Children's Funding Project
- Carmen V. Mendez
- Carrie Paldi, District Manager, The Care Group
- Casey Amayun, Consultant, Prenatal to Fiscal Strategies
- Crystal Johnson, Statewide Chief, DWSS, Nevada Strong Start Childcare Services
- Deetra Stewart, Founder, CEO, Family Childcare Association of Nevada
- Elyse Monroy
- Gerilyn Slicker, Assistant Professor of Early Childhood, University of Las Vegas Nevada
- Jamelle Nance, Early Childhood Policy Director, Children's Advocacy Alliance
- Jamie Mendez, Early Childhood Quality Specialist, Nevada Department of Education, Office of Early Learning and Development
- Jeana Capita, Prenatal to Five Fiscal Strategies
- Jenna Grant, Clinical Program Planner 3, Department of Children and Family Services
- Jerek Houg, District Manager, Source Academy and Early Learning Center
- Joycelene Bumagat, Research Assistant, Nevada Institute for Research and Policy
- Julie Conde
- Kacey Edgington, Nevada
- Kathy Yoder-Bass, Principal, The Hills Preschool
- Kerry Kelly, Community Health Program Manager, Renown Health
- Krisann Alvarez, Infant Early Childhood Mental Health Systems Coordinator, Division of Child and Family Services
- Kylie Wheeler, The Children's Funding Project
- Laura Lopez
- Lela Gonzalez, CCEA Project Manager, The Children's Cabinet
- Linda C Anderson, Policy Analyst, Nevada Public Health Foundation
- Lupita
- Mariah Najera
- Mary Regan, Director of ECE, Lab Program, College of Southern Nevada
- Maura LeAnn Synder, DWSS, Regional Coordinator for Northern CCSC
- Meghan McQuillan, Early Childhood Quality Specialist, Nevada Department of Education, Office of Early Learning and Development
- Patti Oya, Director, Nevada Department of Education, Office of Early Learning and Development
- Peter Paragas, Data Specialist, Sunrise Children's Center
- Rachel Stepina, PDG-5 Grant Manager, Department of Education, Office of Early Learning and Development
- Rosa Tamayo-Rodriquez, Family Leadership Coordinator, The Children's Cabinet
- S. Hodgers

- Sabrina Jones, Early Childhood Advisory Council Systems Specialist, Nevada Department of Education, Office of Early Learning and Development
- Sara Carone
- Sara Sill, NEIS, Supervisor
- Smriti Neupane, Research Analyst, NICRP
- Tiffany Olivas, ECCS Manager 2, The Children's Cabinet

2. Public Comment #1

Public Comment will be taken 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 Council Chair of the Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council will impose a time limit of three minutes. Public Comment #2 will provide an opportunity for public comment on any matter within the Council's jurisdiction, control or advisory power.

- No Public Comment

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

The Council approved a flexible agenda. The Council may take agenda items out of order; combine two or more agenda items for consideration; remove an item from the agenda or delay discussion relating to an item on the agenda at any time.

Tiffany Alston, Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council Chair

Patrice Gardner, Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council Vice Chair

- Karissa Loper Machado motioned to approve a flexible agenda
- Dr. Linda Young seconded the motion
- No opposition
- All members voted in favor-the motion is passed

4. Minutes from May 15, 2024 (*Discussion, For Possible Action*)

The Council discussed and approved the minutes for May 15, 2024

Tiffany Alston, Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council Chair,

Patrice Gardner, Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council Vice Chair

- Sabrina Jones presented minutes from May 15,2024
- Carrie Paldi motioned to approve the minutes with corrections to (add Denise last name to two sentences.)
- Dr. Linda Young seconded the motion
- No opposition
- All members voted in favor- the motion is passed

5. The Development of Nevada Early Childhood Language Access Plan (*Information/Discussion*)

The Council heard an update regarding the Nevada Early Childhood Language Access Plan

Rachel Stepina, Grant Manager, Preschool Development Grant Birth through Five

- Rachel Stepina provided visual presentation for segment with a QR code with explanation for 'interactive presentation' using mobile device access.

- Rachel Stepina discussed the importance of language access, including definition of language access via Civil Rights Act of 1964 and its role in comprehensive service provision, as well as the types of resources available to assist with language access plans.
- Rachel Stepina discussed foundational policy for the role of language access and the assessment of organizations to fulfill this need. There are multiple language access plans available, as well as the services available to support the effort.
- Rachel Stepina - next steps for improving Early Childhood Language Access like having state-specific data, identification of overlap and gaps among existing plans, communication among early childhood groups within Nevada, and more.
- Rachel Stepina recommended self-assessment questions & reflection, participation in development of early childhood Language Access Plan, and learning about other variables surrounding language access and family developmental needs.

6. Gap Analysis and Revenue Plan update (Information/Discussion)

The Council heard a review of the Gap analysis and an update on the revenue plan

Denise Tanata, Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems Consultant, The Children's cabinet

Kyle Wheeler, The Children's Funding Project

Bruno Showers, The Children's Funding Project, State Revenue officer

- Bruno Showers provided visual presentation for segment titled 'Nevada: State-Level Revenue Options.
- Bruno Showers reviewed federal de- obligations and the amount of revenue across program, Money allocated and sent back to the federal government because of not being utilize. He mentioned Medicaid stands out of money being sent back and notable to investigate the topic in relation to acquiring more early childhood support.
- Bruno Showers discussed Capital Gains Tax and how it can serve as a substantial form of support for additional funding.
- Bruno Showers – discussed Reformed Modified Business Tax and how the elimination of exemptions and raising of rates can raise revenue.
- Bruno Showers- discussed the reform of Real Estate Transfer Tax and the taxing of real estate transactions, higher rates for higher value properties mentioned as an option of interest.
- Bruno Showers – Discussed reform of Commerce Tax, consolidate rates lowering sales thresholds
- Bruno shared a state level options comparison in each area mentioned.
- Bruno Showers- we will be working we Denise Tanata to find out what options we want to explore in the future.
- Kylie Wheeler provided visual presentation for segment titled 'ECE System Gap Analysis'
- Kylie Wheeler - difference between 'what is needed' and 'what organizations have' to find the 'gap' for organizations.
- Kylie Wheeler described the Gap Analysis is to fund an implementation goal with a set of clear and measurable objective.
- Kylie Wheeler shared a list of program area sectors that are being considered for gap analysis, highlights certain topics that have been investigated prior.
- Kylie Wheeler discussed phase-in approach to accomplishing goals and applying strategies related to program access.

- Kylie Wheeler presented examples of multi-level goals focused on sustained funding plans.
- Kylie Wheeler - ‘Level 1 Gap Analysis for Childcare Assumptions, around the topics of eligible populations, care settings, and enrollment conditions for early childhood education.
- Kylie Wheeler- Discussed follow-up steps and the importance of finalizing assumptions to assist with gap analysis needs.
- Dr Linda Young - inquired about how data is disseminated among stakeholders.
- Denise Tanada- discussed development of dissemination plan once significant data is decided with group’s interest in mind.

7. Prenatal to 5 Fiscal Strategies/Maternal Methodology (Information/Discussion)

The council heard a presentation

Karissa Loper Machado, Agency Manager, The Children’s Cabinet

- Karissa Loper Machado discussed foundation of presentation, the current survey used to determine subsidy rates to support families, and the importance alternative cost models and cost analysis.
 - Jeanna Capito -alternative cost methodology that is in development.
 - Jeanna Capito - concept of ‘cost models’ – Tool to understand the cost of providing services.
- Jeanna Capito - the importance of cost model tool because of its ability to estimate costs of providing services, demonstrating impact of multi-source funding, identifying gaps between costs and revenue sources, and the utilization various datasets and datapoints.
- Jeanna Capito- how cost model helps explain different functions of organizations and their capacities like mandatory employer taxes, coverage for breaks, health and safety standards, cost drivers associated with quality levels and non-personnel expenses.
 - Jeanna Capito - the different scenarios that the presentation will review regarding the cost model.
 - Program Standards
 - Licensing
 - Silver Stars
 - Program Size
 - Center sizes
 - FCCs
 - Salary Selections
 - Salaries
 - Living Wages
 - Benefits
 - Contributions to health insurance
 - PTO days
 - Jeanna Capito discussed salary points and the comparison between local and statewide conditions.
 - Jeanna Capito - costs to serve different early childhood age groups across Nevada counties in comparison to statewide data.
 - Jeanna Capito reviewed-Annual Cost Per Child values across various industry variables.
 - Dr Linda Young commented about wage comparisons and concerns regarding sustainable childcare services. In response to Dr Linda Young, Jeanna Capito discuss vacancy, turnover, and retention concerns with childcare field.
 - Carrie Paldi inquired about rate applications in cost model study.
 - Karissa Loper Machado - need to experiment more with rate-setting model in future action plans.

8. Vulnerable Population and Underserved Population Definition Approval *(Discussion for Possible Action)*

The council discussed voting to adopt the updated Vulnerable and Underserved Population Definition
Marty Elquist, Department Director, The Children's Cabinet

- Marty Elquist discussed Data & Evaluation committee having primary role in definition and how approval was acquired from the Leadership committee, seeking final approval from general ECAC committee.
- Marty Elquist overviewed and read 'Definition of Vulnerable and Underserved Children' document.
- Marty Elquist - need for definition and how it needs to lead to accessible and specific data to properly assess needs of the population.
- Marty Elquist discussed how the definition will lead to future action plans and communication efforts with other organizations.
- Marty Elquist reviewed different ways in which other ECAC subcommittees can utilize the definition to serve their group-specific operations, functions, and needs.
- Stephanie Vega mentioned quantification concern regarding 'lack of basic needs' for specificity.
- Rachel Stepina voiced support for definition and discussed implementation into future action plans.
- Marty Elquist proposed approval of definition, with a revisit of 'lack of basic needs' concern.
- Stephanie Vega mentioned need for race and culture data disaggregation and its relation to child experiences.
- Marty Elquist and Denise Tanata- addressed race and ethnicity considerations from previous meetings.
- Dr Linda Young recommended revisit of application for race, ethnicity, and culture data in coordination with Stephanie Vega's question.
- Marty Elquist and Tiffany Alston discussed definition and application considerations when drafting document so that 'comprehensive systems' are made while still being mindful of race, ethnicity, and culture.
- Marty Elquist recommended delay of vote and revisit to Data & Evaluation subcommittee to incorporate information from race and culture discussion.
- Abbey Bernhardt discussed individual disparities and consideration of that information into future discussions regarding the Definition.

9. Nevada Early Childhood Family Leadership Council Updates **(Information/Discussion)**

The Council will hear from the Nevada Early Childhood Family Leadership Council regarding Parent Spotlight
Ashley Dines, The Children's Cabinet, Parent Leadership Coordinator (South),
Rosa Tamayo- Rodriguez, The Children's Cabinet, Parent Leadership Coordinator (North), The Children's Cabinet
Laurie Henderson, Parent.

- Rosa Tamayo- Rodríguez shared a visual presentation for segmento *(The Laurie Henderson Family)*
- Rosa Tamayo- Rodriguez – discussed monthly occurring visits for families to attend for advocacy promotion.
- Ashley Dines -shared member highlights from the leadership council.
- Ashley Dines -shared leadership council coordinator highlights and participation in outreach podcast that will be shared with group upon release.
- Rosa Tamayo- Rodriguez shared testimony of NECFLC parent.

10. Ad hoc Committee Conversation /Discussion for Possible Action)

The Council will discuss adding an ad hoc committee for the purpose of ECAC strategic planning.
Tiffany Alston, Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council, Chair Patrice Gardner, Nevada Early Childhood
Advisory Council Vice Chair

- Patrice Gardner discussed the possibility of developing Ad Hoc committee that will assist with strategic planning process for RFP.
- Tiffany Alston motioned to approve the development of an Ad Hoc committee.

- Marty Elquist seconded the motion to approve the Ad Hoc committee.
- No opposition.
- All members voted in favor -The motion passed to approve a Strategic Plan Ad Hoc Committee.

11. Subcommittee Updates and Workplan *(Information/Discussion)*

Discuss updates, recommendations and workplan progress from ECAC Subcommittees and priorities for 2024.

- *Leadership Subcommittee – Tiffany Alston and Patrice Gardner, Co-Chairs*
- *System Alignment Subcommittee – Tiffany Olivas, Abbey Bernhardt, Co-Chairs*
- *Communications and Engagement Subcommittee – Jennifer Butler, Co-chair*
- *Policy and Finance Subcommittee – Elysa Arroyo, and Brenda Morales-Chairs*
- *Data and Evaluation Subcommittee – Marty Elquist and Karissa Loper Machado, Co-Chairs*

12. Local ECAC Updates *(Information Discussion)*

Discuss updates from Local ECACs.

[Local Early Childhood Advisory Council Summary Report July 2024 \(nvecac.com\)](https://nvecac.com)

- *Carson/Douglas ECAC – Tiffany Olivas*
- *Elko County ECAC – Kelly Melendez*
- *Southern Nevada ECAC – Amanda Haboush-Deloye*
- *Tri-counties ECAC – Ashleigh Baker*
- *Washoe County ECAC – Kacey Edgington, Anna Severens*

13. State Agency and Partner Report Summary Updates *(Information/Discussion)*

Relevant informational items from state agencies and departments on programs, services, initiatives and/or issues relevant to the ECAC Strategic Plan and work of the Council. Partners submit their reports in advance. When no update is provided in advance, listed partners will be given the opportunity to share a brief update verbally if a representative is present. Summary reports are provided in the Partner Summary Report document.

[July 2024 Early Childhood Advisory Council Partner Summary Report \(nvecac.com\)](https://nvecac.com)

- *Department of Education*
 - *Office of Early Learning & Development – Patti Oya*
 - *Quality Rating Improvement System- Sara Kharrat*
 - *Preschool Development Grant Birth through Five- Rachel Stepina*
 - *Early Childhood Special Education*
 - *Office of Student & School Supports*
 - *Pre-Kindergarten*
- *Department of Health and Human Services*
 - *Division of Welfare and Supportive Services, Child Care Development Program – Karissa M. Loper*
 - *Division of Child and Family Services, Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health – Tami Conn*
 - *Department of Public and Behavioral Health, Childcare Licensing – Edith Farmer*
 - *Department of Public and Behavioral Health, Maternal, Child & Adolescent Health – Vickie Ives*
 - *Director’s Office, Aging and Disability Services, Part C and NEIS – Lori Ann Malina-Lovell*
- *Pyramid Model Update – Janice Lee*
- *Research and Needs Assessments – Amanda Haboush-Deloye*
- *NevAEYC Update – Carrie Paldi*
- *Nevada Child Care Provider Action Committee – Carrie Paldi*
- *Pritzker PN3 Initiative and Strong Start Update – Jamelle Nance/Annette Dawson-Owens*
- *HRSA Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems Grant Update –Tiffany Olivas*

- *ECE Workforce Plan – Jamie Mendez*
- *NV Early Childhood Family Leadership Council – Ashley Dines/Rosa Tamayo*
- *New or Potential Grants and Funding – All*
- *Training & Professional Development Opportunities – All*

14. Upcoming Meetings Schedule (Information)

- Tiffany Alston reminded everyone of the upcoming meeting schedule

15. Public Comment #2

Public comment will be taken during this agenda item on any matter within the Council's jurisdiction, control, or advisory power. No action may be taken on a matter raised under this item until the matter is included on an agenda as an item on which action may be taken. The Council Chair will impose a time limit of three minutes.

- Nayesdi Badillo discussed development of incentive scale for Preschool Development Grant in coordination with the Children's Cabinet
- Nayesdi discussed incentives workshop
- Smriti Neupane discussed upcoming data updates in coordination with new subcommittee partner

16. Adjournment:

- Meeting adjourned at 12:02pm

Selected Action Items:

- Follow up on Guinn Center Report and presentation for the next general ECAC meeting

One Sentences Summary: The Council heard presentation on Early Childhood Language Access, Gap Analysis, Maternal Health Methodology developed a Strategic Plan Ad Hoc Committee.