



# Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

**Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council (NV ECAC)  
Systems Alignment Subcommittee  
Public Meeting  
Friday, November 8, 2024  
9:00am-10:30am**

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

## Minute Summary

### **1. Welcome, call to order, and roll call** (*Discussion for Possible Action*)

The Subcommittee reviewed attendance and welcomed members and guests.

*Abbey Bernhardt, Subcommittee Co-Chair*

- Abbey Bernhardt started meeting at 9:03am
- Brandi Hearst conducted roll call

### **Members in Attendance (6)**

- Abbey Bernhardt, Co-Chair
- Anna Binder, Parent
- Jamie Mendez, Early Childhood Workforce Specialist, Office of Early Care and Development, Nevada Department of Education
- Jamelle Nance, Communication and Engagement Co-Chair
- Tiffany Olivas, Co-Chair
- Tina Springmeyer, Washoe County School District

### **Members Absent (5)**

- Patrice Gardner, ECAC Vice Chair
- Cynthia Magana, Chief Child Care and Development Program Division of Welfare and Supportive Services, State of Nevada
- Dr. Diane Nicolet, WCSD Trustee
- Anna Severens, NV Pre-K, Office of Early Care and Development, Nevada Department of Education
- Rachel Stepina, PDG B-5 Grant Manager, Office of Early Care and Development, Nevada Department of Education

### **Public Present (5)**

- Mary Childrey
- Ashley Dines, Parent Leadership Coordinator, The Children’s Cabinet
- Brandi Hearst, ECAC Administrative Coordinator, Office of Early Care and Development, Nevada Department of Education
- Denise Tanata, Early Childhood Systems Advisor, The Children’s Cabinet
- Anna Villatoro, Parent Leadership Coordinator, 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 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 Comment



## Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

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

The Subcommittee approved a flexible agenda.

*Abbey Bernhardt, Subcommittee Co-Chair*

- Tina Springmeyer motions to approve flexible agenda
- Tiffany Olivas seconds motion
- Unanimous vote, motion carries

### 4. Approval of September 25, 2024 Minutes (*Discussion for Possible Action*)

The Subcommittee approved minutes from September 25, 2024

*Abbey Bernhardt, Subcommittee Co-Chair*

- Anna Binder motions to approve minutes
- Tina Springmeyer seconds
- Unanimous vote, motion carries

### 5. Subcommittee Work Plan Review, (*Discussion for Possible Action*)

The Subcommittee reviewed work plan updates from all subcommittees for alignment.

*Tiffany Olivas, Subcommittee Co-Chair*

- Tiffany Olivas reviews how it has been a while since we could do this item, shares her Work Plan copy
  - Key activities is to compile a list of agencies
  - compile keep program entities
- Denise Tanata started list and shared in May 2024
  - List is also on Guinn Report
- Tiffany Olivas- Denise (Tanata) does the most recent Guinn Report include the agencies?
- Denise Tanata- yes they do have links are in the report
- Tiffany Olivas- Another activity is identified agencies and assessment reports
  - We have completed the HRSA required saga
  - We need to compare this with the ECAC list, Brandi Hearst to update if we have that for the next meeting
- Brandi Hearst described the Community and Engagement worksheet with contact information listed
- Jamelle Described the list of agencies and it did not include priorities that Systems is looking for
- Denise Tanata described the history of the Systems list and wanting to create one eighth priorities and just use the agency list from Communications Subcommittee as a starting point
- Tiffany Olivas- What do you guys feel about doing a deep dive to the Saga?
- Jamelle Nance- What does the Saga include so we know what we are referencing?
- Tiffany Olivas- I think for us we can continue to see what the priorities are and use the ECAC strategic plan for 2025-2027,
  - next iteration of the ECAC strategic plan. I don't know
  - I haven't heard what the plan is, if we will be included, what our roles will be in the strategic planning process. The last I heard was they found an organization through the organization
  - the proposal process through Department of Ed.
  - this could be an amazing start for the Strategic Planning, do we bring that up in Executive Leadership meeting?
- Tina Springmeyer- this could be a good conversation to bring up at General Ecac meeting
- Tiffany Olivas- I'm happy to send an email to Tiffany and Patrice, or bring it up during subcommittee summaries



## Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

- Denise Tanta-
  - looking at those key issues that were identified and some of those key start you know potential strategies \
  - Try to identify those closely align with the goals and objectives of the ECAC?
  - Recommendations from the systems alignment subcommittee things that came out of the saga
  - to support systems alignment. Or other parts of the ECAC.
  - And the ECAC that we'd like to recommend to the full body. The strategic plan needs to line up with the ECAC plan, and our recommendations should line up with the ECAC strategies and we can take a deeper dive and present the priority pieces to either General ECAC or Leadership meetings
- Tiffany Olivas shared Saga from May 2024 in chat,
  - moving forward we use the priorities and deep dive into them. I want to use the information to take these topics and review potential strategies moving forward for our meetings.
    - Not all at once as it is too much
  - Take a chunk of these topics and see what is happening with other agencies that are not always represented
  - I don't know if the ECAC strategic planning coming up so I can only speak to what I know
- Denise Tanata recommends advancing a common vision as the goal aligns with this subcommittee as well as the continuum of services
- Tiffany Olivas to provide a plan of advancing strategies starting with the Common Vision Goal in Saga, with Abbey Bernhardt's approval
- Abbey Bernhardt approves
- Tiffany Olivas In addition I'm to send these to Tiffany and Patrice to use for strategic planning for 2025-27
  - Is everyone good with that, I'm feeling good about it, is our Subcommittee in agreement?
  - Yes everyone is shaking their head yes, good
  - Tiffany continued going through HRSA Work Plan
  - Visual Network Lab report completed in May 2023
  - Next activity is in red, Collect information from public forums with analysis of asset map, details, questions.. This hasn't been started, we need to reevaluate of this is still needed.
  - I wasn't a part of the group when this was identified, I'm wondering if you can shed some light on the purpose and what info we would be looking for Denise Tanata?
- Denise Tanata- I don't recall as if it may be a previous Co-Chair activity who was really into making survey and I wasn't clear on the specifics of this and what the purpose was.
- Tiffany Olivas offered to take a look at the minutes and be respectful of the work put into this and decide, anything public forum or emailed surveys in minutes.
- Asked Brandi Hearst to help sort through minutes from Systems and look for Emailed surveys or public forums as topics to review and see if we want to focus on this as an activity
- Tina Springmeyer- Can we ask previous co-chairs if they have details for this activity?
- Tiffany Olivas- That's a really good idea, Brandi Hearst, do you have the contacts for Julie Houchins and Jenny WaglarzWard?
- Brandi Hearst- Yes I should have them in the Membership information
- Tiffany Olivas described next activity and objective
  - Asked if Data and Community finished ECCS data sources, if anyone knows the status of that?
- Anna Binder- We finished that and its been done for a while, it is listed on the Data page
- Tiffany Olivas- We need to review the ECCS list we need to get that if anyone knows where that would be
- Anna Binder- it should be on our Subcommittee page.
  - On July 18 2024 it was online as the Data Dictionary, and right underneath that is the Data Work Plan.
  - Tiffany Olivas reviewed data quickly and Anna Binder described Color Coding was per agency type





## Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

- To check in with Marty to see what is or isn't completed
- This is a good example of subcommittees needing to align with each other and potential activities in Saga with Data Subcommittee
- Denise Tanata- there has been a lot of transitions
  - The work plan stuff has been there since day one,
  - At the end of the current strategic plan
  - we move forward by not worrying about what past activities were or thought behind it
  - use information we have to complete activities one at a time
- Tiffany Olivas- Lets finish going through Goals and Objectives and open for discussion what we want the priority to be
  - Activity 2.2 is conductor support key informant interview surveys or focus groups.
    - to fill in the data information gaps inclusive of agency program representatives, providers
    - not completed and it has a lot of needs that we wont have time to complete in only a few months
    - A lot of this information is in the Guinn Report, they have done a lot of this work already
    - WE should conduct an informal interview survey
  - Review HRSA Health resources and services administration,
    - system asset and gap analysis to identify specific strategies to support cross-sector\
    - Alignment and coordination. Oh my gosh, this is complete.
    - Thank you, Denise and we're going to be definitely addressing each of those in chunks at future meetings.
    - Develop a clear definition of the early childhood system, including defining the sectors with examples of Nevada agencies programs across the zero to eight continuum,
    - that is complete
    - We did work on that
    - definition in this group, we brought it to leadership and we brought it to the general ECAC meeting. I don't recall the date.
    - was completed in November 2023 and has been used in presentations and meetings
- Denise Tanata- final approval was in 2024 by ECAC
- Tiffany Olivas - Objective 2.3 Integrate cross sector priorities, this is mine I'm doing this through my work.
  - The Systems Crosswalk to unify the system of Early Childhood.
  - Is there any other work that would meet this objective?
    - Rachel Stepina, Jamelle Nance and I have been looking forward to sharing this work with Executive Leadership and it may be time to do so.
- Jamelle Nance: Wonders is the Prenatal to three strategic plan that you've done, will that cover some of this?
  - one kind of really does a great job of like looking across the board.
  - goals and objectives for both Pritzker, PDG, and the ECAC is directly aligned with the ECAC strategic plan.
  - Do we look at what we already have done, to see if there are areas where we maybe can build on it.
- Tiffany Olivas- a lot of our priorities, goals, and initiatives are aligned, right?
  - for the most for most of our work, we agree the importance of creating a comprehensive and well-coordinated early childhood system for our state is what's best for young children.
  - Plans to share Prenatal-age 3 strategic plan update from 2023 to this Subcommittee
  - Objective 2.4- Establish a Work Plan to align and update EC System standards, that is already included in NV P3 strategic plan. Denise Tanata, any thoughts on the history on this one?
- Denise Tanata- To me this one was always confusing because this is the workplan, it should be intuitive but I don't recall why we would need a work plan within a Work Plan.



## Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

- Jamelle Nance- Community and Engagement Subcommittee is looking at the infrastructure to support the EC System.
  - who is reaching out when a position is open, to make sure it is diversifying the system?
- Denise Tanata – there are various administrative rules to align diversity and recruitment

### **6. Discuss Plans to Coordinate with Other Committees** (*Discussion for Possible Action*)

The Subcommittee tabled the discussion on strategies for coordinating with other subcommittees.

*Abbey Bernhardt, Subcommittee Co-Chair*

- Tabled to next meeting on 12/11

### **7. Discuss Agenda Items For Next Meeting on December 11, 2024** (*Discussion for Possible Action*)

The Subcommittee discussed topics to add to the next Systems Alignment meeting agenda.

*Abbey Bernhardt, Subcommittee Co-Chair*

- Include Work Plan activity to start to review the communications and engagement list of agencies and programs list
- Discuss possible strategies from Potential Saga advance common plans and ECAC structure and share strategic plans, potential strategies- FOR Discussion item
- Data Dictionary review
- Jamelle Nance- Should we include updating the Work Plan
- Denise Tanata- We wont be available for 12/11 meeting, we have a P-3 summit as does Jamelle Nance in Denver
- Jamelle Nance- I'm not sure with my travel plans yet but I knew something was conflicting
- Tiffany Olivas- Don't stress out about attending just let us know for Quorum

### **8. Upcoming Meeting Schedule-2025 ECAC schedule published soon**

- 2024 Systems Alignment Meetings
  - December 11, 2024 11:30am - 1:00pm
- New Member Orientation
  - December 18, 2024 at 11:00am
    - To register, email Brandi.hearst@doe.nv.gov and Sabrina.jones@doe.nv.gov

### **9. Public Comment #2** (*Discussion for Possible Action*)

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 the agenda as an item on which action may be taken. The Subcommittee Co-Chair will impose a time limit of three minutes.

- Jamelle Nance- I think Systems Alignment to be looked at in all subcommittees and we should be bringing this to Executive Leadership to align our systems
- Denise Tanata- I know you cant comment on this, I think this should be brought to Entire ECAC. All subcommittees should bring issues to share.

### **10. Adjournment**

*Tiffany Olivas and Abbey Bernhardt, Subcommittee Co-Chairs*

- Abbey Bernhardt adjourned meeting at 10:31am
- One sentence Summary- The Systems Alignment Subcommittee was able to go through their entire workplan and make updates as needed and discuss what could possibly take place next.



## Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

- 3 action steps

1. Find older Subcommittee minutes or contact old chairs and discuss what the surveys were going to be for from the Workplan
2. Abbey Bernhardt, Brandi Hearst and Tiffany Olivas to update work plan and notate changes for subcommittee to review
3. Next step is to set up meetings with other subcommittee's to start aligning.

<https://nvecac.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/SAGA-Rev.pdf>



## Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council