



# Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council (ECAC)  
Executive Leadership Subcommittee  
Public Meeting  
Tuesday, December 03, 2024  
11:00am-12:30pm

“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 held via Zoom video conference:**

<https://ndezoom.zoom.us/j/87473064118?pwd=MTIDL2Q0dVUva1RITDcydUFnUEh0QT09>

## MINUTE SUMMARY

### 1. Welcome, Call to Order, and Roll Call

*Tiffany Alston, Nevada ECAC Chair and Patrice Gardner, Nevada ECAC Vice Chair*

- Tiffany Alston started meeting at 11:03 am
- Sabrina conducted Roll Call

### Members Present (9)

- Tiffany Alston, ECAC Chair
- Abbey Bernhardt, Systems Alignment Co-Chair
- Jennifer Butler Comm. & Engagement Co-Chair
- Ashley Dines, Parent Representative
- Patrice Gardner ECAC Vice Chair
- Amanda Haboush Deloye, Data and Evaluation Co-Chair
- Brenda Morales Solorzano Policy and Finance Co-Chair
- Jamelle Nance, Community & Engagement Co- Chair
- Tiffany Olivias , Systems Alignment Co- Chair

### Members Absent (4)

- Elysa Arroyo, Policy and Finance Co-Chair
- Marty Elquist, Data and Evaluation Co-Chair
- Donya Segoviano, Business Process Analyst III Division of Welfare & Supportive Services
- Kathy Yoder Bass, Provider Representative

### Public Present (12)

- Mary Childrey, The Children’s Cabinet
- Brandi Hearst, Early Childhood Advisory Council Administrative Coordinator, Office of Early Learning and Development, Nevada Department of Education
- Jerek Hughes, Source Academy Regional Manager
- Sabrina Jones, Early Childhood Advisory Council Systems Specialist, Office of Early Learning and Development, Nevada Department of Education
- Jacquelyn Kleinedler, Early Childhood Mental Health, State of NV
- Nina McCartney
- Smriti Neupane, The Nevada Institute for Children's Research and Policy
- Michelle Robinson





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- Sabrina Schnur
- Denise Tanata, Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems Advisor , The Children’s Cabinet
- Anna Villatoro, Parent Engagement, The Children’s Cabinet
- Alesha Zeigler

### 2. Public Comment #1

Public Comment 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 two minutes. Public Comment #2 will provide an opportunity for public comment on any matter within the Subcommittee’s jurisdiction, control, or advisory power.

- Denise Tanata- Let Subcommittee know that there are no inclusions for Item #8 so we can skip that

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

The Subcommittee approved a flexible agenda. The Subcommittee 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 ECAC Executive Leadership Subcommittee Meeting Agenda at any time.

*Tiffany Alston, Nevada ECAC Chair*

- Ashley Dines motioned to approve a flexible agenda
- Abbey Bernhardt seconds motion
- Unanimous vote, motions carries

### 4. Minutes from November 5, 2024 (Discussion for Possible Action)

The Subcommittee approved November 5, 2024, Minutes.

*Tiffany Alston, Nevada ECAC Chair*

- Tiffany Alston described we are saving everyone’s time, as members we need to read them on their own
- Abbey Bernhardt motioned to approve Minutes from November 5, 2024
- Jennifer Butler seconds motion
- Unanimous vote, motion carries

### 5. ECAC Meeting Procedure Updates (Discussion for Possible Action)

The council discussed new procedures for meetings to include but not limited to: Agenda Item time limits, Meeting Minutes to be reviewed prior to meeting, Partner Report updates shared verbally upon request, Use of waiting room before meetings.

*Tiffany Alston, Nevada ECAC Chair and Patrice Gardner, Nevada ECAC Vice Chair*

- Tiffany Allston- announced that Partner Reports are to be shared verbally only upon request, to save time at meetings.
- Sabrina Jones- added to email BOTH Sabrina Jones and Brandi Hearst to be added to agenda for sharing updates verbally and an email will be sent to partners as reminder with instructions
- Tiffany Olivas- Added that she will no longer be collecting Local ECAC reports as her grant funding is complete.

### 6. Strategic Plan 2025-2028 Updates (Discussion for Possible Action)

The Subcommittee discussed Strategic Plan updates

*Tiffany Alston, Nevada ECAC Chair and Patrice Gardner, Nevada ECAC Vice Chair*

- Patrice Gardner- As of right now we are on the final version sent to the legal team for the Arizona State University





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- Tiffany Alston- asked about years stated on Strategic Plan
  - Brandi Hearst confirmed via Chat- According to documents on hand, it is slated for 3 years, 2025, 2026, 2027.

### 7. First Five Nevada Family Leadership Council Updates and Parent Spotlight *(Information/Discussion)*

The Subcommittee discussed the work of the Nevada Early Childhood Family Leadership Council

*Ashley Dines, Anna Villatora and Tiffany Olivas, The Children's Cabinet*

- Ashley Dines- had updates about the First 5 Nevada Family Leadership
  - 2025 dates for trainings and meetings already scheduled
  - Reaching out to Rural Areas
- Anna Villatoro- explained that Parents will have opportunities to network in person statewide and that they are planning 6 parent summits

### 8. First Five Nevada Program Inclusion Requests *(Discussion for Possible Action)*

The Subcommittee skipped Inclusion Requests, none received.

*Denise Tanata, Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems Advisor, The Children's Cabinet*

- Denise Tanata- nothing to share remove from agenda today.

### 9. Work Plan Review and Executive Leadership Jan. 7, 2025 Meeting Agenda Items *(Discussion, Informational)*

The Subcommittee updated on progress and needs related to the Combined Subcommittee Work Plan and formulated agenda items for upcoming Executive Leadership Meeting

Executive Leadership Subcommittee – *Tiffany Alston and Patrice Gardner, Co-Chairs*

- Tiffany Alston- We have been looking at 2025 Calendar but that is another item so let's look at subcommittee updates.

Systems Alignment Subcommittee – *Tiffany Olivas and Abbey Bernhardt, Co-Chairs*

- Tiffany Olivas- Explained next steps on work plan workplan is to look at the key recommendations

Communications and Engagement Subcommittee – *Jennifer Butler and Jamelle Nance, Co-Chairs*

- Jamelle Nance- Explained the focus is on the Ad-Hoc committee and getting their meetings scheduled

Policy and Finance Subcommittee – *Elysa Arroyo and Brenda Morales-Solorzano, Co-Chairs*

- Tiffany Alston announced Brenda Morales-Solorzano's departure

Data and Evaluation Subcommittee- *Amanda Haboush-Deloye, Co-Chair*

- Amanda Haboush-Deloye- Reviewed results and discussions from Parents groups

Executive Leadership Updates

- Annual Report due in December, Emailed for an extension
- Patrice Gardner- Told Committee that Brandi Hearst is updating the format of the Workplans for ADA compliance
- ECAC Updates and Vacancies- Sabrina Jones, ECAC Systems Specialist- updated Subcommittee on Open Seats- Brenda Solorzano's spot, Ariel Rollins resigned from Parent Seat, Tribal, Childcare, non-profit representative



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### 10. General ECAC 2025 Schedule and Agenda Items for January 15, 2025 Meeting (*Discussion and Informational*)

The Subcommittee reviewed the survey of answers for family needs assessing a rotating meetings schedule in 2025 as well as agenda items for the January 15, 2025 General ECAC meeting.

*Tiffany Alston, Nevada ECAC Chair and Patrice Gardner, Nevada ECAC Vice Chair*

- Tiffany Alston- Next meeting is Jan 15, 2025 at 9am
- Denise Tanta- Announced Policy and Finance subcommittee is going to be talking about Funding sustainability
  - early childhood programs that are losing funds through the ARPA and PDG.
- Tiffany Alston- Lets add that to the Agenda
- Tiffany Olivas- asked about interest in continuing to have some of the local ECAC's report on the work they are doing, added Carson Douglas ECAC wants to volunteer to be next local ECAC to share at January meeting
- Tiffany Alston- Asked to add Carson Douglas as January Share
- Amanda Haboush-Deloye- Announced Children's Week is in March
  
- Tiffany Alston- Absolutely lets add to agenda
  - asked about surveys going out to families for time frame for meetings
    - Tiffany Olivas described survey results as an overwhelming majority between times: 8 - 12, 9 - 12

### 11. Upcoming Meetings (*Discussion and Informational*)

- Executive Leadership Subcommittee January 07, 11:00am-12:30pm
- Communication & Engagement Subcommittee: January 14, 9:00am to 10:30am
- Policy and Finance Subcommittee: December 12, 1:00pm to 3:00pm
- General ECAC: January 15, 9:00am to 12:00pm
- Data and Evaluation Subcommittee: December 19, 1:00pm-2:00pm
- Systems Alignment Subcommittee- December 11, 2024

### New Member Orientation:

- December 18, 2024, at 11:00am
  - To register, email [Brandi.hearst@doe.nv.gov](mailto:Brandi.hearst@doe.nv.gov) and [Sabrina.jones@doe.nv.gov](mailto:Sabrina.jones@doe.nv.gov)

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

Public Comment taken during this agenda item on any matter within the Council's control or advisory power.

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- Amanda Haboush-Deloye-Asked for input on first research briefs in early childhood in November

### 13. Adjournment





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- Tiffany Alston adjourned meeting at 11:47am
- **3 Action Steps**
  - Decide on schedule- if it is rotating or not, for General ECAC
  - Watch for information from NICRP for Children's Week in March
  - Follow up with Communications Subcommittee re: Communications AD Hoc focus points and set schedule
- **One Sentence Statement:** The Executive leadership Subcommittee met today and discussed the workplan summaries from various subcommittee's, agreed upon the Executive Leadership 2025 Meeting Schedule, discussed the survey sent to families in regard to start times for the General ECAC meeting and reviewed some feedback from Family Engagement survey researching how families feel about data collection.