



Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council (ECAC)
Policy & Finance Subcommittee
Public Meeting
Thursday, December 12, 2024
1:00pm-2:00pm

“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.”

Meeting Location: This meeting held via Zoom videoconference:

Minute Summary

1. Welcome, Call to Order, and Roll Call

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

- Brenda Morales-Solorzano called meeting to order at 1:04 pm
- Sabrina Jones conducted roll call

Members Present (9)

- Abbey Bernhardt, Systems Alignment Co-Chair
- Anna Binder, Parent Representative
- Brianna Cambra, Provider Support Director, The Children’s Cabinet
- Ashley Dines, Parent Representative, The Children's Cabinet
- Marty Elquist, Data and Evaluation Co-Chair
- Lela Gonzales, Workforce Support Coordinator, The Children's Cabinet
- Brenda Morales-Solorzano, Policy and Finance Co-Chair
- Patti Oya, Director, Office of Early Learning and Development, Nevada Department of Education
- Denise Tanata, Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems Advisor, The Children’s Cabinet

Members Absent (3)

- Elysa Arroyo, Policy and Finance Co-Chair
- Jerek Hughes, Source Academy Regional Director
- Nicole Martin, Child Care Development Program, Division of Welfare and Supportive Services

Public Present (10)

- Naysedi Badillo, Family Engagement Specialist, Office of Early Learning and Development, Nevada Department of Education
- Annette Dawson-Owens
- Sabrina Jones, ECAC Systems Specialist, Office of Early Learning and Development, Nevada Department of Education
- Jamie Mendez, Early Childhood Workforce Specialist, Office of Early Learning and Development, Nevada Department of Education
- Elyse Monroy
- Jamelle Nance, Communications and Engagement Co-Chair
- Tiffany Olivas, Systems Alignment Co-Chair
- Rachel Stepina, Manager Preschool Development Grant Birth-5, Office of Early Learning and Development, Nevada Department of Education





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- Anna Villatoro, Family Engagement Specialist, 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 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

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

The Subcommittee approved a flexible agenda.

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

- Ashley Dines motioned to have a flexible agenda
- Denise Tanata seconds motion
- Members voted in favor; motion passed

4. **Approval of November 14, 2024 Minutes** (*Discussion for Possible Action*)

The Subcommittee approved the November Meeting Minutes.

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

- Minute Corrections:
 - Abbey Bernhardt- National Alliance not National Association
 - Patti Oya- Director, remove "Operations"
 - Denise Tanata- Having hard time reading minutes
 - Marty Elquist- Brianna Cambra and Lela Gonzalez and Marty Elquist have new titles, listed in chat
- Patti Oya- Motions to approve minutes with corrections
- Abbey Bernhardt seconds
- Members voted in favor; motion passed with corrections above

5. **Action Planning for Funding Sources and Statewide Template** (*Discussion, Informational*)

The Subcommittee discussed potential funding needs coming in 2026, reviewed template for Statewide Funding Tracking.

Denise Tanata, Childhood Comprehensive Systems Advisor, The Children’s Cabinet

- Denise Tanata described the potential loss of funding and factors to look at for upcoming 2026 fiscal. Shared the template that she created with the subcommittee to collaborate on to identify additional funding source needed and prioritize programs and services for the Early Childhood System.
- Subcommittee members went over the list of programs and requested adding ones that were not listed, members had a chance to brainstorm what programs were critical to keep and reviewed finding streams for each.
- Possible standing Agenda Item for collaboration with next steps: Next Steps for Statewide Funding Template- Who, how Far, talking points, how to use it, contacts. Possible Dashboard or Smartsheet for continuous updates. OELD Office can help as needed.

6. **Work Plan Updates and Review** (*Discussion, Informational*)

The Subcommittee reviewed Work Plan; no updates needed.

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





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- No updates

7. Discussion- Agenda Items for January 09, 2025 Meeting (*Discussion, Informational*)

The Subcommittee agreed upon agenda items for the Jan. 09, 2025 meeting.

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

- Marty Elquist motions to skip January Meeting
- Ashley Dines seconds motion
- Members voted in favor; motion passed; meeting cancelled due to possibility of not meeting quorum
- Repeat Agenda Item #5, Template, assign roles

8. Upcoming Meetings (*Informational*)

- Data and Evaluation Subcommittee: December 19, 1:00pm-2:00pm
- Executive Leadership Subcommittee January 07, 11:00am-12:30pm
- Communication & Engagement Subcommittee: January 14, 9:00am to 10:30am
- General ECAC: January 15, 9:00am to 12:00pm
- Data and Evaluation Subcommittee: January 16, 2025, 1:00-2:00pm
- Systems Alignment Subcommittee: January 22, 2025, 1:00pm-2:00pm
- **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 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.

- Anna Binder- Is CAA going to have weekly meetings?

10. Adjournment

- Brenda Morales-Solarzano adjourned meeting at 2:03pm
- **3 Action Steps:**
 - Denise Tanata to email Rachel Stepina and Patti Oya the template for their review and additions
 - Denise Tanata to continue working on template and fill in some blanks
 - Rachel Stepina to add PDG programs and information to template
- **One Sentence Summary:**

The Subcommittee spent most of the meeting going over the Statewide Funding Template and discussing what programs were critical to keep, funding sources, and reviewing the programs listed and ones that may be missing.

