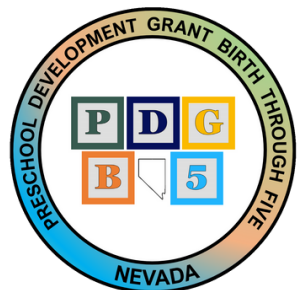




# Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council



## Family Friendly Toolkit





## Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

**Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council (ECAC)** is a group of community leaders, parents, and professionals who work together to improve early childhood systems across the state. Our goal is to ensure every young child in Nevada has access to quality care and education.



### **ECAC Vision:**

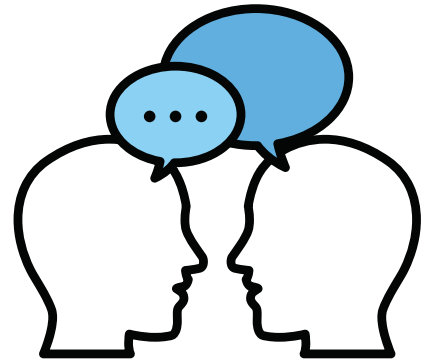
“Nevada’s children will be safe, healthy, and thriving during the first eight years of life, and the system will support children and families in achieving their full potential.”

### **Introduction to this Toolkit**

The ECAC Family-Friendly Toolkit is a support tool for parents and caregivers to build an understanding of Nevada’s ECAC. Whether you’re new to advocacy or have been active for years, your voice matters—and we want to hear it!

#### **- Toolkit Purpose:**

- Explain what ECAC is
- Discover why ECAC matters for families with young children.
- Discover how to get involved ECAC meetings, local events
- Discover how to influence decision-making
- Provide tools and tips for speaking up, sharing experiences
- Be an advocate for early childhood initiatives



Encourage parent leadership by helping families understand how they can influence policies and programs

Encourage you to Be a Positive Change in your community

Stay connected through email, share ideas or ask for updates from Co-Chairs or other members

Lead you to discover new information to share with your family, friends, neighbors and build community awareness.

Introduce you to the concept of your voice being a powerful tool; discover what can happen you ask questions and share your ideas, thoughts and experiences

These are great opportunities to influence decisions and highlight community needs. Use your story and share within our Parent Spotlight on Pg 3 . Personal stories can be powerful and moving. Sharing how policies affect your family helps ECAC make informed decisions by having varying perspectives from communities statewide.



# How Can YOU Participate?

## Attend Meetings that Interest you

Attend various monthly ECAC meetings to learn, share your experiences within the Nevada Early Childhood System, childcare and/or early education, children's health services and more! Whether you attend the General ECAC giving and overall big picture view, or one of our 5 monthly subcommittee meetings, we want to hear your voice and empower you to lead the way to a better Nevada for all children and their families. We want to HEAR YOU! Your feedback and stories help guide the work we do. Tell us what's working—and what's not—for your family.

General ECAC Application



## Become a Member of Nevada's General ECAC

Join the ECAC as a parent member to be more deeply involved in planning and decision-making. General ECAC Members are Governor Appointed (NRS 432A) Interested applicants must apply through the "Office of the Governor" Use QR code or the website: [https://hal.nv.gov/form/Governor/Boards\\_and\\_Commissions\\_Application](https://hal.nv.gov/form/Governor/Boards_and_Commissions_Application)

## Become a Member of an ECAC Subcommittee

Join an ECAC subcommittee and voice your opinion, formulate plans, be a part of the action.

Our Subcommittees are:

Executive Leadership (Add link)

Communication (Add link)

Data and Evaluation (Add link)

Policy and Finance (Add link)

Systems Alignment (Add link)

Scan to access the Subcommittee Application



To apply for a Subcommittee: Scan the QR Code or go online: <https://forms.gle/tQxDgmjQuFKRfBRN8!>

## KNOWLEDGE is POWER



When attending a meeting, you will receive updates regarding legislation and bills, local events and opportunities, activities and projects others are working on, learn the Government systems and catch up with what policymakers are doing, learn from early childhood system professionals and community leaders. This gives you the latest on many topics, including:

Childcare funding, Accessible programs and services offered through out the state, such as- Early intervention programs, Health services, Behavior and Developmental services, Family and Child Programs, Child care, Preschool and Pre-K initiatives, Overall Scope of the Early Childhood System in Nevada, and MORE!

## Parent Spotlight

ECAC hosts the "Parent Spotlight" at our General ECAC meetings. This offers a space for allows parents or families members take part in the meeting by sharing their story. What does this mean, by sharing your story you have access to many early childcares provides that are able to hear and possibly address your concerns, and ECAC can share with you resources within their scope of work. You may also be able to connect to individuals who can in turn advocate for your concern, or call to action.

To be considered to share your experiences and your story under the parent spotlight, send us an email, including your name and contact information, and a brief summary of your experience you would like to share with the group to: **[nvecac@gmail.com](mailto:nvecac@gmail.com)**



# Advantages of ECAC

## Have a Voice in Decision-Making

Sharing your voice and experiences build a family focusedcan help to .Early Childhood System. Those who join the Early Childhood Advisory Council (ECAC), either through our General ECAC or our Subcommittees, can share their lived experiences and perspectives to help others understand the needs of each community, ultimatley enhancing awareness of programs and servicesavailable accessible, and needed for children in Nevada.

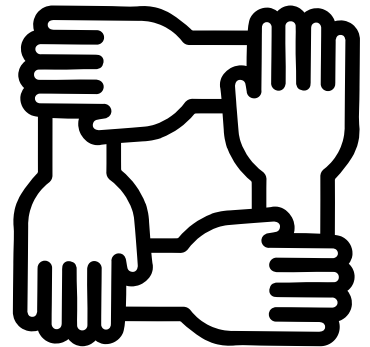


## Influence Statewide Early Childhood Policies

ECAC discusses real policies that impact families, children, accessible programs and ser ices, funding, child- care, Preschool/Pre-K, and family services in Nevada. By participating, you can help improve the policies, bills and legislation to meet the needs of your family and those around you; not just for your family, but for familie acroos the State of Nevada

## Build your own Network

Find support in those with similar interests and similar experiences. Connect with parents, professionals those who advocate for our children's well-being. Share ideas, collaborate and build up your Network within the Early Childhood System, local community members and members of the public.

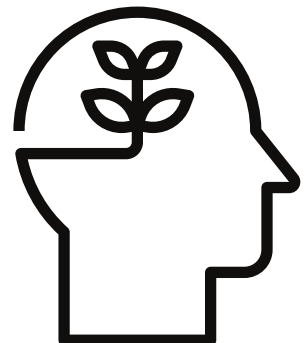


## Advocate for your Community

Parents bring unique insight. By showing up, you're helping ECAC better understand the real needs of families. You become a voice not just for your child, but for your community.

## Opportunities to Learn and Grow

Parent members can participate in training, community initiatives, and leadership opportunities through ECAC and its partners

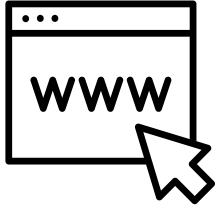




## Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

### RESOURCES

NEVADA GENERAL ECAC Information  
<https://nvecac.com/meeting-information/>



ECAC SUBCOMMITTEE INFORMATION:  
<https://nvecac.com/subcommittees/>

NV ECAC WEBPAGE:  
<https://nvecac.com/>

ECAC Email: [NVECAC@GMAIL.COM](mailto:NVECAC@GMAIL.COM)

ECAC Facebook [link](#)

ECAC Membership Toolkit [Link](#)

ECAC Parent Advisory Group Partners ?

First Five Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Group  
[Link](#)

