Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

PARTNER SUMMARY REPORT
MAY | JUNE 2026

PUBLISHED BY
NEVADA EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL
BRANDI HEARST, ECAC ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR
SABRINA JONES, ECAC SYSTEMS SPECIALIST

Introduction

The Nevada Early Childhood Partner Summary Report

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SECTION 1: NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (NDE)

NDE/OCSS: SPECIAL EDUCATION, INDIAN EDUCATION, GIFTED AND TALENTED EDUCATION (GATE)

MAY/JUNE 2026

Name: Cate Guzy, **Email:** catherine.guzy@doe.nv.gov

Update:
The Office of Comprehensive Student Services (OCSS) is working on the final submissions of the Early Childhood Outcome (ECO) data from our Local Education Agencies (LEAs). ECO scores are utilized to see the progress that a student makes from when the student starts receiving services in preschool and where they are exiting the program to kindergarten. This data is reported to the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) as part of our Annual Report.

NDE:

NDE/OELD: PRESCHOOL DEVELOPMENT GRANT, BIRTH–5 (PDG B-5)

MAY/JUNE 2026
Name: Rachel Stepina, PDG B-5 Grant Manager **Email:** rachel.stepina@doe.nv.gov

Update:
Overall PDG B-5 Nevada Renewal Highlights coming soon!

Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council (Nevada ECAC)

Name: Sabrina Jones, ECAC Systems Specialist **Email:** sabrina.jones@doe.nv.gov
Name: Brandi Hearst, ECAC Administrative Coordinator **Email:** brandi.hearst@doe.nv.gov

UPDATES:
Nevada General ECAC MEMBERSHIP-
We have 2 Geneal ECAC Appointed Member seats available. When you become a General ECAC Member, you can:
Make a difference in the lives of Nevada's future leaders, our children
Have your voice heard
Participate in early childhood initiatives and legislation that impacts the early childhood system, Nevada's families, and our communities.
Build partnerships and collaborate within Nevada's early childhood system and our local community members
We have 2 General ECAC Seats Open, as follows:

1. At least **one member who is a parent or guardian of a child less than 8 years of age** and who has participated in one or more federal or state early childhood programs, including, without limitation: (1) The Program for Child Care and Development administered by the Division of Welfare and Supportive Services of the Department pursuant to chapter 432A of NRS; (2) Head Start or Early Head Start; (3) Nevada Home Visiting Program in the Department; (4) Nevada Ready! State Pre-K program in the Department of Education; or (5) The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children in the United States Department of Agriculture

2. One member who is a **representative of a tribal organization**, with consideration given to an enrolled member of a Nevada Indian tribe
For Information and to learn how to apply, click HERE

The Nevada ECAC 2026-2030 Strategic Plan will soon be available for members and public to view and download from the Nevada ECAC website .

DID YOU KNOW...YOU ARE ALWAYS INVITED TO JOIN US!
General Ecac Meeting Information **Subcommittee Meeting Information** **2026 Meeting Schedule**

Early Childhood Family Engagement in the B-5 System:

Name: Nayesdi Badillo, Early Childhood Family Engagement Specialist **Email:** nayesdi.badillo@doe.nv.gov

UPDATES:
Need Language Access Help? We're Here for You!
Do you work with young children and need help with interpretation or translation? The Nevada Preschool Development Grant Birth through Five (PDG B–5) can help!
We offer **free** language interpretation (spoken) and translation (written) for programs and families working with children ages 0–8.
We want to make sure all families have access to important events and documents. We offer these services to bridge language gaps and support families across Nevada.

What Do We Offer?
- Interpretation during Zoom events, Translation of written documents such as flyers, forms, and letters

Who Can Receive Our Help? To be eligible for these free services, you must:
- Live in Nevada *AND one of the following:*
  - Work with or serve children ages 0–8 (birth through 3rd grade) OR
  - Be an ECAC Admin / Co-Chair needing language services for zoom meetings OR part of a pre-approved PDG B–5 activity

To find out more about eligibility, to request language access services, and to help our team better understand your needs and plan accordingly, please fill out one or both of our request forms below:

Interpretation Form: https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/0195b4f5bf5e7e1a93e09179dab499f7

Translation Form: https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/aa3566dea0dd428f89a90d6b587b4fd3

To see if you qualify, contact Nayesdi Badillo at Nayesdi.badillo@doe.nv.gov

Early Childhood Workforce

Name: Jamie Mendez, Early Childhood Workforce Specialist **Email:** jamie.mendez@doe.nv.gov

UPDATES:
The **State Pre-K in Family Child Care Pilot program** in partnership with United Way of Southern Nevada, has officially launched for providers and families throughout Nevada. There are currently 30 children enrolled and participating in this pilot. This pilot program is set to run through June 30, 2026.

The **Workforce Data Dashboard** has launched in partnership with The Nevada Registry. The Data Dashboard provides real-time access to Nevada's Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) workforce and the state's training approval system, offering up-to-date information on key workforce indicators. The dashboard can be accessed using this link: Data Dashboard.

In partnership with NevAEYC, The Nevada Registry, and Nevada's Preschool Development Grant Birth-5, The **Early Childhood Workforce Wage Scale Tool** has been developed and launched. The Wage Tool represents what it takes to pay Nevada's early childhood workforce equitably using up-to-date data from the Nevada Registry. It can be used to model wage gaps, estimate funding needs, and support policy or advocacy decisions.
Learn more here: Nevada's Early Childhood Workforce Wage Scale Tool
Contact The Nevada Registry for any relevant data requests here: Contact The Nevada Registry.

Do you have an upcoming engagement opportunity for the early childhood workforce to share their voice?
The Preschool Development Grant Birth-5 has Early Childhood engagement incentives available. All incentives are processed through The Children's Cabinet and are sent electronically via email. Current incentives are available as an electronic gift card to Walmart or Amazon. Opportunities must take place before June 22, 2026.

Email Jamie Mendez at Jamie.mendez@doe.nv.gov with questions or to request an incentive for your engagement opportunity or event.

Request an engagement incentive for your event here: https://forms.cloud.microsoft/g/ACX50v4sCM

This work was made possible by the Preschool Development Grant Birth through Five (PDG B-5) Renewal, Grant Number 90TP099, from the Office of Child Care, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, awarded to the Nevada Department of Education Office of Early Learning and Development. Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official view of the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families. See https://bit.ly/nevadaPDGB-5 for details or contact Rachel Stepina at rachel.stepina@doe.nv.gov.

SECTION 2: NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES (DHS) DIVISION OF SUPPORTIVE SERVICES (DSS)

DHS/DSS: CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (CCDP)

MAY/JUNE 2026
Name: Brooke Yarborough, Social Services Chief 2 **Email:** byarborough@dss.nv.gov

UPDATES:
We would like to reshare Contact Information for CCDP. Please allow 2 business days for all responses.

For case status, general inquiries, or provider changes:
Email: CCDP@dss.nv.gov
Phone: (775)684-0625

For provider payments or timesheet questions:
Email: CCDPpayments@dss.nv.gov

DHS: AGING AND DISABILITY SERVICES DIVISION (ADSD)

DHS/ADSD: NEVADA EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES (NEIS)

MAY/JUNE 2026
Name: Dazzrael Lyke **Email:** dLyke@adsd.nv.gov

UPDATES:
Each year the Southern Nevada Regional Housing Authority (SNRHA) hosts a Family Day Resource Event for SNRHA residents and the community. Last year, more than 300 residents attended the event. Families are able to enjoy a free full-day event featuring games, raffles, community resources, prizes, and food. NEIS-South participated and shared information about our program and services.
May 16, 2026, Family Day Resource Event 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Paradise Community Center 4775 S. McLeod Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89121

SECTION 3: NV ECAC PARTNERING AGENCIES AND PROGRAMS

NEVADA ASSOCIATION FOR INFANT & EARLY CHILDHOOD MENTAL HEALTH (NVAIECMH)

MAY/JUNE 2026

Name: Jacquelyn Kleinedler, Executive Director **Email:** jkleinedler@nvaiecmh.org

UPDATES:

The NEVADA ASSOCIATION FOR INFANT & EARLY CHILDHOOD MENTAL HEALTH has launched a book club. And the best part is you don't have to read the book to join the club! We are reading The Emotional Life of the Toddler by Alicia Lieberman. Every month we share summaries, discussion questions, and gather to build community and connect.

Join the mailing list Click HERE **Email**: info@nvaiecmh.org

NEVADA INSTITUTE FOR CHILDREN'S RESEARCH AND POLICY: NICRP RESEARCH AND NEEDS ASSESSMENTS

MAY/JUNE 2026

Name: Amanda Haboush-Deloye, Executive Director **Email:** amanda.haboush@unlv.edu
Name: Smriti Neupane, Research Analyst **Email:** smriti.neupane@unlv.edu

NICRP Needs Assessment List Update:

30 new resources were added to the tracker from March 5, 2026, to May 5, 2026.
Some of the examples of reports/strategic plans that were added include:

- Nevada Childhood Blood Lead Data 2022-2023 Annual Report
- Clark County Children's Mental Health Consortium 2026 Service Priorities Report
- Nevada Cancer Plan 2026-2030

If you, or anyone you know:
Has an **updated strategic plan/report**
OR
Is looking for a **"Needs Assessment" ?**

We can help! Contact us via email

Amanda Haboush-Deloye, **E-** amanda.haboush@unlv.edu

Smriti Neupane, **E**: smriti.neupane@unlv.edu

Check out our new Needs Assessment webpage: https://nic.unlv.edu/nvecacneeds-assessment/.
If you notice any resources missing from the webpage, please send them to us and we will add them!

CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY ALLIANCE (CAA), THE STRONG START PRENATAL TO THREE (PN-3) COALITION, THE PRITZKER CHILDREN'S INITIATIVE (PCI)

MAY/JUNE 2026

Name: Dr. Jamelle Nance, Early Childhood Policy Director **Email:** jamelle.nance@caanv.org

UPDATE:

Children's Advocacy Alliance (CAA)

CAA is concluding its series of Policy Studios—community-driven convenings designed to elevate the voices of families and professionals who work directly with young children. Insights gathered through these sessions are shaping aligned policy priorities that will meaningfully improve outcomes for children and families statewide.

CAA will continue collaborating with key partners to advance a coordinated, comprehensive early childhood system and to identify both new and existing revenue streams that can sustainably support Nevada's early childhood infrastructure.

Strong Start Prenatal to Three (PN-3) Initiative

The Strong Start PN-3 Coalition continues to meet quarterly, with the next meeting scheduled for July 30th from 10:00–11:30am. During this convening, coalition members will review PN-3 policy priorities and identify potential early childhood champions to support this work.

The coalition maintains a strong focus on housing security and its impact on infants, toddlers, and their families. We are actively seeking families with lived experience to serve as leaders and help guide this initiative. As we prepare for the upcoming legislative cycle, we anticipate supporting housing-focused bills that strengthen family stability and increase awareness of available resources to help families secure and maintain housing.

Child Advocacy Ambassadors Program

The Child Advocacy Ambassadors continue to meet virtually on the last Wednesday of each month. Participants receive training in advocacy, storytelling, and legislative engagement, and they have opportunities to connect directly with lawmakers. Ambassadors are equipped to provide public comment, testimony, and legislative outreach on issues that matter most to them.

The current cohort will conclude in October 2026, with the next cohort launching in January 2027.

HEAD START | EARLY HEAD START

MAY/JUNE 2026

Name: Laura Brown, Monitoring and Compliance Coordinator **Email:** lbrown@acelero.net

UPDATE:

Open Enrollment is ongoing throughout the year, for more information contact us at acelero.com or Call us at: 702-387-0179.

May 22, 2026: Acelero Learning Clark County Head Start will have our Bi- Annual Strategic Planning Session

Spring 2026: We partnered with CCSD and local Charter Schools to support our families with Kindergarten tours and onsite School Fairs at our centers. Through the collaboration between Acelero's very own **Health and Disability Advocate, Anaiya McGrue**, and **over 20 community partners**, the Acelero Learning Clark County Head Start Community Health Fair hosted at our Strong Start Alta location in April turned out to be a great success and may potentially become an annual event.

May 4-8, 2026: Staff Appreciation

We celebrated all staff for Staff Appreciation week, and the families joined in the celebrations.

We are always seeking people with knowledge, skills and ability who look to positively impact the life of children and families. I **Interested applicants apply at acelero.com** .

CHILD CARE PROVIDER ACTION COMMITTEE (CCPAC)

MAY/JUNE 2026

Name: Lela Gonzales Project Coordinator **Email:** lgonzales@childrenscabinet.org

Name: Carrie Paldi, Regulatory Compliance Manager **Email**: cpaldi@learningcaregroup.com

UPDATE:
Day Without Child Care
Many members of the Child Care Provider Action Committee hosted events across the state in recognition of Day Without Child Care. Communities in Las Vegas, Elko, Fernley, and Reno came together to raise awareness about the incredible value of child care providers and the critical role they play in supporting working families throughout Nevada. Legislators also attended events to engage in discussions about the need for greater state-level investment in the early childhood education sector.

Pyramid Model

MAY/JUNE 2026
Name: Janice Lee **Email:** janicelee@unr.edu

UPDATE
Pyramid Model trainings, family support, and coaching to Implementation Sites continue, with several programs winding down their program year this month.

Nevada Pyramid Model Partnership's 15th Annual End of Year Celebration and Data Review
Thursday, June 18th, 2026, from 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
Registration is open and is free to attend.
This is a hybrid event with in-person locations in both Las Vegas and Reno, and online via Zoom.
If you have not received the invitation and would like to register or know more, email Janice: janicelee@unr.edu.

Practice-Based Coaching (PBC) - Community of Practice will have its final meeting of the year on 5/21/26, then will resume in August to start the new school/program year. Anyone interested in joining this Community of Practice is welcome. If you use PBC, join us in Community!

Nevada Association for the Education of Young Children

MAY/JUNE 2026
Name: Carrie Paldi, Regulatory Compliance Manager **Email:** cpaldi@learningcaregroup.com

UPDATE:
Impact of the loss of TEACH
NevAEYC wants to reiterate the significant and far-reaching impact that the loss of TEACH funding will have on Nevada's ECE infrastructure. TEACH has long been a critical support for the ECE workforce, helping educators access education, increase their qualifications, and achieve higher wages while working for time (retention to their sponsoring center).

Without sustained investment in TEACH, the pipeline of qualified, well-compensated early childhood educators will continue to shrink. This not only affects the quality and stability of early learning programs but also creates substantial challenges for families seeking reliable childcare.

Ultimately, the loss of a strong, supported ECE workforce has broader implications for Nevada's economy. When families cannot access consistent, high-quality childcare, their ability to participate in the workforce is directly impacted. Continued support for TEACH is essential to maintaining a stable ECE system and, in turn, a thriving statewide workforce.

2026 Annual NevAEYC Conference
The Annual NevAEYC Conference was an absolute triumph! We are incredibly grateful to our phenomenal partners and sponsors; your unwavering support and collaboration truly elevated this event, making a lasting impact on early childhood education community in

Nevada.

SECTION 4:
NEVADA LOCAL ECACs

SOUTHERN NEVADA ECAC (SNECAC)

MAY/JUNE 2026
Name: Dr. Amanda Haboush-Deloye, Organizer **Email:** amanda.haboush@unlv.edu
Name: Smriti Neupane **Email:** smriti.neupane@unlv.edu

UPDATE:
SNECAC - April meeting was canceled due to restructuring as funding comes to an end.
Our **youth mayor and council** are going strong. They just filmed their PSA and are scheduling meetings with local policy makers.
Step Up for Kids *with the* **UNR - Extension Health Kids Festival:**
DATE: Saturday, 9/26/26 **TIME**: 11:00 am-2:00 pm
Location:
Pearson Community Center
1625 W Carey Ave, North Las Vegas, NV 89032

We are pairing this event with the UNR - Extension Health Kids Festival.
More details coming soon!

SNECAC Meeting Information:
2026 SNECAC Meetings are held quarterly
Meeting Months: Jan/April/July/October
Day: 3rd Wednesday
Time: 12:00 pm-2:00 pm

Website: https://www.snecac.com/

RURAL NEVADA ECAC

MAY/JUNE 2026
Name: Michael-Ann Lazzarino, Chief Operating Officer **Email:** Michael-ann@communitychestnevada.net

UPDATES:
The Rural NV ECAC has been using the information gathered through the community needs assessment to identify and understand the most pressing needs of the families. The largest identified need is knowledge of local community resources, developmental assessments, and connection opportunities for families. At this time, we are planning to host or participate in community events in four different rural NV communities to offer developmental assessments, referrals

SECTION 5:
OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL: EVENTS - FUNDING - OUTREACH - RESOURCES

...Begin your Journey Here...

May 21, 2026, CCPAC Meeting
Highlighting the successes of Day Without Child Care, discuss upcoming activities, gather continued provider feedback, and plan future advocacy efforts. We hope you will join us. The registration link below,
Questions?
Email: Lela Gonzales at lgonzales@childrenscabinet.org
Click Here to Register: REGISTRATION LINK

PDG B-5 Activities including incentives opportunities, are sent out using the OELD Listserv, sign up at: OELD Listserv
Activities sent to specific audiences as determined by the PDG B-5 Specialists.

SECTION 6:
NEVADA ECAC PARTNERS NOT LISTED

Below are the Nevada ECAC Partners who were not able to give an update for the **MAY/JUNE 2026** edition of the Nevada ECAC Partner Summary Report. We appreciate their partnership and look forward to hearing all of their accomplishments and planned activities in the next edition.

Nevada Department of Education:
- NDE/OELD: QUALITY RATING IMPROVEMENT SYSTEM (QRIS)
- NDE: NEVADA READY!PRE-K

Nevada Department of Human Services:
- DHS/DPBH: WOMEN, INFANTS & CHILDREN PROGRAM (WIC)
- DHS/DPBH: MATERNAL, CHILD & ADOLESCENT HEALTH (MCAH)
- DHS/DPBH: ORAL HEALTH PROGRAM
- DHS/DPBH: NEVADA STATE IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM
- DHS/ADSD: IDEA, PART C
- DHS/DSS: CHILD CARE LICENSING

Nevada Department of Administration:
- NDA: NEVADA STATE LIBRARY, ARCHIVES, AND PUBLIC RECORDS

Nevada ECAC Partnering Agencies and Programs:
- THE CHILDREN'S CABINET (TCC)
    - HRSA
    - EARLY CHILDHOOD COMPREHENSIVE SYSTEMS (ECCS)
    - HEALTH INTEGRATION
    - ECCS: FIRST 5 NEVADA FAMILY LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

Nevada Local ECACs:
- ELKO ECAC
- CARSON-DOUGLAS
- LYON-CHURCHILL ECAC
- WASHOE COUNTY ECAC