Executive Leadership Subcommittee Public Meeting
Tuesday, April 07, 2026, from 11:00 am-12:30 pm
Virtual Location: Zoom.com. To join, click **HERE**

ATTENDANCE

7 of 8 members present
1. Tiffany Alston, ECAC Chair
2. Brianna Cambra, Communication and Engagement Co-Chair
3. Patrice Gardner, ECAC Vice Chair
4. Amanda Haboush-Deloye, Data Co-Chair
5. Dr. Jamelle Nance, Communication and Engagement Co-Chair
6. Tiffany Olivas, Family Leadership and Engagement Co-Chair
7. Denise Tanata, Policy and Finance Co-Chair

1 of 8 Members Absent
1. Marty Elquist, Data Co-Chair

Public in Attendance
1. Brandi Hearst, ECAC Administrative Coordinator
2. Jerek Hough, Subcommittee Member
3. Sabrina Jones, ECAC System Specialist
4. Anna Martinez, Community Member
5. Jamie Mendez, Workforce Development Co-Chair
6. Sabrina Peter, Community Member
7. Nicole Sailers, Community Member
8. Anna Villatoro, Subcommittee Member
9. Brooke Yarborough, ECAC Member
10. Kathy Yoder-Bass, ECAC Member

MINUTES

1. Welcome, Call to Order, and Roll Call 7 min.
- Patrice Gardner called the meeting to order at 11:02 am
- Brandi Hearst conducted roll call, noted above

2. Public Comment #1 5 min.
Public Comment not given during this agenda item.
- No Comment

3. Approval of Flexible Agenda (*Discussion for Possible Action)* **3 min.**
Members approved of a flexible agenda.
Patrice Gardner, Nevada ECAC Vice Chair

- Tiffany Alston motioned to approve a flexible agenda
- Tiffany Olivas seconded the motion.
- Members voted, motion passes, flexible agenda approved.

4. Approval of Minutes (Discussion for Possible Action) **3 min.**
Members approved the March 03, 2026, Minutes
Patrice Gardner, Nevada ECAC Vice Chair

- Members shared minor grammar and spelling errors, fixed during meeting
- Amanda Haboush-Deloye motioned to approve the February Minutes
- Denise Tanata seconded the motion
- Members voted, motion passes, March 03, 2026, minutes approved.

5. Introduction of Bylaws Ad Hoc Committee (Discussion for Possible Action) **15 min**
Members reviewed purpose of Bylaw Ad Hoc Committee
Patrice Gardner, Nevada ECAC Vice Chair

- Patrice Gardner announced the Bylaws Ad Hoc Committee being formed on 3.18.26 after discussion at last meeting, and shares the following information:
  - Bylaws Ad Hoc Purpose is as follows:
    - Amend and recommend changes to Bylaws
    - Suggested updates based on best practices
    - Align with New Strategic Plan vision, making goals and objectives achievable
    - Capture changes identified by Council recommendations

- Patrice Gardner then read names from the roster and asked if there was anyone missing or if anyone else wanted to join, with no response, Patrice Gardner stated the first meeting date has been scheduled on April 13, 2026, from 10-11 am

6. New Subcommittee Organization and Co-Chair Selection (*Discussion for Possible Action)* **20 min**
The Subcommittee learned of new Subcommittee Co-Chair appointments and continued the discussion on Roster Caps.
Nevada ECAC Chair Tiffany Alston, Nevada ECAC Vice Chair Patrice Gardner

- Patrice Gardner revisited the discussion from the previous meeting regarding the need to review the bylaws to ensure compliance with the Council's Co-Chair structure.

- Members reviewed Section 3D of the bylaws, which states that Subcommittee Co-Chairs may be appointed by the Council Chair and Vice Chair.
  - The bylaws further specify that one Co-Chair must be an appointed ECAC member and the second Co-Chair may be a Subcommittee member.

Based on this review, members confirmed that the current proposed Co-Chair structure is in alignment with the bylaws and may move forward as presented.

- As part of the Subcommittee Transitions Request Form, members were asked to indicate their interest in serving in open Co-Chair positions. Based on those responses, the following members were selected:
  - Tiffany Olivas, ECAC Member, appointed to Co-Chair Family Leadership and Engagement
  - Jamie Mendez appointed to Co-Chair for Workforce Development
  - Patrice Gardner, ECAC Member, temporarily Co-Chair Workforce Development until another Member volunteers or Jamie Mendez receives her membership appointment
  - Tiffany Alston to Co-Chair Policy and Finance

- Patrice Gardner announced the following:
  - Rosters sent out to all Co-Chairs for review
  - Sabrina Jones to gather dates from Co-Chairs of Workforce Development and Family Leadership and Engagement to schedule first meetings
  - Sabrina Jones and Brandi Hearst to provide Co-Chair training to go over tasks and procedures

- Tiffany Alston continued the discussion from the previous meeting regarding the benefits and challenges of placing a cap on subcommittee rosters. Members were invited to share their thoughts and experiences, and the following feedback was provided:
  - Communication and Engagement had the most members in 2025, and did not have an issue with quorum
  - Family Leadership and Engagement will be recruiting families, and we don't want to turn families away

- Amanda Haboush-Deloye shared that the Data Subcommittee has had to cancel meetings due to a lack of quorum, stating that the primary challenge is not voting, but having enough members present to hold meetings
  - It was later discussed that Data was actually celebrated at the end of 2025 for not having any cancellations

- Tiffany Olivas shared that even if members attend, members are not always engaged or participating, later requesting a policy on attending at least half of the meetings in a year
  - Brandi Hearst shared in the chat there is a policy already in place that members sign that they understand this policy when applying for Subcommittee membership

- Tiffany Olivas asked if we could have more options for public comment, especially in Family Leadership and Engagement Subcommittee
- Patrice Gardner agreed, stating this was a good idea.

- Denise Tanata suggests Subcommittee Co-Chairs have a say in who is on the roster as a member as Co-Chairs can:
  - Make sure that the members are aligned with the Subcommittee focus
  - Let people know other ways to participate without being a member

- Tiffany Alston wants to explore the possibility of creating a form for all Subcommittees to gauge why an applicant would be a good fit on a subcommittee.

- Patrice Gardner shares the need for using the tools we do have already as we have a policy in the bylaws and our Member applicants read and acknowledge that after 3 missed meetings Co-Chairs can remove them from being a member

- Amanda Haboush-Deloye suggests the Bylaw Ad Hoc discuss the cap Number for the Subcommittees
- Patrice Gardner discusses the cap could be a liberal number, such as 20 members, with Co-Chairs being able to adjust the number according to their needs

- Denise Tanata shared that she would like more clarity in the differing roles of the ECAC Chairs compared to the Subcommittee Co-Chairs then shares that she isn't sure if she is allowed to recruit members for her Subcommittee or if she is allowed to dismiss someone, asking what her role is.

- Patrice Gardner recaps the discussion:
  - Flexible caps for Subcommittee Co-Chairs to freely identify their own needs
    - Add a flexible statement to the Bylaws
    - Add same details to the Subcommittee Guidance document.
  - The Rosters have been sent out and will remain the same

- Tiffany Olivas asked how we intend to reach out to early childhood sectors to recruit members
- Patrice Gardener explained that we first had to know what we need to recruit for, including:
  - Space / Roster Caps
  - Qualifications: Using a rubric
  - Identify sectors representation in each of Subcommittee, now on rosters
  - Start recruiting from:
    - Email blasts on the listserv
    - Partner websites

  - Executive Leadership to lead vetting new applicants
    - Possibly setting up a small group of members to:
      - Review applicants
      - Present recommendations to Executive Leadership Subcommittee Members
    - Tiffany Olivas offers to help if the vetting group is formed

7. Subcommittee Management, Next Steps and Supports (Discussion for Possible Action) 20 min Outline next steps for Subcommittee reviewed updates and new support roles
Nevada ECAC Chair Tiffany Alston
Nevada ECAC Vice Chair Patrice Gardner
3.10.24 Current Bylaws

- Patrice Gardner explained to members the next steps for Subcommittees to prepare for their upcoming meetings
  - Members reviewed the rosters
  - Structure within Subcommittees:
    - 2 Co-Chairs
    - 1 Secretary
      - Appointed by Subcommittee Co-Chairs
      - Help with admin tasks
      - Co-Chairs can add more supports as needed

  - Agendas to include time to create Workplan activities
  - Use and review new Workplan that Brandi Hearst emailed to each Subcommittee

- Co-Chairs can add more meetings as needed
  - Contact Brandi Hearst to schedule additional meetings

- Patrice Gardner shared that Brandi Hearst collected the following Data:
  - Subcommittee attendance
  - Appointed Members not on a subcommittee
  - 2025 quorum cancellations data
    - Compared to membership of that subcommittee
    - The number of members on a roster did not equal more cancelled meetings
    - Large rosters had less cancellations

- Patrice Gardner let members know to look for communications as we reach out to members who need to sign up using the Subcommittee Request Transition Form to verify intentions to participate and which Subcommittee you prefer.

8. Subcommittee Updates (Discussion, Informational) 3 Min each
Subcommittee Co-Chairs reported their updates

Executive Leadership:
- Sabrina Jones shared a draft of the Subcommittee Guidance going over the content. Members to review and share feedback via email to Brandi Hearst and Sabrina Jones.
  - Brianna Cambra asked if the secretary tasks will change once we don't have admin support
  - Patrice Gardner mentioned the possibility of having some funding to keep admin support once budgets are finalized
  - Jerek Hough would like to have definition of "participating" in subcommittees versus observing
  - Sabrina Jones directed members to remember to share their questions and feedback after reviewing the form

Communication and Engagement:
- Dr. Jamelle Nance shared that they have been updating the website to be more accessible for new member and families, next meeting is at the end of April.
- Brianna Cambra shared the Parent Story template explaining that can be the tool that captures the message of the parent story, and how to get permission to share their stories.
- Website progress looks good, templates are being reviewed and chosen based on number of visuals, intent of page being obvious, easy to find resources and meeting details, will it meet our needs, also creating a Parent Page.

Policy and Finance:
- Denise Tanata announced Tiffany Alston as Co-Chair
- Working on Interim policy priorities and strategies identified in the 2025 Annual Report activities or work plan, next meeting in May.

Data:
- Amanda Haboush-Deloye shared Data is working on a handout sheet for parents to explore how to be more comfortable with data and what types of questions to ask, (Early Childhood Data, A Family's Guide).
- Anna Villatoro received good feedback for both English and Spanish Versions
- Travelled to Las Vegas parent meeting collecting feedback from parents with staff from NICRP

9. Nevada Legislative Update (Discussion for Possible Action) **6 min**
Members updated on legislative news
Denise Tanata, Policy and Finance Co-Chair

- Denise Tanata discussed interim policy priorities, including organizing presentations and meetings with the governor's office to address identified issues.
- April 24, 2026, a presentation with the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Education.
  - Each organization will address different aspects of the early childhood system, participants include:
    - ECAC
    - The Children's Cabinet
    - The Child Care Provider Action Committee
    - United Way of Southern Nevada
    - The Guinn Center
    - Children's Advocacy Alliance

  - Topics to be covered:
    - The Importance Of Early Childhood
    - ECAC Policy Priorities, as follows:
      - Child Care Access and Affordability – Expanding subsidies and financial support for families.
      - Workforce Support and Compensation – Addressing low wages, limited benefits, and high turnover among early childhood educators, while reducing administrative burdens and supporting provider sustainability.
      - System Alignment and Governance – Reducing fragmentation, clarifying authority and accountability, and aligning policies to improve efficiency.
      - Family Support and Engagement – Simplifying communication, reducing administrative hurdles, and ensuring family-centered approaches with authentic family engagement in decision-making.
      - Data Infrastructure – Developing an Early Childhood Integrated Data System (ECIDS) to support data-driven decision-making.
    - Universal Pre-K With A Mixed Delivery Model
    - T.E.A.C.H.
    - Child Care Provider Perspectives
    - Early Childhood- An Economic And Workforce Issue
    - Governance Structure
    - Child Care Programs
    - A Call To Action With Specific Recommendations
      - To provide written comment, email: EDInterim@lcb.state.nv.us

9. Governors' Workforce Development Board (GWDB) Childcare Subcommittee Update (Discussion, Informational) **6 min**
Members updated at next meeting.
Marty Elquist, Data Co-Chair
Brianna Cambra, Communications and Engagement Co-Chair
- Tabled as both presenters were not available

10. Agenda Items for May 5, 2026, Meeting (Discussion and Possible Action) **5 min.**
Subcommittee members discussed items for the next agenda.

- Patrice Gardner added On Strategy discussion with ECAC Goal tracking options as an agenda item.
- Bylaws Ad Hoc Update - standing item until dissolved
- Website updates / PMA possible invite if budget allows

11. Member Share Outs (Discussion and Informational) **2 min.**
Members shared updates.

- Denise Tanata congratulated Darby Porter and Anna Villatoro, who both graduated from the First 5 Leadership Academy

12. Public Comment #2 3 min
Public Comment was made during this agenda item

- Amanda Haboush-Deloye shared that April is Autism Awareness Month, Early Childhood Research Symposium is April , 23rd in Reno. Travel and flight assistance limited but still available.

13. Upcoming Meetings:
- **Data**: 4.16.26 at 1:00 pm
- **Communications and Engagement**: 04.28.26 at 11:30 am
- **Executive Leadership**: 05.05.26 at 11:30 am
- **Policy and Finance**: 05.16.26 at 3:30 pm
- **General ECAC**: 5.20.26, 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

14. Adjournment
- Patrice Gardner adjourned meeting at 12:24 pm

- **Action Steps**
  - Brandi Hearst to email members who are not on a Subcommittee to verify they are not participating
  - Patrice Gardner and Brandi Hearst to contact ECAC Members who need g sign up for a subcommittee still
  - Brandi Hearst to add Co-Chair Label and EC Sectors to rosters, noting which member is a co-chair and which sector members have self-identified

- **One Sentence Summary**
  - Subcommittee Members received direction for first meetings back with their Members, heard the appointments of new Co-Chairs, reviewed requested guidance document and given the links to download, review and provide feedback, as well as hearing updates from all Subcommittees.