Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council (ECAC)
Executive Leadership Subcommittee
Public Meeting
Tuesday, April 01, 2025
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."

Location: Meetings are held via Zoom teleconference. To join CLICK HERE
Meeting ID: 874 7306 4118 **Passcode:** 931429
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MINUTES SUMMARY

1. Welcome, Call to Order, and Roll Call
Patrice Gardner, Nevada ECAC Vice Chair
- Patrice Gardner starts meeting at 11:05am
- Brandi Hearst conducted roll call

Members Present
1. Abbey Bernhardt, Systems Alignment Co-Chair
2. Ashley Dines, Parent Representative
3. Marty Elquist, Data and Evaluation Co-Chair
4. Patrice Gardner, ECAC Vice-Chair
5. Amanda Haboush-Deloye, Data and Evaluation Co-Chair
6. Jerek Hough, District Manager Source Academy
7. Dr. Jamelle Nance, Communication and Engagement Co- Chair
8. Tiffany Olivas, Systems Alignment Co- Chair
9. Denise Tanata, Policy and Finance Co-Chair
10. Kathy Yoder Bass, Provider Representative

Members Absent:
1. Tiffany Alston, ECAC Chair
2. Elysa Arroyo, Policy and Finance Co-Chair
3. Donya Segoviano, Business Process Analyst III, Division of Welfare & Supportive Services

Public In Attendance
1. Leslie Colbresso- Community Service Agency, Chief Executive Officer
2. Brandi Hearst, ECAC Administrative Coordinator, Office of Early Learning and Development, Nevada Department of Education
3. Darby Porter, State of NV Library Systems
4. Dana Preece, P-3 Specialist, Office of Early Learning and Development, Nevada Department of Education
5. Kate Pflughoeft, PDG B-5 Assistant Grant Manager, Office of Early Learning and Development, Nevada Department of Education
6. Candace Vaughn, DCFS
7. Anna Villatoro, Family Engagement Specialist, The Children's Cabinet

2. Public Comment #1 5 min.
Public Comment will be 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.
- No Comment

3. Approval of Flexible Agenda *(Discussion for Possible Action)* **3 min.**
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.
Patrice Gardner, Nevada ECAC Vice Chair
- Ashley Dines motions to approve Flexible Agenda
- Amanda Haboush-Deloye seconds' motion
- Members vote unanimously, motion carries

4. Minutes from March 04, 2025 *(Discussion for Possible Action)* **3 min.**
The Subcommittee will vote to approve March 04, 2025, Minutes in May with Revisions.
Patrice Gardner, Nevada ECAC Vice Chair
Item #2 Children's Week at the Legislature
Item 5 looking to network families that are engaging reads awkward
Item 9 Nevada misspelled under 1st bullet "Resource Hub"
Item 10 last sub bullet with Data and Eval and
- Meeting Minutes to be reviewed, updated and re-presented in May for approval

5. Legislative Session Updates *(Informational, Discussion)* **12 min**
Subcommittee was updated on Policy and Legislation topics in Nevada.
Dr. Nance, Communication and Engagement Co-Chair
- Dr. Nance updated the members with the following:
- **AB185**- (The HOA Limits bill) made it out of work sessions which is promising, watching that one closely
- **SB82** Denise Tanata put together the Bill package for Senator Taylor, hoping for the April 7th 3:30 meeting
- Still looking for Universal Pre-K with Senator Cannizaro, she gets "special time frames", hoping that there is progress on the Universal Pre-K initiative.
- **Educate Act** continuing to watch Early Childhood Funding, today at 11:30 CAA has a meeting to go over current happenings.
- Kate Pflueghoft asked how you can tell if there were changes to a bill
- Dr. Nance replied that there will be different colors or "strike through" text on the document
- Denise Tanata suggested looking at the amendments to see the changes and additions

6. Best Practices Statement *(Discussion for Possible Action)* **10 min**
The Data and Evaluation Subcommittee will share in May their Data "Best Practices" Statement to review and
For a vote of approval to take to the General ECAC for final Vote and approval as the Official Statement of Best Practices
For Data Collection from the Early Childhood Advisory Council, Data and Evaluation Subcommittee.
Marty Elquist and Amanda Haboush-Deloye, Data and Evaluation Co-Chairs
- Tabled to May Agenda, Subcommittee made new changes and needs to vote first

7. Systems Alignment Sector Survey *(Discussion and Possible Action)*, **10 min**
Subcommittee heard the Systems Alignment work finding potential gaps in Early Childhood System representation within Nevada ECAC and provided feedback in regard to new Self Identifying Sector Survey.
Tiffany Olivas and Abbey Bernhardt, Systems Alignment Subcommittee Co-Chairs

- Tiffany Olivas showed the Subcommittee the Sector Survey that she collaborated with Brandi Hearst to create with information gathered at the Systems Alignment Subcommittee. She had described that the point of the survey was to have data of which sectors are being represented at the ECAC and more importantly, what Sectors we are missing in from being represented in ECAC. Current Members to take survey and get the data current.
- Sector info added to rosters:
- NEW members do the Sector Survey located in:
    - Option- add to Orientation Packet / training (Not needed if in Application)
    - Option - add to Subcommittee Application (Done)
    - Option - add to website
- Sabrina Jones, Brandi Hearst and Tiffany Olivas to meet for logistics and report back to Executive Leadership.

8. UPDATE Re: Topics for Early Childhood Research Briefs Newsletter *(Discussion for Possible Action)* **10 min.**
The Subcommittee heard updates regarding topics for the Early Childhood Research Briefs Newsletter.
Patrice Gardner, Nevada ECAC Vice Chair
Brandi Hearst, ECAC Administrative Coordinator

- Patrice Gardner let the Subcommittee know that the Federal funding policies keep changing and some language used may not align with the new requirements, the March article topic had to be adjusted in the research newsletter
    - We are no longer going to use topics that are local or current events that involve needing to look for details or interview people. Topics need to be research based so we can promote how to find that info.
- Amanda Haboush-Deloye confirmed and described that the point of the newsletter is to share research-based information and that if we want it to be more current news and activities coming up, then we need to speak with Rachel Stepina to identify the time needed and how we will allocate that time.
- Patrice Gardner advised members to select topics that are research based and next month we will be selecting topics for June and July. April and May topics are already approved and in motion.

9. First Five Nevada Family Leadership Council *(Informational, Discussion)* **10 min.**
The Subcommittee heard updates from the Nevada Early Childhood Family Leadership Council
Ashley Dines, Anna Villatoro and Tiffany Olivas, The Children's Cabinet

- Ashley Dines hosting a Southern Nevada parent summit. This will be an in-person event, gives the parents an opportunity network, exchange resources, Many applications from rural families getting registered for the Family Leadership Council, if you see the families around be sure to give them a warm hello, and we are always looking for resources to share within our events.
- Anna Villatoro shared that Children's Week at The Legislator updates are online at the First 5 website, they are hosting an Early Childhood Screening Event at CSN, Las Vegas, Charleston Campus., and an Easter Egg Hunt at the Douglas County Social Services Health and Well Being Event on Saturday April 5th, 2025.
- Patrice Gardner asked if they currently provide any type of classes for families on the Nevada Legislative process or civics training
- Ashley Dines confirmed that they do not offer a Civics class, a variety of classes are available and there is always room for more trainings if anyone would like to volunteer to host a training session.

10. First Five Nevada Program Inclusion Requests *(Discussion for Possible Action)* **5 min.**
The Subcommittee reviewed and discussed the monthly Inclusion Request Report.
Denise Tanata, Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems Advisor, The Children's Cabinet

- Densie Tanata let the members know there was no appeals to report, we did have one denial, and we have our advisory council scheduled for another hearing next week.
- Members had no questions.

11. Work Plan Updates *(Discussion, for Possible Action)* **20 min.**
The Subcommittee discussed action items, updates, progress and their needs, moving forward to succeed in Completing Work Plan goals.

- **Executive Leadership** – Patrice Gardner, ECAC Vice-Chair
  - Patrice Gardner discussed that the subcommittees will now be reporting their key messages to this Subcommittee each month
  - **ECAC Updates** - Brandi Hearst, ECAC Administrative Coordinator
    - Brandi Hearst invited members to volunteer to work the table at the NevAEYC Conference if approved, and to be on the lookout for the Partner Report on the ECAC website as it will be posted today. Members were also reminded that their logos can be added to the report, email Brandi Hearst or add it to the report next time you complete the form.
- **Systems Alignment** – Tiffany Olivas and Abbey Bernhardt, Co-Chairs
  - Tiffany Olivas discussed the info graphic the Systems Alignment Subcommittee is working on and how hard it has been to add everything to one image, as well as bringing up the survey they are working on for agencies statewide to report their key messages and priorities.
- **Communications and Engagement** – Dr. Jamelle Nance and (Vacancy), Co-Chair
  - Dr. Nance mentioned they haven't had their meeting yet as it is next week and will have updates next time
- **Policy and Finance** – Elysa Arroyo and Denise Tanata, Co-Chairs
  - Denise Tanata discussed the Matrix of EC matrix to create priority level of funding that has been cut eliminated or significant loss of funding already, and priority two we anticipate will loose funding. We are hoping to see where we need to focus our efforts on what needs to be funded and where we can get funding sourced.
  - Patrice Gardner asked if we are looking at Federal and State level funding
  - Denise Tanata explained that they re looking at both as well as the most important factor of who it effects and how it will impact families in Nevada so that we can create our priorities of finding funding sources and decreasing the impact.
- **Data and Evaluation** – Marty Elquist and Amanda Haboush-Deloye, Co-Chairs
  - Amanda Haboush-Deloye explained the Data Best Practices Statement and how the Subcommittee went about editing it, the thought process of removing some verbiage because of Federal changes and not wanting funds removed, the Database that is going online is in the works with the Nevada Department of Education, and continuing work on creating Key Snapshot datapoints to show the wellbeing of a child in Nevada.

12. Agenda Items for May 6, 2025, Executive Leadership Meeting *(Discussion and Possible Action)* **5 min.**
Subcommittee members discussed additional items to add to the May 06, 2025, Executive Leadership Agenda.
Patrice Gardner, Nevada ECAC Vice Chair

- Updated Minutes from March
- Discussion on alignment between the subcommittees
- Strategic Plan update with Rachel Stepina

- Best Practices from Data and Evaluation voted on for Approval to go to ECAC General Meeting.

13. Agenda Items for May 21, 2025, General ECAC Meeting *(Discussion and Possible Action)* **5 min.**
Subcommittee members discussed additional items to add to the May 21, 2025, General ECAC Agenda keeping in mind. This General ECAC meeting is scheduled for a VIRTUAL 2-hour meeting in the evening from 5:30-7:30pm. Members have the opportunity to discuss what items to keep and if any should be removed for sake of time.
Patrice Gardner, Nevada ECAC Vice Chair
- Best Practices for Approval Vote, Data and Evaluation Subcommittee

14. Upcoming Meetings (*Informational)* **0 min**
- Communication & Engagement: 4.08.25, 9:00am
- Policy and Finance: 4.10.25, 1:00pm
- Communication Ad-Hoc: 4.15.25, 1:30pm
- Data and Evaluation: 4.17.25, 1:00pm
- Systems Alignment: 4.23.25. 1:00pm
- Executive Leadership: 5.06.25, 11:00am
- General ECAC: 5.21.25, 5:30om-7:30pm, VIRTUAL ONLY
- New Member Orientation: 4. 29.25, 11:00am
    - To register, email Brandi.hearst@doe.nv.gov and Sabrina.jones@doe.nv.gov

15. Public Comment #2 *(Discussion for Possible Action)* **6 min**
Public Comment taken during this agenda item on any matter within the Council's control or advisory power. No action may be taken on the matter raised under this item until the matter is included on the agenda as an item on which action may be taken. The Council Chair will impose a time limit of three minutes.
- No Comment

16. Adjournment
- Patrice Gardner adjourned the meeting at 12:12pm

3 Action Steps*:*
- Brandi Hearst to redo March Minutes and revise for May Meeting approval
- Tiffany Olivas, Brandi Hearst and Sabrina Jones to meet before next meeting and discuss logistics and Sector Survey usage then update this Subcommittee with details.
- Executive Leadership Subcommittee to have each Subcommittee express their priority / key messaging items

One Sentence Summary:
This Subcommittee discussed the Research Newsletter collecting research-based topics, discussed Legislation updates from Carson City and reviews the new Sector Survey that Systems Alignment is putting together to identify what Early Childhood Workforce Sectors are or are not represented within the ECAC.