Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council
Data Subcommittee Public Meeting Minutes
Thursday, August 20, 2026
1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Meeting ID: 817 8418 5996, Passcode: 841445

Attendance

Members Present (7 of 8 present)

1. Marty Elquist, Data Co-Chair
2. Adriana Lemus, First Five Family Leadership Graduate
3. Amanda Haboush-Deloye, Data Co-Chair
4. Kate Pflughoeft, PDG B-5 Associate Grant Manager, Office of Early Learning and Development, Nevada Department of Education
5. Matthew Hoffman, Data Analyst, Office of Early Learning and Development, Nevada Department of Education
6. Peter Paul Paragus, Sunrise Children Foundation
7. Shelly Nye, Program Director of The Nevada Registry

Others Participating in Present

- Sabrina Jones, ECAC Systems Coordinator (OELD, NDE)
- Denise Tanata, Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems Advisor, Children's Cabinet
- Rachel Stepina, PDG B-5 Grant Manager, Office of Early Learning and Development, Nevada Department of Education
- Anna Whitehead, Parent, Community Member
- Smriti Neupane, Research Analyst, Nevada Institute for Children's Research and Policy, School of Public Health, University of Nevada
- Jamelle Nance, Children's Advocacy Alliance
- Octavia McLaurin, Childcare Provide, Community member

Member Noted as Absent (1 of 8 absent)

- Matthew Silver, Data Analyst 2, Office of Early Learning and Development, Nevada Department of Education

Minutes

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

- Amanda Haboush-Deloye called the Data Subcommittee meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.
- Amanda Haboush-Deloye conducted roll call.
- A quorum was confirmed at 1:05 p.m.

2. Public Comment #1

- Amanda Haboush-Deloye opened the first public comment period for items appearing on the agenda and noted that a three-minute time limit could be imposed.
- No public comment was offered.

3. Approval of Flexible Agenda (For Possible Action)

- Marty Elquist moved to approve a flexible agenda to take items out of order for guests.
- Matthew Hoffman seconded the motion.
- No further discussion was offered.
- The motion carried to adopt a flexible agenda for the meeting.

4. Approval of Meeting Minutes (Discussion and Possible Action)

- Matthew Hoffman moved to approve the minutes.
- Shelly Nye seconded the motion.
- No further discussion was offered.
- The motion carried with no corrections to the minutes.

5. Data Subcommittee Work Plan (Review and Discussion)

- Sabrina Jones shared the Data Subcommittee Work Plan document.
- Marty Elquist opened discussion on the Data Subcommittee Work Plan.
- Marty Elquist asked whether additional research work was needed for Goal 1, Objective 1.2.
- Amanda Haboush-Deloye requested clarification regarding which party was actively requesting research work for Goal 1, Objective 1.2.
- Matthew Hoffman stated that additional ECIDS research work is not needed.
- Marty Elquist proposed activating a key activity focused on policy briefs targeted to stakeholders.
- Matthew Hoffman proposed creating an ECIDS demonstration that could be used when presenting the project to stakeholders and policymakers.
- Amanda Haboush-Deloye requested clarification regarding which outside parties need to be engaged to further ECIDS development and which resources would be needed from those parties.
- Matthew Hoffman discussed the need for additional departmental funding through promotion of ECIDS deliverables to policymakers.
- Matthew Hoffman clarified that buy-in is necessary through a demonstration tailored to target audiences once use cases between agencies are identified.
- Rachel Stepina discussed how ECIDS use cases could help identify multiple audiences and the need for tailored policy briefs. She noted that families could be an initial audience to help identify needs and priorities.
- Amanda Haboush-Deloye discussed defining ECIDS and follow-up steps for system integration, including the need for additional funding to develop use cases and presentations.
- Marty Elquist discussed defining ECIDS in Nevada and using that definition to determine gaps in potential stakeholder presentations.
- Rachel Stepina discussed bridging Nevada use-case ideas to make future funding proposals specific to project and Subcommittee needs and identified funding as a priority activity.
- Shelly Nye supported development of Matthew Hoffman's live ECIDS demonstration to provide a tangible deliverable for guiding immediate actions.
- Matthew Hoffman discussed the need to distinguish between reporting and analytics when designing stakeholder presentations.
- Kate Pflughoeft discussed scaling ECIDS presentations for different audiences to improve understanding of the system.
- Rachel Stepina discussed identifying existing problem spaces where ECIDS could demonstrate value and relevant use cases across organizations.

- Marty Elquist introduced Goal 3, Objective 3.1 and invited Denise Tanata to discuss identifying funding streams and fiscal mapping projects.
- Denise Tanata discussed progress with fiscal mapping and collaboration with Children's Funding Project.
- Denise Tanata emphasized identifying current federal and state funding streams that can be integrated into fiscal mapping efforts.
- Denise Tanata suggested that the Subcommittee could assist in identifying funding streams for the fiscal map data collection tool and help ensure information is accurate.
- Denise Tanata proposed a future presentation of the fiscal mapping data tool for Subcommittee feedback on the data being integrated and ways to organize funding streams to meet family and stakeholder needs.
- Marty Elquist supported the proposed presentation as a future action to guide Data Subcommittee follow-up.
- Denise Tanata discussed reviewing the funding matrix tool in the future and provided an overview of fiscal mapping tools to determine what updates may be needed.
- Denise Tanata discussed long-term structural planning for the fiscal mapping project and potential collaboration with the Policy and Finance Subcommittee on stakeholder presentations and feedback on fiscal tools.
- Rachel Stepina discussed the need for a cohesive ECAC funding strategy when developing action steps and future funding proposals.
- Denise Tanata requested inviting Children's Funding Project to the October 15, 2026, Data Subcommittee meeting and placing the presentation early on the agenda.
- Amanda Haboush-Deloye proposed dividing the next meeting between fiscal mapping and upcoming funding cycles as priority topics.
- Marty Elquist confirmed that the next agenda would focus on fiscal mapping and funding-cycle items.

6. Member Share-Out

- Grant Writing - Preschool Development Grant Birth Through Five (PDG B-5) SMART Grant
- Rachel Stepina stated that the upcoming PDG B-5 grant-writing period is expected to culminate in a November submission, allowing approximately two months for drafting and building on the prior year's application.
- Rachel Stepina shared the PDG B-5 online platform and discussed grant priorities related to data infrastructure, mixed-delivery systems, and informed stakeholder choices.
- Rachel Stepina reviewed the November 2025 grant proposal and its multi-tiered approach to data implementation.
- Rachel Stepina opened discussion on current data analytics tools and how PDG B-5 could support more unified data systems.
- Marty Elquist asked whether this year's grant opportunity would be similar to last year's.
- Rachel Stepina discussed using the prior application as a reference while considering how funding could be maximized within a one-year funding cycle and noted that assessments were ongoing.
- Amanda Haboush-Deloye discussed reviewing grant details to determine how the Data Subcommittee could provide feedback to strengthen the application.

7. Nevada Department of Education Data and EC Data Lab Updates (Information and Discussion)

- Matthew Hoffman demonstrated Microsoft Fabric and its use in organizing reports.
- Matthew Hoffman discussed using Microsoft Copilot to navigate data within Fabric.

- Matthew Hoffman demonstrated report subpages using early childhood education datasets and how Copilot can be trained to present data based on user needs.
- Matthew Hoffman demonstrated focused data queries, natural-language analytics, and customizable report visuals.
- Matthew Hoffman discussed customizable permissions and accessibility settings based on user and stakeholder access needs.
- Marty Elquist discussed potential uses for capturing specific child outcomes and developing procedures to streamline Fabric use.
- Matthew Hoffman demonstrated how older datasets could be integrated and customized.
- Shelly Nye discussed how Fabric could help contextualize previous data and support stronger narrative presentation.
- Matthew Hoffman demonstrated how Copilot can create summaries based on the requesting party's needs.
- Amanda Haboush-Deloye raised data-sharing concerns related to Fabric.
- Matthew Hoffman discussed how data can be shared or kept private based on account permissions and privacy requirements.
- Matthew Hoffman discussed Fabric's potential to mirror external data sources and noted that he was still exploring the feature and the platform's capacity to operate as an all-in-one system.
- Matthew Hoffman stated that he would attend additional training to better understand Fabric's capabilities.

8. ECAC Data Central Website (Standing Item - Information and Discussion)

- Amanda Haboush-Deloye opened discussion on possible improvements to the ECAC Data Central website.
- Marty Elquist discussed making data-related trackers, policy briefs, the Nevada Registry data dashboard, and other resources public-facing so the site can function as a one-stop resource.
- Sabrina Jones stated that posted documents need to be current before the website is made live.
- Kate Pflughoeft discussed the importance of contextualizing posted data, including recency, and providing current data or direct links to resources.
- Rachel Stepina discussed keeping the website consistent with ECAC policies and procedures and providing disclaimers when necessary.

9. Data Subcommittee Co-Chairs Report (Informational)

- Amanda Haboush-Deloye and Marty Elquist reported that they had no updates or announcements.

10. Public Comment #2

- Amanda Haboush-Deloye opened the second public comment period for matters within the scope of the Data Subcommittee.
- No public comment was offered.
- Members and attendees were reminded to complete the attendance record provided in the meeting chat.

11. Future Agenda Item Requests

- The next Data Subcommittee meeting is scheduled for October 15, 2026.
- Members were asked to submit future agenda item requests to Marty Elquist and Amanda Haboush-Deloye in advance so the items can be properly agendized.
- ECIDS use cases across different problem spaces and a demonstration for stakeholders will be revisited.

- Denise Tanata and Children's Funding Project will provide presentations for the October 15, 2026, meeting regarding fiscal mapping, funding cycles, and related data tracking tools.

12. Follow-Up / Next Agenda Items

- Continue discussion of ECIDS use cases, potential organizations and problem spaces, and development of a stakeholder demonstration.
- Identify layered, multi-audience approaches to ECIDS to help define the system's purpose and long-term roadmap.
- Denise Tanata and Children's Funding Project will present fiscal mapping, funding cycles, and related data tools.
- The Data Subcommittee will review and provide feedback on the fiscal mapping matrix and related funding tools following the presentation.
- Review the PDG B-5 SMART grant application and identify feedback that can strengthen the upcoming application.
- Follow up on Matthew Hoffman's Microsoft Fabric and Copilot training and discuss additional use cases.
- Review the ECAC Data Central website and provide feedback on the structure, currency, and validity of posted resources.

13. Adjournment

- Amanda Haboush-Deloye thanked members, guests, and presenters and adjourned the meeting at 2:56 p.m.

Action Step Summary

- ECIDS: Continue defining Nevada ECIDS use cases and develop a demonstration and audience-specific materials for stakeholders.
- Fiscal Mapping: Denise Tanata and Children's Funding Project will present fiscal mapping, funding cycles, and related tools at the October 15 meeting; the Subcommittee will provide feedback on the fiscal mapping matrix.
- PDG B-5 SMART Grant: Review prior application materials and current data sources to inform feedback for the upcoming application.
- Microsoft Fabric and Copilot: Matthew Hoffman will continue training, and the Subcommittee will identify additional data-analysis use cases.
- ECAC Data Central: Members will review the website and provide feedback on the currency, structure, and validity of resources.

Meeting Summary

The Data Subcommittee reviewed Work Plan priorities related to ECIDS, fiscal mapping, and funding; discussed the upcoming PDG B-5 SMART grant; reviewed Microsoft Fabric and Copilot capabilities; and identified follow-up actions for the ECAC Data Central website and the October 15 meeting.