



## Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

NEVADA EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL (ECAC)  
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

# NEVADA EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL (ECAC)

## PUBLIC MEETING

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19, 2021

*“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.”*

## SUMMARY MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

(VIDEO CONFERENCED)

### 1. WELCOME, CALL TO ORDER, AND ROLL CALL

Denise Tanata, Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council Chair called the meeting to order, 9:07 AM. Quorum is met.

#### **Council Members in Attendance:**

- Carrie Paldi, Creative Kids Learning Center
- Cathleen Rexing, Nevada Department of Education, Office of Inclusive Education
- Denise Tanata, The Children’s Cabinet
- Diane Nicolet, Washoe County School District Board of Trustees
- Emily Champlin, Nevada Department of Education, Office of Early Learning and Development
- Julie Houchins, United Way of Southern Nevada
- Linda E. Young, Other Members as Appointed by the Governor
- Lori Ann Malina-Lovell, Department of Health and Human Services, Part C
- Maggie Salas Crespo, Nevada Governor’s Office for New Americans
- Marty Elquist, The Children’s Cabinet
- Patrice Gardner, Head Start State Collaboration Office
- Rebecca Meyers, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Department of Pediatrics

#### **Public in Attendance:**

- Anna Binder, Strong Start Parent Ambassador
- Anna Severens, Nevada Department Education, Office of Early Learning and Development
- Annette Dawson Owens, Children’s Advocacy Alliance
- Brianna Cambra, The Children’s Cabinet
- Daina Loeffler, Nye SESS
- Darcy Arias, The Children’s Cabinet
- Jamelle Nance, Children’s Advocacy Alliance
- Janice Lee, University of Nevada Reno, Nevada Pyramid Model Partnership
- Janna Rightmire, Division of Welfare and Supportive Services
- Jennifer Butler, Las Vegas Urban League
- Jon Ball, Stacey Wedding Group



## Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

### NEVADA EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL (ECAC) PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

- John Cregg, NevAEYC
- Kaitlin Lewallen, Nevada Department of Education, Office of Early Learning and Development
- Lauren Ryan, The Children's Cabinet
- Lela Arney, The Children's Cabinet
- Mary Buchmann, The Children's Cabinet
- Mia Pace, Nevada Department of Education, Office of Early Learning and Development
- Minerva Perez, The Children's Cabinet
- Mychelle Weart, Education and Information Officer, QRIS Southern Nevada
- Nicole Martin, Division of Welfare and Supportive Services
- Nicole Vairo, Nevada Division of Welfare and Supportive Services, Child Care Program
- Patti Oya, Nevada Department of Education, Office of Early Learning and Development
- Rachel Stepina, Nevada Department of Education, Office of Early Learning and Development
- Tara Phebus, City of Henderson
- Tiffany Olivas, Nevada Department of Education, Office of Early Learning and Development
- Tiffany Alston, Sunrise Children's Foundation
- Tina Springmeyer, Washoe County School District
- Valerie Balen, Children's Advocacy Alliance

#### 2. PUBLIC COMMENT #1

- No public comment provided.

#### 3. APPROVAL OF FLEXIBLE AGENDA

**Motion:**

- Marty Elquist moved for the approval of flexible agenda.
- Patrice Gardner seconded the motion.
- All were in favor.
- Motion carried. Flexible agenda approved.

#### 4. ITEM A: MINUTES FROM DECEMBER 15, 2021

**Motion:**

- Items presented for correction:
  - Patrice Gardner's last name was misspelled on page 1.
  - There was a duplicate bullet on page 8. The third bullet down which states, "Denise Tanata asked Julie Houchins if she agreed to serve as Chair..." is a duplicate of the first bullet on page 8 and should be stricken from the record.
- Diane Nicolet moved to approve the minutes with the corrections noted above.
- Patrice Gardner seconded the motion.
- All were in favor.
- Motion carries to approve minutes with corrections made.



## Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

### NEVADA EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL (ECAC) PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

#### 5. ITEM C: ECAC BYLAWS

**Council discussed the draft revisions to the ECAC Bylaws as recommended by the Leadership Subcommittee and voted on the Bylaws. Patrice Gardner, Council Vice Chair presented.**

- Patrice stated that the Leadership Subcommittee met a few weeks prior to January 19, 2022, and they reviewed the Bylaws and made a few notations to present for their approval.
  - Under Article II – Creation & Purpose the following changes were made:
    - They added the correct information regarding Assembly Bill (AB) 194, which helped them establish the ECAC. So, every time you see AB 79, they are going to update that with the correct statute, which is NRS 432A.076.
  - Under Article III – Roles & Responsibilities the following changes were made:
    - They changed all references to AB 79 that were updated twice to the statute NRS 432A.076.
    - Denise Tanata added that Section 1 should not have a strike through it.
  - Under Article III: Section G, they are listing the information regarding the annual report to the Governor and the Legislative Committee regarding an overview of their year at ECAC.
  - Under Article IV – Membership & Terms they made the following changes:
    - They removed AB 79 and replaced it with NRS 432A.076 in all areas.
    - In the table, they added a new member for the behavioral health and pediatric mental health position.
  - Under Section 3. Subcommittee they made the following changes and added the new subcommittees and their purpose:
    - Executive Leadership
    - System Alignment
    - Communication and Engagement
    - Finance and Policy
    - Data and Evaluation
  - Under Section 7. Resignation they added the following information:
    - They did not have a proper protocol for when a member resigns. They added that a member must provide written notification to the Chair of the Council, the head of the agency or organization they represent and the Governor's Office Boards and Commissions.
  - Under Article VI – Conflict of Interest they made the following changes:
    - They removed AB 79 and replaced it with NRS 432A.076.
  - Under Article IX – Revision of Bylaws the following changes were made:
    - They added (3) stating that the bylaws were revised and adopted at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Council on January 19, 2022.
- Patrice Gardner asked the Council if they had any questions or revisions for the bylaws. There were no suggested changes to the revision of the bylaws. She asked Denise Tanata if they should vote on the changes.
- Denise Tanata agreed and stated that they would open to a motion from a member of the Council.
- Marty Elquist stated that if this was a recommendation from the Leadership Subcommittee they just need a second to carry the motion.

#### **Motion:**

- Marty Elquist seconded the motion.



## Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

### NEVADA EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL (ECAC) PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

- All were in favor.
- Motion carries to approve minutes with corrections made.

#### 6. ITEM F: ECAC 2021 ANNUAL REPORT

**The Council discussed the ECAC 2021 report to the Governor and Legislative Council Bureau that was submitted on 11/30/21. Denise Tanata, Council Chair presented.**

- Denise Tanata stated that this was on the agenda for the last meeting, however, she neglected to include it in the meeting packet.
- She stated that as noted in the bylaws, they will be required to submit an annual report to both the Legislature and the Governor's office outlining the activities of the ECAC for that year. The report will outline goals and objectives and put forth recommendations from the ECAC.
- The annual report for this last year, 2021, was put together by Denise Tanata, and Marty Elquist. It outlined all of the work they did on the Strategic Plan. Everyone has a copy of this document.

#### 7. ITEM G: 2022 ECAC MEETING SCHEDULE

**The Council discussed and selected meeting dates for the calendar year 2022. Denise Tanata, Council Chair presented.**

- Denise Tanata revealed the 2022 PROPOSED Meeting Schedule based on the survey feedback and what worked best for everyone.
  - March 23<sup>rd</sup> at 9:00 AM
  - May 18<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM
  - July 13<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM
  - September 21<sup>st</sup> at 9:00 AM
  - November 16<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM
- Denise Tanata added that she recognized that some of these dates and times will not allow them to use the Nevada Department of Education meeting space for in-person meetings. They will have virtual options for all of the meetings and will take it month by month according to what is happening with Covid. for in-person meetings. Meetings will either be held at the Nevada Department of Education or at the Children's Cabinet locations at the offices in Las Vegas and Reno.
- Marty Elquist stated that March 23<sup>rd</sup> falls during Spring break, so she will not be in attendance. She added that this be an issue for other members and they may lose quorum.
- Diane Nicolet stated that she has a Trustee Meeting, followed by Board Leadership on Wednesdays at 9:00 AM and as the Vice President, she must attend. She added that March 23<sup>rd</sup> at 9:00 AM does not work for her either.
- Denise Tanata proposed to meet on March 16<sup>th</sup>, the third Wednesday, and asked the Council members if this date would work for the majority of Council members?
- Julie Houchins stated that she has meetings scheduled on March 16<sup>th</sup> and May 18<sup>th</sup> and she would not be able to attend.
- Marty Elquist stated that their Spring break is two weeks long, so she will not be here on March 16<sup>th</sup> either.
- Denise Tanata asked the Council members if March 30<sup>th</sup> would work for everyone and asked Patrice Gardner to watch the chat for any replies.
- Diane Nicolet replied that she has a Board Leadership after her Trustees meeting Wednesdays at 9:00 AM, so she would not be available. She added that if she has everyone else on board with this date, she was okay with missing this meeting.
- Denise Tanata finalized the next meeting date for March 30, 2022, at 9:00 AM. She asked Marty Elquist if they needed to take a motion and vote on the meeting schedule.



## Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

### NEVADA EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL (ECAC) PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

- Marty Elquist replied that they have taken a motion and voted on the meeting schedule in the past.
- Denise Tanata thanked Marty Elquist and stated that she would be open to a motion on the 2022 Meeting Schedule.

#### **Motion:**

- Marty Elquist moved to approve the 2022 Proposed Meeting Schedule:
  - March 30<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM
  - May 18<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM
  - July 13<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM
  - September 21<sup>st</sup> at 9:00 AM
  - November 16<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM as presented on their screens.
- Carrie Paldi seconded the motion.
- All were in favor.
- Motion carries to approve the 2022 Proposed Meeting Schedule.
- Denise Tanata added that she will send a Calendar invite to the Council with these meeting dates and asked that anyone who is not able to attend, indicate this on the invite.

## 8. PARTNER UPDATES

**The council was updated on informational items from community partners on programs, services, initiatives, and/or issues relevant to the ECAC. Unless otherwise indicated below, each item is limited to no more than five minutes. Any updates which require additional time will need to be agendized for a future meeting. Denise Tanata, ECAC Chair presented.**

- **CCDF subsidy and resource referral programs including updates on CARES, CRRSA, and ARP funding. Cynthia Leech, Child Care Development Program, Division of Welfare and Supportive Services (DWSS) was not in attendance to update the Council.**
  - Janna Rightmire, DWSS, stated that she was not aware of any updates for DWSS.
- **Child Care Licensing including impact on COVID and Nevada's Child Care Capacity. Latisha Brown, Department of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH) and Child Care Licensing was not in attendance to update the Council.**
  - No one else was available to give the update.
- **Nevada Department of Education (NDE) on Kindergarten Entry Assessment (KEA), PDG: B-5, and other NDE early childhood programs and projects. Patti Oya, Office of Early Learning and Development, Nevada Department of Education presented.**
  - Patti Oya stated they hired Rachel Stepina as a new contractor hired with ARP funding to do some B3 systems work. One of her tasks will be to get caught up to speed. Then she will take a look at Nevada's current B3 system and come up with specific next steps and root out parts of the system that are not needed or beneficial.
  - They will reach out to members for feedback on how to tie this together with what the department is currently doing. Their overall goal is to ask for this position to be a full-time position with the Nevada Department of Education in the next legislative session.
  - They hired JT Champlin, NDE Management Analyst Contractor, to support Matthew Hoffman, NDE Management Analyst 2, in looking at how their data systems operate individually and as a whole and to streamline their system.



## Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

### NEVADA EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL (ECAC) PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

- She said that Stacey Joyner is no longer with the Nevada Department of Education and moved to Minneapolis and they wish her well. As a result, there will be an opening out of their office to run the Nevada State Pre-K program.
  - They are working with the Southern Nevada AEYC chapter and they are planning an event called “WORK Hard, PLAY Hard”- Childcare Career & Family Fun Fair. It will be held at the East Las Vegas Library in Las Vegas, NV on April 2, 2022, from 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM.
  - The purpose of this event is to:
    - Promote job opportunities at your program or agency for those seeking employment in early childhood.
    - Promote your childcare program to families looking for quality care.
    - Promote community resources for families or the early childhood workforce.
  - The flyer and registration information will be out by end of January 2022. There is no cost to participate in the event as a vendor, but they ask that you provide a hands-on activity for young children. The deadline to register as a vendor is March 4, 2022.
  - If you have questions, please contact Alyson Godfrey [alyson.godfrey@doe.nv.gov](mailto:alyson.godfrey@doe.nv.gov) or Glenda Billingsley [billingsleyg@lvccld.org](mailto:billingsleyg@lvccld.org).
  - Denise Tanata asked the Council if there were questions for Patti Oya. The Council did not have any questions.
- **Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) – Part C and NEIS. Stephanie Wyatt was not in attendance. Lori Ann Molina-Lovell, Department of Health and Human Services, Part C presented.**
    - Lori Ann Molina-Lovell stated their system is currently on a pause from Phase 3.5, which began in December, due to the surge in Covid, positive cases, and exposure for staff and many families.
    - At this time, they continue to provide services via telehealth, teleconference, and in-clinic appointments through the end of January 2022. They will reassess in February 2022.
    - Their Pyramid Model work continues to provide social-emotional development.
    - They are using their ARP funds for the following projects:
      - To purchase e-modules on the Pyramid Model to have them available for their system at no cost to the providers.
      - For a comprehensive system study, which is currently being conducted by Health Management Associates. This study should be concluded by April or May 2022 and should have a report available for anyone who is interested.
      - New data system and starting the RFP process and will be looking for new vendors for this data system in March 2022.
    - Julie Houchins asked Lori Ann Molina-Lovell if there were flyers with information on where to locate and access the Pyramid Model e-modules.
    - Lori Ann Molina-Lovell replied that she will send this information to the Council after it is developed. They are specifically working on a birth to three e-module, especially for home providers, and look to have this completed by the end of the year.
    - Julie Houchins thanked Lori-Ann Molina-Lovell for the information.
    - Denise Tanata thanked Lori Ann Molina-Lovell and stated that her update was a great segue into the next update which is Pyramid Model.



## Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

### NEVADA EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL (ECAC) PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

- **Nevada Pyramid Model Innovations (NVPMI). Janice Lee, NVPMI Statewide Coordinator, University of Nevada, Reno presented.**
  - Janice Lee updated that they have continued with their work to prevent Suspension and Expulsion.
  - They are working in the background trying to improve their perspectives on challenging behavior in relation to social-emotional development.
  - They are also working on ways to prevent challenging behavior is in teaching and supporting those social-emotional skills.
  - Their work is in alignment with the work that is happening in other arenas focused on this particular developmental domain. The focus is to provide teachers and other early childhood providers with direct support and indirect support.
  - They will be starting work in some rural school districts to address the district-wide implementation of the Pyramid Model framework.
  - Denise Tanata thanked Janice Lee for her updates.
  - Marty Elquist added that e-Pyramid Model modules are available for child care providers in an effort to raise awareness on Suspension and Expulsion and provide baseline knowledge on social-emotional development. These are available now as a part of the state's suspension and expulsion prevention efforts. For more information on these, contact the Children's Cabinet.
  - Denise Tanata asked Marty Elquist to put the contact person and information in the chat.
  - Marty Elquist replied that she would put this information in the chat and the contact would be either Amber Duncan at [aduncan@childrenscabinet.org](mailto:aduncan@childrenscabinet.org) or Minerva Perez at [mperez@childrenscabinet.org](mailto:mperez@childrenscabinet.org).
  - Julie Houchins asked if these were available on the Nevada Registry.
  - Marty Elquist stated that she is not sure, but will check on this.
  - Janice Lee stated that they are Nevada Registry approved, however, they are not available on the registry because you need a code to access them, because normally there is a cost.
  - Patrice Gardner stated that there was a question in the chat from Anna Binder who asked:
    - Is the data a year behind for the Suspension and Expulsion?
  - Janice Lee stated that yes they are a year behind because a large portion of the data has come from the provider surveys distributed by the Children's Cabinet. She stated that they continue to collect data via other forms and she will bring the data to share at the next meeting in March.
  - Patrice Gardner stated that Anna Binder had a follow-up question in the chat and asked:
    - Are they finding that it is difficult to help the community without more current data?
  - Patrice Gardner stated that there was a question in the chat from Anna Binder who asked:
    - Is the data a year behind for the Suspension and Expulsion?
  - Janice Lee stated that yes they are a year behind because a large portion of the data has come from the provider surveys distributed by the Children's Cabinet. She stated that they continue to collect data via other forms and she will bring the data to share at the next meeting in March.
  - Patrice Gardner stated that Anna Binder had a follow-up question in the chat and asked:
    - Are they finding that it is difficult to help the community without more current data?
  - Janice Lee stated that it is difficult to gather this data because Nevada does not require them to gather this data. They have been encouraging the gathering of this data in an effort to inform their practice and what is needed in training, professional development, supporting children and families. She said this is an excellent venue to encourage gathering this information because they cannot improve their services unless they have the information to drive their work.



## Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

### NEVADA EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL (ECAC) PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

- Denise Tanata added that this would be important to bring to the Data Subcommittee as well to see if there is ECAC can provide support.
- Marty Elquist stated that the work that the ECAC did with Janice Lee and others to update the ECAC's policy statement regarding Suspension and Expulsion was critical in defining Suspension and Expulsion. She said this is the first step in that it provides a common definition of Suspension and Expulsion so that they can track it the same way. They could have a data system, but it would not be effective if they are not calling it the same thing, then the data system is not going to matter. Some previous work with the child care subsidy program in our current system called Nevada Child Care System (NCCS) will hopefully be replaced soon with a more efficient system.
- Denise Tanata thanked Marty Elquist.
- Patrice Gardner stated that Anna Binder commented in the chat and stated that she is always asking CCSD for this information at their meetings.
- Denise Tanata thanked Anna Binder for her comments on this topic.
- **Local ECACs. Denise Tanata and Local ECAC Chairs presented.**
  - Denise Tanata stated they have put out the proposals for Local ECAC grants that have been funded through the Division of Welfare and Supportive Services, American Rescue Plan Act dollars. These are multi-year grants to help support the work of the Local ECACs.
    - They have received 4 proposals from the 8 Local ECACs that were in operation before Covid. They have one group that is planning to submit a proposal, however, they have been delayed by some bureaucratic obstacles with their organization in receiving approval to submit the proposal, so they are still pending.
    - They are working with the Local ECAC Councils to make revisions to proposals. These are federal funds, so they must provide as much detail as possible including the proposed activities, how these federal funds will be spent, and outcome metrics they will include for each of these proposals.
  - Denise Tanata asked for updates from Washoe County ECAC.
  - Updates from Washoe County ECAC, Anna Severens, Nevada Department Education, Office of Early Learning and Development presented.
    - They are planning to use their mini-grant to support the transition work that they are working with their office and the Education Council to support home visits.
    - They are also supporting Pre-K to K transition and PD for Pre-K to K teachers and developing some model classrooms.
    - So work is in progress for B3 alignment.
  - Updates from the Northeastern Nevada ECAC. There was no one in attendance to update the Council.
  - Updates from the Southern Nevada ECAC (SNECAC). Amanda Haboush-Deloye, Nevada Institute for Children's Research and Policy was not in attendance to update the Council. No one else was available to give the update.
  - Updates from Carson City, Douglas County ECAC. Tiffany Olivas, Nevada Department of Education, Office of Early Learning and Development, presented.
    - They have scheduled an Early Childhood Education Employment Fair to be held at the Boys & Girls Club of Western Nevada on Saturday, April 9, 2022.
    - They have groups that are very interested in participating including the Boys & Girls Club, Parks & Recreation, five child care centers, and a Carson City School District Pre-K classroom.





## Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

### NEVADA EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL (ECAC) PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

- They are also working with some of the other early childhood supportive agencies, such as TEACH Nevada, the Nevada Registry, and the Children's Cabinet.
- Denise Tanata thanked Tiffany Olivas for her update. She said that an employment fair is a great opportunity to promote careers in early childhood and stated that there is an employment fair in southern Nevada in April 2022 also.
- Denise Tanata asked the Council if anyone else was planning an early childhood-focused employment fair.
- Tina Springmeyer replied that Washoe County School District is holding career fairs monthly and early childhood is a big focus for these.
- Denise Tanata stated she is working on a communications system for promoting these types of events and will be working with the Communication & Engagement Subcommittee to make sure that they formalize events and information to get it out to the Council and out to the public as well.
- Carrie Paldi asked Tiffany Olivas and Denise Tanata for the dates of the early childhood employment fairs.
- Tiffany Olivas replied that the Early Childhood Education Employment Fair is to be held at the Boys & Girls Club of Western Nevada on Saturday, April 9, 2022.
- Denise Tanata asked Patti Oya or Julie Houchins for the date of the southern Nevada early childhood employment fair.
- Julie Houchins replied that it was on April 2, 2022, from 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM.
- Updates from the Tribal ECAC. There was no one in attendance to update the Council.



## Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

### NEVADA EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL (ECAC) PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

- **Nevada Association for the Education of Young Children (NevAEYC). Carrie Paldi, Creative Learning Center presented.**
  - The NevAEYC anticipates receiving the contract from DWSS this week for the Early Childhood Staff Stipend Incentive Project.
    - Once the contract is signed and awarded the application will become available to early childhood educators.
    - The application will appear on the Nevada Registry portal.
    - Questions regarding the stipends should be sent to [nvecestipends@gmail.com](mailto:nvecestipends@gmail.com).
  - They continue to plan for the NevAEYC's Annual Conference that will be held April 21-23, 2022 at the Nugget Casino in Sparks, NV and the theme for 2022 is "Be Brave, Be Bold: Igniting the Joy in ECE". This may change due to the pandemic and they will keep everyone informed with any updates.
  - They are accepting workshop proposals until Tuesday, February 15, 2022, and additionally, businesses and organizations can be exhibitors at the 2022 Annual Conference.
  - For more information on submitting workshop proposals or on being exhibitors please visit [nevaeyc.org](http://nevaeyc.org) or contact John Cregg at (775) 327-0680 or email [john@nevaeyc.org](mailto:john@nevaeyc.org).
  - The NevAEYC Public Policy Forum is scheduled as a virtual event for February 27-February 28, 2022. and for more information on the forum visit [nevaeyc.org](http://nevaeyc.org).
    - Connect with local early childhood advocates, hear from national policy leaders, and obtain resources.
    - For more information on the forum visit [nevaeyc.org](http://nevaeyc.org).
  - The NevAEYC continues to accept applications for early childhood educators who are pursuing or interested in pursuing an AS degree in Early Childhood Education from Nevada colleges and universities.
    - For more information on the application process and available scholarship opportunities please visit the T.E.A.C.H. Nevada website at [nvteach.org](http://nvteach.org) or contact the NevAEYC office at (775) 327-0680.
  - Carrie Paldi asked the Council if they had any questions. There were no questions from the Council.
  - Denise Tanata asked Carrie Paldi to please send her the updates she presented today, so she could share them with the Council.
- **Strong Start Provider Action Committee. Carrie Paldi, Creative Learning Center presented.**
  - The Strong Start Provider Action Committee is looking for members. Nevada is seeking to expand early childhood education services and to do this well they need avenues for communication to be open with providers who deliver these services.
  - They are currently recruiting for the Strong Start Child Care Provider Action Committee.
    - The purpose of this committee is to make sure that providers have a central role in Nevada's efforts in planning new or current improvement initiatives.
    - If interested in participating in this committee, providers need to apply by February 4, 2022.
  - Carrie Paldi encouraged everyone to share this information and she posted the link in the chat.
  - Denise Tanata commented that they are very excited about this group for the work to support engagement and leadership of a range of providers throughout the state, as well as, parents and families. She added that leadership and decision-making are critical to the work they are doing in the state to ensure that they are meeting the needs of providers and families in the early childhood sector. She thanked everyone who is doing work in these areas to ensure engagement.
  - Patrice Gardner stated that Lela Arney commented in the chat and stated that Provider Action Committee had 31 applicants so far, most of which are child care directors.



## Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

### NEVADA EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL (ECAC) PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

- They would like to spread the word to teachers that they want to have that direct service voice heard.
- So, they are encouraging everyone to share that information with any educators they know who are working in the classroom who may want to participate.
- 
- **Pritzker Prenatal to Age Three (PN3) and Strong Start. Jamelle Nance, Children's Advocacy Alliance presented**
  - They will be hosting their Winter Policy Summit, which will be held virtually on February 4, 2022, from 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM.
    - The first half will be a joint effort with our collaborative members, as well as identifying legislators.
    - The second half will be individualized break-out sessions, tailored to specific audiences.
    - Dr. Cynthia Osbourne, Director of the Prenatal-to-3 Policy Impact Center, created the PN3 Policy Roadmap that guides their work and directs the alignment of their policy priorities.
    - They are interested in finding out where Nevada fares in relation to other states for their PN3 systems of care.
  - They have been working hard with The Children's Cabinet to see a lot of movement in their CHW programs with the ECE endorsement.
  - They are also working for movement in the areas of infant and early childhood mental health as it relates to early learning.
  - They continue to push their Parent Ambassador Program and encourage everyone to send them the information they would like to share with parents. It is part of their initiative, to empower and educate, so they have resources that would prove valuable to them, please let them know.
  - They are also incorporating guest speakers and are not working from a strict curriculum to allow parents the opportunity to connect with individuals that have decision-making abilities.
  - They hope to be able to filter them into organizations like this so that they can be a part of the decision-making process and the Strong Start Collaborative.
  - Denise Tanata asked the Council if there were any questions for Jamelle Nance and thanked her for the updates. There were no questions from the Council.
  - Denise Tanata thanked Jamelle for the update.
- **Health Resource & Services Administration (HRSA) Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems Grant. Denise Tanata, Council Chair presented.**
  - Denise Tanata stated that they have hired Andre Martin as their new Early Childhood Community Health Worker (CHW) Project Manager
    - They are hoping to have CHW placed in our early childhood settings in the next few months.
    - She asked if anyone had thoughts or ideas on specific activities for these workers or know of particular providers who may need support, reach out to them. They will be providing additional information after Andre Martin gets on board and begins to develop this program.
  - Denise Tanata stated that she did not have any additional updates and added that they continue to move forward with the HRSA Grant.



## Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

### NEVADA EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL (ECAC) PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

- **Council updated on Early Childhood Institute on March 2-5, 2022. Linda E. Young presented.**
  - Linda E. Young stated thanked Patti Oya for her work and support on the Early Learning Institute in connecting her with the ECAC Council.
  - Linda E. Young thanked Denise Tanata and added that they are holding an online program for the Early Childhood Institute on March 2-5, 2022, and she would like to engage people in discussion regarding these goals and objectives.
  - They will begin this event with guest speaker, Dr. Deborah Bergeron, with the National Head Start Program. They have an array of speakers from within the community, such as leaders in the publishing companies, teachers, and community advocates so that they have a well-rounded group of people that will be engaged.
  - Linda E. Young stated that she will send out a flyer with this information to Denise Tanata to share with the group and she added that will make this an annual event.
  - She added that if they take the course for credit, they will receive a \$50 gift card to [restaurant.com](https://www.restaurant.com) as an incentive, but also as a thank you for taking the time.
  - Linda E. Young asked Janice Lee if her team would be interested in doing a presentation on the Pyramid Model to contact her and added that more people need to see this beautiful model.
  - Denise Tanata asked Linda E. Young to send her the flyer to share with the Council. She added that she would definitely be interested in attending this event.
  
- **New or potential childhood funding sources. Denise Tanata, Council Chair presented.**
  - Denise Tanata asked the Council if they were aware of any new or potential childhood funding sources.
    - There was no response from the Public or the Council members.
  
- **Research and Needs Assessment. Amanda Haboush-Deloye, Nevada Institute for Children's Research and Policy was not in attendance to update the Council. No one else was available to give the update.**



## Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

### NEVADA EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL (ECAC) PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

#### 9. ITEM V: FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

**Council discussed what they would like on the upcoming agendas. Denise Tanata, Council Chair presented.**

- Denise Tanata stated that subcommittee updates were not included on the January's Meeting's Agenda, because they just formed the subcommittees in December 2021.
  - They did have a Leadership Subcommittee in early January 2022 with all of the Co Chairs to discuss the process and procedure.
  - She added that she did not believe any of the subcommittees had met yet, so they will add updates for the subcommittees to future agendas.
  - She stated that Chairs and Co Chairs should schedule to meet before the next full ECAC Meeting on March 30, 2022. She stressed that they need to get these meetings scheduled so that they have them in advance for posting agendas and materials ahead of time in accordance with Open Meeting Law guidelines.
  - Denise Tanata added that she will send the Chairs and Co Chairs templates for posting within a week.
- Denise Tanata asked the Public and Council if they had any additional items to add to the agenda.
- Denise Tanata asked Anna Binder if she wanted to add a separate item for Suspension and Expulsion updates or just as part of the normal updates. She said that they will continue to include these updates in the Pyramid Model section.
- Denise Tanata stated that the next meeting will cover a lot more details for the subcommittees. They will discuss the specific work plans of the subcommittees and their alignment with the overall strategic plan.

#### 10. PUBLIC COMMENT #2

- Denise Tanata stated that she received the first of their ECAC Strategic Plan document and they cannot discuss this plan, because it was not on the agenda. She did, however, want to show the Council the draft with all of the edits before they make all of the final edits with the designer. There will be a copy sent out to everyone.
  - They will edit the date.
  - It outlines everything they discussed and reviewed as a group, including the pop-outs, photos, and have highlighted the statement from the Governor.
  - They will add the source reference for this framework and this will be included in their final edits.
- Denise Tanata added that she is currently sitting in their new southern Nevada Child Care Services Center or what they have been referring to as the Child Care Hub. They will be scheduling a launch event in February 2022 and will be hosting an Open House event for providers in southern Nevada to meet all the partners at the Child Care Services Center (Child Care Hub) and learn more about their services. They are still looking for a physical location in Reno.
  - They will update everyone on these events when they have finalized the details.
- Patrice Gardner added that she wanted to update everyone on the comments in the chat.
  - She stated that they have a lot of positive feedback on how cute and beautiful the document looked.
- Marty Elquist stated that this would be an excellent presentation for the Early Learning Institute.
  - Denise Tanata agreed with Marty Elquist and stated she would be happy to present this information and the work of the ECAC at the event.
  - Linda E. Young agreed and added that this would be an excellent presentation for the Early Learning Institute and appreciated this recommendation.
- Patrice Gardner stated that she received a comment from Lori Ann Molina-Lovell who asked if they were going to represent children with disabilities in the photos of the Strategic Plan. She said that they definitely will include these and thanked her for pointing this out.
  - Denise Tanata agreed and stated that they will touch base with the designers on this.



## Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

### NEVADA EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL (ECAC) PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

- Anna Binder stated that Guinn Center is holding informal workgroup policy meetings to discuss the upcoming legislative session and are discussing policy needs for disabled children. For more information, contact Nancy Brune, Senior Fellow at the Guinn Center, at [nbrune@guinncenter.org](mailto:nbrune@guinncenter.org).
- Denise Tanata asked Anna Binder if Nancy was still with the Guinn Center.
- Anna Binder stated that she was still there and will send Denise Tanata the flyer with information on this.

## 11. ADJOURNMENT

11:31 AM