



Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

NEVADA EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL (ECAC) LEADERSHIP SUBCOMMITTEE PUBLIC MEETING TUESDAY, MARCH 1, 2022 9:00 AM

“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.”

Meeting Location:

This meeting was held via Teams videoconference.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The public is hereby noticed that the Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council reserves the right to take agenda items out of posted order (except that public hearings will not begin earlier than posted times); items may be pulled or removed from the agenda at any time; and items may be combined for consideration. A time for public comment is provided at the beginning and at the conclusion of the meeting. A time limit of three minutes may be imposed by the Subcommittee Co-Chairs, for public comments, in order to afford all members of the public who wish to comment, with an opportunity to do so within the timeframe available to the Council. The Subcommittee Co-Chairs reserve the right to call on individuals from the audience or to allow for testimony at any time.

The Subcommittee Co-Chairs reserve the right to call items of the agenda out of order as needed.

Reasonable efforts will be made for members of the public who have disabilities and require special accommodations or assistance at the meeting. Please contact Denise Tanata at DTanata@childrencabinet.org, at least five business days in advance so that arrangements can be made.

This public notice has been posted at the offices of the Department of Education in Carson City and Las Vegas; Department of Health and Human Service in Carson City; and at the Nevada State Library and Archive in Carson City. Notice of this meeting was posted on the Internet through the Nevada ECAC website at <http://nvecac.com>.

The support materials to this agenda are available, at no charge on the Nevada ECAC website at: <http://nvecac.com/> (under the meeting date referenced above) or by contacting Denise Tanata at The Children’s Cabinet, 1771 E. Flamingo Road, Suite 200B or 702.544.9629 or DTanata@childrencabinet.org.

MINUTES

1. Welcome, Call to Order, and Roll Call

Patrice Gardner and Denise Tanata, Leadership Subcommittee Co-Chairs

- Members in Attendance: Denise Tanata, Patrice Gardner, Jenna Weglarz-Ward, Linda Young, Marty Elquist
 - Quorum was achieved with five of eight members in attendance
- Public in Attendance: Lela Arney, Rachel Stepina, Jenna Castle, Valerie Balen, Janice Lee, Annette Dawson Owens, Anna Binder, Mary Regan, Ejona Lindsay, Kelley Norman, Tiffany Tyler-Garner

2. Public Comment #1

- No public comment
- Denise Tanata noted that she had forgotten to include the January meetings minutes to this meeting agenda, so they will be added to the next meeting agenda for review and approval.

3. Discuss Subcommittee Provider and Parent/Family Representatives

(Discussion, For Possible Action)

Patrice Gardner and Denise Tanata, Subcommittee Co-Chairs



Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

- Denise Tanata reminded the subcommittee that this item had been discussed at the last subcommittee meeting in January and that members were asked to come to this meeting with recommendations regarding both provider and parent/family representatives to serve on the Leadership Subcommittee.
- Denise Tanata suggested that Lela Arney assist with identifying providers from the Child Care Provider Action Committee to serve on the Leadership Subcommittee. Lela Arney indicated that the first meeting of the Child Care Provider Action Committee was coming up and that she can ask if anyone is interested in serving on the NV ECAC Leadership Subcommittee, as well as other subcommittees. Denise Tanata mentioned that this would be a good opportunity to align the NV ECAC with the newly developed Child Care Provider Action Committee. Marty Elquist commented that she agreed, as this provides a good bridge for additional leadership opportunities for those providers.
- Patrice Gardner suggested that we partner with Head Start to identify a parent representative. She will circle back with Head Start to see if they have anyone that might be interested. She will also see if there are parents interested in serving on other NV ECAC subcommittees.
- Tiffany Tyler Garner suggested that they may be able to identify someone from the Strong Start Parent Ambassador Program to serve.
- Denise Tanata suggested that each group provide nominations at the next subcommittee meeting to identify a parent representative to serve on the Leadership Subcommittee.
- Mary Regan suggested we check in with Darcy at Wonderschool to see if there is anyone in their new cohort (primarily FFNs) to serve on the Leadership Subcommittee.
- Jenna Weglarz-Ward suggested having more than one parent/family members on the subcommittee so they don't feel alone serving on the subcommittee with professionals.
- Denise Tanata commented that the subcommittee could be open to that – membership on the subcommittee is up to the discretion of the group. She provided a reminder that once official members are selected, it will impact quorum and we need to ensure that members can attend.

4. Updates from Subcommittee Co-Chairs and Discussion of Workplan Templates

(Discussion, For Possible Action)

- System Alignment Subcommittee – Jenna Weglarz-Ward provided an update. The System Alignment Subcommittee met last week. Had a lot of people join and many are interested in serving on the subcommittee. Next meeting is April 27th. They are asking all members to read the strategic plan, goals and activities to achieve those goals. Reviewed the work plan document and asked members to begin brainstorming ideas for the work plan. Jenna Weglarz-Ward asked if they wanted a virtual workspace if they could set it up or if they needed to set it up through the ECAC (such as Google Docs). Denise Tanata responded that we are currently using Teams, but subcommittees can use whatever platform works best for them. If a different platform is used, we just need to make sure all of the documents are in the Teams folder. Marty Elquist commented that that is a good idea and she can assist with helping to show everyone how to access the folder. We will set an agenda item for the next meeting for Marty to walk through Teams access with the subcommittee members.
- Communications and Engagement – Dr. Linda Young indicated that she, Maggie Salas Crespo and Patrice Gardner had a pre-meeting to discuss establishment of this subcommittee. The first meeting will be March 17th. Maggie Salas Crespo is currently creating the agenda for posting in time for the meeting. Dr. Young indicated that they have received several communications from individuals who are interested in being involved in the subcommittee. She commented that they will be paying close attention to the demographics of subcommittee members to ensure that they have diversity in terms of culture and geography.
- Finance and Policy – Denise Tanata provided an update. The subcommittee has not met yet. There will be a meeting before the next ECAC meeting, but a lot of what this subcommittee will be focused on will be dependent on feedback from the other subcommittees.
- Data and Evaluation – Marty Elquist provided an update. The first meeting was on January 24th. The subcommittee brainstormed ideas and will be meeting again on March 29th. The action plan template came out after our meeting, so they



Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

will be reviewing that in March. They will also be identifying other members to serve on the subcommittee, as well as others that may be identified to serve as advisors.

- Denise Tanata reminded members to submit their agendas and minutes, in addition to any other documents, at least ten days prior to the meeting dates so those items can be reviewed for ADA compliance and posting in accordance with Open Meeting Law.

5. Discuss Leadership Subcommittee Workplan

(Discussion, For Possible Action)

Patrice Gardner and Denise Tanata, Subcommittee Co-Chairs

Materials – Leadership Subcommittee Workplan Template

- Denise Tanata presented the work plan template to the group. The template includes the goals and objectives, as well as space to enter in activities, leads, timelines and metrics to measure progress.
- Denise Tanata mentioned that some of the work under this subcommittee is already underway and she will start drafting some of the key activities that are already started.
- Marty Elquist suggested starting with those items that are already in motion would be a good place to start and then the subcommittee can begin to prioritize activities to determine what is manageable.
- Denise Tanata asked everyone to review the document prior to the next meeting to compile a list of current activities that align.
- Jenna Weglarz-Ward asked if there is a target date of when we want the plan completed. Denise Tanata indicated that this is a three year strategic plan and the work plan is for the first year. We want to complete the work plan as soon as possible so we can begin focusing on the work. We won't necessarily work on every objective in year one, so will need to prioritize. For this workplan, we will likely only be able to work on objectives 1.1 and 1.3 in year one (1.2 is dependent on 1.1).
- Dr. Linda Young asked if there was a shared folder to share information and/or resources with the subcommittee. Denise Tanata indicated that we'll provide some training on using the Teams folder at the next meeting so members can share information or resources. In the meantime, please send information to Denise Tanata directly, who will place the information in the Teams folder.
- Next meeting will focus on identifying key activities for objectives 1.1 and 1.3.
- Dr. Linda Young asked if there was a blurb or any history of the NV ECAC written up. Denise Tanata indicated that it is included in the Strategic Plan and in our Bylaws. Marty Elquist also indicated that the information is available on the website.
- Rachel Stepina offered to support and would like to align in her new role as the NDE B-3 Specialist.

6. Discuss NECAC Meeting Agenda Items for March 30, 2022 Meeting

(Discussion, For Possible Action)

Patrice Gardner and Denise Tanata, Subcommittee Co-Chairs

- January meeting minutes
- Subcommittee Updates – Each Chair/Co-Chair will provide an update on subcommittee activities and plans.
- Suspension/Expulsion – Include Janice Lee in the standing updates on the agenda
 - Anna Binder reminded the group that part of this discussion was regarding the availability and distribution of Clark County School District Data.
- Anna Binder suggested providing an update on connectivity in the school districts since that is still an issue. She suggested that either the systems or data subcommittees might be able to provide some of that data. Marty suggested that it fall under the data subcommittee and they can discuss in more detail at the March meeting.
- Marty Elquist suggested that subcommittees could vet larger presentations before going to the full ECAC. For example, the data subcommittee is looking at the Utah data system. Subcommittees could then recommend which presentations would be appropriate for the full ECAC, that would align with the overall goals and objectives.



Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

7. Public comment #2

- Dr. Tiffany Tyler-Garner wanted to congratulate everyone on the launch of the Child Care Services Center.
- Denise Tanata let everyone know that a virtual open house and physical open house for the Child Care Service Center in Las Vegas will be coming up soon. Please contact Denise for details.
- Rachel Stepina asked a question in the chat about the Utah Data System presentation – could it be tailored to Nevada. Marty will ask Utah if they are able to do that or not.
- Rachel Stepina mentioned that the notes from the Early Childhood Education Roundtable at UNR were sent out yesterday. The Governor and members of his team participated, so we could use that in Objective 1.1 as leverage for support.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00am.