Southern Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

**Minutes from March 22, 2023 – Virtual Meeting**

**List of attendees provided at the end of the minutes**

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| 1. **Welcome & Introductions** |

The meeting began with a welcome greeting from M. Amaris Knight. Members gave brief introductions of themselves and their agency/organization.

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| 1. **Coalition & Project Updates** |

The next NV ECAC meeting will be held on May 17th at 9:00am. Additional meeting information and minutes from previous ECAC meetings are available on the NECAC website: <http://nvecac.com/meeting-information/>

* NV ECAC Updates
  + Partner summary report:
  + <http://nvecac.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/NECAC-Partner-Summary-Report-3.8.2023.pdf>
  + Local summary report:
  + <http://nvecac.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/Local-ECAC-Summary-Report-3.8.23.pdf>).
* NV Early Childhood Obesity Prevention Plan (NECOP)
  + The NECOP workgroup finalized the ASHW report, which reviewed Nevada’s current national rankings of each of the 47 high-impact obesity prevention standards, in addition to feedback from early licensed childcare providers of potential impacts associated with the group’s proposed amendments.
  + Future steps of the workgroup include creating focus groups with parents/families to determine impact of policy amendments in ECE facilities.
  + Members of the workgroup are currently drafting a concept paper for the HER grant through RWJ Foundation, proposing a series of secondary data analyses assessing the relationship between breastfeeding behaviors and early childhood obesity, mediated through government funded nutrition programs
  + The next workgroup meeting will be held virtually on Tuesday, June 6, 2023 from 2-4pm. Please contact Brooke C. Kleven ([brooke.conway-kleven@unlv.edu](mailto:brooke.conway-kleven@unlv.edu)) if you would like to attend upcoming meetings. For more information, please visit [Nevada Early Childhood Obesity Prevention Workgroup - NICRP (unlv.edu)](https://nic.unlv.edu/necop/)

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| 1. **Children’s Week at the Nevada Legislature (March 13-16)** |

* This was the first in-person Children’s Week since COVID, with a great turn out. A total of 40 families and a parent leadership group traveled up from Southern Nevada. Each day of the week focused on a different child health topic, including the following:
  + Monday: “children’s day” / education
  + Tuesday: mental health
  + Wednesday: physical health
  + Thursday: safety
* Lightbulbs for Legislators was the kickoff event on Monday, to provide a brief presentation on out-of-school time (OST) programs in Nevada. The current Youth of the Year from Boys & Girls Clubs of Truckee Meadows spoke on the benefits of after school activities.
* Dr. Steven Shane (Obesity Chair for the NV Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics) provided testimony and attended several hearings.
* A follow up thank you email will be sent out to legislators from NICRP with all documents, including the Early Childhood Obesity Data Policy Brief.
* A complete summary of the week’s events is currently being prepared and will be posted on NICRP’s website once complete.
  + For further information, please visit: [Children's Week at the Nevada Legislature - NICRP (unlv.edu)](https://nic.unlv.edu/childrens-week/)

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| 1. **Strong Start Updates** |

**Children’s Advocacy Ambassadors**

* Strong Start updated the name to Children’s Advocacy Ambassadors to be more inclusive of all adult family members interested in assisting with the program.
* The group is currently working on legislative bill priorities, and host calls every Tuesday regarding any children’s related bills.
* Bill 113 is making good progress. Additionally, some of the Pre-K funding seems to be moving quickly as well.
  + Bill Draft Requests (BDRs) to be released are also available on the NCRP website (updated weekly)
    - [BDRs Related to Children - 82nd Legislative Session - Google Sheets](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1cmh1PHRvjnL-5l57gYq_RA3Enhk_wD6L5ClwSk7il98/edit#gid=0)
* For more information about the program and links to share with potential parent ambassadors, please contact [annette.dawson@caanv.org](mailto:annette.dawson@caanv.org).

**Clark County Youth Mayor**

* The Youth Mayor was able to read out a proclamation at Children’s Week at the Legislature, which went really well.
* The group is currently working on getting the youth mayor and other candidates to create a commercial, which will discuss current issues and their impacts on the community.
* Meetings are also scheduled with local commissioners and other policy makers, along with shadowing and other learning opportunities.
* If any members have additional community-based activities that would be appropriate for these children, please reach out to Amaris at [m.amaris.knight@unlv.edu](mailto:m.amaris.knight@unlv.edu).
  + Susan Taylor recommended that the Youth Mayor could speak at the Healthy Kids Festival on 9/30/23 about eating healthy from a youth perspective, or possibly lead a dance. Further information for planning can be directed to: [healthykids@unr.edu](mailto:healthykids@unr.edu)

[**Step Up for Kids**](https://nic.unlv.edu/stepup.html) **Event 2023**

**Tentative date:** October 14 2023 (10am-1pm)

* The members discussed potential locations for the 2023 event. Annette Dawson Owens sits on the board with the boy scouts, and recommended the facility on Paradise as it has plenty of indoor and outdoor space. She plans to connect Amaris with the coordinator to secure the location if available.
* Further discussion related to funding of the event and budget allocations.
* Additional information from the 2022 event can be found on the Step Up for Kids webpage on NICRP’s website:
  + [Step Up for Kids 2022 Las Vegas Summary.pdf (unlv.edu)](https://nic.unlv.edu/pcan/files/Step%20Up%20for%20Kids%202022%20Las%20Vegas%20Summary.pdf)

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| 1. **Afterschool & Out-Of-School Time Programming** |

**NEVADA AFTERSCHOOL NETWORK**

* NAN updates:
  + Danielle Holmes is continuing to develop a QRIS program for NAN (The Quality Improvement System ‘QIS’ Development Committee). The first development committee meeting was recently held. This is a quality improvement system for Nevada out of school programs that works in conjunction with the current statewide QRIS. Topics of discussion during this first meeting included the following:
    - Which assessment tools can be used for pilot projects?
    - Aligning this system with current statewide QRIS system
      * Reviewed action plans, steps, and next steps
    - A parent focus group would be a beneficial next step to assess the impact on families
    - The next meeting will be on April 6, 2023. Please reach out to Amaris if you are interested in joining at [m.amaris.knight@unlv.edu](mailto:m.amaris.knight@unlv.edu)
* NV Afterschool Showcase (March 9-10, 2023)
  + This was a statewide conference in Reno which incorporated program management and innovations in afterschool and out-of-schooltime programs.
  + There was a great turnout with a total of 166 attendees in-person and approximately 70 virtual, and presentations went well. Overall it was a very successful week.
  + For more information, please visit: [2023 Afterschool Showcase - Nevada Afterschool Network](https://www.nevadaafterschool.org/2023afterschoolshowcase.html)

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| 1. **Community Resources & Events** |

Members provided updates about upcoming events and resources in the community that are relevant to early childhood:

**All in a Day’s Play**

April 22nd, 2023

Flyer attached

**Nevada AEYC Conference**

<https://nevaeyc.org/events/state-conference/>

**The Nevada Childcare Fund Campaign**

See nevadachildcarefund.org for list of opportunities and programs

**April: National Child Abuse Prevention Month**

April 7, 2023: Go Blue Day

Flyer Attached

**Nevada P-3 Leadership Certificate Program & Leadership Academy**

11-month cohort from June 2023 through April 2024

Flyer Attached

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| 1. **Open for Other Comments/Ideas…** |

The members discussed potential projects and funding for SNECAC. Several suggestions by the group involved the following ideas:

* Increasing conferences or professional development for members, such as the NVAEYC conference in Las Vegas, or BUILD conference, hiring a facilitator to develop a strategic plan, purchase swag materials for tabling events, updating website, or purchasing additional items needed for Step Up for Kids event.
  + An interim meeting in April with Denise Tanata was discussed to further determine uses of these funds in order to apply for approval prior to the next meeting in May.
  + Next steps include all members of the group reviewing the most recent 2012 Strategic Plan and formulating ideas of future steps for SNECAC: [Southern Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council (snecac.com)](https://snecac.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/03/SNECAC-PLAN-Revised-06.30.121.pdf)
  + Please reach out to Denise Tanata with any questions: dtanata@childrenscabinet.org

**Events have been posted on the Nevada Events Calendar and links are provided in the email with the minutes.**

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| 1. **2023 Meeting Schedule** |

*The next meeting will be held virtually on May 17, 2023 from 12:00-2:00pm.*

**Additional Meeting Dates (12-2pm):**

*June 21, 2023 August 16, 2023 October 18, 2023*

**03.22.23 MEETING ATTENDEES**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Organization** | **Email** | **Present** |
| Aaron Sheets | Hopelink | aaron@link2hope.org |  |
| Aisha Bowen | Southern Nevada Health District | Finlay-bowen@snhdmail.org |  |
| Alisha Byrne | Sunrise Children's Foundation | alishab@sunrisechildren.org |  |
| Amanda Brown | Southern Nevada Health District | brown@snhdmail.org |  |
| Amanda Haboush | NICRP | amanda.haboush@unlv.edu | YES |
| Amanda Harding | The Children's Cabinet | amandah5678@gmail.com |  |
| Amineh Harvey | Southern Nevada Health District | harveya@snhdmail.org |  |
| Angela Rose | Depart of Youth Development & Social Innovation | arose@lasvegasnevada.gov |  |
| Ann Lehtiner | East Valley Family Services | ann@evfs.org |  |
| Ann Polakowski | Division of Child and Family Services | apolakowski@dcfs.nv.gov |  |
| Ann Taylor | East Valley Family Services | annt@evfs.org |  |
| Anne Lindsay | UNR Extension | lindsaya@unce.unr.edu |  |
| Annette Dawson | Children's Advocacy Alliance | annette.dawson@caanv.org | YES |
| Arealia Denby | Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada Inc. | asaviour@hotmail.com |  |
| Breanna Garcia | UNLV Department of Psychology | dimelab@unlv.edu |  |
| Brooke Conway-Kleven | NICRP | brooke.conway-kleven@unlv.edu | YES |
| Caitlin Stapley | Boys Town | caitlin.stapley@boystown.org |  |
| Carrie Paldi | Creative Kids Learning | Carrie@creativekidslearningcenter.com |  |
| Charisse Sauls | ITCN CCDF | [csauls@itcn.org](mailto:csauls@itcn.org) |  |
| Chris Mitchell | Nevada HAND | cmitchell@nevadahand.org |  |
| Christina Squires | Nevada State College | christina.squires@nsc.edu |  |
| Claire Tredwell | UNLV | claire.tredwell@unlv.edu |  |
| Danelis Acosta | Boys Town | danelis.acosta@boystown.org |  |
| Danielle Holmes | Children's Cabinet | dholmes@childrenscabinet.org | YES |
| Dawn Brooks | Nevada Early Intervention Services | dbrooks@health.nv.gov |  |
| Dawn Davidson | NICRP | dawn.davidson@unlv.edu |  |
| Denise Tanata | Children's Cabinet | dtanata@childrenscabinet.org | YES |
| Deserea Quintana | Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada Inc. – CCDF | desereaquintana@gmail.com |  |
| Dianne Farkas | Family to Family program | diannef2f@hotmail.com |  |
| Dominique Christion | Special Olympics Nevada | dominiquec@sonv.org |  |
| Emily Champlin | NDE OELD | echamplin@doe.nv.gov |  |
| Emily Warren | UNLV MSW Student | emilywarren@gmail.com |  |
| Ethel Chambers | Children's Cabinet | echambers@childrenscabinet.org |  |
| Gabriela Buccini | Nevada Institute for Children's Research & Policy | gabriela.buccini@unlv.edu |  |
| Gail Storch | Children’s Advocacy Alliance | gailstorch@gmail.com |  |
| Glenda Billingsley | Clark County Library District | billingsleyg@lvccld.org |  |
| Harry Mong | Special Olympics Nevada | harrym@sonv.org |  |
| Heidi Petermeier | UNR Extension– Partners in Parenting | petermeierh@unce.unr.edu |  |
| Heike Ruedenauer | UNLV | ruedenau@unlv.nevada.edu |  |
| Irene Loughton | Charles Marshall Foundation | Info@charlesmarshall.org |  |
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| Jessica McGee | East Valley Family Services | jessica@evfs.org |  |
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| Jessica Sasso | Boys Town | jessica.sasso@boystown.org |  |
| John Cregg | NevAEYC | john@nevaeyc.org |  |
| Julie Houchins | United Way of Southern Nevada | julieah@uwsn.org |  |
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| Keane-Maritess Talledo | Boys Town | Keane-Maritess.Talledo@boystown.org |  |
| Laura Brown | Acelero Head Start | lbrown@acelero.net |  |
| Leslie Nelson | Clark County School District - SRCL | unlvnelson@gmail.com |  |
| Lillie Englund | Independent | lillieenglund@cox.net |  |
| Lisa Carman | Division of Child and Family Services | lcarman@dcfs.nv.gov |  |
| M. Amaris Knight | NICRP | m.amaris.knight@unlv.edu | YES |
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| May Caparas | Acelero EHS & HC | mcaparas@acelero.net |  |
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| Michael Mitchell | Acelero Learning C.C. | mmitchell@acelero.net |  |
| Minerva Perez | Children’s Cabinet | mperez@childrenscabinet.org |  |
| Mirna Mejia | Las Vegas Urban League -ECC | mmejia@lvul.org |  |
| Mychelle Weart | Department of Education | mweart@doe.nv.gov | YES |
| Nichol Tullis | UNR Cooperative Extension Services | tullisn@unce.unr.edu |  |
| Nicole Anyadike | Kidology Enterprises | info@kidologyenterprises.com |  |
| Nicolet Palmer | Moapa Band of Paiutes | edu.enrichment@moapabandofpaiutes.org |  |
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| Sabrina Moreno | Kinder Cottage Preschool | kindercottagesabrina@gmail.com |  |
| Savannah Quintero | Nevada HAND | squintero@nevadahand.org |  |
| Shanell Townsend | United Way of Southern Nevada | shanellt@uwsn.org |  |
| Shannon Cole | East Valley Family Services | shannon@evfs.org |  |
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| Susan Crutchfield | SNHD - Community Health Nursing | crutchfield@snhd.org |  |
| Susan Taylor | UNR Cooperative Extension Services | taylors@unce.unr.edu | YES |
| Sylvia Fleming | Children's Day | childrensdaynevada@gmail.com |  |
| Tara Phebus | City of Henderson | tara.phebus@cityofhenderson.com |  |
| Tawanda McIntosh | St. Rose Hospital | Tawanda.mcintosh@dignityhealth.org |  |
| Teresa Byington | UNR Cooperative Extension Services | byingtont@unce.unr.edu |  |
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| Warren Evans | ECC - Las Vegas Urban League | wevans@lvul.org |  |
| Yaebin Kim | UNR Cooperative Extension Services | kimy@unce.unr.edu |  |
| Yvonne Jacob | Acelero EHS & HC | yjacob@acelero.net |  |
| **New Members** |  |  |  |
| Rebecca Dunne | NICRP | [dunner1@unlv.nevada.edu](mailto:dunner1@unlv.nevada.edu) |  |
| Kayla Millette | NICRP | Kayla.millette@unlv.edu |  |
| Amanda Harrell | Intern at Children’s Cabinet |  |  |
| Samantha Kendrick | Boys Town, Director of community support |  |  |