

Southern Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

Minutes from January 27, 2016

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New Attendees			
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1. Welcome & Introductions

New Attendees: To be considered a member, please read the Strategic Plan available at www.sneacac.com, and then *PLEASE fill out personal information on the Online SNECAC Membership form.* <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/SNECACmembership>

2. Presentation: Child Care and Development Program

Jack Zenteno, Social Services Chief, presented information about the plan for the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG). He presented an overview of the 8 sections of the Child Care and Development Fund plan and addressed questions throughout the presentation. The sections included:

1. Define CCDF Leadership and Coordinator with Relevant Systems
2. Promote Family Engagement through Outreach and Consumer Education
3. Provide Stable Child Care Financial Assistance to Families
4. Ensure Equal Access to High Quality Child Care for Low-Income Children
5. Establish Standards and Monitoring Processes to Ensure the Health and Safety of Child Care Settings
6. Recruit and Retain a Qualified and Effective Child Care Workforce
7. Support Continuous Quality Improvement
8. Ensure Grantee Program Integrity and Accountability

Full Plan is attached.

The conversation during the presentation sparked the important question of “*what can we do?*” Jack is welcoming feedback, ideas, and questions based on the draft plan. The deadline for the final draft is March 1st and Jack would like comments before February 17. If you have any comments please make sure to email them to Jack Zenteno (JZENTENO@dwss.nv.gov) before the final deadline. You are welcome to share this information; it is not limited to the SNECAC members. If there is a considerable amount of feedback, Mike Maxwell offered to set up a separate meeting at the Urban League to review and answer all questions.

3. Nevada 211 Focus Group Information

Nevada 211 is now run by Financial Guidance Center and it is hoped that they will move to electronic submissions and inclusion of other features that will be more helpful to the community.

The group discussed it's frustration of not having a comprehensive system to help families and organizations navigate resources, and taking extensive time to provide feedback for improvement in past focus groups without any follow up. NICRP said they would take the lead in following up to make sure there is follow through. Strategic Process is conducting focus groups to help guide improvements to Nevada 211. A webinar has been created JUST FOR US on February 10th from 10-11:30am. The questions being addressed in the webinar are attached to this email. In addition, Financial Guidance Center has offered to come out to speak with the group about their intended direction. We will try to schedule them for the May meeting.

4. Strong Start for Nevada's Children Update

- Lending libraries project for inside businesses.
 - The lending libraries project has formed into two different projects for indoor and outdoor libraries. Jared and Shelby have met with Julie and George (parents of Betsy from Immunize Nevada) to volunteer with Strong Start. George has made a lending library in New York and was excited to do it for Nevada. He will be moving forward with the indoor libraries. He is looking into getting the needed materials donated from Home Depot and seeing if the Boys and Girls Clubs would like to help construct them. The council determined the color of the libraries will be GREEN. Gail has volunteered to research the outdoor libraries and to look into how other states have held competitions for creating the libraries. Gail, Shelby and Jared will be continuing to build this project.
- Newsletter
 - Strong Start will start sending a monthly newsletter at the beginning of each month. This newsletter focuses on parent engagement and early learning. The first letter was sent in January.
- Parent Training
 - The Strong Start Team have been working to create a new training for parents that will focus on teaching parents about the importance of early learning and provide activities that they could do with their child. Almost all materials for this training are complete and will be moving to the review stage.
- Meetings with Legislators
 - Scheduling meetings with Legislators have begun. The goal is to be able to schedule time with as many legislators as possible to talk to them about the importance of Early Childhood Education during the off season. Please note that this is all advocacy work so please let us know if you would like to join us for any of these meetings.

5. Mini Case Study Review

Due to the lack of time, the members of SNECAC in attendance decided to post pone the case study review until the next meeting in March. As a reminder, the first case study provided by Dr. Mike Maxwell from Las Vegas Urban League is provided below and attached.

With the object being to discover possible resources available through SNECAC members here's a collective impact mock scenario for members to consider:

Mrs. Washington visited the LV Urban League Early Childhood Connection this morning. Within the past few months, she has undergone quite a few unforeseen hardships. Her daughter is 25 years old, currently in a coma which thus far, has lasted 6 weeks. Due to her daughter's current condition, she now has the added burden of caring for her two granddaughters, Imani – 4mo old and Destiny – 3yrs old. Her husband recently passed in August which has placed her in a position of having only one source of income. She's currently working full time 7am – 3pm. We are currently providing her with child care assistance and she has been given a list of Child Care Facilities to select a caregiver for her grandchildren.

How can your organization/agency help?

6. Open for Other Comments/Ideas...

- Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada is having their Nevada Tribal Child Care Awareness Day on Saturday, April 16, 2016 in Elko, Carson City, Yerington and Las Vegas communities. For more information please contact your local afterschool, child care center, their central office at 775-355-0600, or their southern office at 702-570-7722. Flyer is attached.
- Margarita DeSantos from the Southern Nevada Health District announced that their Valley View location has moved to 280 S. Decatur Las Vegas, NV 89107.
- Julie Kasper from CCSD announced that they are having their Annual Family Fun Fair on Saturday, April 2, 2016 at 951 N Tonopah Dr. Las Vegas, NV 89106. Please contact Julie for more information on the event.
- Lillie Englund from SNAEYC announced that Family to Family will be having their Touch-A-Truck event at The Orleans Casino on Saturday, April 2, 2016. Flyer is attached.
- Valeria Gurr from NICRP announced that Prevent Child Abuse Nevada is looking to present a variety of trainings for parents, youth, organizations, and the general community. A flyer is attached. If you have any questions or want to schedule a training contact Valeria @ valeria.gurr@unlv.edu. We are also working on a train the trainer event if anyone is interested in becoming trained to deliver in our programs.
- Mayte Heredia from Vegas PBS announced that they are setting up reading areas in the offices of the Consulate of El Salvador and the Consulate of Mexico. Their next set up will be at Siegel Suites Cambridge Apartments. The area includes a PBS Kids carpet, a bookcase with books, and a display with handout/flyers with information about their programs. Joe Stoner, the outreach librarian, has collaborated with them, providing them with information on how to get a library card and the services the library offers. The library information has been included in Vegas PBS handout to encourage people to visit the libraries.
- Amanda Haboush-Deloye from NICRP highlighted the Caucus for Kids and the work CAA, NICRP, and Every Child Matters are doing. If you are interested in participating in caucus, the Democratic Caucus will be on Saturday, February 20, 2016 and the Republic Caucus on Tuesday, February 23, 2016. For more information please visit CAA's website.
Link: <http://caanv.org/caucus-for-kids/>

2016 Meetings Dates

March 23, 2016 May 25, 2016
June 22, 2016 August 24, 2016 October 26, 2016

**Thanks to Amanda for Dessert!!!
Any volunteers for March?**