

*Southern Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council*

**Minutes from October 26, 2016**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Email</b>	<b>10/26/16</b>
Aaron Sheets	Hopelink	aaron@link2hope.org	
Aisha Bowen	Southern Nevada Health District	Finlay-bowen@snhdmail.org	
Alice Rodriguez	Hopelink	alice@link2hope.org	<b>YES</b>
Alicia Davisson	East Valley Family Services	alicia@eastvalleyfamilyservices.org	
Alisha Byrne	Sunrise Children's Foundation	alishab@sunrisechildren.org	
Alyce Gray	College of SN Education/Early Child Professor	alyce.gray@csn.edu	
Amanda Haboush	NICRP	amanda.haboush@unlv.edu	<b>YES</b>
Amanda Brown	Southern Nevada Health District	brown@snhdmail.org	
Amineh Harvey	Southern Nevada Health District	harveya@snhdmail.org	<b>YES</b>
Amit Jain, MD	UNSOM Pediatrics	amitj@medicine.nevada.edu	
Amy Zadorozny	Nevada Early Intervention Services	azadorozny@health.nv.gov	
Angela Rose	United Way of Southern Nevada	angelar@uwsn.org	
Angela Strobel	Olive Crest	Angela-Strobel@olivecrest.org	
Angela Triche	Sunrise Children's Foundation	abtriche@sunrisechildren.org	
Angelica Rojas	Sunrise Children's Foundation	Angelica@sunrisechildren.org	
Ann Lehtiner	East Valley Family Services	ann@evfs.org	
Ann Polakowski	Division of Child and Family Services	apolakowski@dcfs.nv.gov	
Anne Lindsay	UNR Cooperative Extension Services - Exercise Physiologist	lindsaya@unce.unr.edu	
Arealia Denby	Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada Inc.	asaviour@hotmail.com	
Ashley Mo	UNSOM Pediatrics	amo@unr.edu	
Camellia Williams	Three Key Years Preschool	cwilliams@nclcinc.com	
Candice Grayman	Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada Inc.	Cgrayman.itcn@sdi.net	
Carrie Paldi	Creative Kids Learning	Carrie@creativekidslearningcenter.com	
Cheryl Brecheisen	College of SN	cheryl.brecheisen@csn.edu	
Christina Romero	Sunrise Children's Foundation	christina@sunrisechildren.org	
Cindy Johnson	QRIS - NDE	cdjohnson@doe.nv.gov	
Danielle Holmes	Children's Cabinet	dholmes@childrenscabinet.org	<b>YES</b>
Danielle Milam	Clark County Library District	MilamD@lvccld.org	
Dawn Brooks	Nevada Early Intervention Services	dbrooks@health.nv.gov	
Dawn Davidson	NICRP	dawn.davidson@unlv.edu	
Denise Tanata	Children's Advocacy Alliance	denise.tanata@caanv.org	
Deserea Quintana	Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada Inc. – CCDF	desereaquintana@gmail.com	
Diana Williams	Sunrise Children's Foundation	dianaw@sunrisechildren.org	
Dianne Farkas	Family to Family program	dianef2f@hotmail.com	
Ethel Chambers	Children's Cabinet	echambers@childrenscabinet.org	
Gail Storch	Children's Advocacy Alliance	gailstorch@gmail.com	
Gladys Recinos	Nevada PTA Board Member	gladysnvpta@yahoo.com	
Glenda Billingsley	Clark County Library District	billingsleyg@lvccld.org	
Gray Still	UNSOM Pediatrics	gstill@medicine.nevada.edu	
Harold Sersland	Mesquite Preschool		
Heidi Petermeier	UNR Cooperative Extension Services – Partners in Parenting	petermeierh@unce.unr.edu	

Helen Hebert	Nevada Early Intervention Services	hhebert@health.nv.gov	
Irene Loughton	Charles Marshall Foundation	Info@charlesmarshall.org	
Jared Busker	Children's Advocacy Alliance	Jared.busker@caanv.org	
Jarrold Dickens	Acelero Learning C.C.	jdickens@acelero.net	
Jennifer Butler	Las Vegas Urban League	jbutler@lvul.org	
Jennifer Findlay	St. Rose Hospital's Family to Family program	jennifer.findlay@chw.edu	
Jessica Russell	Vegas PBS	jrussell@vegaspbs.org	
Joe Stoner	Clark County Library District	stonerj@lvccld.org	
Julie Kasper	Clark County School District	jrkasper@interact.ccsd.net	
Karen Garcia	Sunrise Children's Foundation	karen@sunrisechildren.org	
Kathlene Banak	Clark County School District	kmbanak@interact.ccsd.net	
Keytasha Jackson	Sunrise Children's Foundation	keytasha@sunrisechildren.org	
Kim Amato	Baby's Bounty	kim@babysbounty.org	
Laura Brown	Acelero Head Start	lbrown@acelero.net	
Leah Guevera	East Valley Family Services	leah@eastvalleyfamilyservices.org	
Leslie Nelson	Clark County School District - SRCL	unlvnelson@gmail.com	
Lillie Englund	Independent	lillieenglund@cox.net	
Lisa Coker	UNR Cooperative Extension Services	cokerl@unce.unr.edu	
Lisa Kurtzberg	Division of Child and Family Services	lkurtzberg@dcfs.nv.gov	<b>YES</b>
Lori Ann Malina	Nevada Early Intervention Services	lmalina@adsd.nv.gov	
Margarita DeSantos	Southern Nevada Health District	desantos@SNHDMAIL.ORG	<b>YES</b>
Marinna Culter	Public Education Foundation	macutler@ccpef.org	
Marissa Meehan-Goff	Children's Cabinet	mmeehan-goff@childrenscabinet.org	
Mayte Heredia	Vegas PBS	mheredia@vegaspbs.org	
Michael Mitchell	Acelero Learning C.C.	mmitchell@acelero.net	
Mike Maxwell	Las Vegas Urban League	mmaxwell@lvul.org	
Mimi Bresette	United Way of Southern Nevada	michelleb@uwsn.org	
Mirzah Trejo	NICRP	Mirzah.trejo@unlv.edu	<b>YES</b>
Nichol Tullis	UNR Cooperative Extension Services	tullisn@unce.unr.edu	
Nicole Sailers	Clark County School District	njsailers@interact.ccsd.net	
Nina Taylor	Nevada HAND	ntaylor@nevadahand.org	
Patricia Haddad	Prevent Child Abuse Nevada	preventchildabusenevada@unlv.edu	
Patti Oya	NDE OELD	poya@dwss.nv.gov	
Prashanti Bollu	Roseman University of Health Sciences	pbollu@roseman.edu	
Ron Barakat	NDE OELD	rbarakat@dwss.nv.gov	<b>YES</b>
Sabrina Moreno	Kinder Cottage Preschool	kindercottagesabrina@gmail.com	
Sam Scott	Sunrise Children's Foundation	sscott@sunrisechildren.org	<b>YES</b>
Sandi Wachtel	Vegas PBS	swachtel@vegaspbs.org	
Scott Pangonis	UNSOM Pediatrics	spangonis@unr.edu	
Shelby Henderson	Children's Advocacy Alliance	Shelby.henderson@caanv.org	<b>YES</b>
Sherry Walker	Clark County Library District	walkers@lvccld.org	
Shirley Yancey	Sunrise Children's Foundation - EHS	shirley@sunrisechildren.org	<b>YES</b>
Susan Loughton	Charles Marshall Foundation		
Susan Taylor	UNR Cooperative Extension Services	taylor@unce.unr.edu	<b>YES</b>
Sylvia Fleming	Children's Day	childrensdaynevada@gmail.com	
Tammie Williams	Headstart Collaboration	tammiewilliams@doe.nv.gov	<b>YES</b>
Tara Phebus	NICRP - UNLV	tara.phebus@unlv.edu	

Tawanda McIntosh	St. Rose Hospital	Tawanda.mcintosh@dignityhealth.org	
Teresa Byington	UNR Cooperative Extension Services	byingtont@unce.unr.edu	
Tiffany Alston	Sunrise Children's Foundation	tiffany@sunrisechildren.org	
Tomomi Murakami	Sunrise Children's Foundation	tomomi@sunrisechildren.org	
Tonia Holmes-Sutton	Clark County School District - Striving Readers	tfolmes@interact.ccsd.net	
Tracy Lewis	Children's Cabinet	Tracylynn19@yahoo.com	
Valeria Gurr	Prevent Child Abuse Nevada	<a href="mailto:Valeria.gurr@unlv.edu">Valeria.gurr@unlv.edu</a>	
Vivian Palmer	Asian Community Resource Center		
Yaebin Kin	UNR Cooperative Extension Services	<a href="mailto:kimy@unce.unr.edu">kimy@unce.unr.edu</a>	
Zory Caldera	UNR Cooperative Extension Services – A4K	zcaledera@unr.edu	
<b>New Attendees</b>			
Mikaela Cunningham	Children's Cabinet	mcunningham@childrenscabinet.org	<b>YES</b>

### 1. Welcome & Introductions

Meeting began with welcome greeting. Members gave brief introductions of themselves and their agency/organization, including the community groups/coalitions they are involved in.

Shelby Henderson –

- Sits on the Preschool subcommittee for the Innovation of Education for the City of Las Vegas. She announced that the City of Las Vegas is opening 2 preschools for the next school year. Recommendations were made and the preschool program was named Strong Start Academy. The ground breaking was on 10/15/16 and it will support the Strong Start for Children Campaign messaging, aligning the logos colors and language.
- The City of Las Vegas has established the Youth division as its own division within the city. They will be launching a new app for middle school and high school students. The app is meant as a one stop shop for homework help, behavioral health, bullying, suicide prevention, etc. that was developed by high school students for high school students.

Tammie Williams –

- Sits on the Nevada Head Start Association. They are currently in the middle of scheduling licensing tours for what looks like a Head Start site inside The Shade Tree.

### 2. Discuss Website

SNECAC members all agreed that minutes should be posted to the website to share information with the community. This will start immediately. Members were also asked to please report changes/updates so that all information posted is current.

### 3. Mini Case Study Review

The members of SNECAC in attendance reviewed the following case study during the meeting and notes regarding the discussion are presented.

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

*Mom calls in very concern to ask for assistance. She is afraid of ending up with legal issues concerning her 5 year old son. The boy has just started Kinder and has already been suspended multiple times. The last suspension was due to him maliciously punching the pregnant belly of his teacher. The mom states that he has also tried hurting her in the past and has threatened to kill her and his step sister. She states the boy tells her that the voices in his head tell him he needs to kill them. Her son has been in counseling for 4 years, but she has not seen any improvement in his conduct or*

behavior. The boy's counselor has advised the mom to seek psychological treatment and a possible medication regimen to control his behavior.

The mom never married the boy's father and they are no longer together. Mom was told that in order to seek psychological or medical treatment the father has to sign consent, but he refuses to do so. The mother states that the father thinks she is exaggerating and has told her that punching and kicking is "what boys do." The mom started to cry because she does not know what else to do. She mentioned that she feels like she is a bad mother for being afraid of being alone with her little boy. The boy's counselor has told her that if she does not seek help as soon as possible, her son will end up in juvenile detention at some point and she may encounter charges of her own. She wants to know if there is a way that she can get her son treatment without the father's consent or if his consent can be overridden due to the seriousness of the case.

- **Office of Early Learning and Development**, Ron Barakat
  - Although, they cannot provide direct services, they can provide the mother with her school rights.
  - Get her early health services to link additional resources and referrals
  - Connect her with Child Find at CCSD
  - Guide her through the QRIS website, <http://www.nvsilverstatestars.org>, to find a suitable program in Nevada
- **Office of Early Learning and Development**, Tammie Williams
  - Based on her personal experience, Tammie advised that the mother not seek the school counselor, but instead look into getting the child into another school. One that has a school psychologist. Schools now have social workers which can guide her and connect her to other services.
  - Programs recommended; NV PEP, TACSEI, and CASA (although CASA is mostly for foster children)
  - Since children cannot be arrested until the age of 10 in Las Vegas and Henderson, advise to document all incidents, any attempts to contact services, and when, who, and what resources she has contacted and spoken to. The documentation can serve as proof so if the child is arrested once he is 10 she will not get in trouble for "not doing" anything.
  - Advised to seek psychiatric help
  - Let the mother know that she can always call 911. This is an option that will provide recorded documentation and will provide her with services that may take longer to get connected to otherwise.
- **Children Advocacy Alliance**, Shelby Henderson
  - Direct mother to Legal Aid of Southern Nevada to help her look at her custody and know her parental rights
- **Sunrise Children's Foundation**, Shirley Yancey
  - Reinforced collection of documentation that may also help to get the father to realize the severity of the situation
  - Advised to seek psychological help to establish a diagnosis to be able to get correct treatment
- **Southern Nevada Health District**, Margarita DeSantos
  - Contact CPS as they also help families get services and resources
- **Division of Child and Family Services**, Lisa Kurtzberg
  - Addressing the in-school incidents, she would advise the mother to set up a meeting with NV PEP to assist with setting a behavioral plan or a crisis and safety plan due to the safety concern
- **NICRP**, Amanda Haboush-Deloye
  - Juvenile Justice is working on a new program called The Harbor that will be taking over one of the old metro buildings.
    - If the crime happened in school – child welfare and CCSD get involved

- This assessment center is to provide services instead of having to get into the system to get the services
- **Other suggestions provided,**
  - Speak to PCP for referral or guidance
  - Video tape or record incidents as another form of documentation

### **Summary Recommendation:**

Based on the responses the council provided, it was agreed that Legal Aid of Southern Nevada would be the first step for the mother to be able to identify her parental rights and custody agreement. If she has 50/50 custody and the father continues to say “No” she will not be able to do anything without the court. Once the mother knows her parental rights, straightens custody agreement or overrides father’s consent, the mother will be able to contact the additional services discussed and make whatever decisions she sees fit to help her son the best way she can. The council did a great job identifying different levels of assistance and prioritizing the mother’s and child’s needs.

In completing the final case study, the members agreed that this activity has helped the group to get a better sense of what each of our agencies/organizations have to offer. The members would like to continue with this activity in the 2017. In order to continue this activity, members were asked to submit additional stories/cases that reflect scenarios of families in need. Please send any stories/cases to Mirzah Trejo at [mirzah.trejo@unlv.edu](mailto:mirzah.trejo@unlv.edu) by the end of December to be able to select and prep a case for January’s meeting.

### **4. SNECAC Initiative: Learning Party**

Based on the feedback received and notes taken throughout the piloting of the Learning Party in August’s meeting, edits were made, a “Final Ask” handout with the next steps to take was created, and a party goodie bag was included.

All materials were constructed into a final packet that was passed around for the members to review and comment on, along with a goodie bag that included; Strong Start for Children swag – hand sanitizer, chip clip, pen, fan, 2017 calendar magnet, feelings magnet, and t-shirt.

The members provided positive feedback and agreed that this was a great base. Further discussion is needed to identify the goal of how many people we want to reach.

Suggestions made:

- Having a way for Learning Party participants to provide feedback, maybe include a survey to have participants hand in at the end of the party.
- Look into scheduling with Tech programs that have ECE programs, as most of their ECE teachers don’t get full support from their admins.

The decision to take on this project was to know how SNECAC can contribute to the community. With funding assistance from Kellogg, members were asked to please think about how this will work:

- NICRP will keep track of schedule and goodie bags.
  - Members to place “orders” to NICRP for needed amount of goodie bags.
  - Drop off/pick up of goodie bags.
- NICRP has potential funding to provide refreshments at the meetings – logistics will need to be worked out on a case by case basis.

Be prepared for Jan 2017:

- What are the next steps?
- What can we do for the New Year?
- What strategies can we use to get people motivated?

Email will be sent out soon with all Learning Party materials.

## **AS A REMINDER: What is a Learning Party?**

### **Purpose:**

- The idea of our learning party is to get principals, directors, and admins to understand the true importance and impact early childhood education has on the development of a child and why Pre-K benefits them. This may seem like common knowledge, but there is still a disconnect, even within the educational system.

### **Learning Party Outline:**

- Audience: K-12 principals, directors, and admins, however, anyone at the school is welcome to attend
- Length: 30 minutes to 60 minutes
  1. Intro – Strong Start Overview, including ECE benefits and access in Nevada
  2. How Standards Connect – Linking Early Learning Standards
  3. Demonstrations/Activities – providing hands on aspect to those in attendance of what and how children learn and develop
  4. Closing Asks of the Audience

### **Objective:**

- With these Learning Parties the council is hoping to be able to narrow the gap between the Pre-K-2 and K-8 licensure, highlighting the level of importance or lack of preparation there is in Pre-K classrooms, teachers, and settings.

### **Who will present the Learning Parties?**

- The idea is to have all members do 2 Learning Party in the year. Members will have the option to be paired into 2's or 3's to play on one another's strengths when presenting. Mirzah and Amanda will help coordinate the Learning Parties.

## **5. Strong Start for Nevada's Children Update**

Strong Start for Children has a new Doll named Justice! The Strong Start Doll's name was voted on by children in attendance at the Las Vegas and Reno Step Up for Kids Events, allowing a statewide vote on the name. Children were given the opportunity to understand and experience the voting process first hand by voting on the name of the Doll. The children entered a voting booth, completed a voting ballot, and received an "I Voted" sticker once they were finished.

The Strong Start Doll was created to be able to take into the community at tabling and community events. The Doll is a 3D version of the Strong Start Paper Doll, which are done as a form of advocacy to remind policy makers and community leaders that every child deserves a Strong Start. The paper dolls were created for children, parents, teachers and community advocates to decorate. During Children's Week at the Nevada Legislature, these dolls are displayed throughout the capital building to symbolize the many children in Nevada that are effected by state policies and laws.

Shelby also discussed the Free Advocacy Training, Parent Training, and Story Time provided through the Strong Start for Children, highlighting the Advocacy Training as we are in the midst of both local and national elections. Please contact Shelby at [Shelby.henderson@caanv.org](mailto:Shelby.henderson@caanv.org) or 702-228-1869 for more information or to schedule.

## **6. State ECAC Update**

A quick recap of Thursday October 13<sup>th</sup>'s State ECAC's meeting was provided. The focus continues on building the subcommittee strategic plan. The standing committees for ECAC chairs have been appointed by the ECAC chair.

The 3 committees:

1. Health
2. Family Leadership and Engagement
3. Early Childhood Learning

As of the last meeting in August, all 3 committees have been accepted. Subcommittee chairs are meeting with the ECAC chair to make sure everyone is on track. The committees will have both members and consultants, this way not everyone has to be at every meeting.

Tammie will try and help get ECAC to direct the local chapters on what activities can be done to move forward. In the meantime,

- Check the State ECAC's website for assignments.
- They are still looking into who will take on the minutes. Minutes for October 13<sup>th</sup>'s meeting should be posted by Friday, November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016. The State ECAC does not send notification of the minutes, they are just posted on their website.
- The next meeting will be on December 6, 2016 at 9:00 am.
- If you are interested in the State ECAC meeting information, agendas, and minutes please refer to their website: <http://nvecac.com/meeting-information/>

## 7. Open for Other Comments/Ideas...

### Announcements:

- Susan Taylor announced that their Healthy Kids Festival was a huge success with about 920 people in attendance. This year, they were able to provide the children a farmer markets experience thanks to the Junior League of Las Vegas.
  - They are considering to have a 2<sup>nd</sup> Festival a year to be able to alternate vendors.
- They are launching an environmental scan that has to do with the new legislation that was past, AB152 that requires all licensed child centers to have a physical activity program, as they have found that most centers are unaware and have no resources to implement.
  - They are reaching out to small pockets of schools at a time as they are not able to handle all.
  - They are starting with CCSD schools
  - They will be doing self-assessments and will offer their All 4 Kids dances and physical activity games.
- The Nevada Association for the Education of Young Children - is now accepting conference proposals for the 2107 Early Childhood Education Conference: Inspire... Imagine... Ignite!!! on May 18-20, 2017 at Tuscany Suites and Casino, Las Vegas, NV.
  - Proposals are due no later than Friday December 16, 2016, with notifications being sent out January 9, 2017.
  - Submit Your Proposal Online! The Call for Proposals is live and available at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NevAEYC2017ProposalSub>

**All events flyers have been posted on the Nevada Events Calendar and are attached.**

### **2017 Meetings Dates**

**January 25, March 22, May 24, June 28, August 23, October 25**

**Thanks to Margarita DeSantos for Dessert!!!**

### **Any volunteers for January?**

If anyone is interested, please email Mirzah at: [mirzah.trejo@unlv.edu](mailto:mirzah.trejo@unlv.edu)