

*Southern Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council*

**Minutes from August 24, 2016**

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### 1. Welcome & Introductions

Meeting began with welcome greeting. Members gave brief introductions of themselves and their agency/organization.

### 2. Discuss Website

SNECAC members were asked if they had any changes/updates to report based on what is on the website. No changes/updates were reported.

Members were asked to please report changes/updates to be able to keep website and roll current.

### 3. Mini Case Study Review

Due to the lack of time, the review of the 3rd case study has been post pone until the next SNECAC meeting in October. As a reminder, the 3rd case study provided by Mirzah Trejo from the Nevada Institute for Children's Research and Policy 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:***

*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 regiment 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.*

## **How can your organization/agency help?**

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

Due to the council's positive feedback in the last meeting regarding the content of the learning party, the subcommittee moved forward with the development of a script and additional handouts for the Learning Party.

During the meeting, the subcommittee reviewed the purpose and outline of the Party and divided the council into 2 groups. Each group was asked to read through the script, discuss the content, highlighting pros and cons, and share their thoughts.

Due to the council's engagement, the review and discussion of the Learning Party took the whole meeting. Members were asked to hand in any notes/comments they had and/or to email them to Mirzah ([mirzah.trejo@unlv.edu](mailto:mirzah.trejo@unlv.edu)) to be able to use the feedback to finalize the content.

The subcommittee will use the feedback received to make edits to the content and have everything ready by the next SNECAC meeting in October to review one last time with the council and be able to move forward with scheduling.

## **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. 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?**

- Based on previous discussion, the council as a whole, agreed to present at least 1 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. Step Up for Kids Update – Step Up for Kids 2016 Event planning continues!**

The planning of the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Step Up for Kids Event continues. This year, Step Up for Kids will be on Monday, September 26th at Springs Preserve from 3pm to 7pm. Event information for the Las Vegas and Northern Step Up events can be found on the Step Up for Kids event's page: [nic.unlv.edu/stepup](http://nic.unlv.edu/stepup). Also, an involvement survey is available. Flyers for the Las Vegas, Reno, and Carson City Step Up for Kids events are attached.

To register as a vendor and table at the event, please fill out the brief involvement survey and identify how your organization can support Step Up for Kids. Access the survey by visiting <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/StepUpforKids2016>.

## 6. State ECAC Update

The NECAC met on Thursday August 18. Due to the lack of time, there were no State ECAC updates. However the bulk of the meeting was spent discussing how to move forward to complete the strategic plan. As soon as minutes are available they will be emailed to the group. The next meeting will be on October 4, 2016.

- 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:**

- Sherry Walker from the Library District shared information on VROOM, an app that highlights the importance of the first 5 years and promotes parent engagement through games and activities that help nurture and grow children's minds. If interested in more information and how you can get supplies for your agency please contact Sherry Walker or Danielle Milam.
- The Children's Cabinet has a new office location: 6161 W. Charleston Blvd. Building #3A Las Vegas, NV 89146 and new contact information: Main Office: 702.486.5507 Fax: 702.486.5509.
- Shelby announced the collaboration between CAA, NICRP, and Every Child Matters with *Get out the Vote*. CAA and NICRP are distributing *I Pledge to Vote* post cards that asks people to fill out their information to be able to mail them their own post card as a reminder to vote. Information on who is running nationally and locally, questions to ask representatives that concern children and families that can be tweeted at them at their twitter handle, and information on how to register to vote and why it is important to vote is also available. Please contact Shelby at: [shelby.henderson@caanv.org](mailto:shelby.henderson@caanv.org) if you would like this information for your agency. All voting materials are 501c3 friendly!

### **Event/Training Information:**

- Zory Caldera from All for Kids announced their Healthy Kids Festival at Whitney Recreation Center 5712 Missouri Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89122 on Saturday, September 24th from 10 am - 2 pm. They will have sports, healthy food, dancing, Zumba, and prizes! This event is FREE for everyone. Flyer is attached.
- Prevent Child Abuse Nevada is having their Super Heroes Event at Downtown Container Park, 707 Fremont St, Las Vegas, NV 89101 on September 3<sup>rd</sup> from 11:00am-1:30pm. This event is free, kid-friendly, and open to the public! Come dressed as a super hero or make a costume at the event and complete the Super Hero Scavenger Hunt! Flyer is attached.
- The Children's Advocacy Alliance and the Nevada Institute for Children's Research and Policy will have the release of their 2016 Nevada Children's Report Card and 2017 Children's Legislative Briefing Book in Las Vegas on Tuesday, September 13 from 10am-12pm at the Windmill Library 7060 W. Windmill Ln. LV, NV 89113 and in Reno on Wednesday, September 14 from 10am-12pm at The Discovery - Terry Lee Wells Nevada Discovery Museum 490 S Center Street, Reno, NV 89501. Light refreshments will be provided at both events! Flyer is attached. If you would like to attend the release please RSVP at Eventbrite.
  - **Las Vegas:** <http://www.eventbrite.com/e/las-vegas-release-of-the-2016-childrens-report-card-2017-childrens-legislative-briefing-book-tickets->

[26831970145?utm\\_campaign=LBB+Release&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=Report+Card%2FBriefing+Book+Release+Invitation](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/reno-2016-nevada-childrens-report-card-2017-childrens-legislative-briefing-book-release-tickets-26848513627?utm_campaign=LBB+Release&utm_medium=email&utm_source=Report+Card%2FBriefing+Book+Release+Invitation)

- **Reno:** [http://www.eventbrite.com/e/reno-2016-nevada-childrens-report-card-2017-childrens-legislative-briefing-book-release-tickets-26848513627?utm\\_campaign=LBB+Release&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=Report+Card%2FBriefing+Book+Release+Invitation](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/reno-2016-nevada-childrens-report-card-2017-childrens-legislative-briefing-book-release-tickets-26848513627?utm_campaign=LBB+Release&utm_medium=email&utm_source=Report+Card%2FBriefing+Book+Release+Invitation)
- The Children's Advocacy Alliance, the Nevada Institute for Children's Research and Policy, and Every Child Matters will have a one-night speaking engagement with Dr. Robert D. Putnam author of *Our Kids: The American Dream in Crisis* on October 17 at UNLV in the Student Union Ballroom at 6:00 pm, doors open at 5:30 pm. For more information please call 702-895-1040. Flyer is attached.
- The Children's Cabinet presented flyer with information on their SEEDS Services. Flyer is attached.

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

#### **2016 Meetings Dates**

**LAST MEETING OF THE YEAR! October 26, 2016**

**2017 Schedule: January 25, March 22, May 24, June 28, August 23, October 25**

#### **Any volunteers for October?**

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