

Southern Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

Minutes from May 24, 2017

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New Attendees			

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.

2. The Childhood Obesity Prevention State Plan

Shelby Henderson from the Children's Advocacy Alliance and Amanda Brown from the Southern Nevada Health District presented information about the State of Nevada Early Childhood Obesity Prevention Plan. Nevada's Early Childhood Obesity Prevention Plan focuses on children from birth to 8 years of age.

In Nevada, one third of children entering kindergarten in 2014 were considered overweight or obese. It is important that parents, ECE providers, health care providers, and other agencies that have an impact on children's health, understand the best practices for physical activity and nutrition. It is during this time in a child's life where habits start to be formed. Learning healthy habits early can help lead children into a healthy lifestyle and, therefore, into health adults.

The Early Childhood Obesity Prevention Plan has been developed over the past year and a half. It has been divided into 3 categories, each highlighting a goal, strategy/outcome, outputs, the lead organization, the progress, performance measurements, and notes. The 3 categories and goals are:

1. Educational Setting
 - a. Goal 1: Promote for healthy nutrition & physical activity for young children (0-8) in ECE facilities and support implementation of best practices/standards.
2. Community
 - a. Goal 1: Increase awareness on the importance of preventing early childhood obesity among parents of children ages 0-8.
3. Infrastructure/Capacity Building
 - a. Goal 1: Establish data collection systems to enhance knowledge of efforts.

Plan is attached. SNECAC members were advised to look over the Early Childhood Obesity Prevention Plan to determine if they could provide additional information that would be helpful to the plan. Some suggestions discussed during the meeting were: partnering with QRIS, PBS, Nevada Broadcasters, and grocery stores (i.e. Smith's that has healthy messaging displayed through their produce area).

If you have any comments or need additional information please contact Shelby Henderson at shelby.henderson@caanv.org or Amanda Brown at brown@snhdmail.org. You are also welcome to visit the Strong Start Nevada website <http://strongstartnevada.org/en/about-us/> to access the Childhood Obesity Prevention Toolkit for Parents and/or Providers under Resources.

http://strongstartnevada.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/Parent_Obesity-Prevention-Toolkit.pdf

http://strongstartnevada.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/Provider_Obesity-Prevention-Toolkit.pdf

This topic sparked such interest among the SNECAC members that it was approved to be an item on the SNECAC agenda to allow for current updates.

3. SNECAC Initiative

Learning Party Scheduling Update:

The Learning Party scheduling has been put on hold as there has not been any interest from school. We will take the summer to rethink on ways/strategies to get principals and teachers interested.

New SNECAC Initiative:

The SNECAC members were asked "what's next"? What should the SNECAC initiative be for this coming year?

- Danielle Holmes from the Children's Cabinet suggested screen time as an area of focus. The council, as a whole, agreed that this was an important area to discuss as it ties into Nevada's Early Childhood Obesity Prevention Plan. Members discussed various ideas, highlighting that May 1st-May 7th is Screen Free Week, a great opportunity to plan around. The council will continue to brainstorm and discuss the next steps in June's meeting.

4. KHS Final Review

SNECAC members were asked to review UNLV's Kindergarten Health Survey and provide feedback. The survey was designed by the Nevada's Institute for Children's Research and Policy at UNLV, in partnership with the State of Nevada Department of Health and Human Services, and the local county school districts. The survey is distributed to all kindergarten classrooms in the State and its information is used to help understand the health of children entering kindergarten each year.

Members were asked to provide feedback on the survey and to think about any questions pertaining to health they would like answered based on their organization's/agency's experience. The survey is attached.

5. Strong Start for Nevada's Children Update

The planning for the 2017 Step Up for Kids has begun. The event will be held on Children's Day in Nevada on Monday, September 25, 2017 at Spring Preserve from 3pm to 7pm. This year's event will be extra special as it marks the 10th year The Nevada Institute for Children's Research and Policy (NICRP) hosts this event in Nevada. Save the Date flyers are currently available and attached.

Vendor/tabling opportunities for will be available. Information on how and when to register coming soon. We are currently looking for a subcommittee of SNECAC to plan the event. If you are interested in being involved please email Mirzah at mirzah.trejo@unlv.edu and she will connect with interested persons.

During the meeting, members were asked if they had any ideas to make the event a success. Ideas were as follow:

Entertainment or Media:

- Kevin Janison will be invited back to broadcast the weather live from the event.
- VIDA music program will be invited again to provide music and dance.
- Las Vegas 51s Cosmo, McGruff the Crime Dog, Deputy Drip, and Mojave Max will be invited again to make an appearance.
- Petting Zoo 2 U has been confirmed.
- Invite Las Vegas new hockey team Vegas Golden Knights.
- Amanda Brown, SNHD, will ask about photo booth and Star Wars Troopers.
- Create a Screen Free Zone to promote SNECAC's new initiative.
 - Provide handouts with 10 activities parents can do with or have their children do screen free.
- We will have a voting booth again this year. This year's focus will be on electing a Kid Mayor that will have certain duties throughout the year. The Children's Advocacy Alliance will follow up with the City to try and get Mayor Goodman to attend.
 - If the City is on board we can ask them to promote the event on their channel and maybe bring in the kid nominees to talk about the event.
 - Additional ideas discussed:
 - Having 3 different age categories; Kid Mayor, Pre-teen Mayor, and Teen Mayor.
 - Having elections in other cities.
 - Host a Mayor's convention at the end of the year.

Donations:

- Three Square has confirmed water and fruit donation.
- Request for ice cream has been sent to Meadow Gold. Confirmation pending.
- Photographer will be contacted and invited to volunteer his time.

Emails have been sent to our rural partners, inviting them to host a Step Up for Kids Event in their city. NICRP has the ability to provide funding and planning support to interested businesses or agencies. If you know of any organization, agency, or business that may be interested you are more than welcome to share this information. Please contact Amanda Haboush-Deloye at amanda.haboush@unlv.edu if you are interested in talking about funding an event or for any other questions you may have.

6. State ECAC Update

There is nothing to update at this time as there has not been an ECAC meeting since the last SNECAC meeting. An update will be provided at the June meeting.

- The next ECAC meeting is scheduled for June 6, 2017. For more information and meeting location visit their website at: <http://nvecac.com/meeting-information/>

7. 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 requesting information on health services. The parents nor the children have legal documentation. The family moved here from Mexico about 2 years ago. The oldest child is 5 years old and the youngest is 1 year old. Both children need medical evaluations and shots. The 5 year old needs a physical exam and shot records to be able to enroll in school and the 1 year old needs the scheduled vaccinations. Mom is concerned of not finding the assistance they need due to their legal status. She called SNHD to get information. She was told that the exam is \$20 and each shot is \$8. The mom is a stay at home mom and the dad is in between jobs and they are unable to afford the costs, especially for both children, at this time.

*The mom wants to know where she can call or go to request assistance in getting her children's medical needs provided. She is concerned about the questions they may ask due to their legal status. **How can your organization/agency help?***

- **Southern Nevada Health District**, Margarita DeSantos
 - SNHD does not charge for shots, but they do have administration fees.
 - The nurses at SNHD have the ability to waive or take minimal \$ (sliding fee scale) if the families lets them know that they cannot afford the full admin fees. (Families will not be told this over the phone only in person.)
 - Department of Social Services also can help, they have a table near the cashiers at the SNHD and they help enroll families to various programs.
 - Families can take advantage of events held, like SNDH's yearly Baby Bash, where shots are provided free of charge.
- **NICRP**, Amanda Haboush-Deloye
 - NICRP referred the mother in the case study to Volunteers of Medicine. Mother was advised of the 3 month wait list they have.
 - Another low cost option is Guadalupe Medical Center. Guadalupe Medical Center accepts all patients with or without insurance and offers significant discounts to those patients who qualify for the sliding fee scale without insurance.
- **The Children's Cabinet**, Mikaela Cunningham
 - The Children's Cabinet is able to provide assistance through PDG Nevada Ready Funds, as long as the children are U.S citizens and the school they are enrolled in has a PDG classroom.
 - The Children's Cabinet also has a program called Connecting Kids to Coverage, which is able to assist with applying for WIC and Medicaid. The number for the program is (702)488-9558. Flyer is attached.
 - In addition, they also have a food bank and clothing bank families can go to. For these services please contact Mikaela at (702) 408-8131 Monday through Friday between 8:30-4:30 to schedule a time.
- **Clark County School District**, Julie Casper
 - Families can take advantage of the all the Back to School Fairs put on by various organizations throughout the summer that offer free vaccinations as well as other helpful resources.
- **Other suggestions provided**,
 - University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine has a University Pediatric Center at Lied that provide low cost services.

Summary Recommendation:

The case presented some difficulties as there are limited resources available due to the family's legal status. The council, as a whole, was able to come up with various resources. Although, not all resources provided

are free, low cost or sliding scale fee options were provided that can help this and other undocumented families alike.

Upon completing this 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 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 by June 23rd to be able to prep a case for June's meeting.

8. Volunteer for dessert

Margarita DeSantos with the Southern Nevada Health District volunteered to bring dessert to the next meeting.

9. Open for Other Comments/Ideas...

- Nicolet Palmer from Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada Inc. announced their *Nevada Tribal Early Childhood Awareness Month Event* on Saturday, June 17, 2017 at "The Center," located at 401 S Maryland Pkwy, Las Vegas, NV 89101 from 10am-2pm. Informational booth space is available with a raffle donation. For more information please contact the Las Vegas Office at 702-570-7722. Flyer is attached.
- Julie Kasper from CCSD announced that Kathlene Banak has left her position at CCSD and is now the Education Director of Acelero Head Start.
- Mirna Mejia from the Las Vegas Urban League announced that they are in the beginning stages of planning their Back to School Family Day Event. It will be held at their Decatur offices on August 10th, 2017. Event information and flyer will be sent only to their community partners.
- Danielle Holmes from The Children's Cabinet passed out informational flyers on their Connecting Kids to Coverage program that helps Nevada's uninsured families to access healthcare and support services by providing application assistance and connecting families to community resources. Flyer is attached.

All events flyers have been posted on the Nevada Events Calendar and links are provided in the email with the minutes. We are trying this new system to help reduce the size of the emails.

2017 Meetings Dates

June 28, August 23, October 25

Thanks to Danielle Holmes for bring dessert to this meeting and to Margarita DeSantos for volunteering to bring Dessert in June!!!