

Minutes

HEAD START COLLABORATION and EARLY CHILDHOOD SYSTEMS

“Through statewide partnerships, the Nevada Head Start Collaboration and Early Childhood Systems Office enhances relationships, builds systems, and promotes quality comprehensive services to meet the needs of young children and their families.”

Leadership Team Meeting **Wednesday, February 20th, 2013**

Location

**Department of Health and Human Services
Youth Parole Bureau Conference Room, 560 Mill Street, Second Floor
Reno, NV 89502**

Call-in Information

**Dial Toll Free: 888-363-4735
Participation Code: 8293971**

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I. Introductions:

Margot Chappel opened the meeting at 9:00am. Members and guests introduced themselves.

Lead Team Members Present:

Anna Severens, Nevada Department of Education
Karen Stephens, Nevada Department of Education
Brenna Malone, Head Start of Northeastern Nevada
Sally Dutton, Nevada Department of Health and Human Services, Grants Management Unit
Margot Chappel, Nevada Department of Health and Human Services, Head Start Collaboration and Early Childhood Systems Office (HSC & ECSO)
Sherry Waugh, University of Nevada, Reno Early Head Start

Lead Team Members Absent:

Deborah Aquino, Nevada Health Division, Maternal and Child Health
Ann Polakowski, Nevada Department of Child and Family Services

Guests:

Janice Lee, Nevada Technical Assistance Center for Social and Emotional Intervention (TACSEI)

Staff Present:

Carol Gilman, Nevada Department of Health and Human Services, Head Start Collaboration and Early Childhood Systems Office

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II. For possible action: Review and Approve November 14th, 2012, Minutes**

The following changes were noted:

- Item VI – Change second bullet point to read: - Research shows significant changes in teacher interactions and can lead to improvement in child outcomes.
- Item VI – Change last bullet quote to read: - “Be nice and let children talk.”
- Item VII – Change second bullet wording to read: - Selected because Nevada has more than one Early Head Start model and ...

Motion:

- Sally Dutton motioned to approve the minutes with these changes.
- Karen Stephens seconded the motion.
- Brenna Malone abstained.
- The remaining Lead Team members approved the motion.
- There were no oppositions.

III. For possible action: Review Partnership Committee Meeting Survey Results and Provide Recommendations**

- Partnership Committee Status and Moving Forward

Survey Results Discussion and Feedback:

- Comments were helpful.
- Seventeen people completed the survey.
- Need to clarify meaning of proxy.
- Question #2 (Indicating what members find the most useful about the meetings): - Highest rankings for Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council updates, Reports on Early Childhood Systems efforts and progress, and Presentations from programs that serve young children.
- Question # 1 (Rate the value of the meetings) and # 7 (Rate the leadership of the meetings) – Would like more feedback on the rating of 2.

Current Status of Partnership Committee:

- There has been low attendance at the 2012 meetings.
- Committee does not have decision making authority.
- Head Start Act requires that the HSCO be advised of Head Start needs but does not require a Partnership Committee.
- Should the Partnership Committee continue to meet?

Discussion took place to determine future status of Partnership Committee:

- Margot Chappel made the following recommendation:
 - Hold open forum early childhood meetings (instead of the Partnership Committee) – All members of the early childhood community would be welcome to discuss early childhood issues. (Partnership Committee members, Local Advisory Councils, others).
 - Not an official committee, no public meetings.
 - Possibly hold meetings at video conference sites two to three times a year.
 - Sherry Waugh asked what the relationship would be between the ECAC and Lead Team if the Partnership Committee no longer was in existence.

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- Margot Chappel stated that perhaps the Lead Team could be a workgroup or sub-committee of the ECAC that would make recommendations specific to Head Start needs.

Head Start Needs to Keep in Mind:

- There needs to be a voice for Head Start. Head Start and Head Start Association's main priority is to make sure that communities know relevance of Head Start.
- Challenging to communicate relevance and build relationship with state partners about Head Start.
- Brenna Malone stated the importance of making discussions and collaboration intentional so that information and knowledge about programs and projects can be shared.
- Support to link Head Start with Local ECACs and State ECAC.
- Need for alignment and more participation.
- Head Start programs need to know about state and national level initiatives that may impact programs. (Example: Governor's plan to expand State Pre-K programs and President's plan that highlights a comprehensive early childhood system. How would these impact programs?)

Margot Chappel discussed updates and status of funding and priorities of the HSC & ECS Office.

- Currently office manages Head Start Collaboration, Early Childhood Advisory Council, and Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems grants.
- Funding is uncertain after December 2013.
 - ECCS funding should be available but have not received guidance at this time.
 - HSCO funding is \$125,000.00 per year, which is not enough to continue providing the level of support currently provided.

Early Childhood Advisory Council

- Funding ends December 31st, 2013.
- Possibly hold meetings via video conference instead of face to face.
- Head Start representation is on Council.
- **2013 Legislature – AB 79 Components**
 - Proposes that the Early Childhood Advisory Council (ECAC) be in statute.
 - Charges Council with creating and maintaining school readiness definition.
 - Adds two new members – representation from North and South non-profit organizations.
 - Enables ECAC to accept gifts, grants and donations.
 - There is no fiscal note for this bill.
 - Location of where the ECAC will be housed – could continue in Department of Health and Human Services, move under the Governor's Office or transfer to the Nevada Department of Education.
 - Possibility to use Head Start Collaboration Office grant funds towards ECAC.
 - The ECAC can continue to meet without funding.
- **Kindergarten Inventory of Development Statewide (KIDS)**
 - Brenna Malone stated she was not aware of Letter of Interest contents and the impact this may have to her community. Would like to have more information to be able to share this.
 - Elko County kindergarten teachers have time concerns around implementing the assessment.

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- Head Start grantees are available as a resource to provide training or even provide assessments since they are familiar with Teaching Strategies Gold.

Lead Team

- Continue as the decision-making body for Head Start specific priorities.

Next Steps:

- Sequestration is looming. The Lead Team recommended waiting until March 1st to decide whether the Partnership Committee should happen.
- Margot Chappel would send out an e-vote to ask the Lead Team to decide to hold the next Partnership Committee Meeting in March or postpone until June. (If the group decides to postpone the meeting until June, more information would be available on Nevada Legislature proposals and sequestration status.)

No motion was made to restructure or change the status of the Partnership Committee.

IV. For possible action: Review Part B Office MOU and Provide Recommendations**

No additional comments noted.

Next Steps:

Anna Severens will request feedback from Sherry Halley and forward to Rorie Fitzpatrick.

- Sally Dutton motioned to approve the MOU and recommend forwarding document to the Nevada Department of Education for approval.
- Brenna Malone seconded the motion.
- All members were in favor.
- There were no oppositions or abstentions.

V. Update on ECAC projects – Margot Chappel

KIDS (Kindergarten Inventory of Development Statewide):

- Pilot project Letter of Interest is almost ready for Governor's approval and will be submitted to the Nevada Department of Education and Department of Health and Human Services for signatures then will be sent out. Margot will let the Nevada Head Start Association know when the letter goes out.
 - Letter will determine level of interest – quantity of kindergarteners and teachers.
- Brenna Malone asked if the charter schools are included to receive the Letter of Interest. That is unknown and if so this would go to the Charter School Superintendent Steve Canaverro.
- Updates:
 - Funding will not be provided to cover training expenses. (Travel, substitutes, etc.)
 - Train the trainer model will save the state money. Training will be integrated into existing training venues for both early childhood and kindergarten teachers.
- Silver State KIDS Implementation plan will be completed by the end of the month.

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BUILD Initiative:

- Early Childhood Advisory Council member is working to secure private funding.

Legislative Updates: Early Childhood Bills

- AB 79 proposes to establish the Early Childhood Advisory Council in to statute.
- AB 109 proposes to increase teacher training hours and director qualifications.
- Governor's budget calls for more funding to support full day kindergarten and English Language Learner (ELL) programs. Possibility of blending ELL and Pre-K funding with current funding streams, making sure that language is aligned.
- Presentation to Legislative Council on Education Committee – Date to be determined. Possibly March 13th. Mike Willden and Rorie Fitzpatrick would likely speak on behalf of Margot Chappel and Anna Severens on early childhood issues.
- Discussion continues to determine which department to house state early childhood programs. (Department of Health and Human Services or Department of Education, other?)

Governor's Office Update:

- No updates at this time.

Upcoming Meetings:

- State Head Start Collaboration Director's and Training and Technical Assistance Meeting will take place March 11th-12th in Washington, D.C. Margot Chappel will attend.
- National Governor's Association Meeting will take place on March 14th-15th. The Nevada team to participate includes Margot Chappel, Anna Severens (Nevada Department of Education), Judy Osgood (Governor's Office), Cindy Sharp (Nevada Department of Education), and Chellie Smith (Southern Nevada Regional Professional Development Center).

VI. Head Start Association Update – Brenna Malone

- Head Start of Northeastern Nevada was reviewed in December.
- Requested trainings with the National Center for Quality Teaching and Learning and waiting to hear back from the Region IX Office on the approved dates and training topics.
- December meeting included the Bridges Out of Poverty training.
- Quality Rating and Improvement System – Teresa Oster is working with Patti Oya to provide a crosswalk that shows how Head Start programs would not have to provide documentation for the quality indicators at the five star level.
- Dual Language Learner trainings continue.
- All grantees have completed school readiness goals.
- Make sure to invite who needs to be on school readiness committees.

- Fatherhood and Families Conference – Margot Chappel
 - Conference will take place in Las Vegas in February 2014.
 - Angela Triche from Sunrise Children's Early Head Start and Margot Chappel are participating in planning meetings. Everyone is invited to participate. Let Margot know if you would like to participate and she will forward the information.
 - Economic Impact Study showed that Nevada has one of the highest percentages of single fathers.

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VII. T/TA Update - Teresa Oster

Teresa Oster was not in attendance to provide an update.

VIII. Home Visiting Update – Deborah Aquino

Deborah Aquino was not in attendance to provide an update.

IX. Technical Assistance Center for Social Emotional Interventions (TACSEI) Update –Janice Lee

Grant/Funding Opportunities:

- Office of Early Care and Education
 - Different domains are required to be addressed.
 - Focus is on professional development needs.
 - Partner with the UNR Co-Operative Extension.
- Fund for Healthy Nevada
 - Positive Behavior Supports Nevada (participating programs that receive funding – Positive Behavior Supports N, Positive Behavior Supports – UNR, UNLV Center for Autism
 - Department of Health and Human Services conducted a needs assessment. Results showed that highest need was in respite care which will receive 50% of funding and positive behavior support funding was decreased. Consequences of needs assessment and smaller amount of funding – all three positive behavior supports programs will apply together to share funding.
 - Grant application will describe how funding would be used to support coaches since mentoring and coaching are vital to implementing the program. National Center on Quality Teaching and Learning has research that shows the link between mentoring and coaching and high quality experiences for children. Information from participating sites will also be used to show the importance of supporting this project.
- Healthy Nevada – 0-18 years of age – Not best fit

Please forward funding and grant opportunities to Janice. TACSEI Lead Team continues to discuss and seek funding opportunities.

Master Cadre Trainings:

- Typically hold trainings once a month in Las Vegas.
- Train the Trainer event in Reno during November – Participants included staff from Early Childhood Mental Health, Co-Operative Extension, The Children’s Cabinet, and local child care center directors.

Coaches Trainings:

- Video conference training took place in the North and connected to Elko. Video conference did not work in Elko.
- Head Start of Northeastern Nevada will travel to Florida to present during the TACSEI conference.

They are receiving more requests for trainings and creating more consistent module names.

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Trainings are listed on the website.

Demonstration Sites:

- There are five demonstration sites and eleven classrooms.
- Fall data is available and will be uploaded on to the website when completed.
- Using Ages and Stages Questionnaire.
- Request for information from Anna Severens – Are the early care special education classes self-contained or inclusive? Janice will find out.

X. Expanding Opportunities Update - Margot Chappel

- Adopted as a workgroup of the ECAC.
- Professional Development workgroup merged with the statewide Higher Education/Professional Development Workgroup.
- The ECAC will have a table at the Nevada AEYC Conference and will include Expanding Opportunities information.

XI. Crosswalk Alignment Update – Anna Severens

- Draft continues to be worked on that aligns pre-k with the common core state standards.
- Conversations continue with Lynette MacFarlane and feedback from the NGA Conference will be used as well.
- The Pre-K Standards Office will provide a presentation of the document at the Nevada AEYC and Mega Conferences and at the Indian Education Summit.

Infant Toddler Guidelines:

- Still in draft form.
- Not sure who is working on this – Tina Springmeyer, Joanne Everts?
- Add this as an agenda item for the May Lead Team meeting – if HSCO allocation of \$25,000.00 is still needed to support the completion of this project or if funding may be used towards TSG train the trainer instead. (2012 Budget note: Diane Branson’s salary needs to be drawn down from this grant category. Janice Lee will follow-up with Diane.)

Continued conversation around TSG:

- Brenna Malone stated Head Start of Northeastern Nevada can share information on school readiness goals and how they align. Head Start standards are aligned with the common core. They are also a resource for teachers on how to use TSG.
- Acelero may begin using Early Learning Scales instead of TSG. All other Head Start programs in the state use TSG.
- Full day kindergarten classes should participate as part of the KIDS pilot. Research on the quality of full day kindergarten is not available.

XII. Other Updates as Indicated

May Lead Team Agenda Items:

- Discuss HSCO funding allocation for the Infant Toddler guidelines – if this still will be used or use towards TSG train the trainer.

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XIII. For possible action: Confirm March 20th, 2013 Partnership Committee Agenda**

No action was taken. Lead Team members will vote by email to decide if Partnership Committee meeting will take place in March.

XIV. For possible action: Develop 2013 Head Start Fact Sheet**

Workgroup met after meeting to work on Fact Sheet.

XV. Public Comment

No public comment.

XVI. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 11:09am.