

Abstract

Project Title: Nevada PDG B-5: Building a Comprehensive Early Childhood System

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Proposal: Nevada will use the opportunity provided by the Preschool Development Grant Birth through Five (PDG B-5) to align, coordinate, and advocate for greatly improved practices and services for Nevada's vulnerable and underserved children and families.

This project will commence with a needs assessment and a revision of the Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council's (NECAC) Strategic Plan 2018-2021. We will use our needs assessment to gauge the needs of each district/community and provide opportunities for communities to improve their service alignment and access through development or improvement of local school and community services.

Additionally, we will maximize parental choice and knowledge by developing an integrated data system and consumer website that will both gather data from providers, partners, and programs as well as organize and deliver data online in order to expand parental choice and knowledge of existing programs. We will develop a communication plan and tools to better inform communities about the status, availability, and access to high-quality early childhood services and supports.

We will share best practices by greatly improving the alignment of birth through age five learning and development standards, program quality standards, and professional workforce standards. Furthermore, we will explore financing options to greatly improve and sustain funding to support the infrastructure necessary for high quality early childhood providers, practices, and services such as increased educational requirements and wages reflective of the skills and abilities necessary to implement higher standards.

Through the efforts described above, we will be positioned to improve overall quality of early childhood providers, practices, and services through integrated and shared data, improving alignment, expanding high-quality services based on community need, advocating for funding increases, and communicating our progress and outcomes to a large audience of stakeholders.