

BRIAN SANDOVAL
Governor



RICHARD WHITLEY, MS
Director

STEVE H. FISHER
Administrator

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF WELFARE AND SUPPORTIVE SERVICES

1470 College Parkway
Carson City, NV, 89706
Telephone (775) 684-0500 • Fax (775) 684-0614
<http://dwss.nv.gov>

**NEVADA STATE DIVISION OF WELFARE & SUPPORTIVE SERVICES
PUBLIC HEARING TO ADOPT the CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT STATE
PLAN for 2019-2021**

The public hearing to adopt the Child Care and Development State Plan for 2019-2021 was brought to order by Steve Fisher, Administrator of the Division of Welfare & supportive Services, at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 27, 2018.

This meeting was video-conferenced between the Division of Welfare and Supportive Services, Professional Development Center, 701 N. Rancho Drive, Training Room 5, Las Vegas, Nevada and the Division of Welfare and Supportive Services, Central Office, 1470 College Parkway, Room 149, Carson City, Nevada and teleconferenced between both locations and available to the public.

STAFF PRESENT IN THE NORTH:

Steve Fisher, Administrator, DWSS
Nova Murray, Deputy Administrator, Field Operations Support
Christell Askew, Chief, Child Care Development Program (CCDP)
Alex Pennington, Program Specialist, DWSS, CCDP
Millie Cady, Program Specialist, DWSS, CCDP
Kelly O'Meara, Executive Asst.

STAFF PRESENT IN THE SOUTH

None

GUESTS PRESENT:

North:

Cindy Johnson, Nevada Dept. of Education
Marty Elquist, Children's Cabinet

South

Jennifer Butler, Urban League
Mary Regan, Urban League

"Working for the Welfare of ALL Nevadans"

Public Hearing to Adopt the Child Care and Development State Plan for 2019-2021

Mr. Fisher opened the public hearing at 1:00 p.m., explaining how the hearing would proceed and that this public hearing had been noticed in accordance with the Open Meeting Law and posted on the Division's website. All present were requested to sign in and provide their e-mail addresses to be included on the Division's mailing list.

Mr. Fisher invited Christell Askew, Chief of Child Care to present the items on the agenda.

I. BRIGANCE 3 SCREENING:

Christell Askew explained that the Brigance III screening tool has been selected as Nevada's kindergarten entry assessment. The Child Care and Development Program began administering the Brigance III screening tool to children receiving subsidy, with parent's permission, effective March 2018.

Effective July 2018, the Brigance III screener will be added to Nevada's Silver State Stars Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) as required criteria. The results of the screening are shared with the parent or guardian along with information on how to understand the results and where to go if the screening results indicate that a more formal assessment is necessary.

Mr. Fisher invited public comment in South.
There was none.

Mr. Fisher invited public comment in the North.
There was none.

II. Christell Askew continued with the second item for consideration; developing a process to prevent suspension and expulsion in early child care settings.

Ms. Askew explained that the Child Care and Development Program (CCDP) is currently working on developing a process to prevent suspension and expulsion in early child care settings that serve CCDP families.

Our goal is to develop a policy that includes a robust plan for supporting providers when developing a survey to obtain feedback from providers statewide to learn about what they perceive as challenging behaviors, to better understand their current approaches, and to identify what training and resources they might find useful.

Additionally, the program has been collaborating with the Technical Assistance Center for Social Emotional Intervention (TACSEI) to explore the use of TACSEI training and technical assistance in establishing a support system for providers.

Mr. Fisher invited public comment in the South.

Ms. Jennifer Butler of the Urban League stated that she appreciated the addition of this item and believed it was an important improvement.

Public Hearing to Adopt the Child Care and Development State Plan for 2019-2021

Mr. Fisher invited public comment in the North.

Ms. Cindy Johnson of the Nevada Department of Education stated that the Suspension and Expulsion item was added as an indicator into the QRIS but is not required.

Ms. Askew further provided an update on the Market Rate Survey (MRS), explaining that every three years, when the CCDP State Plan is due to be submitted to the Administration for Children and Families, the program must conduct a statistically valid and reliable Market Rate Survey (MRS) reflecting variations in the price to parents of child care services by geographic area, type of provider, and age of child.

The results of our 2018 Market Rate Survey (MRS) have been published on the Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council (ECAC) website for review by the public.

Mr. Fisher invited public comment in the South:
There was none.

Mr. Fisher invited public comment in the North:
There was none.

Hearing no further comments, Mr. Fisher, on behalf of the Director of the Department of Health and Human Services, adopted the changes to the state plan, effective October 1, 2018.

Hearing no further public comment, Mr. Fisher thanked those in attendance for their input and pronounced the meeting closed.

The Public Hearing concluded at 1:15 pm.