

Steve Sisolak  
Governor



Richard Whitley, MS  
Director

# DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

DIVISION OF CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES  
*Helping people. It's who we are and what we do.*



Ross Armstrong  
Administrator

---

## NEVADA COALITION TO PREVENT THE COMMERCIAL SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN MEETING MINUTES

**DATE:** June 15, 2021, 10:00 am

**LOCATION:**

Division of Child and Family Services  
4126 Technology Way, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Carson City, Nevada 89706

**MEETING ACCESS:** Join the meeting: [Click Here to Join Meeting](#)

Call in number: 1-775-321-6111 Phone Conference ID: 951 053 617#

### 1. Call to Order, Roll Call, Establish Quorum

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m. by Ross Armstrong.

**Members Present:** Ross Armstrong, Eileen Hough, Justice Nancy Saitta, Brigid Duffy, Janice Wolf, Melissa Holland, Brennan Paterson, Amy Ayoub, Jessica Halling, Abbie Frierson, Cara Paoli, Assemblywoman Daniele Monroe-Moreno

**Members Absent:** Nicole Reilly, Pauline Salla Smith, Eboni Washington, Electra Skrzydlewski (Liaison)

**Guests:** Jennifer Spencer, Ali Banister, Mike Allerdycy, Jennie Ballou, Brenda Sandquist, Dylan Nall, Elyne Greene, Janice Wolf, Shannon McCoy, Taylor Hendrickson, Kim Yaeger, Jeremy Wilson, Brittany Hopballe

**DCFS Staff Members Present:** Beverly Brown, Kathryn Roose, Esther Rodriguez-Brown, Hayley Jarolimek, Laurie Jackson, Elvira Saldana

Roll call was taken, and it was determined a quorum of the Nevada Coalition to Prevent the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children was present.

### 2. Public Comment

Eileen Hough stated Director Richard Whitley has put out a call to action for all state agency staff to use an equity lens when looking at systems, policies, and practices. He has asked for staff to be thoughtful and ensure the people served are treated with dignity and respect, and everyone feels included. Eileen Hough requested for each of the subcommittees to discuss how and if they might

consider changing some of the CSEC material wording for efforts to be inclusive and non-biased in their August meeting. After the committees review the materials provided, Eileen would like an agenda item to be placed on the September meeting agenda to have a full discussion.

Ross Armstrong replied it can be added to the next meeting agenda and to please provide the material to Esther Rodriguez-Brown and Hayley Jarolimek for dissemination to the committee chairs.

Amy Ayoub commented she met a group named Puentes. Their mission statement is to help anti trafficking agencies, groups, advocates to be culturally aware in every area. They have representatives for the LGBTQ community, Asian, African American, and Latino. Amy Ayoub offered to connect Eileen Hough with them.

### **3. For Discussion and Possible Action: Approval March 16, 2021 meeting minutes**

Ross Armstrong asked if there were any edits or changes to the minutes. No recommendations were made.

**Action:** A motion was made by Brennan Paterson to approve the minutes, seconded by Justice Nancy Saitta, and carried to approve the meeting minutes of March 16, 2021.

### **4. For Information Only: Wellspring Living's Receiving Hope Center Presentation**

Esther Rodriguez-Brown informed Taylor Hendrickson is the Clinical Director for one of the few receiving centers in the country. There are two centers, one in Washington and one in Georgia.

Taylor Hendrickson stated she is the Clinical Manager and Training Instructor for Wellspring Living which is in Atlanta, Georgia. Their mission is to transform the lives of those at risk or victimized by sexual exploitation. The mission is accomplished through different programs. They have three residential programs, two youth and one women's. All services are in house. They also have Community Based Programs and Graduate Services. The receiving center serves individuals ages 12-17. The Receiving Hope Center's goal is to serve trafficked youth through identification, stabilization, and placement. They serve boys and transgender youth. Care is up to 90 days. All services are individualized. The center provides all assessments onsite, academic services, individual, group, and expressive therapy, life skills and fitness classes.

Taylor Hendrickson's connection was lost. The presentation will be provided to the Coalition.

### **5. For Discussion and Possible Action: Review and Approval of updated CSEC Coalition Bylaws**

Agenda item #5, Review and Approval of updated CSEC Coalition Bylaws was tabled.

### **6. For Discussion and Possible Action: Subcommittee Updates**

- Local Task Force

Elynn Greene stated the committee has been putting together training materials as well as training materials for self-care. Documents have been placed in a Google Drive.

Ross Armstrong stated he met with Nicole Reilly and she requested the Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS) District map to help with determining where there are likely organizations where a

task force does not exist and if there are organizations which could be the central hub for the task force.

- External Engagement

Jessica Halling reported the committee is reviewing assessments. At the last meeting, they arrived at the conclusion the NRIT (Nevada Rapid Indicator Tool) is a good identifier and is being used in the state. The CASII (Child and Adolescent Service Intensity Instrument) and CANS (Nevada Adolescent Needs and Strengths) were reviewed. The committee is waiting to hear from Holly Gibbs at Dignity to go over the PEARR (Provide Privacy Educate Ask Respect and Respond) Assessment. The committee's next step is to identify which assessment, the CASII, CANS, or PEARR, is more in depth than the NRIT.

Eileen Hough stated parts of the assessment the committee is looking at about CANS is its billability, meaning it is not currently Medicaid billable.

Jessica Halling clarified the CANS is billable, however in child welfare systems they must do both the CANS and CASII. Both cannot be billed.

Ross Armstrong commented the Nevada Association of Juvenile Justice Administrators sent out a poll to their county probation offices to see who is using the NRIT and there were a lot that were not using it yet.

Jessica Halling asked if they did move forward with the NRIT if there is a way as a state to collect data across organizations.

Ross Armstrong stated it is a great point and it would be good for the Children's Commission to help with.

- Funding, Data & Sustainability

Abbie Frierson stated the subcommittee has made good progress. They took time to come up with a game plan where the database would live. Future efforts will be spent figuring out how it will be funded. Research was completed on different databases across the country and it was presented to the subcommittee. They are landing at the best place for the database to live is at a university.

Cara Paoli added they had a motion to use the SAC (Statistical Analysis Center) at UNLV. At the next meeting they have an agenda item to discuss the logistics to get data into SAC. The dissemination of the data sharing agreement was also reviewed.

Esther Rodriguez-Brown stated Hayley Jarolimek and herself met with the Coordinator from the Homeless Management Information System. An option is to utilize a database that is already up and running rather than create something from scratch.

Hayley Jarolimek stated they will continue to get information for the data subcommittee related to the funding piece and speak with SAC.

## **7. For Discussion and Possible Action: Review and approval of modifications proposed for subcommittee charters**

Esther Rodriguez-Brown stated when the charts were created, the members of the subcommittees and timelines were included. Anytime a subcommittee member wanted to no longer be a part of the subcommittee, they had to be voted out and it creates a challenge. If the roster is removed from the charts, it would not require the member to be voted out. Removing the timelines will allow more flexibility if the deadline has to be pushed back if it cannot be met.

**Action:** A motion was made by Ross Armstrong to remove the names and specific timeframes from the subcommittee charters and maintain the information in a different way, seconded by Justice Nancy Saitta. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **8. For Discussion and Possible Action: Review and approval of letter to statewide agencies regarding mandatory cross-reporting obligation per NRS 432C**

Brigid Duffy stated information started coming out during their task force meeting. It appeared there was a disconnect in community partners understanding child welfare agency intakes and hotlines accept reports where there is a person not responsible for the child's welfare as a perpetrator of sexual exploitation. Brigid Duffy suggested everyone in the state understand NRS 432C exists and provide training on mandated reporting requirements. A memo was drafted to distribute to the Nevada Sheriffs' and Chiefs' Association, Nevada Association of Juvenile Justice Administrators (NAJJA), and Nevada Department of Education.

**Action:** A motion was made by Brigid Duffy to approve the memo to be distributed to the identified agencies, seconded by Janice Wolf. The motion passed unanimously.

Melissa Holland asked if sending the memo to hospitals was mentioned.

Ross Armstrong replied hospitals can be added. The memo can be sent to all health facility types through partners at the Bureau of Health Care Quality and Compliance.

Justice Nancy Saitta requested this information be provided at the Nevada Children's Commission meeting on Friday.

#### **9. For Possible Action: CSEC Legislative Updates**

- SB 274

Ross Armstrong stated SB 274 allows DCFS to come up with licensure type of receiving centers to have an intake facility which is not detention. The bill also modified some of the requirements, what a child welfare agency does when they receive a report of CSEC, and it extended out the deadline for complete removal of CSEC youth from juvenile justice facilities as receiving centers are set up. One item originally addressed in the bill and pushed out is how to handle involuntary admissions.

Brigid Duffy stated the implementation date on the non-ability to use juvenile justice services was pushed out until the infrastructure can be built up. There was also clarifying language in 432C to model what they are doing now that it has been in practice since the 2019 passage.

Abbie Frierson commented she liked the encouragement of the use of child advocacy centers for the initial response to understand the children's situation.

Cara Paoli asked if they have pursued Nevada Medicaid contracting with the Wellspring Living facility.

Esther Rodriguez-Brown replied one of the goals is to keep children in state.

Cara Paoli asked if for receiving centers they have until July 2023.

Janice Wolf asked if anyone has talked to them about opening a parallel facility here in the state.

Ross Armstrong stated the important thing to know about SB 274 and receiving centers is the first step is for DCFS to adopt the administrative regulations that will allow licensing. The date of July 2023 is a deadline however it can be completed before. DCFS will have to hold a public workshop on what the licensing requirements will look like, draft the formal regulations with the Legislative Counsel Bureau, have a public hearing, and stand up the licensing process for the receiving centers.

- AB 143

Ross Armstrong informed AB 143 was a bill from Assemblywoman Krasner which establishes a statewide coalition to address human trafficking. It focuses on the adult population. It requires one of the DCFS Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Compensation employees to be a Human Trafficking Specialist. The individual will be trained to work with both children and adults. The bill also requires for there to be an online resource with all the services to address the needs of human trafficking victims.

- AB 113

Ross Armstrong stated AB 113 increased the limitation of time for the prosecution of sex trafficking.

Esther Rodriguez-Brown asked if it is only for traffickers and not for the demand for John's.

Ross Armstrong replied the crime of sex trafficking must be found in the complaint file within six years of the commission of the offense. It is an offense linked to the trafficker and not the victim.

Esther Rodriguez-Brown clarified she was referring to the men who buy sex.

Ross Armstrong replied it is not based on the buyer. There are no changes in terms of the demand side.

- AB 253

Ross Armstrong stated AB 253 relates to public meetings and how it allows meetings to be electronic under certain circumstances. At the next meeting, Deputy Attorney General Jennifer Spencer can provide a brief training on the updates to Open Meeting Law.

Jennifer Spencer offered to provide an overview. Jennifer Spencer stated AB 253 allows for open meetings to include use of a remote technology system. Virtual only meetings can be conducted if the public body wishes to if certain requirements are met. Meetings can be in person or a combination of remote and in person. The definition of remote technology system includes teleconference, video conference, and it accounts for attending, participating, voting, or taking any other action in a meeting. If the body was to decide to only have a meeting by virtual means, the

agenda must be clear at the top indicating it is only by virtual attendance. In addition there should be a notice at the top of the agenda indicating how a member of the public can use the system to hear and observe the meeting, participate by telephone and provide live public comment or if it is authorized by the public body beforehand a prerecorded public comment. The meeting notices must have the name, contact information, and a business address for the person who the public would request meeting materials from. The agenda must also include where the meeting material can be obtained online. If the meeting has no physical location, the public notice must be posted online no later than 9:00 a.m. on the third working day before the meeting is held. NRS 241.020, Section 11 states the public body must have an internet website to post the agenda and supporting documents. The public body does not have to address technical issues for members of the public. If all members of the public body are required to be elected officials, there must be a physical location for the meeting. If a member is attending remotely, the public must be able to hear and observe them. Members are not able to attend by phone or have their cameras turned off.

#### **10. For Information Only: DCFS Grant Update**

Kathryn Roose reported there have been several grants come out from the Department of Justice. DCFS has elected to write a grant on improving outcomes for child and youth victims of human trafficking. The award is 1.5 million dollars. Two grants are being awarded. The deadline to submit is June 29<sup>th</sup>. The grant will be aligned with the Coalition's strategic plan to try to bring in some resources to move the work of the Coalition forward. If anyone is interested in seeing drafts or contributing to the draft, please reach out to Kathryn Roose.

Eileen Hough asked if there is priority within health equity focus.

Kathryn Roose replied there are priorities around poverty.

Eileen Hough stated she would send resources regarding inclusive language.

#### **11. For Possible Action: Confirm Next Meeting- September 21, 2021, 10:00am-12:00pm (or until adjourned)**

Ross Armstrong stated the next meeting will be Tuesday, September 21, 2021.

#### **12. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

#### **13. Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn was made by Cara Paoli, seconded by Brigid Duffy and carried to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 11:19 a.m.