



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

DIVISION OF CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES
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PUBLIC NOTICE

NEVADA COALITION TO PREVENT THE COMMERCIAL SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN: LEGISLATIVE SUBCOMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, September 8, 2022

TIME: 10:00 am – 11:30 am (or until adjournment)

VIDEO CONFERENCE: [Click here to join meeting](#)

TELECONFERENCE: 1-775-321-6111 CONFERENCE

ID:984349254#

Supporting materials may be obtained online at

<https://dcfs.nv.gov/Programs/CWS/CSEC/2022MeetingsAndAgendas/>

Members of the public may hear and observe the meeting, and participate in the meeting by video, phone or in person. Members of the public may also provide live public comment during the public comment sections of the agenda. If members of the public desire to provide a pre-recorded public comment for a meeting, it must first be authorized before the meeting by the public body.

Reasonable efforts will be made to ensure that all attendees/public can hear or observe the members of the body, so it is recommended that members keep their cameras on through the meeting, unless there are technical difficulties or a member can only appear by phone during the meeting.

- *Items may be taken out of order, may be combined for consideration by the public body, and/or may be pulled or removed from the agenda at any time to accomplish business in the most efficient manner.*
- *“For Information” items are informal in nature and may include discussion and ideas*
- *“For Possible Action” items may be voted on or approved by members of the commission.*

MINUTES

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Members Present: Brigid Duffy, Cara Paoli, Elynne Greene, Sara Stephan, Joseph Saiz, Abigail Frierson, Brittany Hopballe, Sgt. Flores, Kimberly Yeager, Nicole Reilly, Samantha Elkins, Dr. Tiffany Tyler-Garner, Katie Ryan, Makaya Swain, Christina Vella, Lauren Boitel

Members Present: Jennifer Spencer, Jessica Cisneros, Jason Guinnaso, DaShun Jackson, Annie Lobert, Sharon Anderson,

2. Public Comment and Discussion *(Action may not be taken on any matter brought up under this agenda item until scheduled on an agenda for a later meeting)*

There was no public comment.

3. For Discussion and Possible Action: Approval of July 14, 2022 minutes

ACTION: Cara Paoli motioned to approve the minutes as submitted, motioned was seconded by Elynne Greene. No objections, no abstentions, motion passed.

No further discussion on this item.

4. For Discussion and Possible Action: Interim committee updates from Co-Chairs

Brigid Duffy informed the members that the Health and Human Services and the Judiciary policy analysts both informed Brigid that the chairs would like to bring forth a BDR for the items presented during the interim committee meetings. Brigid was also asked to be present for several questions that were asked. She added that next time she will need someone to support her in this process given her role as a Deputy DA. The BDR for the recommendation of expanding the testimony by alternative means to all victims of sex trafficking was not voted on. It was potentially opposed because it was being presented by Brigid and not by a group of advocates of child victims of sex trafficking. Those opposing the BDR were in the field of legal defendants and raised concerns about opening up different avenues for other areas of the law for child victims to not have to testify. She added that because it did not go through, lobbyists that attend these meetings might be interested in finding a sponsor. The required screening recommendation did go through. The language was not finalized, and some feedback was provided around fiscal costs. Brigid added that although she informed them that the NRIT is currently being used she did not present it in a manner that implied it was the final choice. There is still the ability to decide as a state what the best tool to use without it having a fiscal impact. Health and Human Services took four areas of recommendations, one being the required training, including the school district training, the others being the creation of multidisciplinary teams in statute, the creation of the executive committee and adding additional crimes to the Safe Harbor law.

Joe Saiz asked if the subcommittee has any influence on bringing forward any language around the NRIT. In discussing with his local CSEC taskforce, concerns were brought up with the validity of the NRIT and calling it a ‘valid screening tool.’

Brigid Duffy stated that her recommendation is to keep it broad in statute because it is easiest down the line as we do not know if jurisdictions will later choose to use something different.

Esther Rodriguez-Brown agreed with Brigid and added that if we move forward with keeping it general, it would leave the option of validating the NRIT down the line. Esther informed Brigid that she can attend and support in future hearings.

Brigid Stated that increasing penalties for buyers also did not get too far as it presents a lot of controversy.

Katie Ryan asked which other recommendation discussed earlier did not get through.

Brigid Duffy informed her that it was the recommendation around child sex trafficking victims having the ability to testify by alternative means.

Katie Ryan stated that their policy council could take a look at this area and her and Lauren are willing to do anything to help.

No further discussion on this item.

5. For Discussion and Possible Action: Future agenda items

Brigid Duffy opened this agenda item for discussion as currently there may not be much else to tackle until the BDR’s come out.

Esther Rodriguez-Brown informed that Makaya Swain, Lauren Boitel and Christina Vela joined the meeting.

Esther Rodriguez-Brown also asked the group what their thoughts were on the direction the subcommittee should take.

Jessica Freeman agreed that currently it does not look like there is anything this subcommittee can work on.

Brigid Duffy agreed and added that the work can be paused until the BDR's are released. She confirmed that she or Sara Stephan will present these updates at the next Coalition meeting.

No further discussion on this meeting.

6. For Information Only: Next Meeting: October 13, 2022 from 10:00am-11:30am (or until adjournment)

Brigid Duffy informed the group that the next meeting date is pending based on discussion in previous agenda item.

No further discussion on this item.

7. Final Public Comment and Discussion *(Action may not be taken on any matter brought up under this agenda item until scheduled on an agenda for a later meeting)*

Cara Paoli asked if there will be any updates on the receiving center and requests for funding at the next Coalition meeting.

Esther Rodriguez-Brown stated that currently NACs and regulations are being wrapped up, there will be a brief update.

Jessica Freeman confirmed that there are no updates on funding, but all the current work's status will be updated at the Coalition meeting.

Cara Paoli asked about the funding committee meetings.

Esther Rodriguez-Brown stated that there have been one or two meetings, but she has not received any other invitations. She will follow-up.

Cara Paoli asked that this topic be highlighted as the sense of urgency is high because of how much money will be needed to fund potentially two sites; Washoe and Clark. DCFS received ARPA money through the last interim finance committee, so it would be great to know if this can be used to fund the receiving center.

Jessica Freeman stated that there have been discussions on the potential of using the ARPA funds for the receiving center, but she has not received confirmation of that being decided. With the receiving center not being a long-term stay, conversations need to start around housing options.

Cara Paoli reiterated the urgency behind the timeframe and high costs given that although it is a short-term stay, it is 24-hour staffing. She added that maybe a formal request to DCFS can be made to use ARPA funds for the receiving center.

Jessica Freeman stated that the request can be made for a meeting at the administrative level to discuss this further. She added that the process thus far has been cumbersome because of how new and different the receiving center will be compared to what we currently have. The hybrid model entails a lot of behind the scenes work to ensure that the licensing and regulation aspects are appropriately designated.

Esther Rodriguez-Brown stated that a subcommittee for the receiving center work can be created to

discuss with greater detail as the work is done. She invited anyone interested to email her.

Cara Paoli stated that DHHS and Medicaid will need to be represented in this work. In 10 months', time, doors will need to be opened and the timeframe is concerning given all the work and training needed for implementation.

Brigid Duffy stated that it's important to keep in mind that the receiving center will probably not be a fit for everyone. The statute requires the housing piece which might be easier to get started than the receiving center.

Jessica Freeman stated that these conversations will get started soon and include DCFS licensing groups, with the biggest focus being on the feasibility of getting the receiving center licensed and open on time.

Cara Paoli stated that on an-going RFP for specialized foster care has yielded no results in Washoe in the past 8 months. Their shelters and specialized foster care homes are either full or not accepting children, so the need is dire.

Brigid Duffy agreed in that the deadline will probably not be met, and she foresees this conversation being had in the legislature. In Clark County, there is active work with providers to get two programs up and running and the biggest challenge is staffing.

Brigid Duffy reminded the group that action cannot be taken on this item however the recommendation can be made that this topic be added to the agenda for the Coalition meeting on September 20, 2022.

8. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned by Brigid Duffy.