

# NEVADA CHILDREN'S COMMISSION

## Child Welfare Subcommittee Report

Prepared by: Megan Miller, Child Welfare Subcommittee Co-Chair

The Child Welfare Subcommittee met on September 15, 2023. Attending members included Megan Miller, Sheila Parks, Ryan Gustafson, Judge Paige Dollinger, and Judge Stephanie Charter. The subcommittee has identified and approved the following priorities to address in 2024.

- Priority I: Independent Living / Extended Foster Care
  - Discuss and identify steps to ensure deadlines regarding extended foster care in SB397 are met and achieved
    - Collaborate with existing workgroups and stakeholders to determine what progress is being conducted and what barriers remain
  - Discuss and identify any concerns regarding placement resources for young adults entering independent living and/or extended foster care
    - Discuss and identify existing resources and/or any challenges surrounding locating or licensing appropriate placements
  - Discuss and identify concerns surrounding young adults entering independent living and/or extended foster care who are also involved in the Department of Juvenile Justice
    - Identify areas for additional cooperation and exchange of information between the dependency and delinquency systems
  - Discuss and identify research regarding the efficacy of independent living programs
    - Collaborate with existing workgroups and stakeholders to identify completed research and/or research in progress and identify in gaps in information
- Priority II: Placements for Children Involved in the Child Welfare System
  - Discuss and identify concerns surrounding children with mental health or behavioral needs
    - Identify gaps in placement resources for this population and address barriers to improving resources
  - Discuss and identify issues surrounding placements for sibling groups
    - Discuss areas for improvement in locating and maintaining placements for sibling groups and the role of the court in ensuring siblings are placed together
  - Discuss and identify concerns surrounding placement for children who are also involved in the Department of Juvenile Justice
    - Identify areas for cooperation and exchange of information between the dependency and delinquency systems to improve placement resources for this population
  - Discuss and identify issues surrounding congregate care
    - Identify areas of opportunity to minimize the use of congregate care