



Nevada Early Intervention Interagency Coordinating Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, December 17, 2025

9:00 a.m. to adjournment

Meeting was held virtually through Microsoft Teams

1. Call to Order, Roll Call, and Announcements: Jenna Weglarz-Ward, ICC Chair

Jenna Weglarz-Ward, ICC Chair, welcomed all on the and took roll call with an opening question asking council members, what is a highlight of 2025 for them. A quorum of members was present, and the meeting was called to order at 9:03 a.m.

Members Present: Jenna Weglarz-Ward, Amy Hendrickson, Sarah Horsman, Julie Dame, Samantha Jayme, Laurie Henderson, Monica Shiffer, Anita Kelly, Robin Kincaid, Janice Lee

Members Absent: Savannah Celestino, Dana Aronson, Kate Guzy, Brooke Yarborough, Katherine Nielsen

Public Attendees: George Hernandez, Aging Disability Services Division (ADSD); Crystal Duarte, Social Entrepreneurs, Inc.; Kelissa Plett-Merritt, ADSD; Lisa Sherych, The Perkins Co.; Jenai Gaccione, Capability Health and Human Services (CHHS); Megan Figueroa, Social Entrepreneurs, Inc.; Renee Browne, ADSD; Jessica Roew, ADSD; Sheila Smith, Public; Marina Barrett, ADSD; Julie Fisher, ADSD; Kaila Briggs, ADSD; Amy Kowalski, Theraplay; Fatima Taylor, ADSD; Sheila Garner, ADSD; Lindsey Wood-Lopez, ADSD; Nathan K. Orme, DHHS; Christine Bringman, ADSD; Danielle Stage, ADSD; Amy Artman, ADSD; (702) 556-3123, Public

Part C Office Attendees: Mary Garrison, Elizabeth Newman, Lauren Anne Roscoe, Jennifer A. Kellogg, Iandia Morgan, Pamela Silva, Melissa L. Slayden, Maya Raimondi, Horidaleth Castro Vazquez, Jalin T. McSwyne

2. Public Comment:

No public comment was made.

3. For Possible Action: Review and possible approval of meeting minutes from June 18, 2025, ICC meeting — Jenna Weglarz-Ward, ICC Chair

Jenna Weglarz-Ward, ICC Chair, entertained a motion to approve the meeting minutes from June 18, 2025.

MOTION: Julie Dame motioned to approve the meeting minutes from June 18, 2025.

SECOND: Janice Lee

VOTE: Passed Unanimously

4. For Information, Discussion, and Possible Action: Review, discuss, and possible vote to approve ICC Annual Agenda for calendar year 2026 — *Jenna Weglarz-Ward, ICC Chair*

Jenna Weglarz-Ward, ICC Chair, entertained a motion to approve the ICC Annual Agenda for calendar year 2026.

MOTION: Monica Schiffer motioned to approve the ICC Annual Agenda for calendar year 2026.

SECOND: Julie Dame

VOTE: Passed Unanimously

5. For Information, Discussion, and Possible Action: Review, discuss, and possible vote to approve revised ICC Mission and Vision Statement — *Jenna Weglarz-Ward, ICC Chair*

Jenna Weglarz-Ward, ICC Chair, entertained a motion to approve the revised ICC Mission and Vision Statement.

MOTION: Janice Lee motioned to approve the revised ICC Mission and Vision Statement.

SECOND: Anita Kelly

VOTE: Passed Unanimously

6. For Information, Discussion, and Possible Action: Review and possible vote to approve ICC Strategic Plan and Action Plan Matrices — *Jenna Weglarz-Ward, ICC Chair*

Crystal Duarte with Social Entrepreneurs, Inc., presented information to the council regarding the ICC Strategic Plan and Action Plan Matrices from minute [00:23:07] to [00:47:20] of the video recording. The discussion focused on:

- Crystal Duarte from Social Entrepreneurs, Inc. (SEI) provided an overview of the ICC 2026–2031 Strategic Plan; Megan from SEI also acknowledged for contributions.
- Purpose of Strategic Plan: To guide ICC efforts in achieving its vision and mission, strengthen collaboration, and fulfill required functions.
- It was initiated in 2024 with member retreat.
- Project core team formed in January 2025.
- ICC feedback gathered at meetings in April, June, and August.
- October retreat focused on priorities and data review.
- Input from 39 partners, families, and service providers.
- Focus groups, interviews, and review of Nevada-specific documents.
- Comparison with five other ICCs and secondary data analysis.

Strategic Plan Structure:

Goals:

- Build and sustain an active, representative, and informed ICC.
- Strengthening ICC internal infrastructure and capacity.
- Define and activate ICCs advise-and-assist role.
- Objectives and strategies under each goal include:
 - Membership recruitment and mentorship.
 - Accessible learning opportunities for members.
 - Improved communication and outreach.
 - Standardized procedures and relationship documentation.

- Building awareness among key partners and legislators.
- Use of data for priority setting and recommendations.
- Continuous quality improvement.
- Data-driven decision-making.
- System-wide partnerships.
- Suggested timeline emphasizes first two years for foundational work.
- Ongoing monitoring with bimonthly reviews at ICC meetings.
- Subcommittees to lead assigned action steps and report progress.
- Annual review in October and development of yearly implementation plan in December.

Next Steps:

- Chair to call for a vote on goals, objectives, and strategies outlined in the plan.
- Approval will finalize vision and mission updates in the document.
 - a. **For Information, Discussion, and Possible Action:** Review Action Plan Matrices and vote to assign tasks to ICC Subcommittee's for completion

Jenna Weglarz-Ward, ICC Chair, opened the floor for any discussion questions or comments from the council members regarding the information presented. Hearing no discussion, she entertained a motion to approve the ICC Strategic Plan and Matrices.

MOTION: Monica Schiffer motioned to approve the ICC Strategic Plan and Matrices.

SECOND: Julie Dame

VOTE: Passed Unanimously

7. For Information and Discussion: Aging and Disability Services Division (ADSD) Updates — *ADSD Staff*

Sarah Horsman provided information updates to council members regarding the Aging and Disability Services Division (ADSD) from minute [00:51:53] to [01:14:54] of the video recording. The discussion focused on:

- a. Case Management Policy Update
 - a. ADSD policy unit collaborating with NEIS to refine program procedures, workflows, and expectations.
 - b. New policy portal PowerDMS has been introduced to improve accessibility and streamline policy acknowledgment.
 - c. Intake policy finalized, comprehensive case management policy in development.
 - d. Policy will include plain language forms for staff support.
 - e. Policies can be shared with the council upon request.
- b. Nevada Early Intervention Services (NEIS) budget updates
 - a. Provider shortages and waitlists reported statewide.
 - b. No new developmental specialist positions were founded during the 83rd legislative session.
 - c. Budget remains fixed for FY26–27; categories include personnel, supplies, IT, and contractor services.
 - d. Master Service Agreement with Reliable Healthcare Services extended through FY27, preventing higher administrative costs and allowing retention/recruitment of contractor positions.

- e. Telehealth offered as temporary service method while families wait for in-person services; does not affect waitlist position.
- f. Average waiting times for therapy services (speech, PT, OT, feeding) exceed 100 days past due.
- c. NEIS caseload updates
 - a. Rural: 343 children
 - b. Reno: 434 children
 - c. NEIS South: 1,153 children
 - d. Waiting for assessments: 193 children
 - e. Waiting for ongoing therapy: 342 children
- d. Program highlights

Jenna Weglarz-Ward, ICC Chair, asked for clarification on NEIS budget categories and impact. Suggested using these updates to inform ICC's advise and assist role and determine helpful data/reports for council. Highlighted connection to strategic plan goal of informing legislators during interim sessions.

Robin Kincaid requested case management policy as an attachment for February meeting. Asked if families on waitlists can seek community services; confirmed families receive referral lists. Raised concern about natural environment compliance when services occur in clinics; confirmed such cases are exceptions and affect compliance scores. Suggested adding agenda item in February to discuss drafting a letter to legislators outlining challenges in implementing IFSPs due to personnel shortages.

India Morgan added that families waiting for services are entitled to compensatory services for delays.

Sheila Smith shared difficulty in joining ICC due to delays in application processing. Expressed concern about telehealth effectiveness based on personal experience during pandemic; emphasized need for in-person services. Highlighted importance of legislative awareness of provider shortages and budget limitations.

Mary Garrison committed to following up with Governor's office regarding Sheila's application.

8. For Information: ICC Subcommittee Updates — ICC Subcommittee chairs

Jenna Weglarz-Ward, ICC Chair, invited the subcommittee chairs to share updates with the council regarding their subcommittees.

- a. ICC Child Find Subcommittee Update — *Sarah Horsman, ICC Child Find Subcommittee Chair*
 - a. Relunched in 2025; met 4 times (June, July, September, December).
 - b. Developed updated reporting tool for programs to share child find and outreach activities.
 - c. Achieved 100% program reporting for the past quarter; will review data in 2026.
 - d. Collaborated with Part B 619 Coordinator to align outreach with federal targets for ages 0–5.
 - e. Reviewed federal guidelines for outreach to underserved populations (unhoused families, tribal communities, at-risk infants/toddlers).
 - f. Scheduled 6 meetings for 2026; will support ICC strategic plan implementation.
- b. ICC Service Delivery Subcommittee Update — *Monica Schiffer, ICC Service Delivery Subcommittee Chair*
 - a. Met twice (August and December).
 - b. Reviewed program data reports provided by Melissa; plans to continue data review.

- c. Discussed updating subcommittee vision statement.
- d. Will shift to bimonthly meetings in 2026 to support strategic plan tasks.
- e. Emphasized need for additional voices and member recruitment.
- c. ICC Family Support Resource Subcommittee Update — *Janice Lee, ICC Family Support Resource Subcommittee Chair*
 - a. Met twice (October and November).
 - b. Focused on confirming and solidifying membership.
 - c. Planning bimonthly meetings for 2026; scheduling poll to be sent to members.
 - d. Recruitment of family voices identified as a major goal for 2026.

The council took a 5-minute break from 10:25 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Reconvened at 10:31 a.m. and roll call was taken, a quorum of members was present and the meeting continued.

9. For Information and Discussion: Early Intervention Medical/Auto Eligible List Updates – *Dr. Danielle Stage, NEIS*

Dr. Danielle Stage presented informational updates to the council regarding Early Intervention Medical/Auto Eligible Lists from minute [01:28:34] to [01:34:37] of the video recording. The discussion focused on:

- Auto-eligibility allows children with certain medical conditions known to be associated with developmental delays to enter NEIS without requiring a multidisciplinary team (MDT) evaluation or documented delays.

Updates Made:

- Added seven new conditions observed in NICU referrals that qualify for auto-eligibility.
- Updated terminology for clarity and alignment with current medical and community language.
- Removed redundant language to simplify the document for SPOs and outside providers.
- Referenced other states' lists to ensure consistency and completeness.

Purpose of Updates:

- Reduce administrative burden for families and providers.
- Encourage families, especially NICU families, to seek services earlier.
- Aligns with recommendations from American Academy of Pediatrics and Division for Early Childhood.

Betsy Newman emphasized that added conditions would likely qualify under MDT anyway; changes mainly reduce paperwork and help NICU families access services sooner.

Jenna Weglarz-Ward highlighted alignment with national best practices and importance for family transitions.

Mary Garrison stated she will ensure the most updated version is posted on the ICC website.

10. For Information, Discussion, and Possible Action: Federal Fiscal Year 2024 State Performance Plan/Annual Performance Report (SPP/APR) — *Melissa Slayden, IDEA Part C Office*

Melissa L. Slayden, along with other members of the IDEA Part C Office, presented information to the council regarding the Federal Fiscal Year 2024 State Performance Plan/Annual Performance Report (SPP/APR) from minute [01:35:19] to [02:44:27] of the video recording. The discussion focused on:

- OSEP reporting portal opened this week; documents from the portal are not yet remediated (final accessible format pending).

- TA Centers (national technical assistance) will review Nevada’s first draft; ICC will receive a remediated draft for review in early January.
- APR due February 2 (first workday of February).
- Today’s purpose was orientation to indicator definitions, data sources, and initial draft data—not approval.
- Subcommittees will be asked to examine indicators and support target-setting during calendar year 2026 (for FFY 2026–2030).
- Compliance indicators have 100% targets; performance indicators have state-set targets.
- Indicator 9 – Resolution Sessions, % of resolution session requests resolved via agreement. No resolution sessions; reporting not required until ≥ 10 .
- Indicator 10 – Mediations, % of mediations resulting in agreements. No mediation; reporting not required until ≥ 10 .
 - a. **For Information, Discussion, and Possible Action:** Review and discuss narrative and data and possible vote to approve FFY2024 APR Indicator 1: Timely Service Delivery
 - a. Definition: % of infants/toddlers with IFSPs receiving all services timely (per IFSP).
 - b. Data Source: Comprehensive monitoring (spring cycle) + NEIDS; family exceptions counted.
 - c. Result: 98 of 141 IFSPs timely \rightarrow 69.50%; target not met; no slippage (\uparrow ~11% from last year).
 - b. **For Information, Discussion, and Possible Action:** Review and discuss narrative and data and possible vote to approve FFY2024 APR Indicator 2: Natural Environment
 - a. Definition: % of children primarily receiving services in natural environments (home, daycare, community).
 - b. Data Source: Annual December 1 count; audiology excluded due to equipment needs.
 - c. Result: 3,430 / 3,455 \rightarrow 99.28%; target met; no slippage.
 - d. Notes: One program below target \rightarrow finding; one program in ongoing non-compliance; targets to be reset in 2026.
 - c. **For Information, Discussion, and Possible Action:** Review and discuss targets and data, and possible vote to approve FFY2024 APR Indicator 3: Child Outcomes targets
 - a. Definition: % of infants/toddlers showing improved outcomes in three areas: social-emotional, knowledge/skills (incl. language), and appropriate behaviors to meet needs.
 - b. Data Source: NEIDS entry/exit ECO data; compared to national standards.
 - c. Status: Not finalized; NEIDS improvements ensure entry data capture for 6+ months services.
 - d. **For Information, Discussion, and Possible Action:** Review and discuss narrative and data and possible vote to approve FFY2024 APR Indicator 4: Family outcomes
 - a. Definition: % of families indicating (1) know their rights; (2) effectively communicate child’s needs; (3) EI helped child develop/learn.
Results:
 - b. Know Rights: 94.96% (\uparrow from last year) \rightarrow target not met, no slippage.
 - c. Communicate Needs: 95.65% (\uparrow from last year) \rightarrow target not met, no slippage.
 - d. Child Develop/Learn: 98.77% \rightarrow target met, no slippage.
 - e. ~45% wrote comments: about half praise providers/system; half concerned about waitlists/provider shortages.

- f. Expanded to 19 languages (beyond English/Spanish); received a response in Simplified Chinese.
 - g. Option to include contact info for Part C follow-up; no comments resulted in formal complaints.
 - h. Hard copies include QR code for SurveyMonkey (English/Spanish); other languages on paper.
- e. For Information, Discussion, and Possible Action:** Review and discuss narrative and data and possible vote to approve FFY 2024 Indicator 5: Child Find (Birth to 1)
- a. Definition: % of infants birth–1 with active IFSPs (point-in-time: Dec 1, 2024; census denominator).
 - b. Result: Target met, no slippage; targets to be reset next year.
- f. For Information, Discussion, and Possible Action:** Review and discuss narrative and data and possible vote to approve FFY 2024 Indicator 6: Child Find (Birth to 3)
- a. Definition: % of infants/toddlers’ birth–3 with active IFSPs (Dec 1 count; census denominator).
 - b. Result: Target met, no slippage; targets to be reset next year.
 - c. Rationale for separate 0–1 measure (per Betsy Newman): Federal emphasis via OSEP on early identification partnerships (e.g., hospitals/physicians) to improve entry rates and outcomes.
- g. For Information, Discussion, and Possible Action:** Review and discuss narrative and data and possible vote to approve FFY2024 APR Indicator 7: 45-day Timeline
- a. Definition: % of eligible infants/toddlers whose initial evaluation/assessment/IFSP meeting occurred within 45 days of referral (actual days).
 - b. Result: Target not met; no slippage.
- h. For Information, Discussion, and Possible Action:** Review and discuss narrative and data and possible vote to approve FFY2024 APR Indicator 8a: Early Childhood Transition Plans
- a. 8A: Transition planning (2y3m–2y9m); compliance required.
 - b. 8A: 94.3% (compliance target not met); slippage of 2.77%.
- i. For Information, Discussion, and Possible Action:** Review and discuss narrative and data and possible vote to approve FFY2024 APR Indicator 8b: Early Childhood Transition Notifications
- a. 8B: LEA/SEA notifications; data not yet finalized; no slippage anticipated.
 - b. 8B: Pending finalization; no slippage anticipated.
- j. For Information, Discussion, and Possible Action:** Review and discuss narrative and data and possible vote to approve FFY2024 APR Indicator 8c: Early Childhood Transition Conferences
- a. 8C: Transition conferences (≥ 90 days before 3rd birthday).
 - b. 8C: Target not met; slippage present; under review.
- k. For Information and Discussion:** Introduction to Indicator 11 and Indicator 12
- Indicator 11 – State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP)
 - a. Focus: Social-emotional outcomes (Indicator 3 data for Outcome A).
 - b. Status: Not finalized; ongoing initiatives include Pyramid Model and early mental health training; TA review in progress.
 - Indicator 12 – General Supervision (new last year; baseline set)

- c. Scope: Timely correction and tracking of ongoing non-compliance in Indicators 1, 7, 8 and related requirements (procedural safeguards; IFSP development; evaluation/eligibility; implementing services at IFSP frequency/intensity).
- d. Status: Not finalized (depends on finalization of 1, 7, 8).
- e. Preliminary: Target (100%) not met; slippage (~2% decrease from ~90.91% last year).
- f. Note: 2024 includes related requirements crosswalk (added rigor compared to prior year).

I. For Possible Action: Select meeting date for Federal Fiscal Year 2024 State Performance Plan/Annual Performance Report (SPP/APR) ICC Approval and Certification

Jenna Weglarz-Ward & Robin Kincaid appreciated inclusion of balanced example quotes (not only positive) to normalize full-range feedback; overall simplification and clarity praised.

Anita Kelly asked about advance email notifications and follow-up; raised question on incentives for completion.

Part C Office response, email logistics complicated (listserv and spam limits); considering reminder approach; last year included child-friendly sticker/tattoo; exploring raffle option rather than universal incentive.

Jenna Weglarz-Ward requested language availability notes on flyers and to confirm full accessibility (contrast/color considerations).

Mary Garrison confirmed remediation for website posting; some icons removed for accessibility; will implement edits (language note, visuals) and share final version to ICC via email.

Jenna Weglarz-Ward, ICC Chair, entertained a motion to hold the council’s Annual Report meeting on January 20, 2026, at 2:00 p.m.

MOTION: Monica Shiffer motioned to have the Annual Report review meeting on January 20, 2026, at 2:00 p.m.

SECOND: Laurie Henderson

VOTE: Passed Unanimously

11. For Information and Discussion: Part C Office Updates — *Part C Staff*

Elizabeth Newman and Melissa L. Slayden provided the council with informational updates regarding the Part C Office.

a. Complaint Investigation Log

- a. Total Complaints: 3 active complaints reported.

NEIS South:

- b. Issue: Failure to provide speech services; compensatory visits owed.

- c. Status: Corrective Action Plan (CAP) in progress; both family and agency notified.

NEIS Rural/Frontier (not Reno as initially stated):

- d. Issue: Alleged failure to provide services in natural environment.

- e. Status: Investigation completed; complaint unsubstantiated; report to be released by end of week.

NEIS South:

- f. Issue: Failure to provide speech services and special instruction.

- g. Status: Interviews underway; report expected within next week.

- h. Correction: Date error noted in log; last complaint filed 11/12/2025 (not 11/22/2026).
- b. Quarterly Statistics Report – 45-day timeline and transition conferences
 - a. Last Quarter of FY25 (Apr–Jun): Data reviewed.
 - b. Current FY26 Q1 (Jul–Sep): Preliminary data show no program achieved 100% compliance.
 - c. Transition Conferences (Indicator 8C):
 - i. Last Quarter FY25 and Current FY26 Q1 reviewed.
 - ii. Statewide compliance for Q1: 95.7%; only 3 agencies met 100% compliance.
 - iii. Documented exceptions: Family-related reasons; program-related reasons primarily due to provider shortages and scheduling difficulties.
 - d. Quality Assurance team are now collaborating with Part C Office for closer monitoring and verification.
 - e. Exploring monthly data pulls (instead of quarterly) for more timely interventions.
 - f. Technical assistance to programs with low compliance; forward-facing data reviews planned.

Robin Kincaid asked if low-performing programs receive targeted technical assistance; confirmed new QA system will provide proactive support.

Jenna Weglarz-Ward suggested adding context to data (e.g., reasons for non-compliance) to inform ICC’s advise and assist role and strategic planning advocacy.

Melissa Slayden confirmed most program reasons tied to provider shortages and scheduling; family exceptions documented separately.

- New community provider Aspire joined NEIS network in Las Vegas area; began accepting referrals first week of December 2025.
- Council welcomed Aspire and noted importance for reducing waitlists and improving access.

12. Public Comment:

Robin Kincaid requested adding a “Future Agenda Items” section to upcoming agendas for better tracking. Suggested a future agenda item to review autism screening efforts including data on number of children screened, referral processes for further evaluation or diagnosis, concerns raised by families about lack of progress for children ages 3–4 in Part B system, possibly due to missed screenings or insufficient follow-up, and shared example of a family reporting inappropriate disciplinary practices in school related to autism behaviors, emphasizing need for proper identification and supports. Also stressed the importance of ICC fulfilling its advisory role under NRS by reviewing current autism screening practices.

Sarah Horstman recommended ICC members attend Nevada Commission on Autism Spectrum Disorders meetings for additional information. Noted that NEIS and Autism Treatment Assistance Program regularly report data to that Commission as required by NRS. Supported adding autism-related updates to ICC agenda and encouraged collaboration across councils and commissions.

Jenna Weglarz-Ward agreed that autism screening is a valuable future agenda item. Highlighted opportunity for collaboration between ICC, the Commission on Autism Spectrum Disorders, and the Developmental Disabilities Council.

13. Adjournment — Jenna Weglarz-Ward, ICC Chair

Jenna Weglarz-Ward, ICC Chair, thanked everyone on the call for attending and participating and hopes everyone who is celebrating holidays enjoys them. The meeting was adjourned at 12:04 p.m.