



# Early Childhood Advisory Council Agenda

**October 23, 2025**

**1:00-4:00 pm**

To participate virtually

Virtual Meeting Link:

<https://utah-gov.zoom.us/j/81091571456>

To participate in-person

Anchor Location: Multi Agency State Office Building (MASOB)  
195 North 1950 West, Room 1020C, Salt Lake City, Utah 84116

Chair and Chair Elect: Encarni Gallardo, Heather Thomas

Time*	Topic	Presenter	Notes
1:00	1. Welcome 2. June 26, 2025 Meeting Minutes	Heather Thomas	Motion to accept June minutes by Encarni Gallardo, second by Hailee Hernandez. Accepted unanimously.

1:10	3. Open and Public Meeting training	Clover Meaders	<p>Details on slides. Sunshine law to make sure public business is conducted in public. Before the meeting: post notification including what will be voted on and discussed. No discussion of voting items outside of the public meeting. Can be held electronically or hybrid. During the meeting, must be recorded and minutes taken. No vote on subjects not on agenda. No texting or chatting about board business during the meeting. Closed meetings as defined in statute. Get legal council before closing. After meetings, post meeting materials and draft materials to be publicly available. No change at last legislative session. "Closed meetings" means closed to the public.</p>
1:20	4. Office of Early Childhood Updates	Dakota Matherly	<p>3 new school districts have joined the ASQ Online account: Washington, Park City, and Alpine. Utah Data Research Center (UDRC) beginning their research on ASQ data for this year. Working on sharing Home Visiting data with URC.</p> <p><u><a href="#">Ready! Resilient!</a></u> Conference Buy one get one November 18</p> <p><u><a href="#">Rural Health Transformation Grant</a></u> \$100 million per year for 5 years for all 50 states, plus extra by application. Emphasis on sustainability.</p> <p><u><a href="#">MECSH</a></u> home visiting starting in Sanpete and Salt Lake Counties.</p> <p>"Mastering Medicaid" trainings partnering with Take Care Utah, the Office of Early Childhood, and</p>

	<p>5. Office of Child Care Updates</p> <p>6. Utah State Board of Education Updates</p> <p>7. PDG Updates</p> <p>8. Membership update</p> <p>9. Confirmation of new chair-elect</p>	<p>Heather Thomas</p> <p>Jared Lisonbee</p> <p>Mandi Mendenhall</p> <p>Jennifer Floyd</p>	<p>Medicaid. Contact Lauren Pierce <a href="mailto:lauren.pierce@utah.gov">lauren.pierce@utah.gov</a> if interested.</p> <p>Child Care Subsidy can now be put on hold without losing eligibility in a 12-month period. Income limits have been updated <b><u>Monthly Income Limits</u></b>. New PDF transcripts available for early childhood educators through the <b><u>Care About Childcare Website</u></b></p> <p><u>Registration</u> is open for the USBE Preschool Conference November 14, 15. Virtual. <u>Register</u> for Children and Adult Nutrition program training November 13.</p> <p>Updates on slides. Included stories from Davis, Utah and Central Health Departments care coordination.</p> <p>Janel Preston appointed by executive committee to serve as specialized services provider representative. 3 year term will begin immediately. Still have a medical provider opening.</p> <p>Sabrina Harman accepted nomination to serve as chair-elect. Will begin term on January 1. Motion to confirm by Encarni Gallardo, motion seconded by Madeline Giles. Approved unanimously.</p>
--	--	---	--

	<p>10. PDG Funded Early Childhood Quality programming in San Juan county</p> <p>11. Subcommittee updates</p> <p>a. Early Care and Education</p>	<p>Lisa Boyce and Audrey Juhasz</p> <p>Kelly Noorda</p>	<p>Purpose: to provide quality, place-based programming to children ages 0-8 in San Juan County. Partners: San Juan Health Department, School District, and Root for Kids</p> <p>Health Department: see slides. Utah Parent's Center supporting parent support groups</p> <p>Root for Kids: see slides. Social media outreach and pictures of local families. Funding for in-state conferences.</p> <p>School District: See slides. Preschool curriculum and materials for centers, professional development for teachers. Summer STEM programs. Teachers very motivated to participate and administration cooperated by providing support including transportation at cost. Working on developing a toolkit and open to input on that.</p> <p>Question about early intervention funding for training: Training budget was limited so difficult to send any of their staff to conferences as we were able with this grant.</p> <p>Ready to finalize and finish goal this year. Kindergarten readiness definitions have been approved, created a visual representation that will eventually have a QR code that links to a website. Developing a training to be housed on website for providers, schools, anyone who wants to take the training and train their staff that goes through</p>
--	---	---	--

			<p>definitions, pathway, and toolkit. Will be shared at November 14 keynote and panelist for USBE Preschool Conference. Visual of Utah landscape, with pathway from beginning to school, on website they will click on each of those 4 stones and it will go to expanded definition and resources. Question about other languages: Spanish definitely, exploring other top languages. Possible to put contact information before the website is ready.</p> <p>Vote to approve visual. Jared Lisonbee motioned to approve, second by Nannette Barnes. Approved unanimously.</p>
	b. Data and Research	Jared Lisonbee	<p>Primary purpose is to provide collaboration space across organizations and continue learning from exemplar programs. Creating a data sharing training document, additional information that needs to be added. Can be used as in-person or live training, or as a resource for more information about data sharing. Also interested in serving as a resource for other subcommittees.</p>
	c. Health and Access to Medical Homes	Janel Preston	<p>Working with a "sandbox" version of MyCase and providing feedback for improvements of the online application process.</p>

	<p>d. Parent Engagement</p> <p>e. Social-Emotional and Mental Health</p>	<p>Madeline Giles</p> <p>Tiffany Perry</p>	<p>See slides. <a href="#">New flyer available</a> for recruitment. Would like to recruit 3 new parents by end of year. Feel free to share the flyer with parents in Utah. People from the subcommittee are working on videos with the Early Care and Education subcommittee. Next month, Dakota will be speaking to the group about successful resource/outreach fairs.</p> <p>See slides. New chair-elect Cristina Barrera. Working on finding facilitation options for parent focus group, and also reassessing some of the questions based on feedback from the parent engagement subcommittee. Lauren Miller-Jones may be able to assist with facilitation, through Envision Utah. Action item: Jennifer to follow up with DHHS IRB.</p>
2:24	12. Public Comments & Information	Open	
2:28	<p>13. Adjourn</p> <p>Next ECU Advisory Council Meeting: January 22, 1-4 p.m. Request in-person attendance if possible.</p>		<p>Motion to adjourn the meeting by Madeline Giles. Second by Hailee Hernandez.</p>

*\*Times are approximate; meeting could conclude prior to 4:00 pm.*

