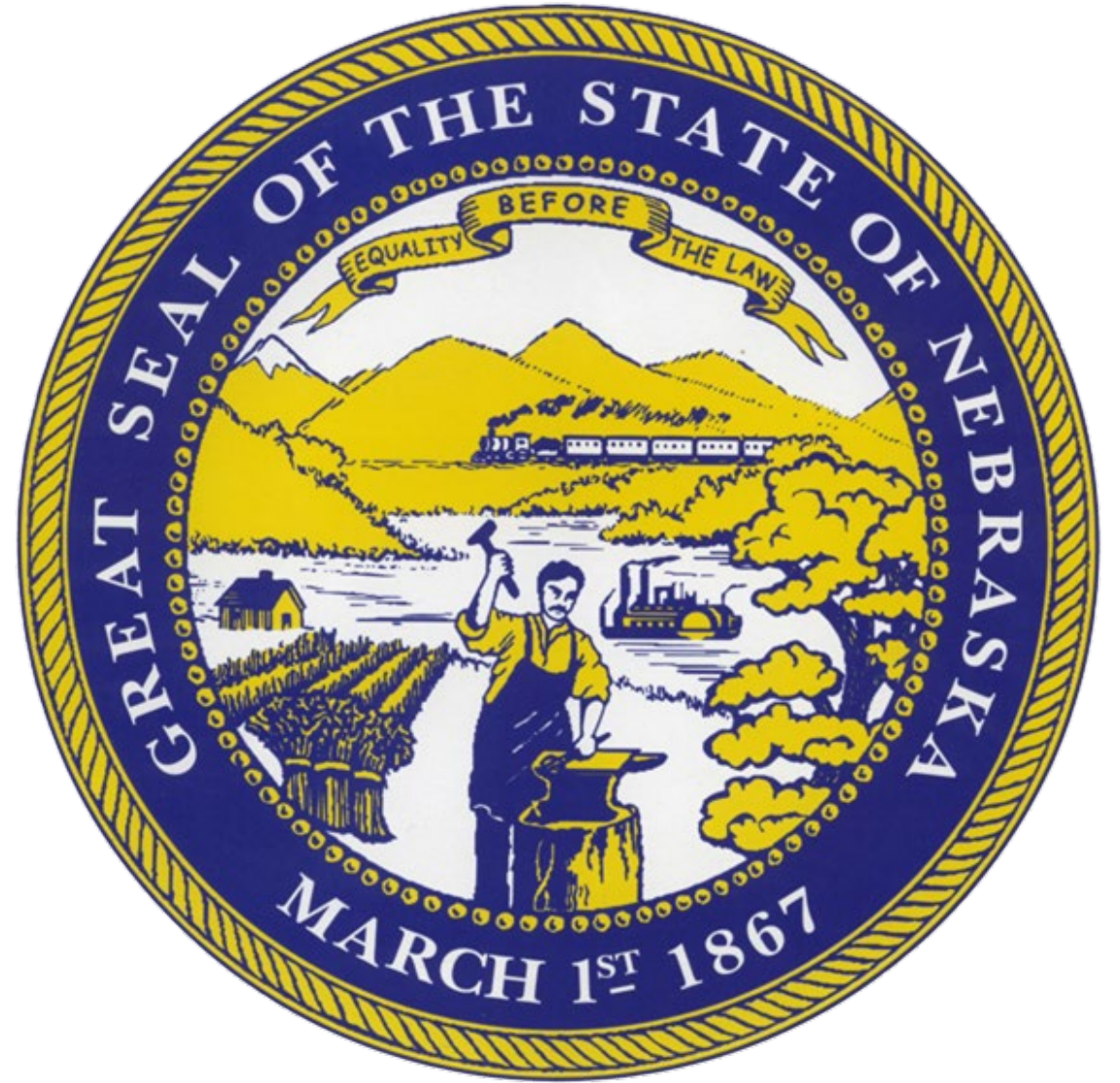


# Nebraska LB 1173

## Reimagining Child and Family Well- Being in Nebraska

October 19, 2023



# Housekeeping

- I. If you haven't yet, please sign in. We will circulate the sign-in sheets.
- II. Mics are throughout the room and will capture side conversations, even whispers.
- III. Identify yourself when speaking for the recorder and virtual attendees.

# Workgroup Member Roll Call

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# Statutory Member Roll Call

- I. Director of Behavioral Health of the Division of Behavioral Health or the director's designee: **Tony Green**
- II. Director of Children and Family Services of the Division of Children and Family Services or the director's designee: **Tony Green**
- III. Director of Developmental Disabilities of the Division of Developmental Disabilities or the director's designee: **Tony Green**
- IV. Director of Medicaid and Long-Term Care of the Division of Medicaid and Long-Term Care or the director's designee: **Kevin Bagley**
- V. Director of Public Health of the Division of Public Health or the director's designee: **Charity Menefee**
- VI. Commissioner of Education or the commissioner's designee: **Commissioner Brian Maher**
- VII. State Court Administrator: **Corey Steel**
- VIII. Representative of the Supreme Court appointed by the Chief Justice: **Corey Steel**
- IX. Representatives from each federally recognized Indian tribe within the State of Nebraska, appointed by each tribe's Tribal Council or Executive Committee:
  - I. **Miskoo Petite**, Winnebago Tribe
  - II. **Danielle LaPointe**, Santee Sioux Tribe
  - III. **Alexis Zendejas**, Omaha Tribe
  - IV. **Stephanie Pospisil**, Ponca Tribe

# Agenda

- I. Call to Order
- II. Approval of Previous Month
  - a. Minutes
  - b. Status Report
- III. Review Draft Practice Model, John Stephen,  
The Stephen Group
- IV. Review Draft Finance Model, Dave DeStefano,  
The Stephen Group
- V. Planning for Public Presentation
- VI. Adjourn

# Approval of Minutes

# Status Report Review

# **Review Draft Practice Model**

John Stephen

The Stephen Group



## Intersectoral Objective for the Child Welfare Practice Model

***We Believe that the lives of children & families can be enhanced by building strong partnerships for child & family well-being transformation that invests resources in effective & innovative ways.***

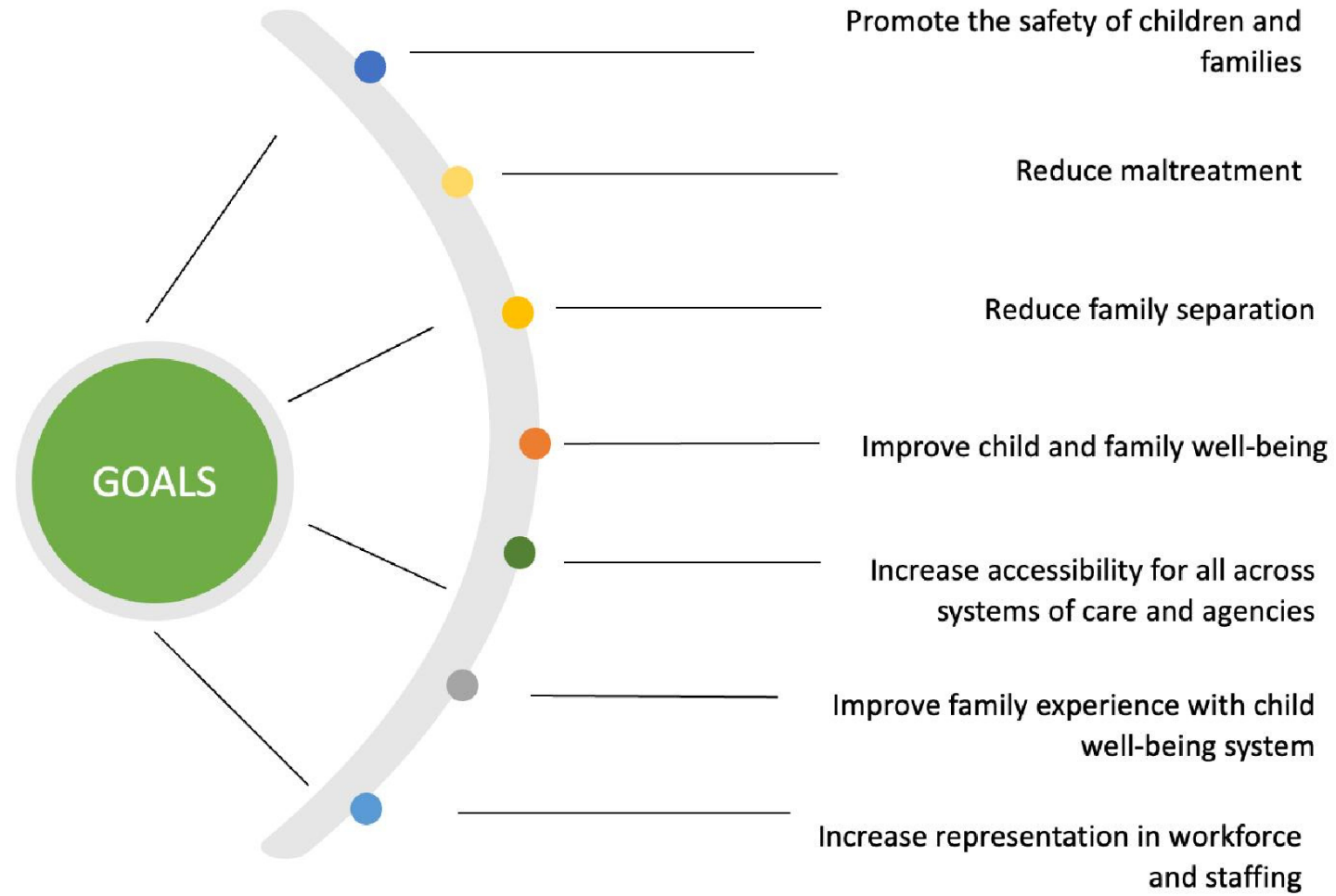
## MODEL MISSION, VISION, GUIDING PRINCIPLES, AND CORE VALUES

MISSION	VISION
<p><b>Engaging communities to support families so they thrive, &amp; children are safe.</b></p>	<p>Every child in Nebraska has what they need to thrive in a safe, stable, &amp; permanent home, sustained by nurturing relationships &amp; strong family &amp; community connections.</p> <p>We will strengthen families in their communities by safely reducing the need for intervention &amp; system involvement by aligning resources more effectively.</p>

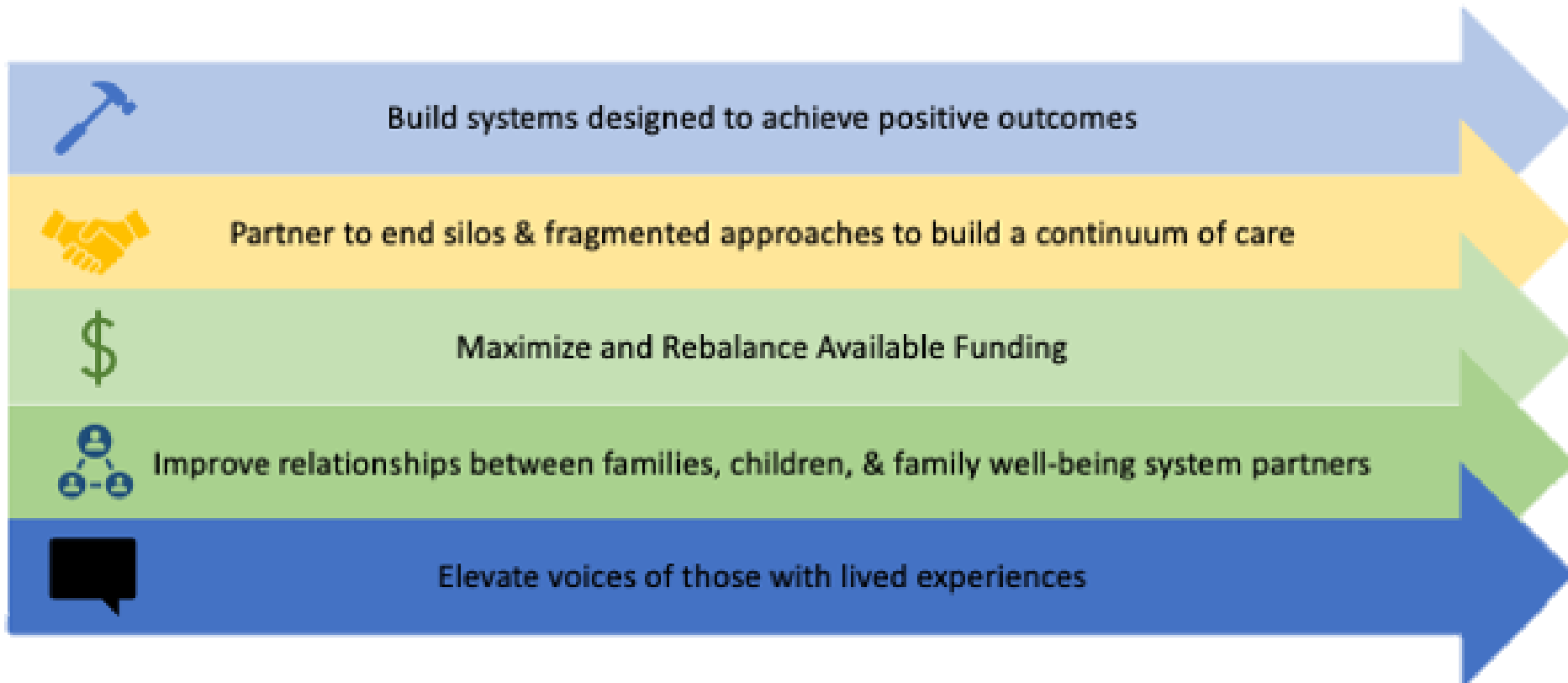
# MODEL MISSION, VISION, GUIDING PRINCIPLES, AND CORE VALUES

GUIDING PRINCIPLES	CORE VALUES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◇ <b>Authentic Partnerships:</b> A child well-being system that collaborates across executive branch agencies, the court system, probation, &amp; community partners, &amp; is designed &amp; built with the voices of persons with lived experience &amp; their communities, working in partnership with individuals &amp; families.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◇ <b>Collaboration:</b> A child well-being system that involves state partners, tribal Nations, community &amp; families collaborating to address the well-being &amp; best interests of children.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◇ <b>Compassion, Empathy &amp; Humility:</b> Demonstrating compassion, empathy, &amp; humility to design systems &amp; services that reflect &amp; value individuals, traditions, &amp; the personal experience of those with whom the child well-being system serves.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◇ <b>Children, Youth, &amp; Families:</b> Children &amp; youth should live in a safe, nurturing, &amp; supportive family environment. Families are the best place for children &amp; youth to grow up &amp; family connections should be maintained whenever possible.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◇ <b>Honesty &amp; Transparency:</b> Being open, straightforward, &amp; truthful. This involves honesty about policies, processes, expectations, &amp; limitations influencing people's experience &amp; outcomes. This also involves openness between partners about system performance, acknowledging strengths &amp; challenges, adapting when necessary, &amp; publicly sharing information about steps to address areas needing improvement.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◇ <b>Respect:</b> Honor &amp; support for the inherent dignity &amp; worth of each person served &amp; each partner. Demonstrate empathy &amp; kindness in all interactions. Value lived experience &amp; diverse opinions in the work to transform &amp; improve the child well-being system in Nebraska. Be proactive in communication. Recognize that individuals &amp; families are experts in their own lives, listen to them about what they need to be safe &amp; thrive.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◇ <b>Empowerment:</b> Empower staff, individuals, families, &amp; communities by ensuring all have the information &amp; tools to achieve success.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◇ <b>Accountable:</b> A child well-being system that is responsible, transparent, &amp; dependable in all its actions, &amp; establishes clear performance standards, &amp; support for the workforce, communities, &amp; families it serves to achieve success.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◇ <b>Innovation:</b> Cultivating a learning, adaptable environment through feedback, data &amp; innovative ideas to improve efficacy &amp; outcomes.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◇ <b>Excellence:</b> High-quality service is a priority in every interaction with individuals, families, partners &amp; communities, &amp; a system wide commitment to identifying &amp; acting upon opportunities to improve its performance &amp; outcomes deepen partnerships &amp; strengthen communities.</li> </ul>

## MODEL GOALS



## MODEL STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



# NEBRASKA CHILD WELFARE MODEL OF PRACTICE

- WORKFORCE
- PREVENTION
- FAMILY ENGAGEMENT
- INTAKE AND ASSESSMENT—CHILD SAFETY FIRST, AND FOREMOST
- TEAMING
- SERVICES TO CHILDREN AND FAMILIES
- WELL-BEING
- WHEN CHILDREN ARE UNABLE TO REMAIN IN THEIR HOME
- PERMANENCY
- TRANSITION FOR OLDER YOUTH

# MODEL ENGAGEMENT STRATEGIES

## Engagement Strategies to Support Community Involvement in Child Welfare System Transformation

- **Strategy 1: Transform Child Welfare System through Community-based Prevention Services**
- **Strategy 2: Ensure Child Welfare and Related Systems and Services Reflect Communities Served**
- **Strategy 3: Strengthen the Role of Tribal Liaisons at DHHS**
- **Strategy 4: Address Disproportionality by Engaging Community-Based Organizations**

## Strategies That Strengthen Relationships Across Court System, Probation, Executive Branch Agencies, State Department of Education, and Community Partners

- **Strategy 1: Continue the Three-Branch Collaboration into Implementation**
- **Strategy 2: Develop Partnerships with Schools to Transform the Child Welfare System**
- **Strategy 3: Develop Intersectoral Relationship with Housing and Homeless Initiatives**
- **Strategy 4: Increase Intersectoral Training Opportunities**
- **Strategy 5: Build Authentic Collaboration With All Sectors and Stakeholders**
- **Strategy 6: Shared Accountability for Children and Families**
- **Strategy 7: Expand Intersectoral Efforts for Parents with Pre-natal Risk or Children 0 to 5 Years of Age**
- **Strategy 8: Coordinate Intersectoral Partners to Better Serve Transition Youth**
- **Strategy 9: Intersectoral Collaboration to Promote and Support Permanency**

# MODEL ENGAGEMENT STRATEGIES

## Strategies That Support Integration Across Agencies

- **Strategy 1: Implement Best Practice Strategies for Cross-over Youth**
- **Strategy 2: Align Resources Across Agencies to Best Serve At-Risk Families and Children**
- **Strategy 3: Establish Multi-Disciplinary Team-Based Approaches to Collaboratively Support Families**
- **Strategy 4: Enhance Collaboration, Communication and Partnership with County Attorneys**
- **Strategy 5: Build Leverage DHHS Tribal Liaisons for Intra-agency Collaboration**
- **Strategy 6: Shared Accountability for Children and Families**

## Engagement Strategies That Support Data Collection and Outcome Monitoring

- **Strategy 1: Collect Data that is Usable by Practitioners in Real Time**
- **Strategy 2: Technology Systems Should Operate within a Master Data Management Strategy**
- **Strategy 3: Implement a Comprehensive Child Welfare Information System (CCWIS)**
- **Strategy 4: Leverage Existing Public Data to Inform Practice**
- **Strategy 5: Build Leverage DHHS Tribal Liaisons for Intra-agency Collaboration**
- **Strategy 6: Shared Accountability for Children and Families**



# **Review Draft Finance Model**

Dave DeStefano

The Stephen Group

# NEBRASKA CHILD WELFARE FINANCE MODEL

**PRIORITY AREA 1: ENHANCE TITLE IV-E  
FEDERAL FINANCIAL PARTICIPATION**

**PRIORITY AREA 3: PROVIDER RATES AND  
CONTRACTS**

**PRIORITY AREA 2: CROSS-SYSTEM SYNERGY  
AND COLLABORATION**

**FUNDING THE EXPANSION OF PREVENTION  
SERVICES IN NEBRASKA**

# FINANCE MODEL STRATEGIES

## Priority Area 1: Enhance Title IV-E Federal Financial Participation

- Title IV-E Income Eligibility: AFDC Lookback
- Revenue Maximization State Law and Department Policy
- Title IV-E Eligibility Documentation
- Licensing of Relative & Non-Relative Caregivers
- Incentivizing Licensing of Relative Caregivers
- Children Placed Through Letters of Agreement with Shared Living Providers
- Title IV-E Administrative Cost Claiming
- Leverage Training Opportunities to Create a Pathway to Child Welfare Employment
- Implementation of a Modern Child Welfare Information System
- Fully Implement Title IV-E Claiming for Prevention Services

## Priority Area 2: Cross-system Synergy And Collaboration

- High Quality Legal Representation of Children and Families
- Title IV-E Claiming for Juvenile Probation Services
- Create Medicaid Blended and/or Braided Funding Strategies for FFPSA Interventions
- Provision of Concrete and Economic Supports
- Investment of TANF Surplus
- Education Collaboration to Provide Early Intervention, Prevention, and Crisis Intervention
- Community Response Pathway
- Medicaid Funded Services and 1115 Waivers
- Leverage Increased Public Grant Funding for Home Visiting Services
- Reducing the Impact of Benefits Cliff to Support Movement to Self Sufficiency
- Development of Provider Workforce Capacity

# FINANCE MODEL STRATEGIES

## Priority Area 3: Provides Rates and Contracts

- **Provider Rate Setting Process and Frequency**
- **Tribal Contracts and Funding**
- **Performance-Based Contracting**
- **Complete an Enhanced Review of Placements in Tier 4 and Higher Levels of Foster Care**
- **Technology Enhancements to Support Monitoring and Reporting of Provider Outcomes**

## Funding the Expansion of Prevention Services in Nebraska

- **Increased Title IV-E Administrative Claiming**
- **Out-of-Home Care Expenditures**

# **GENERAL DISCUSSION**

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**TO SUBMIT FURTHER FEEDBACK**

[info@stephengroupinc.com](mailto:info@stephengroupinc.com)

# **Planning for Public Presentation**

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Upcoming  
1173 Events

**Workgroup Meetings**  
November 7