



SANTA CRUZ COUNTY
**DRUG FREE COMMUNITY
 COALITION**

JANUARY 11, 2023

2:00 PM

HYBRID

651 N LEGLEU, NOGALES, AZ 85621

MEETING ID: 843 0616 2192

Meeting called by: Jessica Gallego

Type of meeting: Monthly meeting

Facilitator: Aissa Acuña

Note taker: Claudia Hernandez

Attendees:

1. Claudia Hernández- Constructing Circles of Peace
2. Jessica Gallego – Constructing Circles of Peace
3. Tony Vartola – Nogales Custom Brokers Association / Port Devanning
4. Indhira Curlango – Holy Cross Hospital
5. Jasmin Ayala – Constructing Circles of Peace
6. Aissa Acuña – Boys and Girls Club
7. Officer Marina Duran – Nogales Police Department
8. Donna Álvarez – NUSD
9. Patty Molina – Mariposa Community Health Center
10. Channing Velasquez – Constructing Circles of Peace
11. Cassalyn David – Mariposa Community Health Center
12. Lupita Gonzalez – SEAHEC
13. Veronica Corella – Constructing Circles of Peace
14. Kiara Gutierrez – Constructing Circles of Peace
15. Luis Romero – Constructing Circles of Peace
16. Tiarha Huerta – Waterford Upstart
17. Michael White – Buena Vista Health and Recovery Centers
18. Stephanie Zepeda – Mariposa Community Health Center
19. Alejandro Alvirde – Border Patrol
20. Gerardo Castillo – SCC Sheriff’s Office
21. Alicia Delgado – Child Care Resource & Referral
22. Karina Guerrero – MIKID
23. Ricardo Morales – Chicanos Por La Causa
24. Noemi Elizalde – Children’s Advocacy Center / Nogales Family Safety Center

MISSION

To empower Santa Cruz County's communities to live a drug-free lifestyle by providing substance abuse prevention, education, establishing support to local government agencies, and empower parents and youth for success!

VISION

To reduce drug abuse in the community, strengthen community partnerships, and maintain healthy and drug-free lifestyles by establishing community values.

PURPOSE

Coalition seeks to increase perception of harm related to substance abuse and underage drinking in Santa Cruz County.

Minutes

Agenda item: WELCOME-INTRODUCTIONS

Presenter: Chair Aissa Acuna

Discussion:

To start meeting, Aissa gave a welcome to the members and encouraged everyone to introduce themselves.

Agenda item: WATERFORD UPSTART PRESENTATION

Presenter: Tiarha Huerta

Discussion:

Tiarha gave an excellent presentation of their program who helps small children learn the basic skills to start their scholar life and their families. For more information contact Tiarha at tiarhahuerta@waterford.org or go to [Waterford.org | Early Learning Software](https://www.waterford.org/early-learning-software)

Agenda item: NALOXBOX PRESENTATION

Presenter: Channing Velasquez

Discussion:

Channing took a time to explain to the coalition members and members of the community about our new Naloxbox kit which includes the essential tools to reverse an opioid overdose. These kits are being placed in strategic points of the community so there will be one near everyone. For more information contact Channing at cvelasquez@circlesofpeace.us.

Agenda item: SUBCOMMITTEES UPDATES

Presenter: Claudia Hernández

Discussion:

- Youth-Serving Organizations (YSO) Subcommittee:
 - o Meeting with the School District (date TBD)

It was mentioned in the meeting that the YSO subcommittee and the Coalition members wish to have a meeting with the directors of the School District to talk about the issue that we as community have with the vaping problem among teens.

- o Park cleanup (February)

The YADA group in collaboration with officers from law enforcement will do a cleanup in one of the parks where teens have reported seeing vape pens on the floors. The YSO subcommittee is welcome to participate and collaborate as well.

- o "Love Notes" to youth (February)

We are interested on providing a workshop to our youth about relationships and everything that involves for adolescents and young adults. MCHC has an excellent curriculum that we would like them to present to the youth of the YSO subcommittee. Anyone interested in having their youth in this workshop can contact Claudia at chernandez@circlesofpeace.us.

Agenda item: MEMBERS UPDATES

Presenter: Coalition members

Discussion:

- Alicia Delgado (CCR&R): If anybody have any families facing challenges finding Child Care Program ages 0-12yrs and they happen to be interested and/or seeking information on how to become a Child Care Provider and open their own business at home, please contact Alicia at adelgado@cfraz.org.
- Lupita Gonzalez (SEHAEC): SEAHEC has a new culturally linguistic appropriate services training that are providing to different agencies around many counties such as Santa Cruz, Pima, Cochise, Graham, and Greenlee. For more information contact Lupita at lupita@seahec.org.
- Marina Duran (NPD): On March they will be starting their Citizens Police Academy, which entails 8 weeks of training starting on March 7 through April 27, 2023. The deadline for the applications is February 10, 2023. For more information contact Sergeant Mesta at 520-285-5804 or at omesta@nogalesaz.gov.
- Jasmin Ayala (COP): We will start a Thrive Diversion program with the National Guard at the Center for Restorative Youth & Community Programs on Thursdays for High School students. Also, DFCC in collaboration with the City Council Liza Montiel will be working together to address the issue with having too many Vape Shops in the community near schools. For more information contact Jessica at jgallego@circlesofpeace.us. Also, there are other several programs and events available for the entire community throughout the week. For more information about programming contact prevention@circlesofpeace.us or call 520-646-3315.
- Cassalyn David (MCHC): Mariposa is expanding their psychiatric and ongoing bases with now three psychiatrists professionals available for the community. For more information contact Cassalyn at cdavid@mariposachc.net.

- Veronica Corella (COP): On Thursday, January 19 at 10 am, Circles of Peace is starting the new program Recovery Café, a safe space for care providers which will take place at the Center for Restorative Youth & Community Programs and is expecting to happen once a month, and every provider is invited to join us. For more information contact Veronica at vcorella@circlesofpeace.us.
- Luis Romero (YADA): The group is working to fundraise money for their annual leadership trip: they are still having their monthly Panda Express events in any establishment in the US. The next event is on January 25. Also, in February they will do a Valentine's Graham event. Also, on Saturdays' mornings they will be having a sale at the "Subasta" in Monte Carlo, donations are accepted, they are also doing a Carne Asada. For more information contact Jessica at jgallego@circlesofpeace.us.
- Jessica Gallego (COP): Around the holidays there will be Family Nights at the Nogales Center for Restorative Youth & Community Programs with food, games, presentations, resources, etcetera and the Coalition members are invited to host one of these events for the community to learn about their resources and programs. If you want to be part of it contact Jessica at jgallego@circlesofpeace.us.

Agenda item: CLOSING

Presenter: Chair Aissa Acuña

Discussion:

Thanks for attending the meeting and for the great work that you all do. We hope to continue working together in this amazing team effort that we have been doing. We hope to see you all next meeting.

Next meeting:

- **February 8, 2023 @ 2:00 PM**
- **Hybrid**
 - **Center for Restorative Youth & Community Programs 651 N Legleu St, Nogales AZ 85621**
 - <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84306162192>

Zoom Meeting ID: 843 0616 2192