



SANTA CRUZ COUNTY  
**DRUG FREE COMMUNITY  
 COALITION**

MARCH 8, 2023

2:00 PM

HYBRID

651 N LEGLEU, NOGALES, AZ 85621

ZOOM MEETING ID: 815 4109 7295

**Meeting called by:** Jessica Gallego

**Type of meeting:** Monthly meeting

**Facilitator:** Aissa Acuña

**Note taker:** Claudia Hernandez

**Attendees:**

1. Jessica Gallego – Constructing Circles of Peace
2. Claudia Hernández – Constructing Circles of Peace
3. Aissa Acuña – Boys and Girls Club
4. Officer Marina Duran – Nogales Police Department
5. Stephanie Zepeda – Mariposa Community Health Center
6. Alicia Delgado – Child Care Resource & Referral
7. Luis Gaxiola – HOPE inc.
8. Arely Zavala – Mariposa Community Health Center
9. Kerri Muñoz– SCC Superintendent’s Office Gear Up Program
10. Patty Molina – Mariposa Community Health Center
11. Jeffery Sargent – Nogales Fire Department
12. Jeffery Polcari – Nogales Fire Department
13. Michelle Klima – Students Against Destructive Decisions
14. Melissa Gallegos – 0s3 Movement / SCC Superintendents Office Los Padres Program
15. Caitlyn Coleman – Patagonia Youth Enrichment Center
16. Blanca Acosta – Constructing Circles of Peace
17. Ssgt Mesta – Nogales Police Department
18. Galilea Olvera – SCC Child & Family Resources
19. Rosa María Hernández – SCC Child & Family Resources

**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 invited everyone to introduce themselves.

**Agenda item:** SADD & NHTSA GRANT OPPORTUNITY PRESENTATION

**Presenter:** Michelle Klima

**Discussion:**

Michelle explained what this amazing grant opportunity represents. She shared that this grant allows three of our youth members to participate and be part of the decisions from SADD which gives them the opportunity to be in meetings, travel, have

more knowledge of what they do and help approach youth in a more personalized way. Members from the YADA group will have to apply, attend an interview, commit 100% and be good leaders of the community.

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**Agenda item:** MAYOR'S CPR INICIATIVE **Presenter:** Jeffery Sargent

**Discussion:**

Jeffery talked a little bit about Mayor Maldonado's initiative which allows members of the community to get trained and recertified on CPR. They are currently partnering with U of A and other agencies to provide a CPR/Narcan training on March 28. As a little of history, Patty Molina from MCHC shared that Mayor met with many health professionals from our community and talked about the need of these resources in the community. For more information contact [jsargent@nogalesaz.gov](mailto:jsargent@nogalesaz.gov).

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**Agenda item:** GENERAL ITEMS **Presenter:** Jessica Gallego

**Discussion:**

- BYLAWS REVIEW

The bylaws have been reviewed and everyone agreed that we should keep them the same. Everyone can see them in [www.drugfreescc.org](http://www.drugfreescc.org).

- EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ELECTIONS
  - o Secretary: Officer Marina Duran
  - o Vice chair: Stephanie Zepeda
  - o Chair: Rosa López-Merino
- MEETINGS TIME CHANGE DISCUSSION

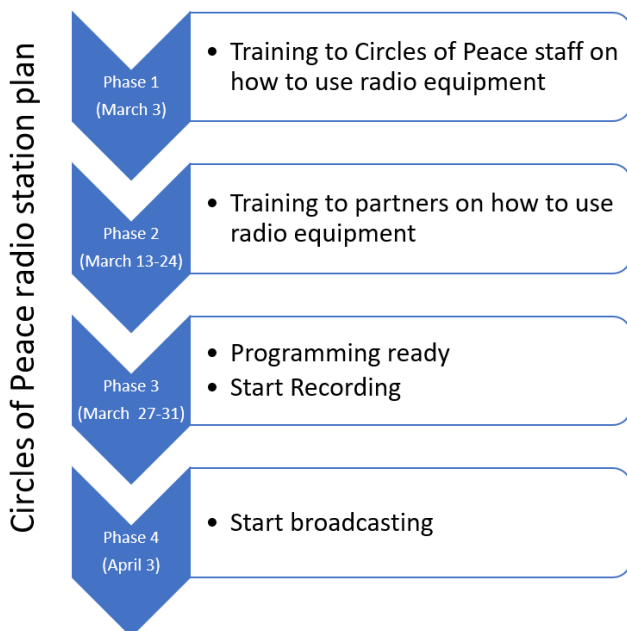
Meetings stay at the same time every second Wednesday of the month at 2 pm.

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**Agenda item:** CIRCLES OF PEACE RADIO UPDATE **Presenter:** Claudia Hernández

**Discussion:**

Circles of Peace Radio is ready to broadcast on April 3<sup>rd</sup>. We are still accepting partners to get a segment where they can share information, answer questions, etcetera. Below you will find a diagram to follow to get ready to broadcast. For questions contact Claudia at [chernandez@circlesofpeace.us](mailto:chernandez@circlesofpeace.us).



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**Agenda item:** SUBCOMMITTEES UPDATES

**Presenter:** Claudia Hernández,  
Jessica Gallego

**Discussion:**

- Youth-Serving Organizations (YSO) Subcommittee:
  - o “Love Notes” to youth (March)  
MCHC will start with the curriculum “Love Notes” on March 22 at 3:00 pm for the YADA group at the Center for Restorative Youth & Community Programs. Anyone interested in having their youth in this workshop can contact Claudia at [chernandez@circlesofpeace.us](mailto:chernandez@circlesofpeace.us).
- Youth Against Drugs and Alcohol (YADA) group:
  - o We are still working with the fundraisers to collect money for YADA’s annual leadership trip. We are currently organizing a ready-to-grill meat raffle to be executed on March 15 and picked up on March 17 at the Center for Restorative Youth & Community Programs. We also continue doing the Panda Express online fundraiser event every month. Lastly, we are recruiting new members for YADA and for the Center. For more information contact Jessica at [jgallego@circlesofpeace.us](mailto:jgallego@circlesofpeace.us).

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**Agenda item:** MEMBERS UPDATES

**Presenter:** Coalition members

**Discussion:**

- Ssgt Mesta: They are working with the Citizens Police Academy. Participants have the opportunity to get to know the Department, go on field trips, etc. If anyone wants to be a volunteer, you must attend this academy. For more information contact Ssgt Mesta at [omesta@nogalesaz.gov](mailto:omesta@nogalesaz.gov).
- Patty Molina: around 27 youth from their Mariposa Youth Coalition group are going on a field trip this weekend to Disney Imagination Campus.
- Aissa Acuña: Boys and Girls club has a Spring Break program Monday to Friday from 12 pm to 5:30 pm. Kids 5 – 17 years old are welcome to attend. Snacks are provided. For more information contact Aissa at [aissa005@hotmail.com](mailto:aissa005@hotmail.com).
- Arely Zavala: TeenCon was a success! Around 75 youth attended to this conference where they learned about mental health, healthy relationships, brain development, they included the LGBTQ+ community, and recruited youth for their programs.
- Jessica Gallego: We will have an event called Family Fun Day at Patagonia on March 25; 20+ agencies are already registered but we are still open for registrations. We are having our next Take Back Day on Walmart on April 22. Our next Family and Movie Night will be hosted by Nogales Police Department on March 17 starting at 4 pm, if possible wear green. We will have a Trauma Informed Care training at Centro Comunitario Los Nogales on March 21<sup>st</sup>. We are resuming our Trauma Informed Care training for professionals starting this month. More information and flyer to come. For more information on these events contact Jessica at [jgallego@circlesofpeace.us](mailto:jgallego@circlesofpeace.us).

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**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 for our Active Shooter training with Nogales Police Department Ssgt Mesta.

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**Next meeting:**

- **April 12, 2023 @ 12:30 PM**
- **In-person**
  - o **Center for Restorative Youth & Community Programs 651 N Legleu St, Nogales AZ 85621**