



Meeting Minutes
April 8, 2025
11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
Yuma Union High School District Office
3150 S Avenue A, Yuma AZ 85364

Attendees:

Sector	Member Name/Title	Organization Name
YCADC	Joanne Fiser	Executive Director YCADC
State, local, and/or tribal government agencies	Ryan Butcher	Yuma County Health District
Business Community	Pepper Mellon	RL Jones Insurance
Other Organization with Expertise in Substance Use	Berenice Ortiz	TLCR
Law Enforcement	Cesar Pino	Yuma Police Department
Federal/Military Govt.	Amie Zaja	MCAS Yuma
Business Community	Eric Jones	Rio Colorado Fueling Systems
State, local, and/or tribal government agencies	Jonathan Duarte	Yuma County Adult Probation
State, local, and/or tribal government agencies	Elexia Reyes	Yuma County Health District
Healthcare Professionals	Sylvia Romero	Easterseals Blake Foundation
Other Organization with Expertise in Substance Use	Rene Sonoqui	Crossroads Mission
Other Organization with Expertise in Substance Use	Jose Vidal	Crossroads Mission
Other Organization with Expertise in Substance Use	Erika Walton	Horizon Health & Wellness
Other Organization with Expertise in Substance Use	Reyes Moreno	Horizon Health & Wellness
Law Enforcement	Chris Bouzanquet	Yuma County Drug Court
Healthcare Professionals	Rick Diaz	Onvida Health
Schools	Jessica Hubbard	Yuma Education School District 1
Law Enforcement	Elizabeth Camargo	Yuma County Juvenile Justice Court
Other Organization with Expertise in Substance Use	Elvis Kost	ACHIEVE
Other Organization with Expertise in Substance Use	Lucia Wilson	ACHIEVE
State, local, and/or tribal government agencies	Oswaldo Rodriguez	Yuma County

Healthcare Professionals	Kim Alexander	Onvida Health Behavioral Health Dept
Healthcare Professionals	Sam Suhail	Onvida Health Behavioral Health Dept
Other Organization with Expertise in Substance Use	Mario Estrada	HOPE Inc.
YCADC & YCMHC	Shelley Mellon	Chair/RL Jones Insurance
State, local, and/or tribal government agencies	Cameron Curtis	Yuma County Attorney's Office
State, local, and/or tribal government agencies	Daniel Espino	Yuma Fire Department
State, local, and/or tribal government agencies	Dusty Fields	Yuma Fire Department
Schools	Kelly Dale	YUHSD
Law Enforcement	Ziria Aguilar	Yuma County Adult Probation
Schools	Martha Remenar	YUHSD
Other Organization with Expertise in Substance Use	Leif Erickson	Community Medical Services
Other Organization with Expertise in Substance Use	Marissela Sanchez	Community Medical Services
Other Organization with Expertise in Substance Use	Ruben Ornales	Crossroads Mission
Federal/Military Govt.	Carlos Sosa	AZ Drug Task Force
Federal/Military Govt.	Joseline Leal	AZ Drug Task Force
Other Organization with Expertise in Substance Use	Tim Collins	TLCR
YCMHC	Ginny Legros	Executive Director YCMHC
Youth	Isa Tydingco	Youth Leader - Cibola High School
State, local, and/or tribal government agencies	Karen Watts	Yuma City Council
Schools	Henry Gonzalez	YUHSD
Schools	Kim Seh	Somerton School District
State, local, and/or tribal government agencies	Jen Hulbert	Yuma County Health District
State, local, and/or tribal government agencies	Jamie Burnett	AZHIDTA
State, local, and/or tribal government agencies	Lizabeth Camargo	Yuma County Juvenile Justice Center
Youth	Natalia Rosas	Youth Leader – Gila Ridge High School
Schools	Olivia Porchas	YUHSD
Schools	Ulises Torres	YUHSD
Schools	Yescina Cuming	YUHSD
Healthcare Professionals	Jordin Aguilar	Onvida Health, Behavioral Health Dept

Welcome and Introductions

- Joanne called the meeting to order.

Agency Updates

- Lucia Wilson – Leading housing & homelessness resource fair at Heritage Library from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. with free lunch. Offering case management and work readiness programs through Achieve. Seeking new referrals.
- Lisa Brazeel – Hosting a blood drive tomorrow from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Exceptional Community Hospital. Blood supply in Arizona is at an all-time low. More information available on their Facebook page.
- Jordin Aguilar – Outpatient program; will inform other agencies of services.
- Casandra Wakefield & Amy Rivera – Easterseals Blake Foundation: Nurse home visits. Shared additional brochures in Spanish. Serving women who use substances or are pregnant in Yuma and San Luis.
- Community Health Associates – Now on social media. Upcoming mammogram event; flyer to be emailed.
- Eric Jones – April 16: San Luis community event for families and youth.
- Erika Walton – Veterans Health Reach Specialist: Team includes primary care, peer and family support, employment specialists, psych services. Veterans choose services based on their needs.
- Berenice Ortiz – TLCR: 13th Annual Mental Health Awareness Event on Saturday, May 3, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., featuring a foam party and petting zoo. Flyers available on social media.
- Jen Hulbert – Acknowledged National Public Health Week and thanked the community for its support.
- Amie Zaya – Recognized April as Alcohol Awareness Month.
- Josh Gonzalez – Barrio Prints: Shared on how art restores dignity and offers healing. Hosting an event in May. Advocates for “art as community medicine” through healing-centered marketing and workshops.
- Natalia Rosas – Distributed flyer for upcoming Mental Health Awareness Fair.
- Shelley Mellon– Requested community flyers to host at Old City Hall.

Coalition Updates

- **Vaping Prevention Assemblies** : Presented with the AZ Drug Task Force at Fourth Avenue Jr. High and Salida Del Sol, reaching a total of 282 fifth and sixth graders with engaging and well-received messaging.
- **National Drug and Alcohol Facts Week** : Virgil and Amie from Yuma MCAS visited local high schools with interactive activities using impairment goggles; our coalitions contributed synch bags and resources, making the week a success.
- **Youth Leaders Panel** : Isa Tydingco and Natalia Rosas served as panel speakers at the March 29th Mental Health Forum at AWC, helping break the stigma around mental health.

Upcoming Events

- May is Mental Health Awareness Month, and we want to encourage open conversations and help break the stigma surrounding mental health. The green ribbons are for you to share with your staff, friends, and family as a symbol of support and a way to spark meaningful dialogue about mental wellness. Inside the egg, you'll find a green ribbon pin just for you, and a few stickers—these are your challenge to pass along to others and help spread awareness throughout our community. Let's work together to make mental health a normal part of everyday conversation.
- May 23rd- GRAD NIGHT is coming! We're seeking sponsors and volunteers to make this event unforgettable. Raffle prize donations are a fantastic way to contribute—let's make this a memorable celebration for our seniors!.

Presentation

Ginny Legros – Certified Trainer
Yellow Ribbon Suicide Prevention Program

Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 12:43 p.m.

Vision: The victimization caused by the misuse and abuse of alcohol, marijuana, tobacco, prescription and other drugs will be eliminated from Yuma County by the community members.

Mission: To eradicate the misuse and abuse of alcohol, marijuana, tobacco, prescription and other drugs in Yuma County

