



**Meeting Minutes**  
**June 10, 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 Public Health Services District |
| Business Community                                 | Shelley Mellon     | RLJones Insurance and MVD Services          |
| Business Community                                 | Wayne Mellon       | RLJones Insurance and MVD Services          |
| Other Organization with Expertise in Substance Use | Berenice Ortiz     | TLCR                                        |
| State, local, and/or tribal government agencies    | Dusty Fields       | City of Yuma, Fire Department               |
| Business Community                                 | Josh Gonzalez      | Barrio Prints                               |
| Schools                                            | Sarah Bales        | Yuma Elementary School District #1          |
| Other Organization with Expertise in Substance Use | Eric Jones         | South County Anti-Drug Coalition            |
| Other Organization with Expertise in Substance Use | Felipa Castellanos | Catholic Community Services                 |
| State, local, and/or tribal government agencies    | Dale Duno          | Travis Manion Foundation                    |
| Other Organization with Expertise in Substance Use | Ruben Ornelas      | Crossroads Mission                          |
| State, local, and/or tribal government agencies    | Matt Haley         | Travis Manion Foundation                    |
| State, local, and/or tribal government agencies    | Carlos Garcia      | Yuma County Juvenile Court                  |
| Other Organization with Expertise in Substance Use | Keith Francis Jr.  | AZ Complete Health                          |
| Law Enforcement                                    | Nidya Casas        | Yuma County Juvenile Court                  |
| State, local, and/or tribal government agencies    | Oscar Pena         | RAZE                                        |
| Civic Volunteer Group                              | Beverly Cade       | NAACP                                       |
| Schools                                            | Monique Slaughter  | YUHSD                                       |
| Healthcare Professionals                           | Margie Hiatt       | Clarvida                                    |
| State, local, and/or tribal government agencies    | Ziria Aguilar      | Yuma County Adult Probation                 |

|                                                    |                   |                                             |
|----------------------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| State, local, and/or tribal government agencies    | Oswaldo Rodriguez | Yuma County                                 |
| State, local, and/or tribal government agencies    | Jonathan Duarte   | Yuma County Adult Probation                 |
| State, local, and/or tribal government agencies    | Sofia Camacho     | S.M.I.L.E                                   |
| Healthcare Professionals                           | Rick Diaz         | Onvida Health, Behavioral Health Dept       |
| Schools                                            | Brianna Villa     | U of A Yuma                                 |
| Healthcare Professionals                           | Lisa Brazeel      | Exceptional Community Hospital              |
| Schools                                            | Dubia Zaragoza    | U of A Yuma                                 |
| State, local, and/or tribal government agencies    | Linda Nelson      | Arizona Town Hall                           |
| Schools                                            | Cindy Zavala      | Arizona Western College                     |
| Schools                                            | Sarah Bales       | Yuma Elementary School District #1          |
| State, local, and/or tribal government agencies    | Beto Garcia       | Charlie Health                              |
| Other Organization with Expertise in Substance Use | Leif Erickson     | Community Medical Services                  |
| State, local, and/or tribal government agencies    | Oscar Morales     | US Border Patrol – Yuma Station             |
| Media                                              | Jonny Porter      | KAWC Radio Show                             |
| Schools                                            | Brianna Villa     | U of A Yuma                                 |
| Healthcare Professionals                           | Paulina Ibarra    | Regional Center for Border Health           |
| Healthcare Professionals                           | Valentina Goday   | Regional Center for Border Health           |
| YCMHC                                              | Ginny Legros      | Executive Director, YCMHC                   |
| Healthcare Professionals                           | Arisel Torres     | Colorado River Behavioral Health System     |
| Community Advocate                                 | Steve Legros      | Parent                                      |
| State, local, and/or tribal government agencies    | Karen Watts       | Yuma City Council                           |
| State, local, and/or tribal government agencies    | Carol Smith       | Yuma City Council                           |
| Schools                                            | Henry Gonzalez    | YUHSD                                       |
| State, local, and/or tribal government agencies    | Jen Hulbert       | Yuma County Public Health Services District |
| State, local, and/or tribal government agencies    | Cameron Curtis    | Yuma County Attorney's Office               |
| Youth                                              | Natalia Rosas     | Youth Leader – Gila Ridge High School       |
| Healthcare Professionals                           | Jordin Aguilar    | Onvida Health, Behavioral Health Dept       |
| State, local, and/or tribal government agencies    | Candice Brown     | Marine Corps Community Services             |

## Welcome and Introductions

- Joanne Fiser, Executive Director, Yuma County Anti-Drug Coalition, welcomed attendees and encouraged networking and sharing “cool-down” summer tips as part of the monthly Lunch Connector activity.
- Shelley Mellon, RL Jones Insurance & Coalition Chair, thanked attendees for their ongoing collaboration and highlighted a recent podcast recording with Chief De La Torre (U.S. Border Patrol).

## Agency Updates

- Beverly Cade – NAACP: Juneteenth event on June 14, Carver Park, 6:30–10:30 p.m.
- Johnny Porter – KAWC Radio: Launching a local radio show with a mental health segment; seeking positive-focused guests.
- Linda Elliot Nelson – Arizona Town Hall: Two no-cost webinars: June (affordable childcare & workforce) and July (mental health in U.S. & Mexico).
- Dubia Zaragoza – Arizona Western College/University of Arizona: Seeking agencies to host student interns in mental health/substance abuse prevention. Fundraising for November conference.
- Dale Dumo & Matt Haley – Travis Manion Foundation: Youth mentorship, character and leadership development, holistic fitness.
- Keith Francis – Arizona Complete Health: Updated crisis cards available; offers crisis system overviews.
- Sofia Camacho – SMILE Center for Independent Living: No longer offering guardianship services; expanding youth transition program.
- Ruben Ornelas – Crossroads Mission: Request for bottled water donations for homeless cooling stations.
- Lisa Brazeel – Exceptional Community Hospital: Distributed heat prevention materials.
- Karen Watts – City Council: Supporting NAACP Juneteenth event.
- Carol Smith – Deputy Mayor/Nurse Educator: Experience with substance-exposed newborns; seeking ways to better support mothers.
- Monique Slaughter & Dave King – Vista High School: Smaller campus for credit recovery and early graduation; seeking student involvement in community programs.
- Eric Jones –SCADC Chair: Supporting July 12 Back-to-School Rodeo; planning Red Ribbon Week event for October 25; working on bilingual Border Patrol podcast.
- Cameron Curtis – Yuma County Attorney’s Office: Prosecutor assigned to drug cases and drug court; here for coalition support.
- Beto Garcia – Charlie Health: New SUD primary IOP course now available virtually.
- Jordin Aguilar – Onvida Behavioral Health: Offers adult and child behavioral health services.

- Oscar Morales – U.S. Border Patrol Chaplain: Encouraging new Chief to attend coalition meeting; values community collaboration.
- Margie Hyatt – Clarvida: Works closely with juvenile drug court; interested in expanding partnerships, including hosting AWC interns.
- Rick Diaz – Onvida Behavioral Health: Launching psychiatric medical residency program in July.
- Josh Gonzalez – Barrio Prints: Praised TLCR services; offering free event photography for three organizations this month.
- Dusty Fields – Yuma Fire Department: Exploring improved mental health crisis response models.
- Steve Legros – YCADC/YCMHC: All coalition podcasts now available on website, YouTube, and Spotify.
- Oscar Peña – R.A.Z.E.: Hosting sticker design contest (July 17) and Lotería Night (June 18) in San Luis.
- Sarah Bales – Yuma School District 1: Interested in connecting community services with school health programs.
- Oswaldo Rodriguez – Yuma County Juvenile Justice Center: Networking to support youth both in and out of the justice system.
- Nydia Casas – Best for Babies: Trauma-informed care for families with children ages 0–3.
- Valentina Godoy & Paulina Ibarra – Regional Center for Border Health: New Somerton children’s clinic; services include psychiatry, case management, counseling, ABA therapy.
- Jen Hulbert – Yuma County Health District: Offers Naloxone training and Youth Mental Health First Aid certification.
- Natalia Rosas – Youth Leader: Working with Yellow Ribbon Suicide Prevention Program; preparing for Miss Arizona’s Teen competition.
- Henry Gonzales – Yuma Union High School District: Praised coalition’s impact, citing Grad Night success and community safety.
- Ryan Butcher – Yuma County Health District: Overdose Data to Action grant renewed for third year; cooling site maps available; acknowledged partners in substance use subcommittee.

## Coalition Updates

- YCADC & YCMHC were featured on Z93.1 Today in Yuma Radio Show with Jennifer Blackwell and Theresa Straub. This interview reached over 100,000 listeners, we were able to share information about prevention and mental health resources.
- YCMHC launched the Yellow Ribbon suicide prevention and awareness campaign in collaboration with Somerton School District leadership. A presentation was provided to district leaders to introduce the campaign, share critical mental health resources, and discuss ways to bring suicide prevention education and support to the broader school community.

- This year's Grad Night was a tremendous success, drawing over 1,500 graduates to the Yuma Civic Center for a safe, substance-free celebration following graduation. Highlights included the crowd-favorite grand prize, Silent Disco, karaoke, arcade room, games and plenty of food, making it a memorable evening for all attendees.

## Upcoming Events

- Juneteenth – June 14, Carver Park
- Back-to-School Rodeo – July 12
- Red Ribbon Week – October 25
- R.A.Z.E. Events – June 18 & July 17

## Wrap-Up

- Ryan Butcher shared, “Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.” ~Margaret Mead

## Presentation

- Berenice Ortiz, Transitional Living Center for Recovery

## Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 1:00 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

