



**MINUTES**  
**November 18, 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
Nonprofit	Joanne Fiser	Executive Director, YCADC
State, local, and/or tribal government agencies	Ryan Butcher	Yuma County Public Health Services District
Business Community	Pepper Mellon	RL Jones Insurance
Business	Shelley Mellon	Chair/RL Jones Insurance
Nonprofit	Steve Legros	YCMHC
Other Organization with Expertise in Substance Use	Timothy Collins	TLCR
Schools	Henry Gonzalez	YUHSD
Civic Organization / Nonprofit	Beverly Cade	NAACP
Other Organization with Expertise in Substance Use	Ruben Ornelas	Crossroads Mission
Other Organization with Expertise in Substance Use	Miguel Burciaga	Crossroads Mission
Media	Eduardo Morales	KYMA
Schools	Yolanda Serrato	YUHSD
State, local, and/or tribal government agencies	William Lloyd	YPG
Nonprofit	Gina Thompson	AZ Impact Center
Other Organization with Expertise in Substance Use	Jose Gallardo	CSF
Other Organization with Expertise in Substance Use	Luis Vasquez	CSF
State, local, and/or tribal government agencies	Ernesto Prieto	San Luis Police Department

Nonprofit	Maria Chavoya	AZCH
Other Organization with Expertise in Substance Use	Reyes Moreno	Horizon Health & Wellness
Other Organization with Expertise in Substance Use	Danny Koolick	Horizon Health & Wellness
Nonprofit	Nydia Herrera	Arizona at Work
Federal Govt/Military	Amy Zaja	MCGS / MCAS Yuma
School	Cindy Zavala	AWC
State, local, and/or tribal government agencies	Paul Fiverish	YPD
Schools	David Reynoso	Vista High School
State, local, and/or tribal government agencies	Carol Smith	City of Yuma
Healthcare Professional	Christian Hernandez	Onvida
Nonprofit	Alejandra Lace	First Things First
Federal Govt/Military	Jacob Weitzman	DHS
Federal Govt/Military	Ryan Nicols	DHS
Other Organization with Expertise in Substance Use	Courtney Starkey	CPIH
Nonprofit	Amy Rivera	Easter Seals Blake Foundation
Nonprofit	Cassandra Wakefield	Easter Seals Blake Foundation
Schools	Hannah Perdoma	YUHSD
Business	Lexzavier Black	Elbowroom Barbershop
Schools	Uescina Cuming	Cibola HS
Healthcare Professionals	Keith Francis	Arizona Complete Health
Parent	Bruce Gwynn	Ret – Parent
Nonprofit	Kamla Prender	Amberly's Place
Schools	Patricia Quezada	Gila Ridge HS
Business	Cathy Nuetzi	State Farm Insurance

State, local, and/or tribal government agencies	Joe Jenkins	Somerton PD
School	Anet Solorazano	YUHSD
School	Arisbey Garcia	YUHSD
Federal Govt/military	Oscar Morales, Sector Chaplain	USBP
Federal Govt/military	Brandon Sorreles AMO Chaplain	USBP
Nonprofit	Rudy Ortiz	First Things First
Healthcare Professionals	Jordin Aguilar	Onvida Health, Behavioral Health Dept
Schools	Rigo Conle	San Luis HS
Schools	Keith Dale	CHS YUHSD
Schools	Ulises Torres	GRHS
Schools	Lauren Spurlock	MAP / YUHSD
Religious Organization	K H	Christ Lutheran
Law Enforcement	Robert Amola	Yuma County Sheriff's Office
Law Enforcement	Victoria Gonzalez	YCSO and YCJJC
Schools	Olivia Ponchas	YUHSD
Schools	Crisanto Herrera	YUHSD
Coalition	Elivs Kost	Yuma Coalition to End Homelessness
Other Organization with Expertise in Substance Use	Alma Herrera	Regional Center for Border Health
Nonprofit	Raul Castillo	SMILE
State, local, and/or tribal government agencies	Cameron Curtis	Yuma County Attorney's Office
Schools	Nikki Hodge	AWC
Student	Marci Sanchez	ASU Student Intern

11:30 Lunch/Connector Question: ***November is a month for Thanksgiving and gratitude. We are grateful for “people” over “things.” Take a moment to share with your neighbor of someone you are grateful for and/or then message that person right now.***

## Welcome and Introductions

### Introductions and Agency Updates

Red Ribbon Week was such a tremendous success that it stands as our primary update for last month. We reached over 50 schools across Yuma County with prevention information. YCADC presented full-day sessions at Gila Ridge High School and Kofa High School, and partnered with:

- Homeland Security Investigations
- Yuma Union High School District
- U.S. Border Patrol – Yuma Sector
- Yuma County Public Health Services District
- Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses & Control

We also presented at Palmcroft Elementary and Salida del Sol Elementary, conducting multiple assemblies and engaging with more than 3,000 students throughout the week.

We concluded Red Ribbon Week by partnering with the Yuma Police Department at the Trick or Treat Scary & Safe event.

### Upcoming Events

- YCADC will deliver full-day drug prevention presentations to Cibola High School students in December.

### Appreciation

- Big appreciation to Henry Gonzalez for being our link to the high schools and for presenting during Red Ribbon Week — your presentation was outstanding!
- We are incredibly grateful to our Red Ribbon Week sponsors, whose support helped us provide supplies and prevention materials to schools across the county: Arizona Western College, R.L. Jones Insurance, Nova Home Loans, Cathy Nuetzi State Farm, and Jay's Party Shop.
- A special thank-you to Jennifer Hulbert and the Yuma County Health Services District team — they were our biggest partners during Red Ribbon Week and were phenomenal at every school.
- A heartfelt thank-you to Michael Odom for joining us as our podcast guest and sharing such meaningful insight with our community.
- Special thanks to Ryan Butcher for presenting today — we appreciate your expertise and the value you bring to our coalition.

### Presentation

Ryan Butcher, Deputy Chief Health Officer – Overdose Fatality Review/Overview Program

- Summary of presentation:  
**Ryan Butcher**, Deputy Chief Health Officer at the County Health District, oversees **overdose fatality review (OFR)** along with other fatality review programs.
- Emphasizes that data represent **real people and families** and asks attendees **not to take photos** of the preliminary slides.
- Ryan stresses the system is increasingly providing **linkages and continuity of care**, but stigma and engagement remain significant challenges.
- Naloxone information and free pick up locations available on our website: [www.ycadc.org](http://www.ycadc.org)

### Good of Order: Shelley Mellon, Chair

Good of the Order (Enjoy your holidays. Our next meeting is January 13, 2026)

### Adjourned:

**1:00 PM** – Adjourn