



**Minutes**  
**January 13, 2026**  
**11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**  
**Yuma Union High School District Office**  
**3150 S Avenue A, Yuma AZ 85364**

**Attendees:**

First and Last Name	Agency/Organization	Sector
Chris Reese	YUHSD	Schools
Crisanto Herrera	YUHSD - Somerton High School	Schools
Jillian Attaway	American Red Cross	Nonprofit
Kelly Dale	YUHSD	Schools
Elvis Kost	Achieve	Nonprofit
Anastasia Dawson	YUHSD Gila Ridge High School	Schools
Christian Hernandez	Onvida Health	Health Care Professional
Yescina Cuming	Cibola HS / Yuma Union High School District	Schools
William Lloyd	YPG Army	STATE / LOCAL / TRIBAL / GOVERNMENT AGENCIES
Carol Smith	City of Yuma	STATE / LOCAL / TRIBAL / GOVERNMENT AGENCIES
Jaime Burnett	CDC Foundation/ORS	Nonprofit
Lauren Spurlock	YUHSD 70 (MAP)	Schools
Karen Watts	City of Yuma Council Member, Family Nurse Practitioner	STATE / LOCAL / TRIBAL / GOVERNMENT AGENCIES
Maria Chavoya	Arizona Complete Health	Health Care Professional
Ginny Legros	YCMHC	Schools
Henry Gonzalez	YUHSD #70	Schools
Martha Remenar	YUHSD- Kofa High School	Sco
Gina Thompson	AZ Impact Center	Nonprofit
Natalia Rosas	Gila Ridge High School student	Schools
Linda Elliott-Nelson	Arizona Town Hall	Nonprofit
Michaela Kerekes	Vista HS	Schools
Bruce Gwynn	Yuma Food Bank	Nonprofit
Kayla Irr-Mendez	Amberlys Place	Nonprofit
Josh Dahl	United States Border Patrol	STATE / LOCAL / TRIBAL / GOVERNMENT AGENCIES
Joanne Fiser	YCADC	Nonprofit
Shelley Mellon	RL Jones Insurance	Business
Leif Erickson	Community Medical Services	Health Care Professional
Jen Hulbert	Yuma County Public Health Services District	STATE / LOCAL / TRIBAL / GOVERNMENT AGENCIES
Ignacio Galindo	Juvenile Court	STATE / LOCAL / TRIBAL / GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

Oswaldo Rodriguez	Yuma County Juvenile Justice Court	STATE / LOCAL / TRIBAL / GOVERNMENT AGENCIES
Martha Remenar	YUHDS- Kofa High School	Schools
Beto Garcia	Charlie Health	Health Care Professional
Angelina Phillips	TLCR	Substance Misuse Professionals
Stacey Moore	American Red Cross	Nonprofit
David Reynoso	Yuma Union High School District- Vista High	Schools
Ernesto Prieto	San Luis police department	STATE / LOCAL / TRIBAL / GOVERNMENT AGENCIES
Jordin Aguilar	Onvida Behavioral Health Center	Health Care Professional
Jorge Flores	Rural Arizona Engagement	Nonprofit
Ana Camberos	Ron Watson MS	Schools
Oscar Morales	Customs Border Protection - Yuma Birder Patrol	STATE / LOCAL / TRIBAL / GOVERNMENT AGENCIES
Dale Dumo	Travis Manion Foundation	Nonprofit
Elvis Kost	Local Coalition to End Homelessness- ACHIEVE	Nonprofit
Ulises Torres	YUHSD	Schools
Nidia Herrera	ARIZONA@WORK-Yuma	Civic Organization
Raul Castillo	S.M.I.L.E.	Nonprofit
Marissela Hodges	National Community Health Partners	Health Care Professional
Carlos Flores	TLCR	Substance Misuse Professionals
Arisel Torres	Transitional Living Center Recovery	Substance Misuse Professionals
Maria Chavoya	Arizona Complete Health	Health Care Professional

## Welcome Champion Introductions & Community Updates

Karen Watts

*City of Yuma Council Member / Family Nurse Practitioner*

- MLK Walk – Monday, January 19 (Free community event)
- Amberly's Place Gala Fundraiser – January 31

Maria Chavoya

*Arizona Complete Health*

- Shared community flyer  
[https://drive.google.com/open?id=1\\_oLDFYxKEymsqA7R1eADyhKHAuUCGZUX](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1_oLDFYxKEymsqA7R1eADyhKHAuUCGZUX)

Linda Elliott-Nelson

*Arizona Town Hall*

- 2026 State Topic: Housing

Kayla Irr-Mendez

*Amberly's Place*

- Amberly's Place Gala  
 January 31 | 5:30 PM – 11:30 PM  
 Quechan Casino

Joanne Fiser

*Yuma County Anti-Drug Coalition (YCADC)*

- Grad Night 2026 sponsorships are in full swing  
 Visit [ycadc.org](http://ycadc.org) for details and ways to support

Beto Garcia

*Charlie Health*

- Trainings available for offices and teams  
 Contact Beto at 928-508-6350

Stacey Moore

*American Red Cross – Southern Arizona*

- Urgent need for mental health professionals to volunteer virtually. Contact Stacey Moore at 520-576-2874

David Reynoso

*Yuma Union High School District – Vista High School*

- Shared community flyer  
<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1OTnqoWgHmPRBAp6fXqlTyZTrhaUGA1Cu>

Jordin Aguilar

*Onvida Behavioral Health Center*

- Mobile behavioral health screener available Monday–Friday, 8 AM–4 PM
- Inpatient BHC unit currently full
- Intensive Outpatient Program openings available

Jorge Flores

*Rural Arizona Engagement (RAZE)*

- Seeking high school students in the City of Yuma for upcoming RAZE Leaders cohort (starting end of January)  
<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1c7kwI6A4Hpi1x8cnvtFgudLzayg2sZch>

Ana Camberos

*Ron Watson Middle School*

- No recent substance use reports

Oscar Morales

*Customs & Border Protection – Yuma Border Patrol*

- Shared appreciation for coalition hospitality
- Successful connections made with healthcare and mental health providers to support agents and staff

Dale Dumo

*Travis Manion Foundation*

- Continued partnership with Centennial MS & Vista HS for Character Does Matter youth mentorship (2025–2026 school year)
- Collaboration with Kids at Hope Yuma
- Planning 2026 summer youth mentorship & holistic health workshops at MLK Youth Center
- TMF 9/11 Heroes Run – Planned for Saturday, September 12, 2026 (5–9 AM)  
[https://drive.google.com/open?id=1qGbKdH\\_bqXj\\_kX7-UovC3zYgbxnVQmMs](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1qGbKdH_bqXj_kX7-UovC3zYgbxnVQmMs)

Elvis Kost

*Local Coalition to End Homelessness – ACHIEVE*

- Individuals experiencing homelessness are encouraged to contact YCEH to access resources and complete Coordinated Entry

Nidia Herrera

*ARIZONA@WORK – Yuma*

- Free tax service community flyer  
MLK Center  
<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1uBy5Dz2lpB6VKn4g3ZF3XxR3rt1I8JPC>

Marissela Hodges

*National Community Health Partners*

- Veterans Engagement Resource Fair. QPR Training hosted at TLCR

Carlos Flores

*Transitional Living Center Recovery (TLCR)*

- QPR Gatekeeper Training – January 30 (two sessions)
- Ongoing monthly events: Carnival Day, Pizza Party, Ice Cream Social, Karaoke
- Recovery Palooza planning underway
- Open 7 days a week, 8 AM – 7:30 PM
- RNA housing currently at 14 homes  
<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1eFgwXmX8iXILANueSlkDgd-GyAirKSPI>

Arisel Torres

*Transitional Living Center Recovery*

- Monthly community events:
  - 1st Wednesday – Coffee & Donuts
  - 1st Saturday – Carnival
  - 2nd Tuesday – Pizza Party
  - 3rd Friday – Ice Cream Social
  - 4th Saturday – Karaoke Night
- Monthly Peer Support Learning Class
- RNA Housing Program availability
- Recovery Palooza: 1st Saturday of May (free booths for agencies; aiming to exceed 4,000 attendees)  
<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1UDn-GTt67VK0AZnSwJfluG-T7yrc61YB>

Jennifer Hulbert

*Yuma County Public Health Services District*

- Shared the “12 Things Parents Can Do to Prevent Addiction” Toolkit, a practical resource for parents and caregivers to help prevent youth substance use
- The toolkit encourages open conversations, clear expectations, staying involved in teens’ lives, and helping youth navigate peer pressure
- Highlights the importance of recognizing warning signs early and seeking support sooner rather than later
- Available in both English and Spanish [English Toolkit](#) [Spanish Toolkit](#):

## YCADC UPDATE:

- Last month, Yuma CARES Coalition spent a full day at Cibola High School with Ms. Gomez’s classes, sharing the *Rise On Fentanyl* presentation with over 200 students. A special thank you to the Arizona Drug Demand Reduction Outreach Team, who traveled from Tucson to invest in and support our students.
- We would also like to thank Beto Garcia, Clinical Outreach Manager with Charlie Health, for being our first guest on *The CONNECTION Podcast* for 2026 and for joining us today as one of our presenters.
- Upcoming Event: Tomorrow, we will be at Pueblo Elementary School’s Career Day, sharing with students the important work our coalition does to help make Yuma County a healthier and safer community.
- Upcoming event: Tomorrow, YCADC will be at Pueblo Elementary School Career Day, sharing information about our organization.

## Presentation

Beto Garcia, Clinical Outreach Manager with Charlie Health

- Training available for offices and teams, Contact Beto at 928-508-6350

## Presentation

Joanne Fiser, Executive Director with YCADC

- Grad Night 2026 sponsorships are in full swing. Visit [ycadc.org](http://ycadc.org) for details and ways to support

Connection Conversations - Participants were encouraged to engage in interactive networking, with discussion questions displayed on screen. Attendees were invited to move around the room, connect with one another, speak with presenters, and explore ways to support each other’s work, strengthening collaboration and relationship-building.

## Good of Order: Ginny Legros, Special Project Manager

Ginny shared that she was happy to be back attending coalition meetings and encouraged members to identify a “word for the year.” Her chosen word was joy, emphasizing the importance of focusing on joy as we continue to strengthen collaboration and advance the meaningful work we do together for our community.

## Adjourned:

Meeting is Adjourned 1:00 p.m.