



**Minutes**  
**May 12, 2026**  
**11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**  
**Yuma Union High School District Office**  
**3150 S Avenue A, Yuma AZ 85364**

**Attendees:**

Raul Castillo	S.M.I.L.E. Center for Independent Living	Youth Serving Organization
Courtney Starkey	Community Partners Integrated Healthcare	Healthcare Professional
Tim Hariper	Yuma Police Department Co-Responder Unit	Law Enforcement
Amie Zaja	SACC	Substance Use Organization
William Lloyd	YPG	State, Local or Tribal Governmental Agency
Dusty Fields	Arizona Western College	State, Local or Tribal Governmental Agency
Africa Carrasco	Achieve Human Services	Healthcare Professional
Crisanto Herrera	Somerton High School - YUHSD	School
Yescina Cuming	Cibola High School	School
Christian Hernandez	Onvida Health	Healthcare Professional
Henry Gonzalez	YUHSD	School
Berenice Ortiz	Tlcr	Substance Use Organization
Kelly Dale	YUHSD 70	School
Anthony Legros	Yuma Police Department	Law Enforcement
Ruben Ornelas	Crossroads Mission	Substance Use Organization
Camryn Amrhein	YUHSD	School
George Owens	Arizona Complete Health	Healthcare Professional
Marissela Hodges	National Community Health Partners	Healthcare Professional
Lilian Campa	YUHSD #70	School
Jennifer Hulbert	Yuma County Public Health Services District	State, Local or Tribal Governmental Agency
Joanne Purdy	National Community Health Partners	Healthcare Professional
Samantha Bunker	NCHP	Civic/Volunteer Organization
Joanne Fiser	YCADC	Substance Use Organization

Tim Keller	YUHSD	School
Jessica Hubbard	Yuma elementary school district/ castle dome	School
Jose Sainez	Yuma Police Department	Law Enforcement
Beto Garcia	Charlie Health	Healthcare Professional
Bruce Gwynn	Retired	Civic/Volunteer Organization
Cristina Mcinnes	Child & Family services, right turn for Yuma veterans	Civic/Volunteer Organization
Linda Elliott-Nelson	First Things First	State, Local or Tribal Governmental Agency
Rocio Meza	The Healing Journey	Youth Serving Organization
Yisselle Sanchez	Yuhsd Cibola	Youth
Chris Reese	YUHSD- Somerton HS	School
Gina Thompson	AZ Impact Center	Civic/Volunteer Organization
Jessica Valadez	Arizona Department of Liquor, EPU	State, Local or Tribal Governmental Agency
Juanita Gomez	YUHSD CIBOLA	School
Adriana Martinez	Arizona Western College	School
Jordin Aguilar	Onvida Behavioral Health Center	Healthcare Professional
Robert Wright	Yuma Police department	Law Enforcement
Dale Dumo	Travis Manion Foundation	Civic/Volunteer Organization
Jeremy Daniels	Yuma Police Department	Law Enforcement
Virginia S. Legros	Yuma Cares	Youth Serving Organization
Candice Brown	MCAS Yuma	Youth Serving Organization
Oswaldo Rodriguez	Yuma County Juvenile Justice Court	State, Local or Tribal Governmental Agency
Kim Seh	Somerton school district	School
Oscar Pena	Rural Arizona Engagement (RAZE)	Youth Serving Organization
Vanessa Pérez	Onvida Behavioral Health	Healthcare Professional
Avanikkha Elayappen	Onvida health	Healthcare Professional
Jonathan Duarte	Adult Probay	Law Enforcement
Karen Watts	COY	Civic/Volunteer Organization
Isabela Martinez Breto	CPIH	Youth Serving Organization
Samantha Bunker	NCHP	Civic/Volunteer Organization
Steve Legros	Retired YFD	Civic/Volunteer Organization
Ryan Butcher	Yuma County Health District	State, Local or Tribal Governmental Agency

Tim Collins	TLCR	Substance Use Organization
Nidya Casas	First Things First	Nonprofit
Jonathan Palacio	ACA Meals	Business Sector
Beverly Cade	NAACP	Civic/Volunteer Organization
Shelley Mellon	RL Jones	Business Sector
Kellan Trammel	Yuma Fire Dept	State, Local or Tribal Governmental Agency
Fred Rodriguez	Achieve Human Services	Nonprofit
Felipa Castellanos	Catholic Community Services	Civic/Volunteer Organization
Luis Veliz	Achieve Human Services	Nonprofit
Jorge Flores	RAZE	Youth Serving Organization

## Approval of Minutes -

Pledge/March 2026 Meeting Minutes – William Lloyd motions. Jennifer Hulbert seconds. Approved.

## Welcome Champion Introductions & Community Updates

### S.M.I.L.E. Center for Independent Living

- Resource Flyer: [https://drive.google.com/open?id=1nko3rosJW\\_shugbfrL3Zvgb92Nt\\_v0F9](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1nko3rosJW_shugbfrL3Zvgb92Nt_v0F9)

### Community Partners Integrated Healthcare (Courtney Starkey)

- Intermountain Centers is hosting an informational event for individuals interested in becoming a foster family.
- Location: 2545 S. Arizona Avenue
- Event Flyer: <https://drive.google.com/open?id=1DCJRmPAZPEmRr1msp32tr5WAcDwGyjVC>

### TLCR – Transitional Living Center Recovery (Berenice Ortiz)

- Recovery Palooza was a tremendous success with more than 4,800 attendees.
- Planning is already underway for the next community event, Serenity Sunsplash.

### Charlie Health (Beto Garcia)

- Immediate mental health support is available for individuals ages 8–64.
- Services are available for AHCCCS and most commercial insurance plans.
- Learn more: <https://www.charliehealth.com>

### Yuma County Public Health Services District (Jennifer Hulbert)

- Jennifer Hulbert, Injury Prevention Program Coordinator, shared the Overdose Risk Assessment Tool from the National Council for Mental Wellbeing.

- This self-assessment resource is designed to help loved ones, family members, and community allies identify overdose risk factors, initiate supportive conversations, and connect individuals to appropriate resources and support services.
- Resource link. [Overdose Risk Tool](#) to access the tool.

### **Overdose Response Strategy (ORS) – Upcoming Free Training Opportunities (Jaime Burnett)**

Jaime Burnett, Public Health Analyst with the Overdose Response Strategy (ORS), shared several upcoming virtual learning opportunities available at no cost to community partners. These webinars are open to all interested professionals and community members and provide valuable information on overdose prevention, emerging drug trends, and public health strategies.

#### **Upcoming Webinars:**

- **OFR/PHAST Learning Community:**
  - OFR-PHAST 2-Part Webinar Series | **Leveraging MEC Data for OFRs/Overdose Prevention**, Dr. Brandi McCleskey, Associate Professor of Pathology, University of Alabama at Birmingham: **July 16 | 3:00 – 4:30 PM ET** (Please share with Partners!!!)
  - Registration: <https://cdcfoundation.zoom.us/meeting/register/0AIWkg3JSGaFDG3YLqIGOg#/registration>
- **Overdose Prevention & Policy Learning Community:**
  - **Overdose Prevention 101: What Works, What Doesn't, and Why: June 17th: 2-3 ET:** (Open to Partners!!)
  - Registration: <https://cdcfoundation.zoom.us/meeting/register/or6Djiu8RYO8oQuEXt7ZkQ#/registration>
- **ORS Trends, Analysis & Threats (TAT) Webinars"**
  - Next **TAT webinar is July 1, 2026, at 2pm EST**, speakers to be announced soon.
  - TAT flyer- <https://orsprogram.org/tat-webinars/>

### **Onvida Behavioral Health Center (Jordin Aguilar)**

- Expanding behavioral health services to better serve veterans, active-duty military personnel, and Native American populations.
- For information, contact the Behavioral Health Center at (928) 336-5660.

### **Travis Manion Foundation (Dale Dumo)**

- TMF was awarded a \$25,000 grant from the Arizona Community Foundation to support the Character Does Matter and youth mentorship programs in Yuma.
- Current school partnerships include Vista High School, Centennial Middle School, Ronald Reagan Elementary School, and Cibola High School.
- Future partnerships include Arizona @ Work (MLK Youth Center) and the Yuma County Juvenile Justice Center.

### **MCAS Yuma (Candice Brown)**

- Military Family Life Counselors (MFLCs) continue to provide free, non-clinical counseling services to eligible service members and their families.
- More than 13 providers are available locally through Military OneSource.
- Learn more: <https://www.militaryonesource.mil/benefits/military-family-life-counseling-program/>

### **Rural Arizona Engagement (RAZE)**

- Recruiting high school students interested in leadership development, civic engagement, and community impact opportunities.
- Register Here: <https://ruralarizona.us/InterestFormRAZELeaders>
- Flyer: <https://drive.google.com/open?id=11rebyfbI-IBtGMUOz5SYVeUuKM7PdzWW>

### **The Healing Journey**

- Community Resource Flyers:
  - [https://drive.google.com/open?id=1-qjf70RuJ5pOTSKNcoNh67d\\_r0\\_Zou-l](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1-qjf70RuJ5pOTSKNcoNh67d_r0_Zou-l)
  - <https://drive.google.com/open?id=1QU9A2Fkv4ymj2mlFnnrC1imEZt40COgL>
  - [https://drive.google.com/open?id=126tNujkPBpwmSBAbtd9\\_NMoHzeUuwT1](https://drive.google.com/open?id=126tNujkPBpwmSBAbtd9_NMoHzeUuwT1)

### **National Council for Mental Wellbeing / NCHP (Samantha Bunker)**

- Upcoming webinars and virtual training opportunities are available.
- Webinar & Training Flyers:
  - [https://drive.google.com/open?id=1AQWg\\_Ul9a2GOAMWTgSsNgTGqNOFDKZZr](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1AQWg_Ul9a2GOAMWTgSsNgTGqNOFDKZZr)
  - [https://drive.google.com/open?id=15JZcDu7khSWOy6QxoW9\\_TUr3EY5\\_TVP7](https://drive.google.com/open?id=15JZcDu7khSWOy6QxoW9_TUr3EY5_TVP7)

### **SACC (Amie Zaja)**

- Resources and services remain available to active-duty military personnel and, based on availability, support may also be provided to retired and prior-service members.

### **YCADC UPDATE:**

- We are excited to announce that the City of Yuma has included support for Yuma County Anti-Drug Coalition through opioid settlement funding in the proposed budget. We are incredibly grateful to the City Council, City Administrator Jay Simonton, and all of our partners for believing in our mission to help create a healthier and safer Yuma County. Your support continues to make a life-changing impact across our community.
- We are proud to announce that Arizona Complete Health has generously committed as the Title Sponsor for Red Ribbon Month 2026. During the month of October, the YumaCARES Coalition reaches all Yuma County schools with prevention education, awareness, and resources, and this sponsorship will help expand that impact in an even greater way. We appreciate your incredible support and partnership.
- We were so excited to attend the TLCR 14th Annual Recovery Palooza event on May 2nd! Congratulations to Bernice Ortiz and Carlos Flores for their incredible coordination and dedication in providing such a meaningful event for our community in a big way. So many amazing partners and coalition champions were part of this impactful event, and we were grateful to participate this year.

- We are in the final two weeks of collecting raffle prize donations for Grad Night 2026. If you would like to contribute a raffle item, please have donations submitted to Joanne or Ginny by Friday, May 15th. Thank you to everyone helping make this safe and memorable celebration possible for Yuma County graduates.

## Presentation

Samantha Bunker, Health Educator-Trainer - National Community Health Partners

## Presentation

George Owens, Program Manager II, Justice and Crisis Systems and Maria Chavoya, Community Relations Representative III, Community Affairs with AZ Complete Health

## Champion Thank You's

- Allo Fiber – Monthly Lunch Sponsor  
Thank you to Allo Fiber for generously sponsoring our monthly lunches. Your support helps fuel our Champions and strengthens the prevention work happening throughout our community.
- Thank you to all that have supported Grad Night 2026. This only happens with your support.

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

– (Friendly Reminders: Please double check that you signed in with the QR code. \*Please leave your badges at your seat.

## Adjourned:

Meeting is Adjourned 1:00 p.m.

**NEXT MEETING: June 9, 2026**

**Yuma CARES** unites community partners, prevention leaders, and mental health professionals to promote wellness, resilience, and recovery across Yuma County. By addressing substance use prevention and mental health awareness together, we take a whole-person, whole-community approach—because healthy minds and healthy choices go hand in hand.

