



**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

