



**Meeting Minutes**  
**January 9, 2024**  
**11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.**  
**Yuma Main Library**

**Attendees:**

Sector	Member Name/Title	Organization Name
YCADC	Joanne Fiser	Executive Director YCADC
Parent	Cori Rico- Secretary	Gowan Company
Health	Ryan Butcher-CoChair	Yuma County Health District
Business	Shelley Mellon- Chair	R.L. Jones Insurance
Other Org Involved in Reducing Substance Abuse	John Abarca	Community Bridges
Behavioral Health	Jordin Aguilar	YRMC Behavioral Health
Other Org Involved in Reducing Substance Abuse	Berenice Ortiz	TLCR
Other Org Involved in Reducing Substance Abuse	Timothy Collins	TLCR
School	Henry Gonzalez	Yuma Union HS District
Other Org Involved in Reducing Substance Abuse	Matthew Pappan	Victory Homes
Law Enforcement	Levin Jones	Yuma Police Dept
Federal Government/Military	Virgil Tapispisan	MCAS /DDRC
Law Enforcement	Cesar Pino	Yuma Police Dept
Federal Government/Military	Amie Zaja	MCAS/DDRC
Other Org Involved in Reducing Substance Abuse	Eden Argueta	Campesinos Sin Fronteras
Faith based Organization	Michael Odom	Journey Church
Other Org Involved in Reducing Substance Abuse	Beverly Cade	NAACP
Health	Alma Herrera	Regional Center for Border Health
Other Org Involved in Reducing Substance Abuse	Bruce Gwynn	Yuma Community Food Bank and Community Member
Parent	Darlene Firestone	
Law Enforcement	Brian Quigg	Homeland Security Investigations
Law Enforcement	Eric Tolman	Homeland Security Investigations
School	Kim Seh	Somerton School District
School	Shara Skinner	AWC

**Welcome and Introductions:** The meeting was called to order by Shelley Mellon at 11:40 am

- Shelley Mellon kicked off the meeting by giving an overview of the history of the coalition for new attendees and how it has evolved to present day
- She has announced the creation of the non-profit status for the coalition

**Approval of November meeting minutes:** Bruce Gwynn motioned to approve and Virgil Tapispisan second the motion. Passed with no objections.

**Introductions/Agency Updates:**

- All attendees introduced themselves sharing what they are grateful for as well as provided 2 minute agency update.

**Ryan Butcher - Health District:**

- Naloxone distribution for schools, agencies, either distribution or first aid response. Should you wish to be part of this distribution, contact Ryan to schedule onboarding and ordering
- Deterra pouches for safe medication disposal.
- New test strips (Xylazine and Fentanyl) are available for harm reduction agencies.
- Overdose Data to Action (OD2A) grant awarded that will include naloxone presentations and a data component.
- Trauma-informed grant for a 4-part series in schools called Catch My Breath. Hope that it will be rolled out in schools by end of school year and is a 5 year grant.

**Alma H - Regional Center for Border Health:**

- Individual and group counseling for all ages.
- Psychological services and evaluations in LHC, Kingman, and Parker.

**Amie Zaja- MCAS:**

- Education on high-risk behaviors like underage drinking and drunk driving.
- Promoting the "Buzzed driving is drunk driving" campaign.

**Virgil- MCAS:**

- 3800 marines, only 13 tested positive, with edibles being a significant issue.
- Low positive test rates.

**Matthew P- Victory Homes:**

- Women's home opening in February.
- Fundraising for this opening through car washes and other activities that he hopes coalition can support
- One bed left in the men's home.

**Berenice - TLCR:**

- Starting a new peer support training class.
- 16 beds available, assistance with employment, uniforms, and resumes.

**Beverly Cade - NAACP:**

- First time attending this coalition and wanted to share her role is mostly organizing events, including an MLK march that young marines will be participating in and hopes that everyone can join. It will be this upcoming Monday and will gather on the East side of City Hall about 1045 with the march beginning at 11 am.

**Michael Odom - Journey Church:**

- Hosting a community cares presentation on vaping in January.
- Engaging the faith-based community in community efforts.

**Kim Seh - Associate Superintendent for Somerton School District:**

- Addressing vaping issues in middle school campuses that has continued to rise and be an issue.
- Received a safety grant for School Resource Officers (SROs) on campuses.

**Eden Argueta - Campesinos Sin Fronteras:**

- Senior presentations on dangers of vaping and fentanyl on January 25th.
- Addressing fraud with senior citizens.
- Collaborating with the Health Department on Doterra pouches and vaping issues.
- Partnership with Vista High with Strategies for Success students who go through their resiliency training and courses.

**Timothy - TLCR:**

- Expressed gratitude for the coalition's efforts.

**Brian Quigg & Eric Tolman- Department of Homeland Security Investigations:**

- Brian is new position at the Department of Homeland Security.
- First time attending, happy to be part of the group.

**Bruce Gwynn:**

- Here to support and help as a community member, grandparent, etc.

**John Abarca - CBI:**

- Very busy holiday season with substance issues and mental health.
- One open position that they are currently interviewing and recruiting for, but fully staffed outside of that.

**Jordin A - YRMC Behavioral Health Center:**

- Inpatient and outpatient services.( in foothills behavioral health services)
- General track with plans to open military, Spanish-speaking, and juvenile services.

**Shara - AWC:**

- Upcoming events, including a Heart and Health Relationships Fair scheduled for **2.28 at Yuma Campus**
  - Smoking cessation and vaping information available and continuing to try and find creative ways of engaging with students
- Arrive Alive initiative- Plan to host events in Yuma and San Luis Campus. This is regarding Alcohol and strategies and ways for students to engage with alcohol in a healthier way.

**Joanne Fiser- YCADC:**

- Launching a radio show, starting tomorrow and will give more updates during next agenda topic.

**Darlene Firestone:**

- Parent who cares about the mission and engaging with the community regarding these issues.

**Henry Gonzalez- Yuma Union High School District:**

- Transitioned from Juvenile Court to High School district as their Health and Safety Director.
- Working closely with SROs on education awareness and how to bring his expertise to complement efforts that high school district is already engaged with.

### **Levi Jones/Cesar Pino -Yuma Police Department:**

- Planning an active shooter presentation for parents.
- Opening the auditorium for the presentation, including discussions on vaping.

### **YCADC Coalition Updates - Joanne:**

#### **Q1 Vaping Initiative:**

- Break free from the cloud billboards with #livevapefree.
- Synch Bags filled with Q1 tools.
- Radio Show "1400 Outlaw Country" launches Wed, Jan 10, 2024, @ 8 am. Every other Wednesday for rest of year with scheduled guests already with Lori Franklin (YPD), SRO sgt, Cesar Pino and others
- Crossroads Mission presentation on Jan 8, 2024 went well and have been asked back in future.
- Journey Church presentation on Jan 28, 2024, @ 12 pm after the church service.
- Sunrise Optimist Club presentation on Feb 13, 2024.
- Tool kit available with a poster, bookmark, and QR code linking to the website. This tool kit highlights the Q1 vaping campaign

### **Vaping Presentation by Levi Jones-YPD:**

- Yuma resident with 10 years of experience.
- Noted an increase in vaping but observed a decrease with increased education.
- Commonly concealing marijuana, as per YPD observations.
- Outlined penalties for cannabis offenses under 21, ranging from civil offenses to felony.
- Stressors identified as triggers for self-medication.
- High schools now have social workers, except Somerton, well-versed in trauma-informed care.
- Anonymous tips app available.

### **Good of the Order:**

- Vista Students thanked for assembling over 2k Synch Bags.
- Levi mentioned Skills USA, law, and public safety class CTE, seeking community service hours should the coalition need anything in future.

### **Meeting Adjourned at 1:07 pm**

**Next Meeting: February 13, 2024**  
**Location: Yuma County Main Library**

#### **Vision:**

**The victimization caused by the misuse and abuse of alcohol, marijuana, tobacco, prescription and other drugs will be eliminated from the Yuma county by the community members.**

#### **Mission:**

**To eradicate the misuse and abuse of alcohol, marijuana, tobacco, prescription and other drugs in Yuma County**