1. **Welcome and Introductions**

Lucia Wilson called the meeting to order at 9:06am.

Attendance is in-person and via zoom (for out of town members)

1. **Review and Approval of Minutes**

Minutes May 2024

Motion to approve by Rafael Jubera the minutes from the May 14, 2024 and second by Ruben Leon. Motion approved.

1. **Committee Updates**

Membership Committee (Carlos)

The membership committee is driving to boost membership of the coalition.

* + - 1. Please inform Carlos if you know anyone interested in attending the coalition meetings so they can receive a calendar invite.
      2. Next Meeting scheduled for Tuesday July 16th at 12:00pm in person at TLCR (lunch will be provided)
      3. The group discussed the need for attendees of the coalition meetings to be part of the committees. They also talked about ways to keep people engaged and sharing their resources, as well as how to establish the main goal of the coalition.

**Event Planning Committee**

The next meeting is scheduled for July 18th at 1:00 PM. At this meeting, the theme for the Homeless Conference in November 2024 will be selected. A calendar invite will be sent to those interested in serving on the planning committee. Potential topics and ideas for presentations for the conference were discussed.

**HMIS/Case Conferencing Committee/Coordinated Entry** (Lucia)

Next meeting is July 10th at 2:30 pm.

**Strategic Planning Committee** (Michelle Smith)

Currently revising and updating the dates for 2025 plan, once completed it will be sent out for review.

The next scheduled meeting is postponed due to scheduling conflicts and will be arranged at a later date.

1. **Capacity Building Grant**

The grant ended on June 30, 2024, and an update from ADOH is pending on whether it will be renewed after budget discussions. It is possible that ADOH might only approve enough funding for the salary position for the coalition, as the overall funding is expected to decrease significantly.

1. **YCEH Trainings:**

An online resource known as the Homeless Library was discussed, with funding available to provide access for approximately 100-200 users. The idea of sharing access with various agencies was considered, with the requirement that agencies commit to allocating time for trainings.

Shawn from Community Health Associates mentioned that his team conducts trainings quite often and expressed willingness to conduct a training session for the homeless coalition. He suggested an alternative approach of holding a two-day training session in a conference room instead of purchasing a subscription.

1. **Agency Updates**

**Achieve** – The 2024/2025 grant for permanent supportive housing is still pending approval. It remains uncertain whether new individuals can be enrolled at this time. If anyone you know is homeless and requires assistance, please encourage them to contact one of the coordinated entry locations to undergo an assessment. Referrals for behavioral health services are still being accepted.

**City of Yuma –** The action plan has been approved by the city council, ensuring continued funding for WACOG to sustain their housing counseling services and prevent homelessness. Crossroads Mission has also received funding to support their outreach program, which offers resources for the homeless community. The action plan is accessible for review on our city website, where specific projects can be viewed in detail.

**Crossroads Mission**- The family shelter currently has three family dorms available, along with one smaller dorm that accommodates two people. On the female side, there are five top bunks available, and there are open beds in the men’s shelter.

**Yuma Regional Behavioral Health Center-** Referrals for inpatient services are being accepted 24/7. Intensive Outpatient Program (IOP) and mental health checks currently have a waitlist of approximately 2-3 weeks, but referrals for both programs are always being accepted.

**NCHP –** Accepting referrals for veterans. This service is exclusively for veterans. If you know someone in need of assistance but they lack proof of their veteran status, please contact Ruben Leon for verification and confirmation. We also provide support with homeless prevention and rapid rehousing.

**HACY**- The waiting list for the housing voucher program has closed. Letters were sent to 1,200 HCV tenants, asking them to voluntarily confirm their SMI eligibility. This effort aims to secure more resources for that population.

**WACOG-** We are still awaiting funding for the rapid rehousing program. Hopefully, it will arrive by the next meeting. Once it does, we will notify you to start sending referrals, most of which come from HMIS. For eviction prevention, some funding is currently available through FEMA, which covers all ages. Additional funding specifically for families with kids should be available in the next couple of weeks to assist with rent and utilities. Additionally, DES offers rental and utility assistance for households with children or elderly members. A diaper program for adults will also be available soon.

**First things first-** We release our resource guide every year, and the latest version is available online. If your service is not listed, let me know, and I can add it. A QR code is available that will take you directly to the website. The Family and Community Resource Center task currently has two active groups. A survey will be sent out to those who want to be part of the task force.

**SBHIS Medicare Solutions-** We help people apply for Medicaid, health insurance, and food stamps. We assist elderly individuals who have moved from out of state and still have their old insurance by guiding them through the process of obtaining Arizona health insurance. We also provide information on available clinics and where people can go for medical services.

**Life Care Center-** We are a skilled nursing facility that helps homeless patients every day. If you have any resources or know of agencies where we can send elderly patients who were recently released from the hospital and can't go to the mission because they are either wheelchair-bound or sick, please let me know. Coaching patients about their medical needs will help meet the criteria. We advocate daily, so finding a solution for these individuals is crucial. I will start referring them to Smile.

**Salvation Army-**The cooling center is open 7 days a week from noon to 5 PM. We will provide resources, a phone charging station, and offer water and food at our location. Rental and APS assistance will still be available. I will hand out business cards for anyone that has any referrals.

**Crossroads Mission-** In my role as the new outreach person, I visit campsites to offer water, food, and resources. Many individuals may lack the mental capacity to request help or may choose to stay in their current situation. We are hopeful that the new shelter will provide more education on mental illness, and we remain committed to doing everything we can to support these individuals. Anyone needing a shower can use the facilities at the shelter.

**Adult protective services-** Adult Protective Services now has 7 investigators in Yuma County, including Spouse, and courtside. We have limited resources for this population and cannot remove people from their homes. We use referral sources such as hospital crisis interventions, which vary by the level of crisis. We aim to ensure that each patient receives the necessary resources before being discharged. While we cannot make decisions for providers, we can offer suggestions.

**Methodist Church-** Water is available throughout the summer at Methodist Church and are providing around 120 water bottles a day, no cooling center but their only a block away of Salvation Army. Water is also available 24/7 by the basement area off of 3rd avenue in an ice chest.

**Hansen House:** Hansen House is operating and accepting referrals call Bonnie 928-503-7664. It is a license end-of-life care home, partnering with a hospice agency to care for patients. Hansen House offers 24-hour caregiving and welcomes homeless individuals at end of life.

**Goodwill career center-** There has been a lot of staff changes recently, so I don't have any updates at the moment. However, I will be reaching out soon for resources. We've been focusing on helping people find jobs. Some individuals already have jobs but are seeking a second job because they don’t qualify for the resources mentioned.

**HUD VASH –** No updates, referrals for housing are on hold at the moment.

**TLCR-** On July 13, everyone is invited to Sun Splash for a free pool day. TLCR is open Monday through Sunday from 8:00 AM to 7:00 PM. Those interested in attending need to complete an intake. Lunch and dinner are still being provided, and there's a pizza party event today at 12:00 PM. We continue to offer coffee and donuts on the first of the month, ice cream on the third, and carnival day on the first Saturday of the month. We have 14 transitional houses across the community with 111 beds in total. Currently, 1 male and 1 female bed are available, though this changes daily. We accept members who struggle with addiction and mental health issues. There is a screening process, so please contact Kevin or Carlos for more information.

**Additional Updates**

The Water and Cooling Station map was shared with attendees, and the process for signing up as a cooling station was discussed. It was noted that Yuma County does not fund the water and cooling stations but can add them to the map.

Attendees inquired about the Yuma Coalition website. The website was shared along with information about the listed resources. It was suggested that next year, the site should include details on how the district provides free meals during the summer. Additionally, it was mentioned that the clothing voucher section needs to be updated to include Cristina's Closet.

The Next YCEH Meeting -**Tuesday September 10, 2024 at 9:00am** (Yuma City Hall)

1. Adjournment

Lucia Wilson, Achieve Human Services adjourned the meeting at 10:54am

**Meeting Attendees:**

**Zoom:**

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| **Name** |
| Kayla Mcghee |
| Shawn Backs |
| Patricia Scott Lopez |

**In-Person:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Organization** | **Email** |
| Anahi Villa | SBHIS | Anahi.villa@SBHI.net |
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| Mike Keliher | Salvation Army | Mike.Keliher5090@gmail.com |
| Julia de los reyes | WACOG | Juliad@wacog.com |
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| Jessica Terrazas | HUD – VASH | Jessica.terrazas1@va.gov |
| Sylvia Hernandez | HUD – VASH | Sylvia.hernandezvargas@va.gov |
| Kassandra Granados | City of Yuma | Kassandra.Granados@yumaaz.gov |
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