



Friends of Navajo County Anti-Drug Coalition, Inc.

PO Box 948 Taylor, AZ 85939

EIN: 26-0468100, Nonprofit 501(c)3

Phone: (928) 243-2014

Tue, October 10, 2023, 12:30 pm -1:30 pm via ZOOM. Link Below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87559700560?pwd=bzcvN0lJbGJOSTN3aW9yTWwwaEUvUT09>

1. **Vicky Solomon, AOR/Executive Director – Facilitating**
2. **THANK YOU for being a part of this NEW DRUG FREE COALITION!** (The Connection Coalition, Snowflake/Taylor, Heber/Overgaard, Holbrook, Indian Wells, Dilkon) Drug Free Coalition
3. **In Attendance (19):** Vicky Solomon (Coalition, Executive Director), Julee Sherwood (Coalition, Executive Administrator), Stacey Heath (Coalition, Program Coordinator), Destiney Hall (Coalition, Program Coordinator), Valkyrie Chartier (Coalition, Program Coordinator), Matt Hiatt (Pharmacist, Walmart Business Sector), Jax Kale & Mike (Waypoint Recovery-Other Sector), Kyle Esparza (NCSO-Law Enforcement Sector), Ralph (NAMI Volunteer Org), Herb Carruthers (Az Dept of Liquor-State Sector), Louanna Benslow (Winslow, School Health-Health Sector), Donna Porras (Navajo County CASA-Local Govnt Sector), Tamra Stepp (Just Serve, Religious Organization Sector), Chief Bobby Martin (STPD-Law Enforcement Sector), Kirk Webb (NC Public Health Emergency Preparedness-Local Govnt Sector), Hollis Merrell (Snowflake Unified School District Superintendent-School Sector), Amber Blaase (Behavior Health – out of Summit ER-Health Sector), Elizabeth Ramirez (Drug Outreach with National Guard-Govnt Sector)
4. **WHO IS The Connection Coalition(TCC) and what do they DO? What is a COALITION?** “A Drug-Free Communities (DFC) Coalition is a community-based formal arrangement for cooperation and collaboration among community groups or sectors. Each group retains its identity and agrees to work together toward a common goal. Representatives from 12 sectors organize and meet to address local youth substance use.”

Who Benefits?

- ***Community.** Reduced drug use results in decreased crime and a more reliable youth
- ***Schools.** Drugs affect a student's ability to learn
- ***Parents.** Enjoy the priceless peace of mind that comes with knowing their child is drug free and has a powerful safety net to protect that choice under pressure
- ***Students.** Healthier future with being drug free/addiction free
 - Highly recommend Stacey Gagnon monthly trauma trainings monthly for one hour. See attached flyer
 - YTD update from the Coalition. Work off Grants. See attached Community Impact for this last grant year.

5. **The Connection Coalition Staff updates as to what they are doing around our communities:**
 - **Destiney Hall** - Updates on Activities in Snowflake/Taylor area – Met with Jineane Ford-Neff for interview, Vaping presentation to Alchesay High School 9th Graders once a month, will be at the Game Zone at the Harvest Fest in Snowflake, the coalition will participate in Trunk or Treat @ the Taylor Rodeo Grounds (see attached flyer) on Halloween
 - **Stacey Heath** - Updates in Show Low and Pinetop – Diversion starting back up now that school is going. Working on Red Ribbon week, Collaborating with Herb with Az Dept. of Liquor, and teaching alcohol awareness at BR Jr High School. Conducting classes at Recovery works and Beacon Recovery as well. Planning Celebration with RW October 21st.
 - **Julee Sherwood**– Coalition is sponsoring Trunk or Treat in Taylor along with the Snowflake/Taylor Parks and Rec Dept and Walmart. Looking for a Program Coordinator to join our team (see attached flyer). Staying busy with Grant End paperwork and a routine audit by one of the Grantors.
 - **Valkyrie Chartier** – What are you passionate about and why? Community connection and connecting with the youth is what she’s passionate about. Been shadowing other educators. Medical safety presentation coming up along with Destiney. Happy and excited to be on the team.
6. **GUEST SPEAKER: Chief Robert Martin – Snowflake/Taylor Police Department**

IF YOU HAVE CHILDREN IN HOME & PAIN MED, YOU NEED NALOXONE IN YOUR EMERGENCY KIT

Visit our Website for more info and to get Naloxone: www.connectioncoalition.org

DUMP YOUR DRUGS - Local Police Departments open 24/7/365

Always accept DONATIONS toward Youth Drug Prevention Efforts, visit our website!

24/7 AZ Crisis Line Navajo County 844-534-4673 (HOPE)



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STPD will also be at the festival this weekend. They will be doing DNA or fingerprints at the event. They will also be at the Trunk or Treat. Working with NC attorney's office with a juvenile deflection program, handled through the attorney's office. Juveniles will do the program online. Charges will be dropped if they complete the deflection program. Drug trend – people are not using heroin like they used to be. The current drug trend is fentanyl pills and it's off the charts. There were 350,000 pills seized in August 2023 just in Navajo county. Pills look just like Oxycontin or Hydrocodone and kids being kids don't know what they are getting or know the dangers. Fentanyl is a huge problem.

Marijuana is not as big of a law enforcement concern anymore; focus is far more advanced with fentanyl pills. Biggest concern right now in our area is fentanyl pills.

THANK YOU Chief Martin for being the first presenter for our NEW Coalition. We appreciate your involvement and collaboration.

7. Go around the room for any ANNOUNCEMENTS or UPDATES for your organization.
 1. **Louanna Benslow, Winslow Indian Health Care Center**, Youth Wellness Program, School Health Coordinator, 928-289-9770, Louanna.benslow@wihcc.org. Hosting a Pink Halloween health fair event. Lots of flyers sent with email of minutes. Holbrook started a C.A.F.É. group going on during Red Ribbon week. High school has a career day scheduled and they will reach out and work. North Country doing a couple trunk or treats.
 2. **Kirk Webb Navajo County Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Emergency Management** jared.webb@navajocountyaz.gov 928-205-1009. White Mountain Safety Village program will continue and trying to schedule it as time allows. 2,000 – 4,000 students usually taught every year. Will send out
 3. **Amber Blaase – No updates right now.**
 4. **Donna Porras – No updates at this time.**
 5. **National Guard – No updates.**
 6. **Herb Carruthers** – Going to be @ Jr High and High School in Snowflake doing our Alcohol awareness program. Going to Many Farms to do the alcohol awareness work up there. Focus is on 7-9th grades. SA Herb Carruthers Arizona Dept. of Liquor - Education and Prevention Unit Ph: 602-206-2326 Email: hcarruthers@azliquor.gov
 7. **Hollis Merrill – no updates.**
 8. **Jax with Waypoint** – Summit has agreed to host the location, still trying to get the youth meeting coordinated. Waypoint Recovery guys wanting to give back to the community.
 9. **Matt Hiatt** – Narcan is available OTC now, about \$45/for two in one box. No other announcements.
 10. **Ralph with Nami** – FSG Mtg every 2nd and 4th Tuesday at 1pm. Nami White Mountain Walk on the 30th.

The majority of people responded in the Chat that the 12:30 pm time slot would work for them. Therefore, the NEXT MEETING WILL BE NOVEMBER 14TH 12:30PM – 1:30PM, via Zoom.

GUEST SPEAKER: SUSD Nov 14th Hollis Merrell – SUSD Superintendent

The Connection Coalition Primary Purposes:

1. Reduce Substance Use and Increase Resiliency & Connection Among Youth & Parents/Caregivers
2. Establish and Strengthen Collaboration & Connection Among Community Organizations

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