

# The Connection Coalition- Meeting Minutes



Tue, May 14 2024, 12:30 pm -1:30 pm via ZOOM. Link Below:

1. **Facilitating: Vicky Solomon – Executive Director**
2. **THANK YOU for being a part of this DRUG FREE COALITION The Connection Coalition sister coalition to Nexus! Want to WELCOME NEW Team Member: Britney Quintanilla!! In attendance: (13)** TCC Staff: Vicky Solomon, Valkyrie Chartier, Destiney Hall, Britney Quintanilla, Julee Sherwood, Alysia Heward (NC Casa), Ralph Engler (NAMI), Dr. Robbie Koerperich (Holbrook School Superintendent), Shannon Williams (Care1st ), Donna Porras (NC Admin/Casa), Nancy Hay (Heber-Overgaard Resource Network/nurse), Andrea Tomlin (Principal at Indian Wells), Jack Babb (FFA)
3. **GUEST SPEAKER: Dr. Robbie Koerperich SUPERintendent for Holbrook School District. THANK YOU!!** Talking to us about the CAFÉ project. (Community and Family Engagement) What it is, why it is a great thing, what the turnout was at Indian Wells. 15 years in Holbrook, District Boundaries cover 1500 sq miles, 1800 students in district. Some students (School Rated a B), 63% Native Americans. 19% Hispanic 12-13% white. Diversity is our strength. Graduation rates exceed the state average. 125 teachers, 300 support staff all together. Use the PASS System, try to focus on each kid and their total wellbeing. Try to keep social relationships healthy through the district and among 1800 students. Trying to make sure the kids are put in positions that they can succeed. Through the PASS system they've discovered they need more help. From the communities and through parents. They have been working with Tracy Bean with School Connect and they wondered how to better involve your community. They have developed the CAFÉ model. There are 9 different communities in the district. Love our Schools was a project they did in October. Encouraged schools AND communities to promote Love Our Schools. Job fairs, speakers, at the JR High they had a parent lunch where they would come in and give teachers a much-needed break. Each school can plan a CAFÉ day and had a Love Our Communities in the spring. Love Our Communities at Indian Wells was amazing (despite weather). They asked the students what they wanted. They had a competition, and kids did presentations. Kids voiced things they wanted to see in their community. It went over so well. This program allows us to open doors and partnership with the community. The first year of the CAFÉ went very well. Byproduct of what came out of the it is they had a community development meeting and discovered the school is an important element of growing the community. The school system can be the nucleus of growing the community with some help from the community, coalitions, families and business owners.

#### 4. **Announcements and Coalition Updates:**

- May is Mental Health Awareness Month—a time to raise awareness and understanding of how important SELF CARE is. It offers communities a chance to gain more understanding of how individuals struggle with mental health and stress and hoping to reach out to resources and support. TCC offers YOUTH and ADULTS, 5 skills for Resiliency Building- BTAPS from OneTreeLearningCenter (Belief/Perception, Trust, Adaptability, Persistence, Strength)
- We have **Naloxone**, Trauma, Fentanyl-Meth, & RESILIENCE Trainings available upon Request! 82% of overdoses happen in the HOME!

**PLEASE KNOW AND PASS ALONG: Naloxone CAN BE GIVEN TO ANYONE AT ANY AGE AND IT WILL NOT HURT THEM!!**

*Friends of Navajo County Anti-Drug Coalition, Inc. •• PO Box 948 Taylor, AZ 85939*

*Locations: 1593 Johnson Dr. Lakeside, AZ 85929 •• 180 S. Main Street Taylor, AZ 85939*

*EIN: 26-0468100, Nonprofit 501(c)3 •• Tel: (928) 243-2014*

*Community collaboration striving to build a resilient, healthy, substance free environment for youth*

*Vicky@NexusCoalition.org •• <https://www.facebook.com/nexuscoalition>*

RESOURCES: [www.nexuscoalition.org](http://www.nexuscoalition.org) - - <https://nexuscoalition.org/resources/talknowaz-videos-parent-testimonies/>  
FOR ADULTS <https://talknowaz.com/>  
FOR YOUTH <https://learnmoreaz.org/> - - <https://saclaz.org/> - - <https://naloxoneaz.com/> - -  
<https://thenewmeth.com/>

- **Destiney Hall** - Updates on Activities in Snowflake/Taylor/Navajo County area – Participated at event in Taylor and had item distribution, Deterra bags available, upcoming JLA lots of planning in Snowflake-Taylor for 25 youth
  - **Valkyrie Chartier** – Updates Indian Wells/Show Low/Snowflake/Taylor/Whiteriver – Indian Wells event was amazing, kids were excited, had a great presentation at Jr and partnered with Jessica with AZ Dept of Liquor, taught KACM and helping Destiney at JLA
  - **Britney Quintanilla** – Updates on what you have seen/witnessed past 16 days working with Nexus – helped teach KACM at BR Elementary & shadowing Nexus Team.
  - **Julee Sherwood/Program Manager**– Nexus Business or Outreach updates – working on 990 taxes currently, would love to hand out item distribution (if there is information you need or want, PLEASE reach out to us and we will get you information), also Nexus is looking for a couple Board Members so please submit resume if you know anyone.
  - **Vicky Solomon/Executive Director** – Updates – Trends and Statistics and new drug Xylazine and its deadly stats from DEA (attached)
5. Go around the room for any **ANNOUNCEMENTS or UPDATES** for your organization.
1. Andrea Tomlin at Indian Wells – No updates currently
  2. Shannon Williams (Care1st) – They’ve just been out seeing if there are opportunities through-out Northern Arizona
  3. Jack Babb – Silver Creek FFA Alumni Supporters – works with youth in the community - No Updates
  4. Donna Porras – No Updates
  5. Alysia Heward – Need Casa Volunteers always
  6. Nancy Hay with HOCRN – No update.

**NO MEETINGS IN JUNE OR JULY – ENJOY YOUR SUMMER! NEXT MEETING WILL BE Aug 13th 12:30PM – 1:30PM SAME zoom link above. PLEASE SHARE and invite others!**

**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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