



**Arizona Parents Commission on Drug Education and Prevention
Meeting Minutes
September 13, 2023
10:00 AM**

A general Arizona Parents Commission on Drug Education and Prevention meeting convened on September 13, 2023, with notice duly given. Present and absent were the following members:

Members Present (5)	Members Absent (2)
Chief Robert Martin (Proxy: Travis Melser)	Denise Beagley (Chair)
Lori Robinson	Michael Klinkner
Marina Lantsman-Waugh (Proxy: Arcenio Garcia)	
Nicholas Stavros (Proxy: Tina Braham)	
Ariel Morin	
Staff and Guests Present (4)	
Nicole Valenzuela	Michael Lawson
Bob Shogren	Teresa Riggs

1. CALL TO ORDER

Nicole Valenzuela, Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family (GOYFF), called the Arizona Parents Commission on Drug Education and Prevention meeting to order with five members present and two members absent at **10:10 AM**.

2. ROLL CALL

Nicole Valenzuela, GOYFF, welcomed members and guests. Nicole Valenzuela, GOYFF, took attendance via roll call. Nicole Valenzuela, GOYFF, stated a quorum was not met. Approval of the May 17, 2023, meeting minutes and Parents Commission Bylaws will move to the November 15, 2023 meeting.

3. MEETING PRESENTATIONS

Community Medical Services

Mr. Michael Lawson

Nicole Valenzuela, GOYFF, welcomed and introduced Mr. Michael Lawson to the meeting. Mr. Lawson thanked the commission for the opportunity to present. Mr. Lawson shared a detailed overview of Community Medical Services (CMS) and the programming funded through the Arizona Parents Commission on Drug Education and Prevention Grant.

- Mr. Lawson shared the organization's mission, vision, and values. Mr. Lawson reviewed statistics about the opioid crisis and provided information about how the opioid crisis and substance use disorder affects adolescents and family. Mr. Lawson shared strategies and approaches for substance use prevention and treatment methods.
- Mr. Lawson stated CMS is a Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) Opioid treatment program that provides Medication Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD) treatment through the utilization of FDA-regulated medications, including Methadone, Buprenorphine, and Vivitrol for adults and adolescent populations. CMS also provides behavioral health services to treat opioid use disorder.

- **Mr. Lawson** discussed how national data states a 14% increase in substance overdose deaths between 2020–2021. **Mr. Lawson** noted that opioids, and increasingly fentanyl, is the primary driver of drug overdoses. **Mr. Lawson** stated fentanyl accounts for nearly 88% of all opioid-involved overdoses relating to death.
- **Mr. Lawson** continued discussing national data, stating one in seven high school students reported misusing prescription opioids in their lifetime, and one in 14 high school students reported current prescription opioid misuse. **Mr. Lawson** noted that among persons aged 14–18, overdose deaths increased 94% from 2019 to 2020 and 20% from 2020 to 2021. **Mr. Lawson** shared that from July–December 2019 to July–December 2021, median monthly overdose deaths increased by 109%, and fatalities involving Illicitly Manufactured Fentanyl increased by 182%.
- **Mr. Lawson** stated the first step in prevention is educating the parents and families about drugs and then educating adolescents. Education can involve exploring the adverse effects, consequences, and overall results of using substances. **Mr. Lawson** shared that teaching at the school level is also essential as adolescents spend most of their time with friends and teachers.
- **Mr. Lawson** stated there is debate about whether addiction is a choice or an illness. **Mr. Lawson** shared that the choice theory suggests that a person chooses their behaviors based on their own learned experiences, and the person can learn to make better choices and stop using regardless of the effects substances have on the brain. **Mr. Lawson** stated that the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-V) classifies opioid use disorder as a mental health disorder, and studies found that opioids affect the brain and body. **Mr. Lawson** noted the physiological effects on the body and neurological systems.
- **Mr. Lawson** shared that Mesa on Arbor is the only CMS clinic supporting adolescents ages 13-17. The clinic comprises a comprehensive, client-centered, and culturally sensitive team where the counselor develops a treatment plan with the client and family.
- **Nicole Valenzuela** thanked **Mr. Lawson** for his presentation and asked commission members if they had any questions.
- **Commissioner Robinson** asked **Mr. Lawson** how the drugs differentiated on the graph included in the presentation. **Mr. Lawson** responded that results from toxicology reports distinguished the drugs and that he would provide the study that supported the information depicted on the chart.
- To view **Community Medical Services'** presentation, [click here](#).

Casa Grande Alliance

Mr. Bob Shogren and Ms. Teresa Riggs

Nicole Valenzuela, GOYFF, welcomed and introduced **Mr. Bob Shogren** and **Ms. Teresa Riggs** to the meeting. **Mr. Shogren** and **Ms. Riggs** thanked the commission for the opportunity to present. **Mr. Shogren** and **Ms. Riggs** shared a detailed overview of Casa Grande Alliance (CGA) and the programming funded through the Parents Commission Grant.

- **Mr. Shogren** shared the organization's mission, vision, and values. CGA provides trauma-responsive prevention education programming and services, youth coalition leadership, and treatment and recovery resource navigation. Their community coalitions represent a network of organizations dedicated to building individual, family, and community resiliency.
- **Mr. Shogren** discussed the organization's extensive accomplishments for programming, events, and activities delivered to children, youth, families, and organizations in their community. **Mr. Shogren** stated that implemented activities are intentional to learn about

the community's needs and assets to provide insight that aids in better informing and developing their programs.

- **Ms. Riggs** shared about the Positive Parenting Program (Triple P), stating that the organization has facilitated additional monthly classes for parents and families. **Mr. Shogren** added information about the online catalog and registration opportunities are available on CGA's website.
- **Mr. Shogren** shared detailed information about the organization's funding, its utilization, and the significant impact of the program's implementation on the communities it serves. We promote and build positive mental health and resilience. **Mr. Shogren** shared about the Casa Grande Youth Alliance members' research, stating they administered a youth survey that received over 1,500 completed responses. **Mr. Shogren** stated the results were staggering and drove the development of their youth programs.
- **Mr. Shogren** shared the foundation of their organization is being responsive to the community's needs. As such, they partner with St. Mary's Food Bank, a diaper bank, and recently opened a Department of Economic Security (DES) approved and affordable childcare center. In addition, **Mr. Shogren** shared that CGA has established the Casa Grande Elementary District (CGESD) Education Foundation to build solid educational opportunities for families.
- **Nicole Valenzuela** thanked **Mr. Shogren** and **Ms. Riggs** for their presentation and asked commission members if they had any questions. The commission did not have questions for **Mr. Shogren** and **Ms. Riggs**.
- To view **Casa Grande Alliance's** presentation, [click here](#).

4. PARENTS COMMISSION GRANTEE UPDATES

Ms. Nicole Valenzuela

Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family

Nicole Valenzuela, Program Administrator at the GOYFF, shared grantee updates. **Ms. Valenzuela** provided an overview of the upcoming annual evaluation report completed by the Parents Commission grant program evaluator, Wellington. **Ms. Valenzuela** stated Wellington will present their findings at the November 2023 meeting. **Ms. Valenzuela** shared information about the benefits of the grantee technical assistance and grantee engagement meetings.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Nicole Valenzuela, GOYFF, asked if commissioners wanted to share any announcements.

- The commission did not have announcements to share.

6. FUTURE AGENDA/MEETING SCHEDULE

Nicole Valenzuela, GOYFF, stated the next meeting is **November 15, 2023**, at **10:00 AM** in a hybrid format for those unable to attend in person.

7. ADJOURN

Nicole Valenzuela, GOYFF, thanked everyone for being part of the meeting and asked for a motion to adjourn. **Commissioner Robinson** moved to adjourn. **Commissioner Stavros' Proxy, Tina Braham**, seconded the motion. The motion passed without dissenting votes, and the meeting adjourned at **11:17 AM**.

14th Day of September 2023

Arizona Parents Commission on Drug Education and Prevention

Respectfully Submitted By:

Nicole Valenzuela

Program Administrator, GOYFF