



**Arizona Substance Abuse Partnership
September 26, 2024, 1:00 PM
Arizona State Capitol Executive Tower**

A general meeting of the Arizona Substance Abuse Partnership (ASAP) convened on September 26, 2024, with notice duly given.

Members Present (14)
Sara Salek , Vice Chair, Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System
Andrew LeFevre , Arizona Criminal Justice Commission
Douglas Sargent , Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections
Tonya Hamilton , Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family
Merilee Fowler , MATFORCE
Gabriella Guerra [Proxy for Jeremy Bloom, NorthSight Recovery]
Shanda Breed , Arizona Department of Adult Probation
April Jones , Arizona Department of Economic Security [Proxy for Leah Landrum Taylor]
Lindsey Cantelme , Recovery Community
Polly Knappe , Arizona Board of Behavioral Health Examiners [Proxy for Tobi Zavala]
Ben Henry , Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses and Control
Kathleen Grimes , Graham County Substance Abuse Coalition
Ryan Thornell , Arizona Department of Corrections, Rehabilitation and Reentry
David Lujan , Arizona Department of Child Safety
Members Absent (8)
Shannon Scheel , Maricopa County Sheriff's Office
David Klein , United States Department of Veterans Affairs
Dana Allmond , Arizona Department of Veterans' Services
Sheila Sjolander , Arizona Department of Health Services
Vanessa Bustos , Pascua Yaqui Tribe
Jesse Torrez , Governor's Office of Highway Safety
Dawn Mertz , High-Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas
Jeffrey Glover , Arizona Department of Public Safety
Kris Mayes , Attorney General's Office
Staff (3)
Alfreda Moore , Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family
Chantel Hutchinson , Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family
Deb Stoks , Arizona National Guard Counterdrug Task Force

Call to Order

- **Sara Salek, Vice Chair**, called the September 26, 2024, Arizona Substance Abuse Partnership (ASAP) meeting to order at 1:05 PM. There were 14 members and three staff present, and eight members were absent.

Welcome/Introductions

- **Sara Salek, Vice Chair**, welcomed everyone to the meeting and conducted a roll call for the members in attendance.

Approval of Minutes

- **Sara Salek, Vice Chair**, declared a quorum and requested a review of the May 8, 2024, meeting minutes as drafted.
 - **Andy LeFevre** moved to accept the motion.
 - **Doug Sargent** seconded the motion.
- The motion passed with no dissenting votes.

2024 Arizona Youth Survey (AYS) Data Overview, Arizona Criminal Justice Commission (ACJC)

- **Sara Salek, Vice Chair**, introduced Andy LeFevre of the [Arizona Criminal Justice Commission \(ACJC\)](#).
- **Andy LeFevre** shared an overview of the 2024 AYS survey, which included the number of participants and the primary focus of the 2024 survey.
- **Andy LeFevre** explained how the ACJC requires the survey to be administered every other year.
- **Andy LeFevre** explained that there is a rigorous standard for determining the youth participating in the survey, and over 42,000 students participated in 2024.
- **Andy LeFevre** provided an overview of the survey results by grade level, substances used over a lifetime, and within the last 30 days.
- **Andy LeFevre** provided further details about the survey results of 8th-12th graders and how the trends varied by grade level, noting that it was reported that 30-day use increased as grade levels went up but that use decreased across grade levels compared to the 2022 AYS.
- **Andy LeFevre** shared that there are concerns about youth and marijuana use, indicating that youth are using marijuana in all available forms, according to the survey results.
- **Andy LeFevre** explained that the survey results determined that youth's perception of risk in using illicit substances is decreasing.
- **Andy LeFevre** shared concerns about the use among female youth, which was reported higher than among male students, but there is no clear explanation.
- **Andy LeFevre** explained that the 2024 survey received a higher response rate related to questions related to fentanyl use because there is a greater awareness of fentanyl than in previous survey years.
- **Andy LeFevre** provided specific details on the ACJC's work with the ACE's Consortium in looking at risk and protective factors and how the survey results support the work of community coalitions in providing data that will help guide their work, and that questions related to Positive and Compensatory Experiences PACEs are now part of the survey.
- **Andy LeFevre** stated he can present the AYS survey to communities as requested.
- **Sara Salek, Vice Chair**, acknowledged the tremendous work that **Mr. LeFevre** and his team have done on the 2024 AYS survey.

Fostering Mindfulness in Schools

- **Sara Salek, Vice Chair**, welcomed **Sunny Wight** and **Madicyn Quiroz** of [Mindfulness First](#).
- **Sunny Wight** provided an overview of Mindfulness First's role in preventing substance use disorder in children utilizing trauma-informed care, mindfulness practices, and techniques.
- **Sunny Wight** explained how Mindfulness First is working to increase resiliency and protective factors. **Ms. Wight** shared that they are currently working with K-12 schools, and their goal is to reach every student in 200 public school districts and over 400 charter schools throughout the state.

- **Sunny Wight** explained that they hope mental health will be as important as physical health is in schools.
- **Madicyn Quiroz** provided details about the schools they are working with within the 2024-2024 school year. **Ms. Quiroz** explained that they work with students in special education and gifted education in addition to mainstream students.
- **Madicyn Quiroz** provided details about the types of support offered to all school staff through their expansive learning series.
- **Madicyn Quiroz** shared how the Mindfulness First programming has been modified to accommodate youth with learning and physical disabilities.
- **Madicyn Quiroz** showed samples of written program materials, testimonials, and pictures of different events Mindfulness First has facilitated.
- **Sara Salek, Vice Chair**, asked how adolescent students interpret mindfulness.
- **Madicyn Quiroz** stated that students would define mindfulness as being aware, present, curious, engaging in breathing exercises, and living in the moment.
- **Doug Sargent** asked what the qualifications are for being a mindfulness coach.
- **Madicyn Quiroz** stated that many mindfulness coaches are former educators, although it is not required. **Ms. Quiroz** explained that coaches must complete trauma training courses through the ACEs Consortium's train-the-trainer model.
- **Tonya Hamilton** inquired about the online resource hub that Mindfulness First provides.
- **Madicyn Quiroz** explained that the hub is free for everyone after completing the prerequisite coursework.
- **Sara Salek, Vice Chair**, acknowledged Mindfulness First's work in schools and thanked **Sunny Wight** and **Madicyn Quiroz** for their presentation.

Operation Engage, Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), Phoenix Division

- **Sara Salek, Vice Chair**, introduced **Special Agent in Charge Cheri OZ** of the [Drug Enforcement Administration](#).
- **Cheri Oz** discussed the DEA's efforts to protect Arizonans from dangerous substances through partnerships with state, county, and local law enforcement agencies, which include prevention, education, and outreach.
- **Cheri Oz** shared details about the DEA's Operation Engagement and community outreach programs in partnership with the National Guard Counterdrug Taskforce. **Cheri Oz** shared more information about the DEA Town Hall, Citizen's Academy, Teen Academy, and Family Summits.
- **Cheri Oz** provided an overview of the DEA's involvement with Red Ribbon Week prevention programming and the importance of building strong relationships within the community through ongoing outreach.
- **Cheri Oz** provided details about the DEAs public service announcements to help raise awareness about the dangers of fentanyl and how easily accessible it is through online purchasing.
- **Cheri Oz** explained the importance of caregivers having open conversations about the dangers of substance use.
- **Andy LeFevre** shared that the AYS findings show that disappointing their parents was the number one reason youth don't use drugs.
- **Sara Salek, Vice Chair**, stated that it is never too early for caregivers to have conversations about fentanyl with their children, as well as raising awareness about naloxone.
- **Andy LeFevre** asked what everyone could do to raise more awareness surrounding fentanyl.
- **Sara Salek, Vice Chair**, stated that council members could take the information back to their respective agencies and explore possible collaborations between agencies.
- **Sara Salek, Vice Chair**, thanked **Cheri Oz** for her presentation and continued work in outreach and prevention efforts with the DEA.

Community-Based Training and Upcoming Events

- **Deb Stoks** provided an overview of upcoming training opportunities for individuals in the prevention field.
- **Deb Stoks** announced that the Strategic Prevention Framework Application for Prevention Success Training (SAPST) would be held November 5-8, 2024, and that registration has opened for the training.

- **Deb Stoks** stated that the AZ HIDTA and the GOYFF back the training model.
- **Deb Stoks** shared that the Primary Prevention Advanced (PPAC) course was completed successfully in April 2024.
- **Deb Stoks** discussed the National Guard Counterdrug Task Force and its support of Red Ribbon Week in multiple schools, which will be held October 23-31, 2024. **Ms. Stoks** further explained that members of the task force are in schools daily, providing life skills training and substance use education and prevention.
- **Sara Salek, Vice Chair**, asked what the most prominent challenges schools face regarding illicit substances are.
- **Deb Stoks** stated that she feels there are gaps between parent awareness, holding youth accountable, social media, and cyberbullying.
- **Sara Salek, Vice Chair**, thanked **Deb Stoks** for her presentation and continued efforts throughout the state.
- **Tonya Hamilton** praised **Deb Stoks** and her team for providing community resources and education and stated that they have her support.

Meeting Dates

- **Sara Salek, Vice Chair**, reminded members the next meeting will occur virtually on **December 04, 2024**, at **1 PM**.

Meeting Adjourned

- **Sara Salek, Vice Chair**, adjourned the meeting at **2:43 PM**.

Dated the 1st day of October 2024
Arizona Substance Abuse Partnership
Respectfully Submitted By: Alfreda Moore Governor's
Office of Youth, Faith and Family (GOYFF)