



Innovative Workforce Solutions

**YUMA COUNTY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD**

Yuma Private Industry Council, Administration Building  
3834 W. 16<sup>th</sup> Street, Yuma AZ 85364  
Meeting Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84690962477>  
Meeting ID: 846 9096 2477  
Phone: +12532158782,,84690962477# US  
January 14, 2026  
9:00 a.m.

**MINUTES**

**I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Samuel G. Loveless called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m.

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Maria Chavoya led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**III. ROLL CALL**

The roll was called, and those present and absent were:

<b>Members Present (Virtually)</b>	<b>Members Absent</b>
1. Judith Castro	1. Karime Hayer
2. Maria Chavoya	2. Salvador Machado (Excused)
3. Daniel Corr	3. Sandra Navarrete (Excused)
4. Brandon Culpepper	
5. Jesus G. Figueroa	
6. Jesus Garcia	
7. Carla F. Gonzalez	
8. Frank Grijalva	
9. Wallin Gustin	
10. Karen King	
11. Gregory LaVann	
12. Samuel G. Loveless	
13. Michael J. Sabath	
14. Wesley Splawn	
15. Laura Wisniewski	
16. Antonio Zuniga	

**Thereby a quorum was established.**

**Guest/Staff (Virtually)**

April Romero, YPIC  
Adriana McBride, YPIC  
Steve Barba, YPIC

Beatriz Aguilar, YPIC  
Nidia Herrera, YPIC  
Patrick Goetz, YPIC

#### **IV. \*CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

There were no comments from the public.

#### **V. PERFORMANCE REVIEW COMMITTEE UPDATE**

The Performance Review Committee met on December 1, 2025, to review proposed additions to the Eligible Training Provider List, including Logistics and Supply Chain Management, Certified Medication Assistant, and Licensed Practical Nursing. The committee agreed to recommend approval of all three training programs. For the Licensed Practical Nursing training program, the committee requested that Board staff consult with the training provider that they will engage with employers willing to help supplement the funding gap. Regional Center for Border Health responded, they have a great support from employers (e.g. Haven of Yuma & Onvida) to cover the remaining cost of training. The committee also reviewed the contracted service provider performance.

#### **VI. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA**

- 1. Meeting Minutes (November 12, 2025)**
- 2. Authorize to Submit Documentation to the Arizona State Board for Charter Schools to Remove Judith Castro as a School Governing Body Member**
- 3. 2024-2025 Audit prepared by the Firm Walker & Armstrong LLP**
- 4. Additions to the Eligible Training Provider List (ETPL)**
  - **Logistics and Supply Chain Management, Undergraduate Certificate**
  - **Certified Medication Assistant**
  - **License Practical Nursing**

Michael J. Sabath stated he will be recusing himself from the item concerning the Logistics and Supply Chain Management program due to a conflict of interest.

Samuel G. Loveless asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda. Daniel Corr made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda; Seconded by Judith Castro.

The motion carried 11-0

Board members; Gregory LaVann, Frank Grijalva and Antonio Zuniga joined the meeting.

#### **VII. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION ITEMS**

- 1. Approve the Request of Transfer of Funds from Dislocated Worker Allocation to Adult Allocation, per WIOA Section 133(b)(4)**

Nidia Herrera recommended the Board to approve a transfer of \$450,000.00 from dislocated worker funds to the adult program funds, as allowed under WIOA Section 133. The purpose of the transfer is to better serve the adult population, with projected enrollment of 538 adults and 120 dislocated workers. The transfer will not impact services currently provided to dislocated

workers. The transfer of funds will support training services, supportive services, work-based learning opportunities, including incumbent worker training, on-the-job training (OJT), and assistance with child care and transportation barriers.

Samuel G. Loveless asked for a motion to approve the Request of Transfer of Funds from Dislocated Worker Allocation to Adult Allocation, per WIOA Section 133(b)(4).

Maria Chavoya made a motion to approve the Request of Transfer of Funds from Dislocated Worker Allocation to Adult Allocation, per WIOA Section 133(b)(4); Seconded by Frank Grijalva. The motion was approved unanimously.

The motion carried 15-0

## **2. ARIZONA@WORK Yuma County Training Policy**

Nidia Herrera recommended the Board to approve the revised training policy. The revision is to increase the incumbent worker training cap per employer from \$10,000.00 to \$12,000.00. The increase is due to growing demand for incumbent worker training among employers, with the current \$6,000.00 per-participant training cap, a \$10,000.00 limit often restricts employers to serving only one employee. Increasing the cap to \$12,000.00 would allow up to two employees per employer to participate, or more if training costs are lower.

Maria Chavoya asked which employers typically utilize incumbent worker training funds? Nidia Herrera responded that current and potential employers include the City of San Luis Police Department, the Sheriff's Department, and Onvida. Patrick Goetz stated there are approximately five employers currently in the pipeline. Maria Chavoya also asked is the proposed \$12,000.00 cap is sufficient, and what types of training are covered? Nidia Herrera explained that incumbent worker training must be completed within six months and may include certificate programs, such as an AWC certificate program or SHRM HR certification, which typically cost around \$3,000.00. Maria Chavoya asked if this increase would affect the budget? Nidia Herrera explained that the additional \$2,000.00 amount was considered based on the remaining budget through the end of the fiscal year in June. She added that the funding level will be reviewed for the next fiscal year beginning July 1 and may be adjusted if needed.

Wallin Gustin asked how many employers would be impacted and able to receive training if funding were increased by \$2,000.00. Patrick Goetz reported that employer outreach has expanded, resulting in increased participation. He noted that while two employers participated last year, there are currently five employers in the pipeline for this year.

Frank Grijalva Mr. Grijalva expressed support for the proposed funding increase but questioned whether law enforcement training should be funded

through workforce dollars, noting that counties typically have separate training budgets. Board staff and Board member, Carla F. Gonzalez explained that while counties and law enforcement agencies do have training funds, those resources may be limited or exhausted, and employers may seek support through workforce programs when individuals qualify. Examples were provided of incumbent worker training used to upskill employees across various employers and occupations.

Samuel G. Loveless asked for a motion to approve the ARIZONA@WORK Yuma County Training Policy.

Maria Chavoya made a motion to approve the ARIZONA@WORK Yuma County Training Policy; Seconded by Wallin Gustin. The motion was approved unanimously.

The motion carried 15-0

### **3. Human Resources Policies**

- **Workplace Violence Policy**

Nidia Herrera recommended the Board to approve the Workplace Violence Policy. The workplace violence policy has been in effect since December 1, 2022, for YPIC employees. The policy is being extended to include all ARIZONA@WORK Yuma County providers, partners and volunteers. The policy language was updated to include examples of workplace violence, including incidents occurring through social media. Prevention efforts include posting zero-tolerance banners throughout the agency. Upon approval, the policy will be posted on the agency website and made accessible via QR code. This policy will enhance security, protection, and safety for individuals visiting the centers and for all representatives of ARIZONA@WORK.

Daniel Corr asked as a matter of practice, are these policies reviewed by legal counsel? Nidia Herrera replied yes, this policy was reviewed by legal counsel.

Board member, Gregory LaVann left the meeting.

Samuel G. Loveless raised questions regarding the definition of workplace violence, particularly how it applies to social media and electronic communications. Adriana McBride, Human Resource Manager clarified that the policy, previously limited to YPIC employees, has been updated to include all visitors, service providers, and partners, and now covers threats or negative communications via text, email, social media, or other electronic platforms that impact the safety, well-being, or work environment of employees.

Judith Castro shared an example illustrating challenges in addressing

clients according to their preferred names versus legal documentation. While no formal action resulted, the incident highlighted the importance of clear guidance to support staff and prevent misunderstandings.

Maria Chavoya asked if this policy was reviewed by legal counsel for this current revision. Adriana McBride replied no, but it can definitely be sent to the attorney for review. Maria Chavoya suggested the policy be sent to the attorney for review to ensure appropriate wording and clarity before final approval.

Wallin Gustin noted recent threats against offices statewide, including incidents involving verbal threats and explosives. The discussion highlighted the need for clear protocols for handling threats to ensure the safety of all staff and visitors. Members agreed the updated policy should be reviewed by legal counsel to address these concerns, including coverage for all office visitors and clarity on sensitive issues such as gender-related interactions.

Jesus Garcia asked whether the policy applies to other agencies where participants train or work off-site. Board staff clarified that ARIZONA@WORK policies are intended to protect participants at all locations. If an off-site agency does not have its own grievance or protection policy, the ARIZONA@WORK policy would apply. Staff noted they will review contracts and confirm how the policy interacts with other agencies' policies, and provide additional information to the board once researched.

Frank Grijalva made a motion to table the policy update until it can be reviewed by legal counsel to ensure the language is appropriate and current; Seconded by Maria Chavoya. The motion was approved unanimously.

The motion carried 14-0

Board member, Brandon Culpepper joined the meeting.

Nidia Herrera clarified that she had misspoken in response to Daniel Corr's initial question and confirmed that the matter had not been taken to legal counsel.

- **Recording of Incoming Calls Policy**

Nidia Herrera recommended the Board to approve the Recording of Incoming Calls Policy. The policy provides guidelines for the recording, access, use, retention, and protection of telephone calls, ensuring compliance with FERPA, WIOA, and Arizona one-party consent laws. It is designed to protect sensitive information and support business functions such as training, quality assurance, performance management, and complaint resolution. The policy

was reviewed by legal counsel with minor corrections.

Samuel G. Loveless asked for a motion to approve the Recording of Incoming Calls Policy.

Maria Chavoya made a motion to approve the Recording of Incoming Calls Policy; Seconded by Jesus Garcia. The motion was approved unanimously.

The motion carried 15-0

**VIII. EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY CENTER CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL BOARD REPORT**

*Michael J. Sabath reported the following information:*

- 100<sup>th</sup> day is at 80.175 students, the ADM payment will be based on this number
- Expenses are at 51%, at 53% of the school year
- The school has faced challenges meeting the federal 5-year graduation rate since COVID-19. However, the rate has improved significantly, increasing from approximately 30% to a projected 55.9%
- Approved the audit prepared by Walker & Armstrong

**IX. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE**

The Economic Development Update was not provided.

**X. DIRECTORS REPORT**

Nidia Herrera presented a PowerPoint. PowerPoint is attached.

Board members, Carla F. Gonzalez, Karen King and Maria Chavoya left the meeting.

Nidia Herrera announced that Patrick Goetz, Operations Director will retire this year after 24.5 years of service with YPIC/ARIZONA@WORK. The Board expressed its appreciation for his years of dedicated service. Patrick Goetz thanked Nidia Herrera and the Board for their support over the years, his last day will be April 30, 2026.

Board member, Daniel Corr left the meeting.

**XI. PRESENTATIONS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

**1. Business Services/Rapid Response Report**

April Romero, Business Services Coordinator presented a PowerPoint. Power Point is attached.

Jesus Garcia asked for clarification regarding the first slide, specifically inquiring which federal or state agencies were affected by the federal readjustment, noting that many of the entities listed appeared to be private organizations. April Romero explained that the entities were affected because they served as contractors. Certain positions for agencies such as Border Patrol were outsourced to contractors, including Luke Staffing, Comprehensive Integrated Care, Deployed Resources, and Diversified Protection Corporation. These contracts were ended

during the government restructuring.

## **2. Financials as of November 30, 2025**

Steve Barba, Finance & Accounting Manager presented the financial highlights as of November 30, 2025.

- Budget for fiscal year 2025-2026 expenses are at 26% for Adult, 34% for Dislocated Worker, 36% for Youth, 41% for Admin., 36% for Rapid Response and 33% overall
- PY24/FY25 WIOA contract, noting a total contract amount of \$10 million and that 89% of the funds have been expended
  - The Adult funds for the program year have been fully utilized, staff requested approval to transfer funds from the Dislocated Worker program to the Adult program
  - The transferred funds will support expenditures for the remainder of the contract year
- The new contract for PY25/FY26 is spent at 1%

## **XII. WDB MEETING SCHEDULE**

A. Proposed Next Meeting Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.

## **XIII. GOOD OF THE ORDER**

There was nothing for the good of the order.

## **XIV. ADJOURNMENT**

Samuel G. Loveless called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. A motion was made by Judith Castro; Seconded by Jesus Garcia. The motion was approved unanimously.

The motion carried: 11-0

The meeting adjourned at 10:18 a.m.

**Respectfully submitted by Beatriz Aguilar, Clerk of the Board.**

# Executive Director Report

Nidia Herrera  
January 14, 2026



A proud partner of the [americanjobcenter](#) network



# Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act (WIOA) Updates

WAC: Workforce Arizona Council  
 DOL: Department of Labor  
 OEO: Office of Economic Opportunity  
 DES: Dept. of Economic Security

## Chief Elected Official (CEO)/Board of Supervisor (BOS):

- Cyber Security - Review Request for Proposal (RFP)  
 - Status: Final Stages – Est. Award Date: Jan 23rd
- WIOA Transfer of Funds: CEO Approval & Signature
- Monthly Meetings

## LWDB Recertification Compliance Audit: Jan 5<sup>th</sup>

- Purpose: Ensures Compliance with WIOA Regulation & State Policies
- Compliance Requirements: Membership Roster
- Bylaws & Shared Governance Agreement (SGA) & Organizational Chart
- Service Provider Agreements
- Local Plan, MOU/IFA & Policy Development
- Conflict of Interest, Oversight & Funds Management
- Sunshine Provisions & Open Meeting Law

## GYEDC Quarterly Luncheon: Feb 25<sup>th</sup>

## State Visit (OEO & DES) – Yuma : Jan 26<sup>th</sup>

- Partnerships/Tour/Highlights

## State Arizona Workforce Summit: June 2026

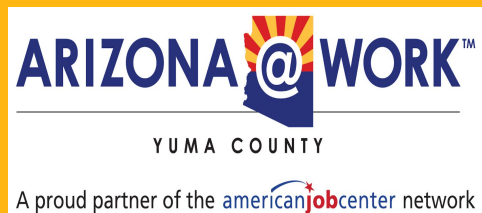
- 2-Day event: Date – TBD  
 - Location: Maricopa County  
 - Workforce Strategy, Tribal Communities Focus & Local Board Collaboration , and more

## DOL STEM Youth Grant (Non-WIOA) Update:

- Grant Term: July 2025 – June 2026 / Grant Amount: 10K  
 - STEM Focus: Building High-Impact Career Awareness and Pathways  
 - Job Shadowing Opportunities: 11 Completed/1 In Progress

## Title IA Monitoring Deadlines

2026 Title IA Monitoring Timeline	
DUE DATES	SCHEDULE
October 1, 2025	Guidance/Timeline to LWDBs <small>(Technical Assistance for Title IA Monitoring available to LWDBs)</small>
Oct-Dec, 2025	LWDBs Compile Title IA Monitoring Materials
January 5, 2026	Title IA Monitoring Materials DUE to OEO
Jan-March, 2026	OEO review of submitted Title IA Monitoring documents
April 1, 2026	OEO to provide LWDBs with feedback
May 1, 2026	LWDBs responses to OEO feedback DUE
June 1, 2026	OEO to provide final review to LWDBs and provide any necessary technical assistance



### **DOL - AZ QUEST Grant Update:**

- Partnership: Arizona Western College & ARIZONA@WORK-Yuma County
- Enrollment Achievement: **312** participants (Exceeded Goal of 80)
- Grant Status: Closed - September 30, 2025
- Follow-up Services

### **Registered Apprentices Update**

### **Program Policy Updates:**

- Incentive Policy: Increase of Minimum Wage – \$15.15

### **State WIOA Audits:**

- Equal Opportunity Visits PY'25 (1<sup>st</sup> Qtr): Minimal Observations
- Data Validation PY'24 (4th Qtr): No Findings
- Rapid Response PY'25 (1st Qtr): No Findings
- Migrant & Seasonal Farmworker (MSFW)/One Stop Center Annual Review: No Findings
- Program PY' 25 (2<sup>nd</sup> Qtr): Pending Results
- Fiscal Visit FY'26: Feb 3rd – 4th



# State Updates:

WAC: Workforce Arizona Council  
 OEO: Office of Economic Opportunity  
 DES: Department of Economic Security

## WAC/OEO Updates:

- New Appointee: Ms. Mary Foote, Director of OEO
- New Appointee: Mr. Patrick Brown, WAC Administrator
- OEO Workgroup: Training Effectiveness
  - High Impact Training (HIT) Survey: Completed
- WAC Annual Report
- OEO/LWDB Director Meetings: Monthly

## DES Updates:

- WIOA Funds: Recapture & Reallocation
- DOL/State Waivers (TEGL 05-25):
  - Nine Waivers
- DES Monthly Meetings
- ARIZONA@WORK Office Closure – Threats:
  - Continuity of Operations Workgroup – Jan 16<sup>th</sup>
  - City of Phoenix

### New OEO and Workforce Arizona Council Staff



**Mary Foote**  
 Director, Office of  
 Economic Opportunity



**Patrick Brown**  
 Workforce Council  
 Administrator

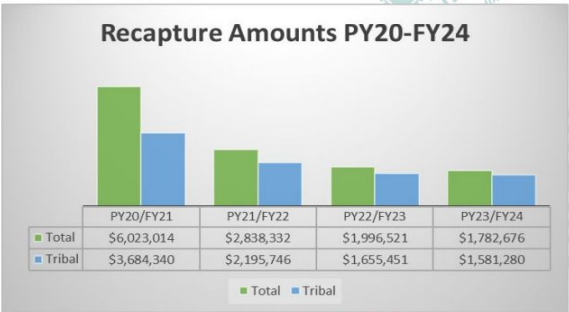
## Recapture & Reallocation

- Finalized recaptured funds as of 10/31/2025 for PY23/FY24

Local Area	Youth	Adult	DW	DW to Adult	Admin	Total
Cochise	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Coconino	\$ 68,032	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,965	\$ 75,997
Pinal	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Maricopa	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Mohave	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
NEAZ	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Phoenix, City of	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Pima	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Santa Cruz	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 41,628	\$ 41,628
Yavapai	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 83,771	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 83,771
Yuma	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

## Recapture and Reallocation Continued

- Recaptured funds are utilized for statewide initiatives.
- In alignment with Council priorities, these initiatives are:
  - Reentry program and Second Chance Centers,
  - Office of Registered Apprenticeship,
  - Maintenance and operations of Arizona Job Connection (AJC).
- The LWDBs have been spending more of their grant allocations since PY20 as shown by the graph on the right. The total amount of funds reverted continues to decrease annually.



A proud partner of the americanjobcenter network

# State Annual Performance Report: Yuma County Recognition

ARIZONA'S ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT NARRATIVE  
  
WORKFORCE INNOVATION AND OPPORTUNITY ACT  
  
TITLES I AND III  
  
PROGRAM YEAR 2024

### Yuma Community Job and Education Fair

ARIZONA@WORK hosted the Annual Yuma Community Job and Education Fair, the largest event of its kind in the region. The fair drew an extraordinary crowd of over 1,700 attendees, connecting job seekers, students, and community members with a wide range of employers, training providers, and educational institutions. This high-impact event served as a vital bridge between talent and opportunity, fostering career growth, educational advancement, and workforce development across Yuma County.

### Youth Mural Projects

For the past 27 years, ARIZONA@WORK Yuma County has partnered with the City of Yuma to create public art that inspires creativity, fosters civic pride, and strengthens community bonds. Our work has also extended to the City of Somerton and the City of San Luis, where we have completed 29 mural projects that celebrate local culture and transform public spaces into vibrant landmarks.

The Community Mural Beautification Project is a collaborative arts initiative that engages youth in the design, painting, and unveiling of large-scale public murals. Each location is chosen by the municipality based on community need, ensuring that the project has both visual and social impact. Guided by a professional mural artist and program staff, participants work together to create a mural that reflects the culture, identity, and values of the neighborhood.

From the early planning stages to the final unveiling, participants gain valuable project management skills, learning how to assess sites, prepare materials, manage timelines, and adapt to unforeseen challenges. When the mural is complete, it stands as a lasting symbol of positive youth engagement—a visible reminder of what can be achieved when creativity and community come together.

Over the years, our partnerships with Yuma, Somerton, and San Luis have shown that this project not only beautifies neighborhoods but also empowers young people, builds community connections, and leaves a legacy of art and pride that endures for years to come. DOL visited the unveiling of a City of Yuma mural project at Carver Park in 2023 and noted the project as a best practice.

### Youth Job Club

The ARIZONA@WORK-Yuma County Youth Program offers a unique approach to career exploration by conducting Job Clubs directly on employer worksites, as opposed to the traditional classroom-style presentations. This method allows participants to experience first hand the day-to-day operations of various industries, providing a more immersive and engaging learning experience.

Each month, in collaboration with a different local employer, visits are arranged where youth participants receive a comprehensive tour of the workplace. During these visits, they have the opportunity to interact with professionals, gaining insights into their daily responsibilities and the skills required to succeed in their roles. This direct exposure to real-world work environments has proven to be highly effective. Observations have concluded a marked increase in the level of engagement, curiosity, and participation from the youth. They ask more questions, show a deeper interest in the industries they explore, and are better able to envision potential career paths.

Employers who have partnered in these site visits include the local post office, United States Customs and Border Patrol, United States Army Yuma Proving Ground, Yuma Airport, San Luis Business Incubator, Yuma Police Department, and the Children's Museum of Yuma County. These partnerships have not only enriched the learning experience for participants but have also strengthened the connections between the youth program and the local business community.

Bringing the learning environment directly to the work site provides a dynamic and impactful experience that goes beyond what can be achieved in a traditional classroom setting. This hands-on approach has become a cornerstone of the program, helping to inspire and prepare the next generation of professionals in the community.

### Community Service

The City of Yuma offers a Household Hazardous Waste collection program for residents, allowing residents to safely dispose of items such as paint, batteries, pesticides, and cleaners during designated drop-off events held four times a year. The ARIZONA@WORK-Yuma County youth participants assist at these events by helping with unloading and ensuring proper disposal of materials according to their type. The Community Service Program fosters mutual understanding, respect, and civic engagement among the participating youth in Yuma County.



# AWC LAW Enforcement Academy Training



Arizona Western College  
Detention Officer Training Academy

2025 Commencement Ceremony  
Class #11



Thursday, November 6, 2025

*Our sincere thanks to the following individuals  
and agencies for their support*

AWC District Governing Board  
Our Dedicated Instructors  
Dr. Daniel P. Corr, Arizona Western College President  
Ashley Herrington, Chief of Staff  
Dr. Reetika Dhawan, Chief Executive of Entrepreneurial  
College & Vice President of Workforce &  
Healthcare Programs  
Bryan Doak, Executive Vice President of Student Services  
and Learning Services  
Lorraine Stofft, Vice President for Advancement and  
Executive Director of the AWC Foundation  
Katheline Ocampo, Vice President and Chief Human  
Resources Officer  
Czarina Gallego, Vice President of Finance and  
Administrative Services  
Arizona@work  
Yuma County Sheriff's Office  
Yuma Police Department

**8 Graduates: 8 Participants Sponsored by WIOA**



Arizona Western College  
Law Enforcement Training Academy

2026 Graduation Ceremony  
Class #55



Tuesday, January 13, 2026 1:00 p.m.

*Our sincere thanks to the following individuals  
and agencies for their support*

Our Dedicated Instructors  
Dr. Daniel P. Corr, Arizona Western College President  
Ashley Herrington, Chief of Staff  
Reetika Dhawan, Chief Executive Officer, Entrepreneurial College  
and Vice President of Workforce & Healthcare Programs  
Bryan E. Doak, Executive Vice President of Student Services  
and Learning Services  
Lorraine Stofft, Vice President for Advancement and  
Executive Director of AWC Foundation  
Amberly's Place  
Arizona Peace Officer Standards & Training  
Katheline Ocampo, Vice President and Chief Human Resources Officer  
Czarina Gallego, Vice President of Finance and Administrative Services  
ARIZONA@WORK  
AWC Police Department  
Cocopah Police Department  
Kingman Police Department  
Quechan Police Department  
San Luis Police Department  
Somerton Police Department  
Tohono O'odham Nation Police Department  
Yuma County Sheriff's Office  
Yuma Police Department  
Wellton Police Department

**20 Graduates : 10 Participants Sponsored by WIOA**



# Yuma County Performance PY' 25-26:

## Performance PY' 25/26 (7/1/2025 – 12/31/2025) Adult

Employment Rate (Q2)		Employment Rate (Q4)		Median Earnings	Credential Rate		Measurable Skill Gains	
	Rate		Rate	Earnings		Rate		Rate
	73.5%		70.5%	\$7,400.00		74.0%		70.5%
<u>264</u>	44.52%	<u>326</u>	49.02%	<u>\$8,696.51</u>	<u>139</u>	75.14%	<u>71</u>	62.83%
<u>593</u>		<u>665</u>			<u>185</u>		<u>113</u>	

# Yuma County Performance PY' 25-26:

## Performance PY' 25/26 (7/1/2025 – 12/31/2025) Dislocated Workers

Employment Rate (Q2)		Employment Rate (Q4)		Median Earnings	Credential Rate		Measurable Skill Gains	
	Rate		Rate	Earnings		Rate		Rate
	77.5%		73.5%	\$8,500.00		73.0%		74.0%
<u>56</u>	45.53%	<u>64</u>	46.72%	<u>\$8,538.70</u>	<u>15</u>	71.43%	<u>24</u>	55.81%
<u>123</u>		<u>137</u>			<u>21</u>		<u>43</u>	

# Yuma County Performance PY' 25-26:

## Performance PY' 25/26 (7/1/2025 – 12/31/2025) Youth

Placement Rate (Q2)		Placement Rate (Q4)		Median Earnings	Credential Rate		Measurable Skill Gains	
	Rate		Rate	Earnings		Rate		Rate
	75.0%		71.0%	\$6,400.00		63.0%		59.9%
<u>263</u>	56.56%	<u>235</u>	43.52%	<u>\$7,141.52</u>	<u>184</u>	52.12%	<u>71</u>	42.77%
<u>465</u>		<u>540</u>			<u>353</u>		<u>166</u>	

# ARIZONA@WORK: Success Stories

## Adult Program

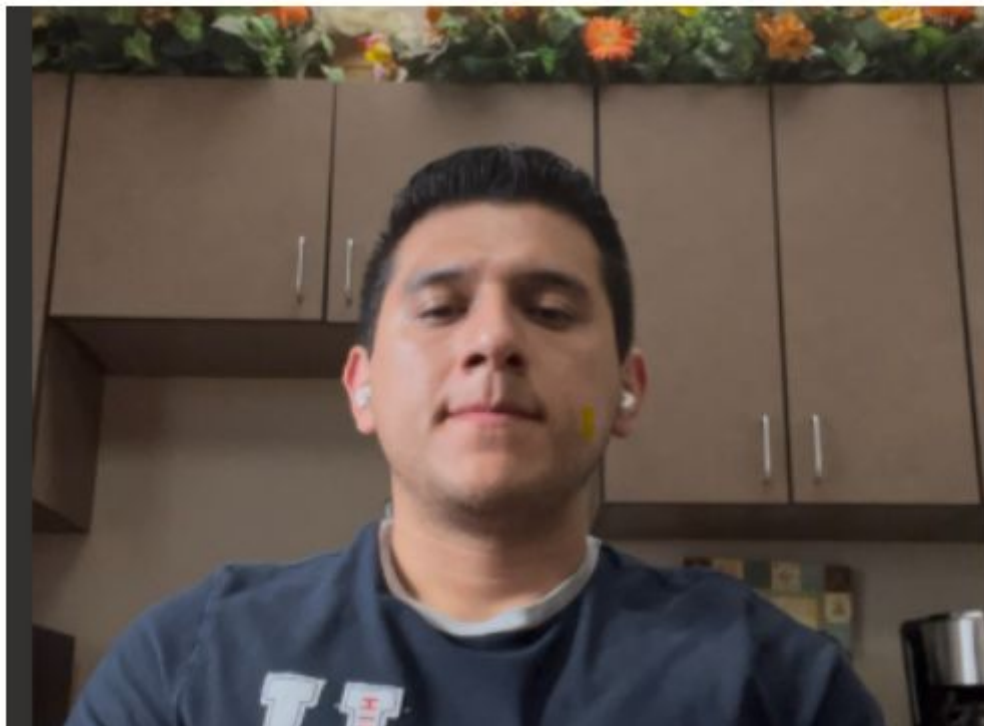
**Participant Name:** Angel Vargas

**Participant Achievement:** Participated in an Internship and lead to an On-the-Job Training. Employed at Montes Multiple Services. FT and \$15.00

**Barriers:** Long-termed unemployed and English Language Learner

**Participant Statement:**

I think the Arizona Work program is great for getting started in the more formal job market. Personally, it helped me a lot, and I feel fortunate. Since I first arrived in Arizona I had been looking for work and I started the process with Arizona Work, and they helped me get my first job. Thanks to them, I've been adding to my resume, and they continue to support me. Thank God for them, I'm very grateful to them. – Pedro Reyes



**Participant Name:** Francisco Sandez Alvarez

**Participant Achievement:** Obtained Employment. Employed at Sodexo –Onvida Health, Patient Escort - Fulltime and \$15.75

**Barriers:** Long-Term Unemployed, Poor Work History, Transportation assistance, Clothing and Fingerprint Clearance

**Participant Statement:** I have been with ARIZONA@WORK since Jan 2025. Experience-Great. Helped by my Career Specialist: Bonnie Santoyo. Hand in Hand have worked with guiding my way for a successful career. Patient Access Counselor @ Onvida Health. My first job here in Yuma. Career change more with patients hands on , Patient Escort in Onvida Health.....Thank you.



Hi Im Francisco.  
I have been with Arizona @ Work since January 2025  
Experience great help By my Career Specialist  
Bonnie Santoyo. Hand in hand have worked  
with guiding my way for a successful  
Career.  
Patient Access Counselor @ Onvida Health,  
my first Job Here in Yuma.  
And now going on another  
Career Change more with Patient hands  
on Patient Escort in Onvida Health  
Thank You  
9/8/2025.  
Bonnie ☺



# ARIZONA@WORK: Success Stories

## Youth Program

**Participant Name:** Angel Vargas

**Participant Achievement:** Obtained CDL Class B Certification & Employed at Sunrise Inc. Fulltime and \$26.25.

**Barriers:** Long-termed unemployed, Low income, SNAP recipient, Parenting Youth

**Participant Statement:**

Arizona at work paid and helped me obtain my CDL class B license. My goal was to change to a different work industry for better stability, and this program allowed me to accomplish my goal. I really recommend this program to anyone who is interested in the CDL program with Arizona at Work, it is life changing.



**Participant Name:** Armando Perez Servin

**Participant Achievement:** Completed the Training for Detention Officer Academy. Employment: Yuma County Sherriff's Office. Fulltime and \$24.13

**Barriers:** Low Income and Basic Skills Deficient  
**Participant Statement:**

"I am grateful to Arizona@Work for all the help they provided me with. Arizona@Work helped me financially with my DOTA academy. And continued to offered help after my academy as well.



# ARIZONA@WORK: Youth Services Activities

## 2025 - Fostering Hope Conference



Scott Little <slittle2663@gmail.com> to Diana, Norma, me, Evelyn 1:40 PM (1 hour ago)

I echo everything that Diana just said! Norma, it was especially joyful for me to meet and work with you as well as your volunteers. They took direction easily. They worked when we asked them to and always with a good attitude. I hope the conference was a good place for them to volunteer as the blessing we received by having them there.

Many Thanks!

Scott

On Mon, Sep 22, 2025 at 10:29 AM Diana Ortega <dortega@firstthingsfirst.org> wrote:  
Norma, Evelyn, and Nidia,

I want to thank you and your team from the bottom of my heart for the amazing support provided during the Fostering Hope Conference. I had the opportunity to speak to several of the volunteers. They were professional and ready to lend a helping hand. Many of them, I didn't even have to ask for help, they initiated it. Norma, I know that our request came in a little later than you typically prefer, I want you to know it did not go unnoticed. Thank you for making it happen. Also, thank you and Alan for being at the exhibit hall and participating throughout the whole conference. Nidia, you showing up on your day off to ensure your team was supported, it just shows what an awesome leader you are. Such a great blessing to have partners like you.



## Bit of Reality – Financial Literacy Partnership: Avenir



### Teaching youth the realities of money

Arizona@Work, Avenir Financial host financial literacy seminar for Yuma youth



## MLK Center: 20 WIOA Youth Participants Partnership: The Healing Journey



ARIZONA@WORK  
YUMA COUNTY  
A proud partner of the americanjobcenter network

### TEEN DATING & HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS

OCTOBER 24, 2025 @ 4 PM

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE HEALING Journey

MLK CENTER  
300 S. 13<sup>TH</sup> AVE YUMA AZ 85364

SIGN UP WITH YOUR YOUTH SPECIALIST TODAY!

PRACTICING SELF-LOVE AND SELF-CARE  
SETTING BOUNDARIES  
ACTIVE LISTENING SKILLS

YUMA NAACP #1016

Equal Opportunity Employer/Program Auxiliary Aids and Services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

YUMA NAACP #1016

## Banquet RISING TOGETHER

KEY SPEAKER: PASTOR ANDRE N. MILLER SR.  
VICE PRESIDENT, STATE OF ARIZONA NAACP

JOIN US FOR A NIGHT TO CELEBRATE CIVIL RIGHTS, EMPOWERMENT, MUSIC, GOOD FOOD, AND MUCH MORE

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2025 6:00-8:30PM  
AMERICAN LEGION POST #1 2775 S. VIRGINIA DR. YUMA, AZ

ADMISSION \$50. FORMAL DRESS CODE. CONTACT A LOCAL NAACP MEMBER FOR PHYSICAL TICKETS

ARIZONA@WORK  
YUMA COUNTY  
A proud partner of the americanjobcenter network

## Home Buyer Game Plan Workshop

Your First Home, Your Next Chapter - Let's Write It Together

Monday, November 10, 2025, at 3 PM  
MLK Center  
300 S. 13<sup>TH</sup> Ave  
Yuma AZ 85364

Workshop Benefits:

- Learn the step-by-step path to homeownership
- Build a budget and credit plan to qualify for a mortgage
- Discover Arizona assistance programs for first-time buyers
- Practice scouting homes with the KW app and activity worksheet
- Walk away with a personalized Home Buyer Game Plan

Sign Up with your Youth Specialist Today!

In partnership with Cynthia Luna

Who the Home Buyer Game Plan Workshop is for:

First-time buyers, renters ready for their next chapter, and anyone who wants to create a clear game plan for owning a home.

Equal Opportunity Employer/Program Auxiliary Aids and Services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.



# Community & Operations Updates:

## Giving Back:

**MLK: Thanksgiving Dinner**  
November 27<sup>th</sup> – 500+ meals

**ROSS: Thanksgiving Meal Kits**  
November 24<sup>th</sup>: 12 WIOA Participants



## SL Christmas Parade

December 11<sup>th</sup>



## Office Closed:

January 19<sup>th</sup> & February 16<sup>th</sup>

**Día Del Campesino/ Day of the Farmworker**  
December 5<sup>th</sup>



Donation: 798



# QUESTIONS?

---

# THANK YOU!



# Business Services & Rapid Response

January 2026

*April Romero*  
*Business Services Coordinator*



A proud partner of the [americanjobcenter](#) network



# 2025 Rapid Response



BOSE Corporation

Company	Month	Closure	Lay-Off	Employees Dislocated
BOSE	January	X		68
General Motors	December	X		33
LUKE Staffing	March		X	54
Comprehensive Integrated Care	March	X		20
Deployed Resources, LLC	March		X	700
Diversified Protection Corporation	March		X	80
SOSi International LLC	March		X	25+
DLP Housekeeping	March		X	218
Yuma Primary Care	August	X		5
Hooters Yuma	August	X		15
Kira Services, LLC	August	X		3
Ryder Integrated Logistics	September	X		58

# 2025 Center Activity

Site	October	November	December	Total
<b>Yuma CRC / EOC</b>	1,227	692	759	<b>2,678</b>
<b>MLK / Youth Services</b>	373	303	302	<b>978</b>
<b>Somerton Resource Center</b>	182	91	98	<b>371</b>
<b>San Luis Resource Center</b>	78	76	67	<b>221</b>
<b>DES - Palo Verde Site</b>	1	9	4	<b>14</b>
<b>Virtual Contacts / Off Site</b>	10	39	31	<b>80</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,871</b>	<b>1,210</b>	<b>1,261</b>	<b>4342</b>

1,200

2020: 41,190	2021: 22,935	2022: 23,000
2023: 32,319	2024: 24,737	<b>2025: 19,496</b>

# Connecting with Employers

## Employer Measures

Connecting with Employers	October	November	December
<b>Consultations</b>	1	4	<b>2</b>
<b>Job Orders</b>	126	108	<b>154</b>
<b>Worksite Tours / Visits</b>	13	48	<b>21</b>
<b>Recruitment Events</b> (Hiring / Resource / Job Fair / Job Club)	1	2	<b>0</b>
<b>Internships</b>	9	4	<b>6</b>
<b>Work Experiences</b>	11	14	<b>5</b>
<b>On-the-Job Trainings</b>	3	6	<b>2</b>
<b>Incumbent Worker Training</b>	0	5	<b>0</b>
<b>Total</b>	164	191	<b>190</b>



YUMA COUNTY

A proud partner of the [americanjobcenter](#) network



Month	Employers / Resources Present	Attendee Count
October	Sodexo City of Somerton	41
November	Allo Fiber Hunter Employment	42
December	Yuma County DES Veteran Services SMILE program	39



# Hiring/Recruitment Events

## 41 Job Seekers 12 Employers/ Resources



**ARIZONA @ WORK™**  
Innovative Workforce Solutions  
A proud partner of the americanjobcenter network

### Law Enforcement & First Responder Hiring Event

Learn more about local careers in law enforcement, fire and public safety.

**Event Details**

- September 18, 2025
- 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
- 300 S. 13<sup>TH</sup> Ave, Yuma, AZ 85364

Job Seeker Pre-Registration: <https://bit.ly/2025law>

**EMPLOYER REGISTRATION**  
<https://forms.gle/3wDPH2GPhTWLpAS87>



# Hiring/Recruitment Events



## YUMA COMMUNITY JOB & EDUCATION FAIR

in collaboration with



WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8TH, 2025



ARIZONA WESTERN COLLEGE, SCHOENING CENTER  
2020 S AVE 8 E, YUMA, AZ 85365



9:00 AM - 12:00 PM - GENERAL PUBLIC ADMISSION  
PRIORITY ADMISSION FOR VETERANS, ACTIVE MILITARY, & SPOUSES AVAILABLE



Scan to register or visit [events.ypic.com](https://events.ypic.com)

*Yuma's Largest Job and Education Fair*

Free Transportation  
Provided by YCAT. Scan QR  
code to view bus schedule:



Brought to you by



Equal opportunity employer / program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

# 954 Attendees

# 53 Employers/Resources



# Hiring/Recruitment Events

HONORING ALL WHO SERVED



ANNUAL

# VETERANS STANDDOWN & BENEFIT EXPO

FREE Event for all veterans and their dependents!

# 11.06.25

## 9 AM - 12 PM

Martin Luther King Jr. Center  
300 S. 13<sup>th</sup> Ave, Yuma, AZ 85364

LEARN ABOUT AVAILABLE FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL VETERAN BENEFITS, INCLUDING HEALTHCARE, DISABILITY COMPENSATION, PENSION, BUSINESS, BURIAL, EDUCATION, TRANSPORTATION, RECREATION, LONG-TERM CARE, RECORDS, ID'S, HOME LOANS, EMPLOYMENT, AND MORE!

# 50 Attendees 21 Resources/Employers



# SCALE

## YUMA COUNTY ROADSHOW

Thursday, November 13th



# QUESTIONS?



A proud partner of the  network