



OMAHA COALITION MEETING
Wednesday, December 11, 2024
9 a.m.

Please use to sign-in:



A G E N D A

- I. Welcome and Introductions
- II. Review of the November 13, 2024 Meeting Minutes
(please contact PEM staff with corrections)
- III. Looking Back at 2024
 - a. Policy
 - b. Enforcement
 - c. Youth
 - d. Awareness
- IV. Networking
- V. Adjournment and Next Meeting Date: **January 22nd, 9 a.m.**
UNO's Community Engagement Center, Room 201

IMPORTANT UPCOMING EVENTS

Youth Leadership Network Meeting – January 27th at 7-8 p.m.
Nebraska Liquor Control Commission Hearings – January 7, 2024
PEM's 30th Anniversary Recognition Dinner – March 12, 2025

The mission of Project Extra Mile is to advocate for evidence-based policies and practices to prevent and reduce alcohol-related harms.

PROJECT EXTRA MILE

OMAHA METRO AREA COALITION MEETING MINUTES November 13, 2024

- I. Call to Order: Chris Wagner called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.
- II. Welcome and Introductions: Coalition members and speakers in attendance: Sharona Ernst, Palistene Gray-Moore, Jordan Cedillo, Neil Culver, Teri Speck, Heike Langdon, Derek Schwartz, Kirby Williams, Trilety Wade, Jason Sharp, and Natalie Gordon-Nash. Coalition members in attendance via Zoom: Elizabeth Woods, Jona Beck, Brian Ortner, Tom Safranek, Julie Chytil, Maggie Ballard, Lanette Richards, Jeanne Bietz, Abigail Anderson, Michaela Perry, and Whitney Abbott. Staff members: Chris Wagner, Beatha Kliewer, and Liene Topko.
- III. Approval of Minutes: The minutes from the October 9th meeting were included in the coalition meeting packet. No additions or corrections were made.
- IV. Alcohol's Impact on the Nebraska Tribes Addressing Violence Coalition's Work: Kirby Williams, executive director of the Nebraska Tribes Addressing Violence Coalition, shared that the mission of their coalition is to support and strengthen the prevention of and response to domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, elder abuse, dating violence, and human trafficking against Native Americans in Nebraska through education, trainings, support, public awareness, and technical assistance. She shared that Nebraska follows national trends regarding high rates of violence perpetrated against Native people and that the prevention of alcohol misuse is a key factor in reducing violence. Kirby also shared national and local resources available to Native people of different tribes and individuals working with Native people.
- V. Focus Area Updates
 - a. Local
 - i. Chris Wagner shared with the coalition that board member, longtime highway safety administrator, and advocate Fred Zwonechek recently passed away. His celebration of life will be in Lincoln on November 15th.
 - ii. Wagner invited the group to participate in the Retail Alcohol Data Collaborative which is a national effort to better understand the alcohol retail outlet environment. The goal is to visit and assess 50-100 businesses in Douglas County. The Youth Leadership Network students will be taking part in this, and coalition members are invited to join the efforts.
 - iii. Liene Topko summarized the hearing for Havana Garage's sale to minor violation where the business sold to the minors a second time within less than six months. Despite the Liquor Control Commissioners finding the business guilty, they halved the penalty due to the business taking steps to prevent future violations and counsel arguing possession of alcohol on their behalf. Details of the case can be found in the November newsletter.

b. Policy

- i. Wagner informed that group that the alcohol pricing and taxation interim study has been indefinitely postponed.
- ii. Topko highlighted the Nebraska Liquor Control Commission's (LCC) legislative letter's which is sent to the Nebraska Legislature with their "wish list" for the upcoming session. The letter asked for mandatory server training of all employees; updates to how alcohol that is shipped into Nebraska is tracked; a request for a delivery license; and a request to increase liquor investigators from 6 to 9, with two going to Troop A (Omaha metro) and one to Troop H (Lincoln). A copy of the letter can be found on the LCC's website: <https://lcc.nebraska.gov/hearings-agendas-results>

c. Youth

- i. The Youth Leadership Network students will be meeting with senators and their staff to discuss evidence-based policies for preventing alcohol-related harms, including increasing the price of alcohol. Coalition members were encouraged to join and show support for the youth during these meetings.
- ii. The Youth Leadership Network will meet on Monday, November 18th at 7:00 p.m.

d. Awareness

- i. The November Research Summary is available at www.projectextramile.org/ResearchSummary
- ii. Wagner highlighted a national news story where PEM and other organizations were highlighted regarding their efforts to increase the price of alcohol.

VI. Additional Discussion/Announcements: Julie Chytil announced that the Nebraska Comprehensive Cancer Plan 2025-2030 has been published and includes an objective to reduce excessive alcohol consumption in Nebraska. The plan can be found on DHHS's website: <https://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/Comprehensive-Cancer-Control-Program.aspx>

VII. Adjournment and Next Meeting Date: The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

YOUTH LEADERSHIP NETWORK

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT. ADVOCACY. AWARENESS. ACTION

READY TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN YOUR COMMUNITY?



Youth in grades 8-12 in the Omaha Metro Area are invited to join Project Extra Mile's Youth Leadership Network. Members will learn about the harms of excessive alcohol use in our community, develop the leadership skills needed to make real change, and put those skills into action!

FOCUSING ON EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO LEAD



Project Extra Mile has been creating community change for over 25 years and we are passionate about reducing alcohol-related harms in our community. In the Youth Leadership Network, we focus on teaching and practicing the skills needed to create change. Youth will receive expert guidance on projects that will utilize media literacy, public speaking, advocacy, problem-solving, and community organizing skills that they'll develop from this initiative.

A YOUTH-LED APPROACH



We're serious about youth leadership, which is why all projects are planned and developed by the youth themselves. Youth projects over the last couple years have included hosting a town hall, meeting with state senators, creating media campaigns to raise awareness, and more!

MEET AND LEARN FROM LOCAL AND STATE POLICYMAKERS

CREATE YOUR OWN MEDIA CAMPAIGNS

LEARN HOW TO USE YOUR INDIVIDUAL LEADERSHIP STYLE

MEET NEW FRIENDS AND DEVELOP SKILLS TO LAST A LIFETIME





GROW YOUR LEADERSHIP SKILLS AND MAKE FRIENDSHIPS THAT LAST A LIFETIME

YOUTH LEADERSHIP NETWORK FALL MEETING SCHEDULE

**JANUARY 28, 2025
7-8 P.M.
UNO CEC**

**FEBRUARY 24, 2025
7-8 P.M.
UNO CEC**

**RECOGNITION DINNER
MARCH 12, 2025**

**YOUTH ADVOCACY DAY
AT THE STATE CAPITOL
APRIL 11, 2025**

**APRIL 21, 2025
7-8 P.M.
UNO CEC**

**EXTRA MEETINGS
AS NEEDED**

**YOUTH LEADERSHIP
RETREAT
JUNE 2025**

HOW TO JOIN

The Youth Leadership Network is open to all Omaha-area youth in grades 8 through 12 who want to grow as leaders and are interested in preventing alcohol-related harms in our community with the skills they develop. To indicate your interest in joining us for our next meeting, please fill out the form using the QR code below. YLN is completely free to join!



Register here!

WHERE WE MEET

The Youth Leadership Network meetings are held once a month at the Barbara Weitz Community Engagement Center (CEC) on the University of Nebraska-Omaha campus at 6400 Dodge Street, Omaha, NE. Parking is free and food and drinks are provided at each meeting (must register for food).

LEARN MORE!

To learn more about the Youth Leadership Network, please visit www.projectextramile.org/youth or contact us at youth@projectextramile.org or (402) 963-9047

Find us on:

