



United Resilience Coalition

Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, January 13, 2026

Time: 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM CST

Location: Zoom Meetings

Attendees

- **Dr. Richard Oni** – Chair, Progressive Individual Resources
- **Victor Obisakin** – Coalition Coordinator
- **Elder Joshua Isabo**ke – Vice Chair, Mortgage Banker & Certified Financial Planner
- **Siji Oluwaniyi** – Program Coordinator, Restoration for All
- **Harriet Kerubo** – Director of Organizational Development, Core Minnesota
- **Cody Osborne** – Mental Health & Suicide Prevention Coordinator
- **Helen Ghebre** – Staff, Department of Human Services; attending as community member
- **Peace Kayitesi** – Family Friend Neighbor Specialist

Absent:

1. Welcome & Opening

- Informal opening conversation among Oni, Victor, and others as people joined.
- **Clarification of timing:**
 - The meeting was expected to last about one hour, with a short break partway through.
 - Plan to fill in late arrivals on earlier discussions.

2. Concerns and Safety Issues

- **Victor shared strong concerns about:**
 - Feeling unsafe at night, especially due to ICE-related activities.
 - Fear of ICE agents and the possibility of extremist groups (e.g., Proud Boys, KKK) misusing ICE identity or uniforms.
- **Story shared about:**
 - A pregnant woman in labor is afraid to go to the hospital because of fear of being detained by ICE.
 - The need to call a doula instead of going to the hospital, highlighting the severe impact of fear on access to medical care.
- **Emotional tone:**
 - General sense of fear, frustration, and moral outrage at how immigration enforcement affects daily life, safety, and family stability.



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3. Community Concerns and Work Plan Adjustment

- Oni suggested shifting focus to community concerns.
- **Victor asked for clarity and confirmed:**
 - The group will pause the existing work plan.
 - The work plan will be revisited around March, with openness to extending timelines.
- **Oni:**
 - Agreed to put off the work plan.
 - Emphasized collecting ideas via email for community check-ins and support activities.
- **Cody Osborne:**
 - Suggested emailing recent interviewees to:
 - Invite them to a support group.
 - Encourage them to reach out to their own community members to broaden support.
- **Agreement:**
 - General alignment that current community fears and safety issues should take priority over the previous work plan.

5. Leadership Messages

- **Oni (Chair)**
 - Framed the decision to pause the work plan as a practical and necessary step.
 - Encouraged idea-sharing by email to shape future community check-ins.
- **Victor:**
 - Reinforced the seriousness of the current climate of fear.
 - Highlighted concerns about the massive funding for ICE (e.g., reference to \$170 billion in a “big, beautiful bill”), and visible signs of resource imbalance (ICE staying in high-end hotels, new vehicles) versus underfunded community needs (e.g., teachers struggling).
- **Joshua O. Isaboke:**
 - Endorsed the decision to revisit the work plan later.
 - Helped manage timing and break structure during the meeting.

6. Planning Ahead

- **Community emotional climate**
 - Participants acknowledge widespread fear in the community related to immigration enforcement and general instability.
 - Emphasis on mental health, positive responses to fear, and mutual support.
- **Support approach**
 - Need for comforting approaches and safe spaces for people to talk, debrief, and share fears.



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- Framing this as a kind of “another COVID time” where community care and connection are critical.
- **Community Concerns & Wellness Session**
 - Agreement to use the regular coalition meeting on February 10 (noon) as a Community Concerns and Wellness session.
 - Intent is to: Give community members time to share (e.g., ~5 minutes each). Show that the coalition is for everyone, not just internal members. Possibly expand the usual 1-hour slot to 2 hours.
- **Outreach & partnerships**
 - Plan to reach out to local organizations (e.g., CMAH and others) to: Share resources. Coordinate support. Stand in solidarity with impacted communities.
 - Need to clearly define roles of other groups (e.g., the council) so the session is not taken over or reframed away from the coalition’s intent.
- **Communication methods**
 - Discussion around: How to keep communication going (email vs. WhatsApp, etc.). Using texts and networks (case managers, former colleagues) to invite families to the session.
 - Intention to not miss the moment—be ready to convene quickly if situations escalate (e.g., after protests / ICE activity).

✓ Action Items

1. **Create & finalize flyer**
 - Draft/rough flyer & concept: Victor will send a rough flyer and meeting details (Community Concerns & Wellness Meeting, Feb 10 at noon) to the group.
 - Design/refinement: Siji will design and finalize the flyer for the February 10 session.
 - Review/approval: Oni will coordinate feedback from the group and confirm the final flyer version.
2. **Meeting notes**
 - **Siji:** Compile notes from this meeting and distribute them.
3. **Outreach letter to organizations**
 - **Victor:** Draft a letter to local organizations (e.g., CEMA and others) introducing the United Resilience Coalition, expressing concern, inviting partnership, and encouraging resource sharing.
4. **Information sharing**
 - **Victor:** Email Cody’s materials (e.g., resources or language about support) to the full group by the end of the evening.
5. **Peer support availability**



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- **Cody:** Make time available (including weekends) to speak with families or case managers needing support and schedule sessions as requested.
- **Victor:** Serve as a peer support specialist, be available for community members who need to talk, and share availability/contact info within the group.