



# NICCC 2026

NATIONAL INNOVATIVE COMMUNITIES CONFERENCE

**TRUST...Starts Here**



**HUSSAM AYLOUSH**



**FREDERICK J. RILEY**



**REACH OUT**  
Strengthening Communities

**JUNE 9<sup>TH</sup> & 10<sup>TH</sup>**  
Riverside Convention Center

Dear Friends and Community Builders,

It is with deep gratitude and great excitement that I welcome you to the *16th Annual National Innovative Communities Conference (NICC)*. For more than fifteen years, NICC has served as the Inland Empire's heartbeat of innovation, a trusted space where passionate leaders across generations and sectors come together to reimagine what's possible for our communities. This year, that trust is not just our history. It is our Northstar.



### TRUST.

During uncertain times, trust evolves from being just a value hoped-for to becoming the very foundation of everything we build together. Trust in our neighbors. Trust in our institutions. Trust lawmakers and systems meant to serve and protect. And trust in our collective ability to shape a better future for the Inland Empire. When that trust is tested, and it *is* being tested, we must ask ourselves: What becomes possible when TRUST is built and restored? That is the question at the heart of **NICC 2026**.

From health equity to immigration rights, from homelessness to the next generation workforce, **every session, every conversation, and every connection at this conference leads back to trust as the foundation for real, lasting community change.** Our keynote speakers bring voices of urgency, clarity, and deep commitment to rebuilding the social fabric that holds us together and to advancing a more just and inclusive Inland Empire.

NICC is designed not just to inspire, but to equip. Our goal is to equip you with the tools, connections, and the ability to summon your innate courage, speak truth to power, strengthen relationships, elevate community leadership, and advance solutions rooted in trust and impact at your job, in your neighborhood, and across the region we all call home.

**Welcome to NICC 2026!** Together, we can build the trust that sustains progress. Let's build something lasting.

With hope and determination,



Diana Fox  
Executive Director



# NICC 2026

NATIONAL INNOVATIVE COMMUNITIES CONFERENCE

2026 THEME

## TRUST

During uncertain times, trust evolves from being just a value to becoming the very foundation of everything we build together. Trust in our neighbors. Trust in our institutions. Trust in systems meant to serve and protect. And trust in our collective ability to shape a better future for the Inland Empire.

*Every session. Every connection. Every conversation. All grounded in TRUST.*

From health equity to immigration rights, from homelessness to the next generation workforce, the sessions and conversations at NICC 2026 connect back to **trust** as the foundation for real, lasting community change.

### CONFERENCE FOCUS AREAS

#### 01 COMMUNITY HEALTH

Strengthening population health, safety, and shared power by dismantling barriers to care, access, and opportunity.

*This focus area centers community voice, advances racial and social justice, and supports systems that ensure every resident can pursue health and dignity without fear.*

#### 02 GENERATIONAL WELLNESS

Nurturing wellbeing across the lifespan by addressing mental health, family stability, education, technology, and economic security as interconnected drivers of opportunity.

*This focus area emphasizes supportive environments where individuals and families can thrive across generations.*

#### 03 HEALTH WORKFORCE

Building a trusted, culturally responsive health workforce rooted in the communities it serves.

*This focus area aligns education, training, and employer needs to expand access to care, advance economic mobility, and strengthen long-term health.*

Together, these focus areas reflect our belief that **TRUST** is built through accountability, collaboration, and sustained investment in people and communities.

### 9:00 AM • OPENING PLENARY

Ballroom: **Fox and Real Friends: The TRUST Edition**  
Diana Fox  
*Executive Director, Reach Out*

### 10:30 AM • BREAKOUT SESSION 1

RC-FC: When ICE Comes to Work: Immigration Rights for Workers and Employers  
RC-EB: Empowering Voices: Advancing Health Equity Through Purpose  
RC-D: Building the Health Workforce of the Future: The IHPC Strategy in Action  
MR 7: Beyond Cultural Competency: Cultivating Real Trust  
MR 8: Creating Collaborative Teams and Spaces that Strengthen Communities  
MR 9: The Importance of Being a Trusted Leader

### 12:00 PM • LUNCH PLENARY & KEYNOTE

Ballroom: **Justice, Trust, and the Work of Building Inclusive Communities**  
Hussam Ayloush, M.B.A  
*Chief Executive Director, Council of American Islamic Relations (CAIR-LA)*

### 1:30 PM • BREAKOUT SESSION 2

RC-FC: Trust in Motion: Followership, Courage and the Power to Influence What Matters  
RC-EB: Breaking the Cycle: Trust, Recovery, and Healing in Families and Communities  
RC-D: Community Voice to Action: Turning Community Insight into Systems Change  
MR 7: Health Workforce Partnerships: Vibrant Collaboration & Resilient Participation  
MR 8: H.R. 1 and the Future of Public Benefits: Cutting Through the Confusion  
MR 9: Connected but Alone: Understanding the Reality of Today's Teens

### 3:00 PM • BREAKOUT SESSION 3

RC-FC: After the Silence: Building Trust, Healing and Clarity in Immigrant Communities  
RC-EB: Gas Station Heroin: The Dangerous Rise of 7-OH  
RC-D: El Poder del Chisme  
MR 7: Community Starts with Trust  
MR 8: Trust as Infrastructure: Preparing the Next Generation Workforce  
MR 9: Heart-Centered Case Management: Building Connection, Trust, and Impact

See what each session covers and meet the  
Scan the QR Code and e

### 9:00 AM • OPENING PLENARY

Ballroom: **"We the People"**  
Frederick J. Riley  
*Executive Director, Weave: The Social Fabric Project*

### 10:30 AM • BREAKOUT SESSION 1

RC-FC: From Bystanders to Responders: How Trust Drives Life-Saving Action  
RC-EB: Guiding the Path from Homelessness to Housing  
RC-D: Don't Ghost Your Survey Participants: Transforming Data into Trust  
MR 7: Grant Writing in the Gray: A Changing Funding Landscape  
MR 8: Beyond Awareness: Strategies for Building Inclusive Community Systems  
MR 9: Bystander Training for Recording Law Enforcement

### 12:00 PM • LUNCH PLENARY & KEYNOTE

Ballroom: **Trust in Action: Philanthropy, Partnership, and the Future of the Inland Empire**  
Mindy Silva, *SAC Health*; Denisha Shackelford, *Inland Empire Community Foundation*;  
Nicole Pritchard, *The James Irvine Foundation*; Susan Gomez, *Inland Empire  
Community Collaborative*

### 1:30 PM • BREAKOUT SESSION 2

RC-FC: Creating a Bridge Between University and Community using the CESI Model  
RC-EB: TODEC's Response and Strategy to Immigration Law Enforcement  
RC-D: Shared Visions To Shared Systems: How Collaboration Drives Systems Change  
MR 7: Preparing Tomorrow's Community Health Workforce Together  
MR 8: Fostering Stronger Nonprofit and Philanthropic Partnerships  
MR 9: Building Your Future: Programs And Resources That Lead To Careers

### 3:00 PM • CLOSING PLENARY

Ballroom: **Turning Intention Into Action**  
  
Performers & Opportunity Drawing  
Tala Mai Moana Productions





# NICC 2026

## NATIONAL INNOVATIVE COMMUNITIES CONFERENCE

### Make Your Day Easier with the NICC App!

*Instructions to download the 2026 NICC app on your mobile device. Powered through Whova.*

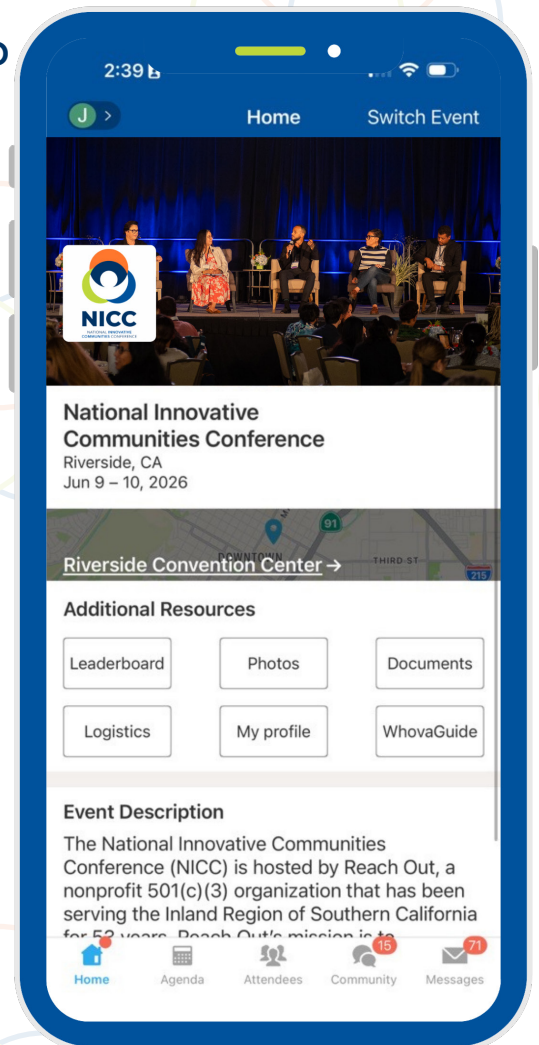
 Search and download Whova on the app store, or **scan the QR Code below**.

 Create a **FREE** account.

 Search for **“National Innovative Communities Conference”**.

 Enter the invitation code:

**RONICC2026**



**REACH OUT**  
Strengthening Communities

# Reach Out's *Bill of Rights*

For the Residents of the Inland Empire



## **I. Quality Healthcare**

The right to quality, affordable, integrated healthcare and preventative services, regardless of ability to pay or formal status.

## **II. Education**

The right to effective and in-demand educational opportunities that advance a climate of safety, accountability, and innovation-based academic rigor.

## **III. Equitable Economic Opportunity**

The right to equity-focused economic development that improves quality of life, and advances fairness, inclusion, and opportunity.

## **IV. Dignity in Justice**

The right to a fair and constructive relationship with law enforcement, and an immigration system that respects human rights.

## **V. Housing**

The right to affordable, stable housing.

## **VI. Safe Homes, Neighborhoods & Schools**

The right to nurturing and safe homes, neighborhoods, and schools that are free from substance use, violence and fear.

## **VII. Healthy Foods & Environment**

The right to a healthy physical environment and fresh, locally grown foods that promote personal and community health and well-being.

## **VIII. Voice and Leadership**

The right to speak up about social issues and feel safe to express beliefs, culture, and opinions that allow communities to work together in unity for the greater good.





# Pacific Empire College

Training the workforce our communities depend on

Community Health Workers (CHWs) serve a critical need in the Inland Empire and throughout the state – and there are not enough of them.

Pacific Empire College strives to address the shortage and to create more health equity in the state by training and deploying highly qualified CHWs.



## THE ROLE OF THE CHW:

- Serve as peer educator and liaison between health service providers and patients/clients
- Advocate for patients whose socioeconomic and cultural backgrounds pose barriers in access to resources or care
- Apply your desire to serve to create a fulfilling and impactful career

## WHAT PACIFIC EMPIRE COLLEGE OFFERS\*:

The Program:

- Curriculum training including hands-on labs where students practice applying skills in real-world scenarios
- Field experience
- Presentation skills training
- Health knowledge foundational training
- Job Placement support upon certificate completion

\*Ask about advanced programming including:

- Training in behavioral health, substance abuse, and violence interruption
- Training for supervisors of CHWs
- Mental health training





As Riverside University Health System  
 – Public Health celebrates  
**100 YEARS OF SERVICE**  
 we are happy to support  
**THE NIC CONFERENCE**



# WE NEED TO TALK ABOUT

## 7-OH

7-OH is an opioid sold without age limits or safety warnings



**7-Hydroxymitragynine (7-OH)** is a psychoactive kratom extract sold in liquor stores and gas stations across California.

### PRODUCT FORMS

Pills, powders, drinks, gummies, & vapes

### SOLD AT

Sold at gas stations and liquor stores

### UNREGULATED

No age restrictions in California

7-OH poses dangers due to its opioid-level potency similar to heroin, lack of regulation, potential harmful contaminants, and life-threatening effects when mixed with alcohol, leading to severe respiratory and central nervous system depression.



### Learn More & Get Involved!

Scan the QR Code for more information about Reach Out's efforts to regulate 7-OH in nearby cities.

[we-reachout.org/7oh](http://we-reachout.org/7oh)



# El Poder del CHISME



THE POWER OF TEA

### ABOUT THE CAMPAIGN

Reach Out launched a pilot program, *Aqui Entre Nos* (Between Us), to mobilize leaders and organizations across the Inland Empire to spread important resources the way only our community can — through trusted networks, word of mouth, and good “chisme”.

Six foldable resource cards are available on the following topics:

Mental Health

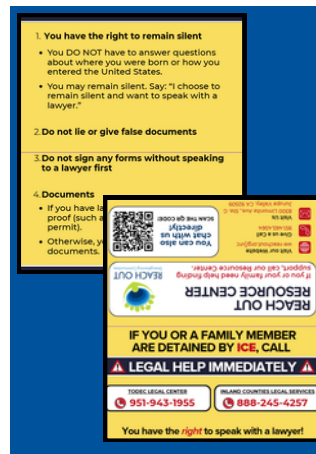
Medi-Cal

Protesting Rights

Register to Vote

Legal Help

Resource Center



REACH OUT  
Strengthening Communities

Join us on June 9<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m. for “El Poder del Chisme” and learn how you can spread the tea in your community!



**Drowning is Fast. Silent.  
Preventable.**

**No Cost Swim Lessons  
First5Riverside.org**



**Kaiser Permanente is a proud supporter of the 2026 National Innovative Communities Conference.**

**We continuously strive to improve the conditions for health and equity in our communities.**

A Better Idea for Healthcare.

Learn more at [about.kp.org](http://about.kp.org)



**Inspiring Vibrant  
Health *Together***

We're grateful for all you do to make our community a healthier place to live.





## CREATING A CULTURE OF HEALTH

A community-wide initiative supporting the **Wellness Element** of the **San Bernardino Countywide Vision**

Bringing together **community voices, local leaders, and organizations** to collaboratively address key health issues: **Behavioral Health, Chronic Disease, & Injury and Violence Prevention**

Community Vital Signs helps build a healthier and stronger county by:

**LISTENING TO THE COMMUNITY'S HEALTH NEEDS**

**USING LOCAL DATA TO SET HEALTH PRIORITIES**

**UNITING PARTNERS TO TAKE ACTION**

*Interested in Joining?  
Check Out the QR Code*



Learn more at:  
[www.CommunityVitalSigns.SBCounty.Gov](http://www.CommunityVitalSigns.SBCounty.Gov)



## Investing in the great work of our community partners through grantmaking and sponsorship



## Congratulations to Reach Out

For your commitment to community leadership, transparency, and stronger partnerships which is helping build a healthier and more resilient Inland Empire.



# ADRIAN DELL & CARMEN ROBERTS

*Foundation*  
[www.adcrfoundation.org](http://www.adcrfoundation.org)

## Congratulations

Reach Out  
on the

## 2026 National Innovative Communities Conference

A CONFERENCE FOR LOCAL CHANGE AGENTS

*It Takes a Village...*

Bringing the Community Together



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San Bernardino, CA 92411  
909.577.2500

[www.ofy.org](http://www.ofy.org)



# NICCC 2026

NATIONAL INNOVATIVE COMMUNITIES CONFERENCE

## WITH GRATITUDE TO OUR SPONSORS

Thank you for your valued support of the 2026 National Innovative Communities Conference. Your investment helped create a meaningful experience that inspired collaboration, learning, and connection.



Behavioral Health



REACH OUT  
Strengthening Communities

Follow us on Social Media!



@WeAreReachOut



PARTNERS FOR  
INNOVATIVE COMMUNITIES