



Legal Services Committee
August 15, 2024

Amy Smith	HCDVCC
Alexia Rauen	Advocates for Immigrant Survivors
Rebecca Council	HCDVCC
Thecia Jenkins	HCDVCC
Celina Wells	KCM
Mayumi Waddy	MOMS Demand Action

Amy Smith opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

Mayumi Waddy introduced herself and stated that she was with MOMS Demand Action's Texas Chapter. She and Swati from DAYA are the Co-Leads for DV for the State. They are trying to increase outreach Statewide for MOMS to support DV agencies.

Celina Wells announced KCM has been extremely busy with DV cases. They have always been DV heavy compared to the SA case load, but it has been worse lately with a lot of walk-ins. Most are needing financial support and they have less than \$3000 left in their DVAF. They continue to have a short waiting list for counseling for adult sexual assault survivors. Their Silent Witness Dinner is on October 24th. They recently received a small grant to promote assistance with youth through art. They recently held a 1-day workshop for 10–17-year-olds. The workshop includes psychoeducation with lunch and fun. The next group is scheduled for September with another one in October or November. Finally, they have a new advocate that has developed a support group for their Spanish speaking clients that also incorporates some ESL classes in the group.

Alexia Rauen said AIS has received another grant to continue their research project. They are hoping to hire a legal advocate that can start in September. They are currently accepting referrals and only have about a 2 week wait.

Amy Smith reported for Libby Hasse from Tahirih that have had to put a hold on accepting cases temporarily due to staffing issues. They had to reschedule their Citizenship Clinic due to the Hurricane until August 23rd.

Thecia Jenkins reported that HCDVCC Title IX Committee is working with Jana's Campaign on their conference the 2nd week of September. The link for more information on the conference is <https://www.janascampaign.org/gulf-coast-campus-safety-summit.html>

Amy Smith announced that HCDVCC, DAYA and AVDA are holding their annual Interfaith Summit and Vigil on October 10th at the United Way. HCDVCC's Community Meeting will be at 2:30, an Inter Faith Dialogue will be at 4 and then the Candlelight Vigil will be at 6:00. Amy also announced the 280th District Court has resumed Gun Surrender after the Rahimi decision by the US Supreme Court. HCDVCC is in the beginning stages of implementing a Community Safety Assessment of the Criminal Justice System. And finally, Harris County Commissioner's Court approve the Early Childhood Resiliency Grant that will be administered by HCDVCC. The link for more information on the grant is <https://www.hcdvcc.org/ecrf-rfp/>

Meeting adjourned.

Our next meeting will be September 19th at 11:30 via ZOOM. Remember we are meeting on ZOOM, not Teams so log on to the ZOOM link in the body of the email.