



Policy Committee Meeting
January 18, 2022

Sonia Corrales	HAWC
Shannon Fowler	UofH Downtown
Celina Wells	KCM
Amy Johnson	HCDVCC
Amy Smith	HCDVCC
D. Taylor	City of Houston/Gov't Relations
Alexa Aragonez	City of Houston/Gov't Relations
Guadalupe Fernandez	Tahirih Justice Center
Thecia Jenkins	HCDVCC

Meeting was called to order by Amy Smith who stated that Judge Judy Warne, the Chair of the Committee had a conflict and could not make the meeting, but Amy Smith read an update from her:

I just did the protective order legislation speech at the Family Justice conference Friday morning. I am pleased to say that it was so well received that I have been asked to come to Austin and record it for use by the curriculum folks at the Texas Center for the Judiciary. I think I had spoken to our committee about updating judges on legislation. I also addressed the failed legislation on ERPOs and gun surrender with the judges. On a personal note, I have also agreed to chair the committee that will update the Protective Order Bench Book for use by all Texas judges.

Sonia Corrales updated the Committee on the formation of the Harris County Sexual Assault Response Team (SART). The Team is working on setting up a mission statement, infrastructure to be as inclusive as possible. The Team has until the first of the year to complete these tasks.

Alexa Aragonez updated the Committee on the City's work on the ARP funds and asked for any suggestions on the next legislative session. She also reported that the Mobile Mental Health Outreach Team that is in partnership with Harris County is on the agenda for City Council next week. This is part of the ARP funding.

Amy Smith reported that IPV Homicides were up a lot more from last year and could approach over 50 closer to 60. The DV cases have been more violent. Sonia noted that it seems more people are calling the police and she thinks it might be because DART is up and running. DART is creating a survey to send out soon. Sonia also noted that if DART has a victim that needs shelter they will take them including bringing them to the Shelter to free up an Officer.

Guadalupe Fernandez stated that Tahirih is close to hiring a Social Services Manager. They are currently only seeing clients virtually. She also stated they have been working with the County to create an enhanced library card that can be used for an ID for County services including services at Harris Health.

Announcements:

Thecia Jenkins announced HCDVCC has 2 upcoming trainings:

1. Stalking Training on January 27th from 9 to 11
2. Economic Advocacy on February 3rd from 9 to 11

Celina Wells announced the Fort Bend County Crime Victim Conference is on February 9th.

Meeting adjourned and the next meeting will be on February 15th at 2:00 pm via ZOOM.