



Legal Services Committee
May 18th, 2023

Amy Smith	HCDVCC
Rebecca Councill	HCDVCC
Libby Hasse	Tahirih Justice Center
Deborah Alexis	HCDVCC
Katisha Chaney	BATP
Stefanie Hayes	HCDVCC
Thecia Jenkins	HCDVCC
Nidia Cantu	HCDVCC
Norma Martinez	HCDVCC
Vidal Argueta	HCDVCC

Amy Smith opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. Introduction were made.

Amy Smith gave an update on the Criminal Justice Training. It will be an all day in person training that will include panels with Police Officers and Crime Victim Liaisons as well as an overview of the Criminal Justice System, laws, charges and how to navigate through the process. After discussion it was decided to try to have the training on Sept. 13th. Amy will look for a location.

Amy Smith discussed the Rahimi Case in the 5th Circuit Court -The Department of Justice has taken the case to the Supreme Court. They gave the defendant in the case until May 23rd to respond to the filing. If 5 of the 9 Judges agree they can issue a stay of the 5th Circuit Ruling. However, it does not appear that there will be a decision before the Legislature ends. If nothing is done, we must wait 2 years before we can change anything through the Texas Legislature. The 280th has issued an order to return a gun to a Respondent because of this ruling by the HCSO is waiting for an opinion from the County Attorney's Office.

Amy also mentioned one of the Immigration Bills Tahirih is tracking HB 20 was defeated in the House but some of the same language was added to HB 7 which has a hearing this week.

Libby Hasse said Tahirih is currently not taking on new clients until they are fully staffed. Hopefully that will occur by the end of the summer. You can still call them for advice.

Katisha Chaney said Bay Area Turning Point is partnering with The Bridge for SATP training for all of their new hires. They are also starting a Financial Workshop Series for the Non- Res Clients.

Stefanie Hayes said HCDVCC's Expect Respect Program is partnering with the Oxford Apartments for the Expect Respect Youth Academy. If anyone knows of anyone else that could benefit from the program to please contact her stefanie@hcdvcc.org

Thecia Jenkins reported HCDVCC's June Community Partner meeting will focus on the High-Risk Team and the new HRT Coach. The July meeting will focus on our new Neurofeedback Program. The links to register for the meetings are below:

June <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/638727349697>

July <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/638773858807>

HCDVCC will also be hosting an Expert Witness Training on August 23rd-25th at the Sheriff's Academy. More details to follow.

Nidia Cantu- stated the High-Risk Team continues to receive referrals and they have been extremely busy. If anyone has a client that needs help in the 280th, Deborah Alexis is our Advocate there and Vidal Argueta is an intern who will be working with her. You can contact her at dalexis@hcdvcc.org

Rebecca Council announced that if anyone has anything they would like to add to our newsletter like, trainings, job postings or even articles to please send them to her at rebeccacouncil@hcdvcc.org

Our next meeting will be on June 15th at 11:30 via ZOOM.

Meeting adjourned.