

June 25, 2019, Religion and Domestic Violence Committee Meeting

Meeting was called to order Cecilia Walker, Angel Step-In, Tamisha Brinson, Helpline Youth Counseling, and Bernita Walker, Project: PeaceMakers, Inc were in attendance. Meeting was opened in universal prayer by Cecilia Walker.

Actions from our last meeting, May 28th, were shared. It was a discussion between Sharon Reiner and Co-Chair Bernita Walker. Items discussed were our plans to include all faiths and use of different medias. A large portion of the time was centered around *Transformational Intervention*. The concept is a good practice for the Faith Community as often when Faith leaders find themselves addressing DV they are very interested in saving the family instead of empowering the victim. Revisited the desire to formulate a letter to the faith community to acknowledge we, in the DV culture, would like to work with the community of Faith to provide the necessities which would be used on the eradication of DV from families of Faith. The discussion information was well received by those in attendance.

Ms Brinson presented the work of the agency she represents. HYP has a number of programs within its structure. Ms. Brinson works with the DV Gain participants case management and hosting three groups addressing DVC issues. Resources are provided as well as a “kick start” to their plans, ie starting work or choosing a different lifestyle than what they parents have come from. Offices are located in Whittier, ELA and Norwalk.

Our discussion continued with addressing cultural issues that have a tendency to structure our individual responses when it comes to community titles of Faith. Recognition was addressed concerning governments lack of empathy and apparent lack of truly understanding the depth of the issue.

On our agenda for this meeting was the construction of a generic letter to all Faith communities. This is to be a search and rescue project. After careful composing, our final composition was complete with a need to insert statistics and an acknowledgment of the need to make the letter culturally sensitive.

The task being 90% completed, we are awaiting the approval for letterhead to give the communication a stronger foundation.

All that could be completed and the task to get statistics was left for our homework till our next meeting scheduled for July 23, 2019.

An announcement was made concerning the United Faith Network's *First Ladies Tea/Bunch* to be held July 13th. This is to be the kick off needed to generate interest in addressing the Faith connection.

Meeting was adjourned @3:15pm