

LA Domestic Violence Council - Religion and DV Issues Committee Meeting

Minutes of July 27, 2021

Meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Bernita Walker at 1:00pm. Introductions found present Co-Chair Varsha N., JD ROAR TC, Co-Chair Cecelia Walker, Laura Ighes, Kelli Dillon, Georgia Horton, Marci, JP, Melinda Oakley, Hong Zhao, Yvette Rubin, Guillermo Rivas, Lyz Melendez, Genevieve Clavreul, Lois Herndon, Jill Kelly Rice, and Carol Tantau (speaker)

Attendees introduced their Organization affiliation and shared their favorite vacation spot.

Guest Speaker: Carol Tantau, of Sojourn, shared information about the origins, and tenets of Quakers, including the belief that God is in everyone, and that prayer is seen as “rising to the light”. Carol notes that Quakers were founded over 350 years ago by George Fox, who was “anti-clergy” since “God is in everyone”. For this reason, Quakers are non-denominational, have no clergy, and embrace no specific dogma. “Worship” involves gathering in silence, with no one speaking unless “led by the spirit to do so”.

When discussing how DV might be addressed, Carol describes the form of pastoral care referred to as the Clearness Committee. The purpose of this Committee is to assist anyone with finding direction and clarity about a matter, including a life struggle such as domestic violence.

Carol referred to her experience as a counselor at Sojourn, and emphasized the benefit of allowing the client to identify faith/spirituality as a coping mechanism, and a source of resilience and motivation.

Matters to be placed on future agenda: none

Public Comment-none

Next Meeting- September 28, 2021

Meeting adjourned at 3:00pm