

Ref: Hate Crime Task force Austin/Travis County met on September 14, 2011

Vision: A respectful community free of hate.

Mission: To create a forum that fosters open dialogue about hate and discrimination and strengthens the bonds of our community through prevention, response and restoration.

Adopted 04-14-11

Attendees included –representatives from 28 organizations. Raji Johnson and Shahin Alvi represented IACT.

Steering Committee Update

- **Work in Progress:**

- DA's Office: appointed special prosecutor for hate crimes
- County Attorney: committed to review each and every bias incident that comes to his office
- Launch of development of a local Annual Hate Crime report (to review later in this meeting)
- Monthly APD hate crimes training by ADL: 130 trained since January 2011; this training is available to Task Force members and other law enforcement agencies
- Modified the hate crime training by adding education on the "bias box"
- AISD has made a commitment to make the entire district a "No Place for Hate" district (reaching 86,000 students) through its newly launched "A Whole Child Initiative (this will be a 2-3 year ramp up for initiative)
- Clear Channel PSA Initiative for anti-bullying/No Place for Hate: PSAs are being heard across five local Clear Channel stations (KASE, KVET, KVET AM, BEAT, and KISS FM); samples of the PSAs were heard during the TF meeting
- "Not in Our Town" viewing was held here in Austin in January 2011 with KLRU hosting a roundtable discussion (see <http://www.pbs.org/programs/not-in-our-town/> for more information about this event/video)
- A/TC Hate Crimes Initiative webpage is being developed to help us share information about our work and link to other hate crime initiatives across the country
- Work groups were formed since the last HCTF meeting in April-2011. The work groups have been meeting and were charged with developing their goals for their work. The following is the update from the work groups

Prevention Work Group:

A/TC Hate Crimes Task Force	
Prevention Work Group Goals	
Goal 1:	Enhance the community's understanding of personal bias (power/privilege) so individuals have greater empathy and acceptance with those different from themselves.
Goal 2:	Connect youth with anti-bias education and tools so they are active participants in fostering acceptance and respect.
Goal 3:	Work with Parents, educators (public and private) and the community to identify and mitigate the consequence of bias
Goal 4:	Increase participation in the prevention work group from a cross-section of our diverse community.

Response Work Group:

- o Shared annual hate crime #s for past 2 years. See attachment for more info on data.
- o The TF provided input on other pieces of information that they would like to include in the next analysis/report.

A/TC Hate Crimes Task Force	
Response Work Group Goals	
Goal 1:	Enhance the law enforcement response to hate and bias motivated incidents so all relevant information is gathered and victim needs are met.
Goal 2:	Identify victims' immediate needs in hate and bias motivated incidents to address what their safety, security, physical and psychological/emotional health needs are.
Goal 3:	Develop stakeholder response to hate and bias motivated incidents to create a collaborative cross-community response.
Goal 4:	Enhance the prosecutions response to hate and bias motivated incidents to promote a fair and just disposition.
Goal 5:	Improve the data collection of hate and bias motivated incidents to more accurately reflect their nature and frequency, and develop strategies for incident reduction.
Goal 6:	Make recommendations for legislative and/or policy changes.
Goal 7:	Increase participation in the work group from a cross-section of our diverse community.

Restoration Work Group:

A/TC Hate Crimes Task Force	
Response Workgroup Goals	
Goal 1:	Develop a community engagement process that will engage citizens with conversations to help us understand what the community expects for restoration as it relates to hate and bias motivated incidents.
Goal 2:	Develop a restorative toolkit for community stakeholders to help facilitate and promote growth and healing within our community when hate and bias motivated incidents occur.
Goal 3:	Develop a guide to restoration for secondary and higher education schools to help facilitate and promote growth and healing within campuses and districts when hate and bias motivated incidents occur.
Goal 4:	Increase participation from a cross-section of our diverse community.
Goal 5:	Identify what victim's long-term needs are in hate and bias motivated incidents to address their safety, security, physical, psychological and emotional health.

The Task Force engaged in discussion about the goals. They emphasized engagement of youth and schools in this work and discussed current work being done in this area. The Steering Committee and Work Groups will be charged with ensuring that in their next steps that ensure that youth are in the discussion and we find ways to get their voices to the table to help us with this work

The work groups will be meeting at the following dates to work on their specific goals.

Prevention Work Group: Oct. 21, 3pm – 5pm, November 11, 3pm – 5pm, and December 8, 3pm – 5pm

Response Work Group: October 14, 3pm – 5pm, November 18, 3pm – 5pm, and December 9, 3pm – 5pm

Restoration Work Group: October 28, 3pm – 5pm, November 7, 3pm – 5pm, and December 16, 3pm – 5pm