

Religion & DV Issues Committee Meeting

Minutes for January 25, 2022

Meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Bernita Walker. Introductions found present Varsha N., Co-chair; Cecelia Walker, Co-chair; Kelie Sturgis, Genevieve Clavreul, Cara Di Masi, Rev. Erick Carpenter, Nadia Parada, Melinda Oakley, Veronica Perez, Nicolle Perras, Sheetal S Ayyatan, Carol Tantau, Kenishia Baldwin, Elisa Jimenez.

Attendees were asked to share their organizational affiliation and invited to share a self-affirmation, as well as a time you were not believed and the outcomes.

Guest Speaker: Co-chair Varsha (ROAR Training & Consulting) provided a presentation on Start by Believing (SBB)-addressing Our Response to Survivors of Diverse Backgrounds, in which she highlighted the foundational role of believing the survivor in creating safety in helping relationships with those who have been harmed, and supporting them in addressing feelings of shame and blame.

Varsha invited guests to visit the website <https://www.startbybelieving.org> to learn more.

Matters not posted on the agenda: none

Comments: Nicolle Perras, interim E.D. for the Los Angeles Domestic Violence Council (DVC) expressed interest in learning more about how the DVC could get involved in supporting the SBB campaign.

Next meeting is February 22, 2022

Meeting adjourned at 3:00pm