

## Religion & DV Issues Committee Meeting

Minutes for March 22, 2022

Meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Bernita Walker. Present were Varsha N., Co-chair; Cecelia Walker, Co-chair; Kelie Sturgis, Takiya Benjamin, Erica Hernandez, Arlene Reynolds, Laura Segura, Kenisha Baldwin,

Attendees were invited to introduce, and share organization affiliation.

Icebreaker: What is your favorite game or outdoor activity?

Speaker, Pastor Russell Thornhill of the Minority Aid Project provided insights focused on issues around DV and Spirituality. Pastor Thornhill pointed out that Faith traditions may, or may not be the same as Spirituality, highlighting the importance of first understanding how the client defines their own spirituality, in an effort to meet them where they are, and establish rapport.

Other pointers offered by the speaker included:

Avoid the use of rituals in your interaction with client.

Consider your capacity in terms of level of expertise.

Remember that sacred texts have been used to abuse. Refer to inspiring writings when appropriate.

Share your story when appropriate and beneficial to client.

Matters not posted on the agenda: none

Next meeting is April 26, 2022

Meeting adjourned at 3:00pm