

## 2015 YEAR IN REVIEW

Much of the advocacy work of One Voice Texas involves community outreach/engagement.

- **January 15, 2015: Healthcare & Behavioral Health Educational Forum** – Staff and membership from One Voice Texas convened at the Texas Capitol to present information to Legislators and Legislative Staff Members regarding healthcare and behavioral health issues of concern. Panel Members included: Karen Love, Community Health Choice; Nicole Lievsay, Harris Health System; Amanda Jones, Harris County Office of Legislative Relations; and Leonard Kincaid, Houston Recovery Center.
- **January-November 2015, Policy Insider’s Series** - One Voice Texas co-sponsor six new “Policy Insider’s Series” events in partnership with the University Of Houston Graduate College Of Social Work which were open to the community as well as the entire University of Houston campus. Topics and speakers included Medicare and Medicaid Fraud - Barbara McGinity, Better Business Bureau Foundation; Jail Diversion Policies and Programs Panel – Jeannette Kolarik, Felony Mental Health Court, Kim Kornmayer, MHMRA, Ashley Ochoa, Houston Recovery Center; Examining Domestic Violence Policies in Texas – Aaron Setliff, Texas Council on Family Violence; Women’s Bodies, Policies, & Practices – Representative Sarah Davis.
- **June 4, 2015: Texas Home & Community Based Services-Adult Mental Health Program Forum** – The Home and Community Based Services–Adult Mental Health (HCBS-AMH) Program is designed to provide home and community-based services to adults with extended tenure in state mental health facilities who no longer require an inpatient level of care. This forum was offered to potential HCBS-AMH Provider Agencies and Recovery Management Entities to provide a detailed overview of the program. The staff from the Texas Department of State Health Services HCBS-AMH Program provided an explanation of the program, opportunities for local service providers to participate, and engaged in a Q&A session with attendees.
- **June 25, 2015: LifeWorks in Austin, Texas** - One Voice Texas in Partnership with The Greater Houston Community Foundation hosted a chartered bus visit to LifeWorks, a non-profit providing a comprehensive continuum of programs serving run-away and homeless youth, youth aging out of foster care, and homeless young parents, for employees of local organizations that provide similar services. Some organizations included: HPD Homeless Outreach Team, HPD Juvenile Division, Harris County Community Services Dept., Texas Children’s Hospital, Salvation Army, Legacy Community Health, MHMRA, Houston Housing Authority, San Antonio Juvenile Probation, and Coalition for the Homeless Houston, and MPOWER Recovery.
- **October 5, 2015: 84<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature Post Legislative Conference** – One Voice Texas, along with a wide array of sponsors, including the Frees Foundation, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Harris Health System, Community Health Choice, Eli Lilly, Houston Methodist, Memorial Hermann, Texas Children’s and a host of One Voice Texas member organizations, hosted a post legislative conference – an informative event focused on a multitude of health and human services issues. Speakers included: Representative Armando Walle, Michael Santos, National Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty; Mayor Annise Parker, City of Houston.