

2016 YEAR IN REVIEW

One Voice Texas has a New Executive Director – Welcome, Jacqueline “Jackie” Pontello, J.D.

“Job #1 since I came aboard in late August 2015 has been to formulate a plan to relocate One Voice and outfit an office from scratch. Through many trials and changes, I am elated to announce that One Voice has now been housed in our own space since January 2016! The start of a new era brings the chance to fine-tune OVT’s direction. We compiled a Member Priorities Survey that gave our valuable members the opportunity to share their input. Through their feedback, the Board of Directors and One Voice Texas Staff, now chart the course for One Voice 2.0! I look forward to continue meeting each and every one of our members personally!”

- **February 17, 2016:** One Voice Texas Board Member, Freddy Warner of Memorial Hermann Health System hosted a special **Appreciation Luncheon for the Honorable Garnet Coleman** at Brennan’s of Houston in recognition of all of the efforts put forth by Representative Coleman during the 84th Texas Legislative Session.
- **April 5, 2016:** One Voice Texas hosted an **Eye-Opener Breakfast** encouraging members and the community to “Meet the New Class of Houston City Council Members” with **Council Member Karla Cisneros and Council Member Mike Knox**. *Council Member Cisneros* serves as Vice Chair of the Technology & Infrastructure Committee and sits on the Budget & Fiscal Affairs; Ethics, Elections & Council Governance; Housing & Community Affairs; Public Safety & Homeland Security; and Regulatory & Neighborhood Affairs Committees. *Council Member Knox* serves as Vice Chair of the Ethics, Elections & Council Governance Committee and serves on the Budget & Fiscal Affairs and Housing & Community Affairs Committees.
- **May 3, 2016:** One Voice Texas hosted **Eye-Opener Breakfast, Part 2** encouraging members and the community to “Meet the New Class of Houston City Council Members” with **Council Member Amanda Edwards and Council Member Steve Le**. *Council Member Edwards* serves as the Vice Chair of the Budget & Fiscal Affairs Committee and sits on the Economic Development and Transportation and Technology and Infrastructure Committees. *Council Member Le* serves as Vice Chair of the Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee and sits on the Budget & Fiscal Affairs; Economic Development; Ethics, Elections and Council Governance; Quality of Life; and Transportation, Technology & Infrastructure Committees.
- **May 11, 2016:** One Voice Texas hosted **Lobbying and Advocacy 101 - Legal Tips for Nonprofits Advocates & Rules of the Game for 501(c)(3)s: Elections** with speaker **Natalie Roetzel Ossenfort**, Director, Alliance For Justice, Texas.
- **June 8, 2016:** One Voice Texas hosted **Lunch & Learn: What Happens after Women Reporting IPV Reach Out for Services: Results of a 7-Year Study** with speaker **Dr. Judith McFarlane**, Parry Chair in Health Promotion & Disease Prevention, Texas Woman’s University-Houston.
- **November 15, 2016:** One Voice Texas hosted a pre-conference forum, **A Budget Primer**, that included: **Tim Schauer**, Cornerstone Government Affairs & OVT Board Member: *How a Biennial State Spending Plan Comes Together – The Players, Timelines, Constitutional Ground Rules & Opportunities for Advocacy* and **Senator John Whitmire**, Texas State Senate: *A Conversation with the Dean of the Senate on-Property Tax Cuts, Zero-Based Budgeting & Other Movements*.
- **November 15, 2016:** One Voice Texas and Gateway to Care jointly presented **Day 1: Pre-Legislative Conference** that included: Keynote Speakers: **Dr. Arthur “Tim” Garson**, Texas Medical Center Health Policy Institute: *The Future of the Affordable Care Act--& Healthcare—in a New Political Era (Federal Perspective)* and **Representative Garnet Coleman**, Texas House of Representatives: *Getting to a Texas Solution for the 1115 Waiver*. Break-out Sessions included speakers: **Stuart Greenfield**, Austin Community College; **Tim Bray**, Dept. of State Health Services; **Stephen Glazier**, UT Health Harris County Psychiatric Center; and **Brenda LaVar**, Community Representative, Correct Care Solutions.
- **November 16, 2016:** One Voice Texas hosted **Day 2: Hot-Button Health & Human Services Issues Facing the 85th Texas Legislature** – an informative event focused on a multitude of health and human services issues. Speakers included: **Steve Murdock**, Hobby Center for the Study of Texas, Rice University; **The Honorable Rodney Ellis**, State Senator & Harris County Commissioner-Elect; **Ross Ramsey**, The Texas Tribune; **Brett Merfish**, Texas Appleseed. Break-out Sessions included speakers: **The Honorable Sylvia Garcia**, Texas State Senate; **Gilbert Herrera**, Herrera Partners; **Tom McCasland**, City of Houston; **Jeffrey Taebel**, Houston-Galveston Area Council; **Lonny Hoffman**, UH Law Center; **Katya Dow**, UH Law Center; **Lauren Rose**, Texans Care for Children; **Barbie Brashear**, Harris County Domestic Violence Coordinating Council; **Michelle Hansford**, One Voice Texas; **Amelia Murphy**, Santa Maria Hostel; **Alisha Maglio**, Youth Recovery Community Spindletop Center.