

**Human Rights Commission**  
**Executive Secretary Report**  
**April 16, 2020**

**I. OFFICE OF HUMAN RIGHTS CASE STATISTICS**

**March 2020**

- Total Caseload 55
- Total Cases Under Investigation 42
- Total Cases Pending Closure – 7
- New Cases filed – 2
- Total Inquiries – 12
- Cases Closed – 9 (*year to date is 22*)
- Conciliation Completed– 1
  - a. Remedy to Complainant –  
Housing  
\$1,500 settlement – withdrew with settlement

**II. HATE-BIAS REPORT**

- 3 HBI cases reported in March 2020
  - 1 Anti-Jewish (swastika carved into a tree outside of a store. Employee removed bark making the swastika unnoticeable)
  - 1 Anti-Catholic (2 wooden crosses displayed in front of the church were intentionally broken. Church leader believes they were targeted because it represents Christianity)
  - 1 Anti-Muslim - Maryum Islamic Center - hateful and threatening comments left on their Facebook page for an upcoming event.

**III. HIGHLIGHTS, COMMENTS AND CONCERNS**

- A. Part-time Community Outreach position started March 30, 2020.

**IV. Closing/Cancellations/Postponements during COVID – 19**

- The office has had to cancel or postpone outreach events due to the Nationwide epidemic:
  - Restorative Justice Peace Circle meetings canceled at Long Reach HS in March.
  - Black n Black documentary exploring the relationship between African Americans and African Immigrants were schedule March 11, March 29, and April 18, the March 29 and April 18 have been cancelled. Luckily, Chaunta Taylor was able to attend the March 11, 2020 event.
  - Sexual Harassment Training on March 19<sup>th</sup> conducted by MCCR was cancelled.
  - Bystander Intervention Training (3 trainings) March 31<sup>st</sup> cancelled, May 18 and June 23 TBD.
  - Cultural Proficiency Training (3 trainings) April 29<sup>th</sup> cancelled and May 5<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> TBD.

- Cultural Intelligence Training (3 trainings) May 5<sup>th</sup>, September 15<sup>th</sup> and October 20<sup>th</sup>. May 5<sup>th</sup> will be cancelled.
- The office was in the process of putting on a Women’s Month Celebration/Women’s Mini-Expo to be held on March 28<sup>th</sup> which was cancelled.
- Courageous Conversation wrap up meeting on March 16<sup>th</sup> was cancelled.
- Sources of Strength and Youth in Conversation (meet the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the month) cancelled for March.
- **#OneLongReach** – Cancelled due to Covid-19; There will be no more #OneLongReach Days this school year.

#### **V. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission (MLK)**

- The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration will take place on January 17, 2021 at HCC Smith Theatre.
- The Day of Service (DOS) event will be held January 18, 2021, with the potential location as Meadowbrook Athletic Complex.
- There are still 9 vacancies on the Commission. They are currently accepting applications for those interested in serving a five-year term as a Commissioner.
- The theme for the Essay and Poster contest was chosen. This year’s theme is “Take A Stand,” using the quote: “In the end, we will remember not the words of our enemies, but the silence of our friends.”
- An added feature being pursued by the commission is to have its first oratory contest. The winner of the contest will speak at the 2021 MLK celebration program.

#### **VI. LGBTQ+ WORKGROUP**

- Met on April 15, 2020
- Discussed Committees. May have following committees: Policy, COVID-19/ Resources, Education Committee (geared towards students and faculty) and Training/Events.
- Looking for ways to support the LGBTQ+ community during COVID.

#### **VII. OHR COMMITTEES, MEETINGS, EVENTS & UPDATES**

- Continue to host and participate in the COVE (Coalition Opposed to Violence and Extremism) meetings.
- **#OneMayfield** –March 6<sup>th</sup> & March 11<sup>th</sup>
  - **March 6<sup>th</sup>**: new 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders to the school; 47 students & 5 adults (excluding facilitators)
  - **March 11<sup>th</sup>**: remainder of 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders; 36 students & 5 adults

- **Fair Housing Presentation: Voucher Program** – March 2020  
The Office of Humans Rights offers an educational presentation to all citizens seeking/going through the process of receive voucher assistance for housing. In this presentation the outreach team conveys important information on the protections the office offers around discriminatory housing practices as well explicit communication around each citizens' inherent rights for housing.
  - **March 5th** – 10 attendees, Presenter, David Ruiz
  - **March 15<sup>th</sup>** – 4 attendees, Presenter, Chaunta Taylor