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


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 19th conducted by MCCR was cancelled.
  - Bystander Intervention Training (3 trainings) March 31st cancelled, May 18 and June 23 TBD.
  - Cultural Proficiency Training (3 trainings) April 29th cancelled and May 5th and 13th TBD.
➢ Cultural Intelligence Training (3 trainings) May 5th, September 15th and October 20th. May 5th 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 28th which was cancelled.
➢ Courageous Conversation wrap up meeting on March 16th was cancelled.
➢ Sources of Strength and Youth in Conversation (meet the 1st 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 6th & March 11th
  ▪ March 6th: new 7th and 8th graders to the school; 47 students & 5 adults (excluding facilitators)
  ▪ March 11th: remainder of 7th and 8th graders; 36 students & 5 adults
The Office of Human Rights offers an educational presentation to all citizens seeking/going through the process of receiving 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 as explicit communication around each citizen’s inherent rights for housing.

- **March 5th** – 10 attendees, Presenter, David Ruiz
- **March 15th** – 4 attendees, Presenter, Chaunta Taylor