

The Interfaith Committee on Intimate Partner Violence

Minutes for September 24, 2024

I. Meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Bernita Walker. Present were Co-chair Varsha N., Co-Chair Cecelia Walker, Cynthia Hernandez, Cynthia Arreola, Lan Pham, Laura Garza, Griselda Marques.

II. Attendees were invited to introduce themselves, Title, Organization Affiliation, and identify a favorite place to visit.

III. Guest Speaker: Dr. Federico Carmona

Title of Presentation: The Role of the Church in Addressing DV/IPV.

Dr Carmona identified potential barriers to faith communities addressing of DV/IPV including adherence to gender norms, prioritizing funders over safety of survivors, isolationism, and zero tolerance/zero acknowledgement of DV as a issue. Other barriers included lack of awareness of resources, and lack of education.

Group discussed potential collaborations including policy changes, including faith leaders at 40-hour DV Advocate Training as speakers and as attendees, and inclusion of faith leaders in County and City meetings.

IV. New, Critical, and Emerging Issues: None

V. Follow up from Previous Meeting Items: None

VI. Matters not on the posted agenda (to be presented and placed on a future agenda): None

VII. Public Comments: not to exceed two minutes per person and must be on items of interest which are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Council

VIII. Meeting adjourned at 3:00pm. Next meeting date is October 22, 2024 at the MLK Jr. Center for Public Health.