



TEXOMA ALLIANCE To STOP ABUSE

Working Together To End Family Violence In Our Community

TASA NEWS September – December 2020 Issue 3

SPOTLIGHT

This quarterly spotlight is TASA founder Staley Heatly, who serves as Chair of the board.

“He is recognized as a statewide, national and international trainer on domestic violence. He shares his wisdom and expertise in both English and Spanish. He also holds to a high standard in prosecution response on family violence cases.”, written by Texas Council on Family Violence.

Staley created TASA with the goal of ending intimate partner violence in Wilbarger, Hardeman, and Foard counties by providing services to victims and their families as well as through battering intervention and community education. Heatly has served as District Attorney for the 46th Judicial District since December of 2006.

Thanks to his efforts and dedication, our community is more equipped to keep victims safe and hold offenders accountable.



HIGHLIGHTS

2020 is coming to an end and despite the challenges, there were still some successes this year:

The Domestic Violence High Risk Team reviewed a total of 39 cases.

TASA provided services to 53 victims including counseling, safety planning, court accompaniment, financial assistance, shelter connection, legal aid info, job acquisition, and protective order guidance. 38 men were enrolled in the BIP Program.

Outreach & fundraising efforts were impacted this year, but we held our first annual Remembrance Walk and hope to make it an annual event. Thanks to the generosity of our community, TASA was able to raise more funds during this year's Texoma Gives than previous years.

TASA moved into a larger office space and hired its first full-time employee, Executive Director, Rachel Lira.

UPCOMING

Our vision for 2021 is to expand victim services to continue helping victims prepare for a life free from violence. Events planned this upcoming year include:

February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month. This annual, month-long push focuses on advocacy and education to stop dating abuse before it starts. You can wear orange during this month to show your support. Some of TASA's efforts include speaking to youth at the local B&G Club.

8th annual “No More Week” will be in March with exact dates to be determined. This is a week focused on raising awareness and ending domestic violence and sexual assault. TASA does community outreach/trainings during this week.

To stay up to date of all TASA events please check our Facebook page and website.

RESOURCES & INFO

The holiday season is not a joyous time for everyone, and it can be especially difficult for victims of family violence. Abuse does not take a vacation and victims feel more pressure to keep their families together during this time. For survivors who have left the relationship, facing the holiday season can seem like a daunting task. There are many feelings that may resurface and fear of possibly encountering the abuser at a holiday gathering. Please remember no matter the season TASA is here to help.

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