

June  
2022

# THE TURNING POINT

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SERVING SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE

*newsletter*

Vol 1  
Issue 3



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## FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I love June. *I know, I know*, it's over 100 degrees and oppressively hot, so what is there to love? Well, it is a month filled with rainbows and celebrating the beauty that makes us all unique in this world. It's PRIDE MONTH! In a time where our gains in social justice, humanitarianism and civil rights have come under constant political attack and the very fiber of our diverse country appears to be eroding, I look to the resilience of our LGBTQIA community and marvel at their ability to galvanize their communities with love, acceptance and PRIDE-not to mention bravery. I so often wish I possessed this kind of innate freedom of self-expression and courage to just be me. So, let's support LGBTQIA family, friends and communities and CELEBRATE PRIDE because what this country needs is a lot more inspiration and love.

Wendy 

# DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHT: CLINICAL

*by Heather Cawthon, Ph.D., LPC-S*

## **The Turning Point: A Safe Space for ALL Survivors**

Statistics show the world is not a very safe place for those who identify as LGBTQIA and even less so for those who are POC and identify as LGBTQIA. The National Crime Victimization Survey, from 2017, revealed individuals from the LGBT community are exponentially more likely to be victimized by violent crimes. The study showed 71.1 out of a 1,000 people compared to 19.2 out of 1,000 for non-LGBT persons. In 2010, the CDC's National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey, reported 61% of bisexual women and 37% of bisexual men experience sexual assault. The 2015 U.S. Transgender Study stated 1 in every 2 transgender persons will suffer a sexual assault at some point in their lifetime and the numbers are even higher for transgender people of color.

These are sobering numbers and even more so when you consider that more than half of people who identify as LGBTQIA do not report. The real number of assaults and victimization is much higher. The numbers reveal the truth that there are not many safe spaces for LGBT people in this world. However, there is a place where ALL survivors of sexual violence are invited to heal. A safe space, at The Turning Point. If you are uncertain just exactly what a safe space looks like and what we are doing to create such a place, look no further. The Oxford dictionary defines a safe space as, "a place or environment in which a person or a category of people can feel confident that they will not be exposed to discrimination, criticism, harassment, or any other emotional or physical harm." While we assure our clients this is the environment they will be welcomed into, the sentiment must go further than just a declaration. Our team regularly converses what goes into creating a safe space. The next part is the most important, we want survivors to know from the first contact they have entered a survivor-centered, healing space. From our website to our 24/7 hotline to our counseling offices and clinic right into our Executive Director's office, you will be greeted with empathy and compassion. Our number one priority is to enable our clients to receive all they need to heal.

***Here are some things we do to help create a safe space:***

- Train, learn, and grow each employee, advocate, volunteer to be survivor-centric
- Build a therapeutic relationship where trust and autonomy are central
- Be inclusive, from our language to behavior to beliefs
- Our dedication to continued learning so our survivors have the best care we can provide
- Openness to feedback and meeting community needs
- Flexibility in modality (e.g. in-person and telehealth) to meet our clients where they are
- Diverse representation in our staff, who come from various backgrounds: sexuality, faith, and race
- Providing our community with as much well-rounded services as we can: Trauma-focused therapy, Courtney's Safe Place, legal advocacy, accompaniment, crisis line, and all at no cost to our survivors.

**We are dedicated to continuing to provide excellent care in a safe environment for ALL survivors!!**



# APRIL 2022-SAAM RECAP

## "START BY BELIEVING"



- On April 5, 2022, in partnership with Credit Union of Texas, The Turning Point kicked off Sexual Assault Awareness Month in Plano, Texas. The Mayor of Plano, Mayor John Muns, presented Executive Director, Wendy Hanna, and Board of Directors President, Courtney Underwood, with a Proclamation from the City of Plano, proclaiming April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month.
- Sexual Assault Survivor and Advocate, Lavinia Masters, shared her story and spoke to community members about the importance of believing survivors.
- At the kick-off event, The Turning Point's first Gallery of Courage was unveiled revealing the stories and testimonials of Survivors and Advocates.
- Thank you Courtney Underwood, Olivia LaBounty, Lavinia Masters, and Sara Salih for sharing their stories and participating in the gallery. To see gallery photos and read the stories, click here: [Gallery of Courage](#)

Thank you to everyone who attended this event. Thank you volunteers. Thank you Credit Union of Texas for partnering with us to help spread awareness. The video is available on our [Youtube](#) page.

- On April 5, 2022, Mayor of Frisco, Jeff Cheney, Mayor of McKinney, George Fuller, and Mayor of Fairview, Henry Lessner, presented proclamations at the city council meetings to The Turning Point proclaiming April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month. On April 26, 2022, Mayor of Allen, Ken Fulk, presented a proclamation at the city council meeting to The Turning Point proclaiming April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month.
- Members of the counseling and community engagement team presented "Therapy Thursdays" on Instagram Live to discuss the benefits of therapy and The Turning Point's counseling program. The videos are available on our [Youtube](#) page.
- Wendy Hanna, Executive Director, delivered a "Sexual Assault 101" education presentation to the Kappa Chapter of Sigma Phi Omega Sorority, Inc.



# VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteers like you are the pillars of our organization.

## TTP Volunteer Opportunities:

- Administrative Volunteers
- Outreach Volunteers
- Special Event Volunteers
- Fundraising Volunteers
- 24-Hour Crisis Hotline Advocates
- Hospital Advocates

Interested in becoming a volunteer?

Contact: [volunteer@theturningpoint.org](mailto:volunteer@theturningpoint.org)



# DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHT: VOLUNTEER & ADVOCACY

## AUGUST TRAINING DATES

Tuesday, August 2 (6:30pm-9:30pm in-person)

Wednesday, August 3 (6:30pm-9:30pm via Zoom)

Thursday, August 4 (6:30pm-9:30pm via Zoom)

Tuesday, August 9 (6:30pm-9:30pm via Zoom)

Wednesday, August 10 (6:30pm-9:30pm via Zoom)

Thursday, August 11 (6:30pm-9:30pm via Zoom)

Saturday, August 13 (9am-1pm in-person)

Tuesday, August 16 (6:30pm-9:30pm via Zoom)

Wednesday, August 17 (6:30pm-9:30pm via Zoom)

Thursday, August 18 (6:30pm-9:30pm in-person)

## VOLUNTEER & ADVOCATE SPOTLIGHT



My name is Britney and I have been a volunteer off and on since 2016. My passion is helping survivors through their crisis. I am currently a Graduate student at Amberton University in Garland to pursue my Licensed Professional Counseling degree. I plan on using my degree to work with children in trauma. In my free time I love cooking, watching basketball and chasing my 4-year-old son around.



My name is Tracy Santos and I am somewhat of a recent transplant from New England. Since moving here, I have wished to contribute positively to my new community so I was quickly drawn to getting involved at Turning point. I have a legal background and a real passion for helping survivors of (sexual) violence and i hope to put those to use in service of this cause.



My name is Siya and I am currently a sophomore at the University of Minnesota, double majoring in Psychology and English. I am super excited to be volunteering at The Turning Point and being able to assist survivors in any way I can.



My name is Kim. I have a special place in my heart for the turning point and forever will. I am a 'survivor' myself and have turned my negative experience into something positive. I don't want anyone to feel like they're ever alone.

## MAY 6-12: NURSES WEEK

We are so grateful for such a caring and compassionate team of Forensic Nurses!  
Thank you for all you do!

## MARCH 2022-MAY 2022 COMMUNITY IMPACT

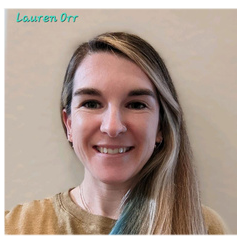
Here's a summary of the impact we have made in the community  
March 2022-May 2022:



Amy Chennault



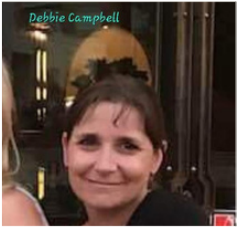
Jennifer Midgette



Lauren Orr



Kasey Buchanan



Debbie Campbell



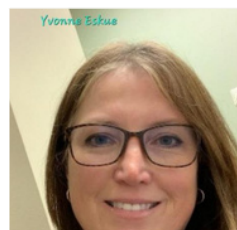
Victoria Warren



Karen Bounds



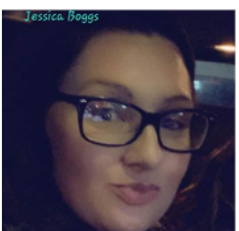
Asha Inniss



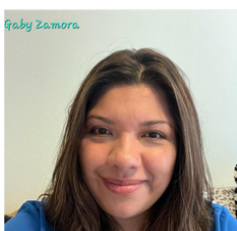
Yvonne Eskue



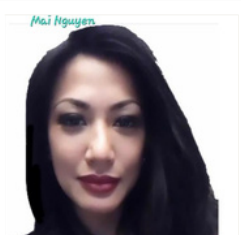
Iris Hockema



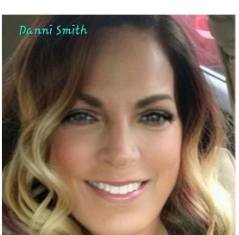
Jessica Boggs



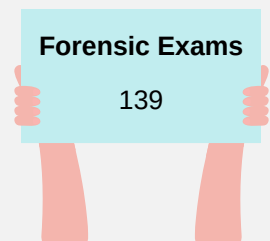
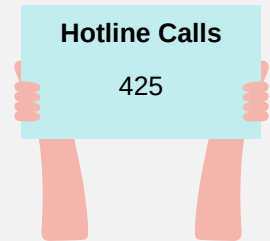
Gaby Zamora



Mai Nguyen



Danni Smith



*You are appreciated!*

Our community impact could not be done without your generosity. Thank you!





# DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

As you may know, The Turning Point is an all-inclusive organization serving all survivors of sexual violence. To help us better serve our community, we take time to reflect on different populations and how they are affected by sexual violence. We ask you to join us in observing the impact of sexual violence has on them.

## May: Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month

- Of Asian and Pacific Islander women, 23% experienced some form of contact sexual violence, 10% experienced completed or attempted rape, and 21% had non-contact unwanted sexual experiences during their lifetime.
- Of Asian and Pacific Islander men, 9% experienced some form of contact sexual violence, and 9% had non-contact unwanted sexual experiences during their lifetime.

## June: PRIDE Month

- 1 in 8 lesbian women and nearly 50% of bisexual women experience rape in their lifetime. Nearly 50% of bisexual men, and 4 in 10 gay men have experienced sexual violence other than rape in their lifetime, and though statistics regarding rape vary, it is likely that the rate is higher or comparable to heterosexual men.
- 21% of TGQN (transgender, genderqueer, nonconforming) college students have been sexually assaulted, compared to 18% of non-TGQN females, and 4% of non-TGQN males.

## June: Men's Mental Health Month

- At least 1 in 6 men have been sexually abused or assaulted.
- Men who've been sexually assaulted are at much greater risk than those who haven't for serious mental health problems, including: symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder and depression, suicidal thoughts and suicide attempts, problems in intimate relationships, and underachievement at school and at work.
- Men who have been sexually assaulted are more likely to use drugs than the general public: 3.4 times more likely to use marijuana, 6 times more likely to use cocaine, 10 times more likely to use other major drugs.

Sources: [RAINN.ORG](https://www.rainn.org/) and [mcasa.org](https://www.mcasa.org/) and [aapidata.com](https://aapidata.com/)



**CELEBRATE  
JUNETEENTH**

# Community Engagement

## Stay Connected:



@[theturningpointtrcc](#)



@[TheTurningPoint](#)



@[TurningPointRCC](#)



[info@theturningpoint.org](mailto:info@theturningpoint.org)



24 hour Crisis Hotline: [1-800-886-7273](tel:1-800-886-7273)



Find ways to donate [here](#)



## SAVE THE DATE!

# 9.22.22

*Find your passion. Give with purpose.*

*The Rape Crisis Center of Collin County (d.b.a. The Turning Point) is a 501(C)3 charitable organization and is support by donations and public funds. Donations are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law.*

*Donations can be sent to **3225 Silverstone Drive, Plano, TX 75023***

*or through our website at: [www.theturningpoint.org/donate](http://www.theturningpoint.org/donate)*