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Ending Family Violence through Partnership, Outreach and Education

Submitted by Stacey Jourdain, CPS Region 3 Community Initiatives Specialist

CPS Family Violence Specialist Deborah Tucker was the guest speaker at the Dallas County Family Violence Prevention Council meeting on March 1. (See pictures below) Folks from CPS, family violence centers, law enforcement, school districts, district attorney’s offices, the Mary Kay Foundation, and a host of hardworking service providers and interested community members attended the meeting. The Council’s mission is to maximize community resources to reduce and prevent family violence.

Deborah eagerly accepted the invitation to discuss her work, including the new Disposition Guidelines for Domestic Violence, which she helped develop to support front-line workers when they work a case involving domestic violence. During 40 years of dedicated service, Deborah has worked closely with every state in the nation, plus México, Peru, and 12 other countries. The Council expressed their gratitude for her support of CPS in our efforts to combat child abuse and family violence.

Deborah was hired last year and hit the ground running. She has teamed up with Brooke King, policy manager with the Texas Council on Family Violence, to train CPS program directors and family violence programs across the state on the new CPS Disposition Guidelines. The guidelines encourage workers to take a closer look at domestic violence, including police reports, medical records, substance abuse, and other important issues.

On March 2, Deborah and Brooke opened the first training in Dallas with a video called “The Story of Rachel,” a compelling story that depicts the daily challenges and personal feelings of a victim of domestic violence and her children. The training also included an in-depth discussion of Senate Bill 434, which called for the development of a task force to address the relationship between domestic violence and child abuse and neglect.
Deborah and Brooke emphasized the importance of engaging with batterers, which can be equally as important as helping victims and children. Although it can be very challenging, if batterers don’t get help, they will simply move on to a new victim.
Statistics about family violence

Tags: CPS, Region 3, Texas Council on Family Violence