



Criminal Justice Task Force Zoom Meeting Monday, June 22, 2020

Present: Penny, Mark, Ellen, John, Howie, Betty, Paul, Shanique, Kathleen

Criminal Justice Ministry could host one of the other meetings in the month. This can be a shorter meeting, like this one, which was one hour. The usual monthly meeting will continue.

Shanique's survey had only 6 responses, mostly identifying HALT, prison reform and PAB. PAB is up and running. The issue with disciplinary power is in court. Currently, there is not a lot of need for advocacy.

Betty notes that after Raise the Age, we decided to support HALT and prison reform. We did press conferences. A subcommittee was formed but seems to have fallen off. Markeisha did a press conference about a month and a half ago -- not sure if anyone from CJTF responded or attended. The subcommittee stopped meeting after the rally. Keeping momentum going is needed. People like to do actions, not so much meetings.

We decided to keep our major focus on HALT. There are many related and important issues competing for our attention that we are also interested in, but it is clear that with the numbers we have, we need to narrow our focus. We can certainly support BLM and Bring the H.E.A.T., and share information about their events and actions, but keep our focus on HALT. Issues concerning COVID-19 in prison are also covered under HALT activities. It does not appear that people are being discharged in any significant numbers, however people are dying.

Keep connection with Jerome, keep momentum going. Shanique and Penny will get contact information from Betty for all the organizers across the State for Faith in Action, and be point people on actions. Kathleen will ensure that information goes out to the list when there is a request for an action/participation. Betty pointed out that CJTF can organize our own events here, as well.

Be sure to check important information posted on RocACTS Facebook page and website.

Kathleen sent Shanique the information from WXXI about the county/city commission on racism. She will look into it to see if it is something she's interested in doing.

Shanique will follow up with CORE, Stanley and program participants to see if there are formerly incarcerated people who are interested in working with the Task Force.

Thank you for attending.

Kathleen and Shanique
Penny and Roberta