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SOUTHTEXAS COLLEGE CHAPTER  
**AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR WOMEN**  
IN COMMUNITY COLLEGES

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**Monthly meeting – March 31, 2016**

**Pecan Campus, building M room 217 - 11:45 am**

**In attendance:** Monica A, Marjorie, Irene, Claudia, Cindy, Lori Trevino (guest), Alicia

### **National Day of Dialogue**

Alicia welcome the attendees, the National chapter has requested input from the local chapters as to what can be done about Violence against women in the College Community. She thanked Monica Alaniz for agreeing to coordinate the discussion and added that the information compiled was going to be submitted back to the National chapter which in turn was going to share with other AAWCC members at the next National conference. Also Alicia told the participants that she was going to take note of all actionable ideas to share them in the next AAWCC monthly meeting since the attendance was low that day.

See below for a copy of the information put together by Monica Alaniz on that day.

The South Texas College (STC) chapter of the America Association of Women in Community Colleges (AAWCC) participated in the National Day of Dialogue on March 31, 2016. The meeting began with a brief introduction where members were given an overview of crime statistics in relation to sexual violence in the region. Members were also presented with information regarding sexual violence on campus as reported as part of the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Crime Statistics Act. Specific emphasis was given to statistics reported as part of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). In some cases, members were unaware of the incidences that had taken place on various STC campuses.

During the course of the conversation, members indicated that women on campus, ranging from faculty, staff, and administrators all the way down to the student level, need to be vigilant not only about how to keep themselves safe from sexual violence, but it is also necessary to be aware of when a student may be a victim of said violence.

Members agreed that more needs to be done on campus regarding this particular topic and it was suggested that the institution as a whole could assist the student body as well as the community at large with becoming more aware of this topic and how sexual violence can be prevented. Member recommended training opportunities for individuals at all levels of the college. This type of training would include making faculty and staff aware for what signs to look for to recognize victims of sexual violence as well as physically training students in the area of self-defense. It was recommended that all members of the faculty and staff at the college be required to take training in regards to recognizing and dealing with victims of sexual violence. At this time, only certain members of college community are required to take such training.

Other things that were addressed include cultural norms in the area that may make addressing and speaking about these issues more difficult. Namely, STC is located in a majority Mexican-American/Latino area and cultural norms sometimes make discussions of this particular topic particularly difficult. Members mentioned how victim blaming tends to happen and how male students need to be part of the conversation as well.

In all, member felt that more could be done to address issues of sexual violence. During the discussion, members became resolved to do more to advance this topic within the institution.