



**Minutes of The Alliance Meeting held Tuesday, February 9<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 am to 11:30 am, Star Institute, 517 North Zenith**

- I. Call to Order – In the absence of Cathy Pope, Beth Lawson called the meeting to order.
- II. Minutes of January 12, 2016 were distributed, read and approved.
- III. Public Comment (Limit to 2 minutes each total 6) – no one asked for public comment.
- IV. Introductions – Ms. Lawson asked for each attendee to introduce themselves and state the organization they represented, if applicable.
- V. Membership Report – Shannon Spencer reported The Alliance has 432 members as of January, 2016. Currently, membership is free, and she encouraged those present who are not members to join today.
- VI. Guests:
  - A. Julie Cordero with Running2Rescue and One Vo!ce Home - Running2Rescue is a foot race based in Lubbock. This year's annual race is a 10K, 5K and a Family Fun Run. This event was started five years ago by Gloria Toti. Ms. Toti had a heartfelt desire to do something to fight sex trafficking in this country to raise awareness of the evils of sex trafficking, and the existence here in Lubbock. She started a foot race to raise funds. The first couple of years, funds were sent to national organizations that fight sex trafficking, and then the desire became to keep it local and keep the funds here in Lubbock. One Vo!ce Home was created with a Board of Directors and an Executive Director. The organization is in the process of buying a piece of property to build a safe home – a place for underage girls who have been rescued from domestic minor sex trafficking to heal and have a second chance at life. One Vo!ce Home is working on grant applications to buy this piece of property and build facilities to house these girls. All of the proceeds from Running2Rescue are donated to One Vo!ce Home. The race this year will be held June 4<sup>th</sup> in MacKenzie Park. Last year there were about 1,500 runners – hoping for at least 2,000 this year. Volunteers and community leaders are needed to spread the work and help with the race. There is a Community Team made up of leaders throughout the community of Lubbock who act as liaisons between their organization and One Vo!ce Home to spread the word. Website is [running2rescue.com](http://running2rescue.com), registration is not open just yet, but will be very soon.
  - B. Jana Hunter – Komen Foundation – due to time constraints, her presentation is deferred until the March meeting.
- VII. Agency Reports:
  - A. LUNA – Toni Spray reported LUNA is in the process of filling five vacancies on its Board of Trustees due to members rotating off after a three-year term. There are representatives from across Lubbock on the Board, and a representative from East Lubbock is currently needed. Contact Toni ([toni.spray@gmail.com](mailto:toni.spray@gmail.com)/806-749-5862) if you are interested. LUNA is currently working on beautification of neighborhoods through neighborhood revitalization, community gardens, parks, etc. They are also working on crime and safety with the police department. Toni

also discussed [Next Door.com](http://NextDoor.com) and what a great tool it is for safety and getting to know people in your neighborhood.

- B. Guadalupe Parkway – Cory White reported on Making a Difference in Sports – this is a free program for boys and girls in the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade – to participate in sports such as football and basketball. The program starts March 21<sup>st</sup> and March 1<sup>st</sup> is the deadline to sign up. This is a great opportunity for kids in East Lubbock to play sports for free and stay involved. Every Thursday, there will be a free basketball clinic 6:30p to 8:00p.

Dela Esqueda, Executive Director for Guadalupe Parkway Neighborhood site, reported on the recent partnership between Guadalupe Parkway and TTU Urban Tech. The property around the Center has been purchased and a master plan has been developed between the two entities. Part of that master plan is to develop a football field, outdoor basketball courts and playground area and a new gymnasium. The gym will be five feet underground, and Texas Tech is a big part of creating a safe environment in the event of a catastrophic event for schools surrounding the center. The capital campaign will be launched probably in June. This expansion will bring pride to the community and children.

- C. East Lubbock Promise Neighborhood – Chris Moore, Manager for Family Community Adult Education for ELPN. Currently, sustainability is the main goal of the two years remaining on the grant – to make sure that once the grant is gone, the programs that were in place continue and stay in place. Mr. Moore was recently introduced to Raphael Atore, who is looking to open an adult education training center in East Lubbock and who was also present at the meeting. A strategic plan will be put together that will sustain the services ELPN is providing. An integrated system has been put in place with different entities such as Workforce Solutions, Dream Center, etc. to help people navigate the system through an Adult Education Coalition Group, and Workforce Solutions will hire a part-time person to manage this integrated system.
- D. Family Academy – Margaret Randle reported for Stephanie Shine that a pre-K roundup for children who will be four by September 1<sup>st</sup> will be held on February 18<sup>th</sup> at the four elementary schools – Alderson, Irvin, Hodges or Harwell – each school has its own set time.
- E. Citibus – Serena Stevenson reported she is a member of the City of Lubbock Advisory Board Membership Committee, which is the committee that appoints people to City boards. Please let her know if you are interested in serving on one of the City boards. More women and people of diversity are needed.
- F. Family Guidance & Outreach Center – Fiona May is back with The Alliance in her new role with the Family Guidance & Outreach Center. She stated that she will share next month about Child Abuse Prevention Month and the upcoming Blue Ribbon Rally, which StarCare is a partner.
- G. Larry Combest Center – Monica Garcia reported that walk-in times have currently been extended for all day, with Monday, Thursday and Friday extended to 10:00p.
- H. Network for Development of Youth – Raphael Atore, President and CEO, spoke to the group about the need in the community for training centers, especially in East Lubbock, for people to acquire skills for employment, which he has plans to open.
- I. Community Youth Development (CYD) – Clarence Hatcher reported there is a high degree of juvenile delinquency in the area of the CYD (zip code 79415), and the

program tries to development subcontracts with others in the area (Community in Schools, Guadalupe-Parkway, etc.) to take the kids out into other areas of the city and expose to different things. There has been a lot of success in this program in the last few years.

- J. Voter Registration Coordination Group – Karen Smart reported this committee met last week and is focusing on City Council Districts 1 and 2, School Board District 2, and the Mayoral race. We are planning a forum with candidates from these areas to meet, greet and discuss issues. The group is also planning a Voter Registration blitz in East Lubbock during the month of April in an attempt to get as many people registered to vote in East Lubbock as possible. We will go door-to-door with deputies on hand if someone wants to register. Shannon Spencer commented they did a door-to-door last Saturday in Yellow House Canyon and were able to register several people, and they have been registering at churches. People seem to like the one-on-one conversations. Adrian Lewis is looking for volunteers and you can get with him to get involved.
  - K. Chamber Total Resource Campaign – Brandi Ivey reported that she has applications available for people to join and get involved in the Chamber activities such as Leadership Lubbock, Football Kickoff Breakfast, Business Expo, Golf Tournament, etc. There are memberships for individuals and businesses.
  - L. The Office of Diversity – Bill Stubblefield reported this Friday the Black Violin (\$18) will perform; the following week Harry Belafonte (free) will perform; and the following week, Dr. Cornell West will do a lecture on the State of America (African Americans since the election of Barak Obama), all at the Allen Theatre.
  - M. Women’s Conference – Bill Stubblefield reported that every first Saturday in March the Difference Makers has a Women’s Conference to discuss women’s issues – for example, grief – loss of a child in an accident. The conference is free. Just need to register. Vendor tables will be available - vendor registration is online as well. Saturday, March 5, 8:00a to 2:00p. [Differencemakersfellowship.com](http://Differencemakersfellowship.com).
  - N. Update of Lubbock City Limitless – Dela Esqueda updated the group regarding the video that was produced by Stuart Blalock for that event. The segment of the video on Jazz Williams and his life story won an Addy Award and Jazz will attend for Stuart to accept the award on February 20<sup>th</sup>.
- VIII. Next meeting March 8, 2016 at 11:30a -1:00p at George Woods Star Institute.