

FROM THE TCFV POLICY TEAM



The TCFV policy team is excited to send its first update of the season to the Capitol Crew – we look forward to more frequent updates and engagement with this list than prior sessions so if you have items you would like to hear more about or ideas for this newsletter, please email the policy team at policy@tcfv.org

Capitol Day 2025

Session is in full swing, and on February 20th the TCFV Policy team was excited to partner with the TAASA policy team to host the 89th Legislative Session Capitol Day! Even though the temperatures were sub-freezing over 200 folks turned out to join us in lifting up the funding and policy priorities –



thank you to everyone who came to make sure their Legislators knew about TCFV and TAASA's priorities for creating a safer Texas. A special thanks to the survivors who shared their voices with us that day and Representative Mary González, Representative Christian Manuel, Representative Lacey Hull and Representative Ann Johnson who all joined us in support.

Testimony

In the past month TCFV staff Gloria Terry (CEO), Maria Jose Angelelli (Director of Support to Service Providers) and Molly Voyles (Director of Public Policy) all had the opportunity to testify on the importance of TCFV's funding priorities and were joined by excellent testimony from Emilee Whitehurst (CEO, Houston Area Women's Center), Kathryn Jacob (CEO, SafeHaven of Tarrant County) and Geneece Goertzen (Board Member, Family Abuse Center).

Photos: Gloria Terry & Sen. Huffman (top), Maria Jose Angelelli (top middle), Molly Voyles & Geneece Goertzen (bottom middle), Kathryn Jacobs (bottom).

Funding Priorities Over the Biennium



Family Violence Services, Article II, Health and Human Services: Support for \$93.9M in SB1/HB 1 & request for additional funds for survivor housing and capacity issues at \$25M.



Battering Intervention and Prevention Programs (BIPPs), Article V, Texas Department of Criminal Justice: Support for level funding for BIPP in SB 1/ HB 1 at \$5M and request for increase in funds for capacity at \$925,000.



Domestic Violence High Risk Teams, Article I, Office of the Attorney General: Support for level funding in SB 1/ HB 1 at \$600,000.



Victims of Crime Act Funds Article I, Office of the Governor Request: Support for funds in SB 1/ HB 1 and a request to add \$62M.

Policy Priorities



Reducing and Preventing Family Violence Homicide in Texas: This measure would create a two-year taskforce focused on prevention and reduction of family violence homicide with explicit charges to make policy recommendations for the 90th legislative session. (Bill Number Pending)



Enhancing Crime Victims' Rights; Ability to Confer on a Plea Notice for Family Violence Survivors: This measure proposes to add victims of felony family violence to the list of people who can confer with prosecutors on the plea agreement, within Article 56A of the Code of Criminal Procedure. ([SB 1120](#), Hinojosa and Huffman)



Dating Violence Policy Implementation and Survivor Safety Supports: This measure focuses on implementing dating violence policies in schools by adding clean up language to Section 11.252 of the Education Code to ensure that these policies are addressed in district improvement plans. Language would also be added to address survivor safety in reporting dating violence to parents. ([HB 1332](#), Garcia)



Support and Accountability for Youth Using Violence: This measure would allow for collection of data on dating violence in schools and would create a pathway for young people using violence to be referred to Disciplinary Alternative Education Programs (DAEPs) with the option for healthy relationship and dating violence education to be offered. ([HB 1963](#), Garcia)

Many thanks and send any questions or suggestions to us at policy@tcfv.org!