

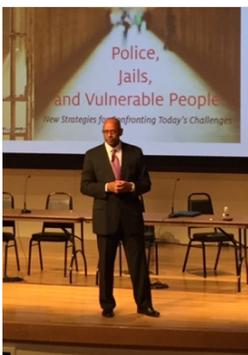
TIFA Attends Symposium on Vulnerable People

At the symposium, everyone was in agreement, things need to change in the criminal justice system. Dr. Cedric Alexander, who opened the symposium, said "The way we have done business in the past must change." Public safety "needs to develop trust and legitimacy within our communities." To accomplish that goal he went on to say "we need to 1) work to change public safety through better recruitment, training, resources, and better management and oversight and 2) build relationships in the communities so people feel safe and respected."

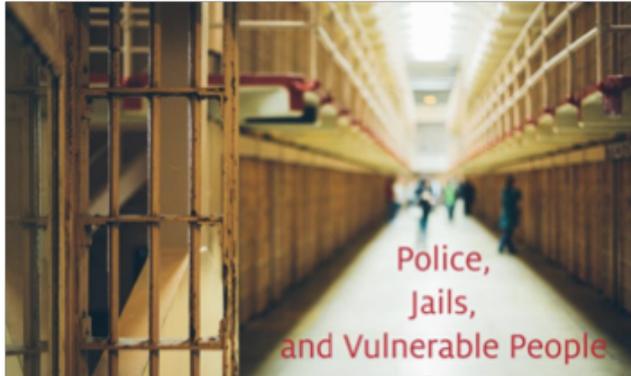
The symposium was organized around the Sandra Bland case that highlighted problems in policing, mental health issues and incarceration.

One of the most glaring issues presented was the number of people who are in jail waiting for something to happen. Of those in jail, 60-70% are not convicted. Some are dangerous and belong in custody but many are there because the system isn't set up to send them home until it's time for their trial. One speaker noted that those who remain in jail because they

cannot afford the bond can see adverse affects in the case disposition, a higher likelihood of receiving a prison sentence, and also receive a longer sentence if convicted. Since 1990, the number of unconvicted



Dr. Cedric Alexander (Chief of Police of DeKalb County, Georgia, President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing)



people in jail has increased 126%. And this is not because of an increase in crime but because of the use of pre-trial detention. In Texas, there is an arrest every 38 seconds.

Later in the morning, Lindsay Hayes, a project director at the National Center on Institutions and Alternatives provided a suicide prevention policy. All correctional facilities, regardless of size, should have a detailed written suicide prevention policy that addresses each of the following critical components:

- 1) Training: both pre-service and annual suicide prevention training
- 2) Identification/screening: for suicide risk at in-take
- 3) Communication: among agencies and the use of active listening skills to determine when an intervention needs to be made
- 4) Housing: isolation should be avoided; house in general population, mental health unit, or infirmary, in close proximity to staff
- 5) Levels of supervision: close observation for those not actively suicidal and constant observation for those who are threatening suicide
- 6) Intervention: staff trained in first aid, have a suicide response plan and never assume a person is dead
- 7) Reporting: staff in contact with a suicide victim required to submit a statement about the incident
- 8) Follow-up: a review, separate and apart from other formal investigations, to determine the cause of the serious injury or death.

Kate Eves, a criminologist specializing in jail and prison oversight in the United Kingdom, stated that "independent oversight in both jails and prisons is needed because sometimes the problems become background noise" and you become blind to them. What is needed is "a fresh set of eyes from someone who is looking at the whole picture and seeing the overarching problems. An advantage of independent

oversight is that you can have surprise inspections and also provide technical assistance."

In TDCJ high suicide rates cannot be attributed solely to mental health disorders. The units in TDCJ with the highest rates of suicides and suicide attempts are also some of the most populous and dangerous in the system: Darrington, Robertson and Clements have higher incidents of use of force, sexual assault, solitary confinement and violence. And the units housing women had some of the highest suicide rates in the entire system.

The average monthly number of suicide attempts among prisoners under TDCJ custody increased 28 percent as reported through Oct 2015. Thirty-one people committed suicide in TDCJ in 2014; 26 had done so as of Oct in 2015.

All too frequently, we have seen what happens when public institutions lack independent, external oversight. They fail to achieve the efficiency that comes from increased transparency, and often identify abuses far too late. TDCJ continues to operate the largest prison system of any state without independent oversight.

Texas must acknowledge its duty to protect the rights and well being of those under supervision. Implementing integrated policy reform and external oversight will help policymakers and criminal justice staff create safe environments for those who live and work in the criminal justice system, with benefits to jails, prisons, Texas communities, and families. n

TIFA Contact

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TIFA is a non-profit 501 (c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code. Membership in TIFA is open to anyone. A Basic membership is \$25 per year and includes one newsletter subscription to the member address. A Basic Plus membership of \$35 per year includes all family members residing in one household and the inmate newsletter.

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And you can find us on Facebook.

Note: We read all mail that is received but cannot answer every letter. Our mission is strengthening families through support, education and advocacy.



Happy
Anniversary
TIFA!,
from Chair
Patti Kassel



This year marks the 20th anniversary since our founders, the DeLuca brothers, formed the Texas Inmate Families Association. It was founded for the purpose of supporting, educating and advocating for families of incarcerated loved ones. We continue to grow in supporting families by expanding the local chapter meetings from the original meeting in Austin, TX in 1996 to today where we have 16 chapters in Texas and members throughout the U.S. and even has some international members.

Our monthly chapter meetings are a place to support and educate our members on various topics and resources as well as having distinguished speakers to discuss topics like Parole, Windham School District, Gangs in Prison, etc. Chapter meetings are a place to meet people with the same struggles, challenges and successes.

TIFA has not only grown in membership over the past 20 years, but in reputation. We continue to have the respect of many TDCJ officials, other affiliated organizations and elected officials because of the time and efforts we have taken to partner with organizations and visit with others to advocate for families and inmates.

TIFA has expanded its approaches to communications for extended support and access to resources over the years to a robust website, quarterly newsletters and presence on Facebook.

Thank you for your support in our continued effort to fulfill our vision and mission. TIFA will be here until they all come home. n

Don't Forget! As you do your shopping and when you order from Amazon use AmazonSmile and select TIFA as your charity.

Message from
the Executive
Director,
Jennifer
Erschabek



No other industrialized nation incarcerates its citizens more than the US and now is the time to start eliminating this mass incarceration. The only way to accomplish that will be to think broadly about how far we have come from any reasonable conception of what a fair and effective justice system should look like.

Half of the prison expansion resulted from sending more people to prison due to the increased adoption of mandatory sentencing policies and prosecutorial charging decisions, while half resulted from longer prison terms. The latter trend is increasingly the major barrier to substantial reductions in incarceration.

The excessively lengthy incarceration of people—yes, even for violent crimes—is counterproductive, costly, and inhumane. Life sentences ruin families and tear apart communities; they deprive the person of the chance to turn his or her life around.

In the upcoming months you will be seeing more about mass incarceration, parole reform and bringing our loved ones home. When we have our 'calls to action' please step up and let's show them our power! Thank you TIFA members for all you do and for all you are willing to do! n

Why Read While Imprisoned?

By Terri LeClercq, Ph.D.

Most of us will nod in agreement that those spending time inside the Walls should read. But why? I can think of a number of reasons, and I'm hoping you can add to this list.

1. Reading can **transport you to a different place**. It doesn't matter what you are reading: if you're studying a math text, you are concentrating on something outside yourself. (For many of us, that's a really, really different place.) If you are reading fiction, maybe science fiction, you are transported to worlds and inventions and situations that you yourself had not

News from the Chapters

Joy and Cheer at the San Antonio Chapter

By Sybille Hamilton

During our annual Christmas card signing at the San Antonio Chapter meeting we were graced with the presence of two young men we had heard so much about from their moms. As a support group we had gone through the ups and downs of parole denial and eventually approval with their mothers.

All of us were overwhelmed with joy, happiness and blessed to have them spend time with us signing cards for our loved ones who are still incarcerated. They never realized how the card signing went, what was involved. Over the years, they just knew while they were in the system they got a card each time we had a card signing at the Chapter meeting. They explained to the group the importance of the cards and letters that are received and what it does for those behind the walls of cement and steel. The cards let them know they are thought about, they are not alone and not forgotten.

With tears of joy, they expressed their thanks for what TIFA does and the impact that TIFA has on everyone in the system. They thanked us for the support we gave their moms and were excited they could finally put faces to the names of people their moms always talked about. It was quite overwhelming for them as well as us. They said you could see and feel the care and love in the room.

We signed over 100 cards that night. Each year we add more names to the list. New families came to the meeting that night and were overjoyed with how they were received with open arms. They now know they are safe with us and will not be judged - we know how they feel. They are with family!

We did something extra special for the kids this time, we had each kid decorate a gingerbread man. Even some of the adults asked if they could participate. Everyone had an awesome time. To listen to the laughs, and happiness in the room helped take away the sorrow and



sadness we feel this time of year, at least for a while.

The joy and laughter is beyond words. I truly love being a part of TIFA and what it stands for and does for families. The support we give to each other is unbelievable and cannot be bought. The friendships I have developed over the years are awesome. We all understand each other because we either have someone in the system or someone who just came home. We are each other's extended family. You won't get a better support group! n

TDCJ Chaplain Speaks at Tyler Chapter

By Pamela Willis

On January 9, 2016 the TIFA Tyler Chapter welcomed their guest speaker Senior Chaplain Thomas Sawyer, Jr. of the Coffield Unit. Chaplain Sawyer's address to the group gave us insight into the TDCJ Chaplaincy program and responsibilities. As a Chaplain he is responsible for the spiritual, emotional and psychosocial needs of inmates. The Coffield Unit has 4,000+ inmates and the Chaplaincy program helps to facilitate the exercise of religious freedom for offenders. He assists offenders with incorporating their religious beliefs and practices into their daily lives and explained how this supports a process of positive change.

Chaplain Sawyer works on rehabilitation and reentry programs and is passionate about bringing education and life skills training to prisons thru advocacy. He

explained how the chaplains and volunteers serve as role models and teachers of the very skills and lifestyles that many offenders lack but desire and that the learning that takes place in each area of life, not only in the religious, helps reduce recidivism and promotes public safety. Chaplain Sawyer expressed the need for more community volunteers within the TDCJ and urged anyone that was interested to contact the prison Wardens.

He stated that groups such as TIFA are important not only because they support the families of inmates but because TIFA's diligent work on prison reform gives hope to those involved in the system. He is looking forward to working closely with TIFA and especially the parole forum that TIFA is assisting with at the Coffield Unit in February. n



Chaplain Sawyer and his wife Jules, at the Tyler meeting

TIFA 2016 Parole Packet Workshops

TIFA has scheduled our Parole Packet Workshops for 2016. For registration and more information visit our website at TIFA.org/events or you can call the TIFA phone line at 512-371-0900 and leave a message. The cost to attend is \$50 for members and \$85 for nonmembers (which includes a membership).

Sat Feb 27, 2016 1-4 Austin
AGE Center

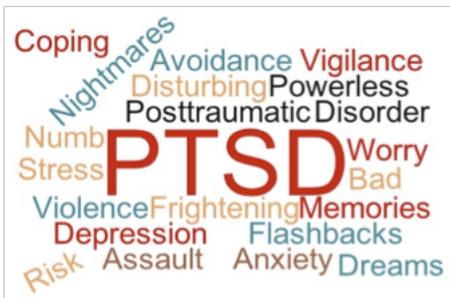
Sat May 21st, 2016 1-4 Conroe
Eagle's Nest Ministries

Sat July 16th, 2016 San Antonio
St Marks Evangelist Catholic Church

Sat Oct 15, 2016 8-12 Dallas
Lover's Lane Methodist Church

At these workshops TIFA will provide a workbook that includes information on:

- Good Time, Work Time and Flat Time
- Parole and Mandatory Supervision Eligibility Timeframes
- The Parole Timeline
- The Risk Assessment Instrument and the Offender Severity Class
- Voting Options
- Parole Board, Prison Units and Contact Information
- Helpful Phone Numbers and Web Sites
- A sample parole packet [n](#)



Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (Part 2)

When someone has PTSD, it can change family life. The person with PTSD may act differently and get angry easily. As family members we always want to know how can I help? You may feel helpless, but there are many things you can do. Nobody expects you to have all the answers.

Here are ways you can help:

- Learn as much as you can about PTSD. Knowing how PTSD affects people may help you understand what your family member is going through. The more you know, the better you and your family can handle PTSD.
- Offer to go to doctor visits with your family member. You can help keep track of medicine and therapy, and you can be there for support.
- Tell your loved one you want to listen and that you also understand if he or she doesn't feel like talking.
- Plan family activities together, like having dinner or going to a movie
- Take a walk, go for a bike ride, or do some other physical activity together. Exercise is important for health and

helps clear your mind.

- Encourage contact with family and close friends. A support system will help your family member get through difficult changes and stressful times.

Your family member may not want your help. If this happens, keep in mind that withdrawal can be a symptom of PTSD. A person who withdraws may not feel like talking, taking part in group activities, or being around other people. Give your loved one space, but tell him or her that you will always be ready to help.

How can I deal with anger or violent behavior?

Your family member may feel angry about many things. Anger is a normal reaction to trauma, but it can hurt relationships and make it hard to think clearly. Anger also can be frightening. If anger leads to violent behavior or abuse, it's dangerous. Go to a safe place and call for help right away. Make sure children are in a safe place as well. It's hard to talk to someone who is angry. One thing you can do is set up a time-out system. This helps you find a way to talk even while angry.

Here's one way to do this.

Agree that either of you can call a time-out at any time. Agree that when someone calls a time-out, the discussion must stop right then. Decide on a signal you will use to call a time-out. The signal can be a word that you say or a hand signal. Agree to tell each other where you will be and what you will be doing during the time-out. Tell each other what time you will come back. While you are taking a time-out, don't focus on how angry you feel. Instead, think calmly about how you will talk things over and solve the problem.

After you come back.....

Take turns talking about solutions to the problem. Listen without interrupting. Use statements starting with "I," such as "I think" or "I feel." Using "you" statements can sound accusing. Be open to each other's ideas. Don't criticize each other. Focus on things you both think will work. It's likely you will both have good ideas. Together, agree which solutions you will use.



How can I communicate better?

You and your family may have trouble talking about feelings, worries, and everyday problems. Here are some ways to communicate better:

- Be clear and to the point.
- Be positive. Blame and negative talk won't help the situation.
- Be a good listener. Don't argue or interrupt. Repeat what you hear to make sure you understand, and ask questions if you need to know more.
- Put your feelings into words. Your loved one may not know you are sad or frustrated unless you are clear about your feelings.
- Help your family member put feelings into words. Ask, "Are you feeling angry? Sad? Worried?"
- Ask how you can help.
- Don't give advice unless you are asked.

If your family is having a lot of trouble talking things over, consider trying family therapy. Family therapy is a type of counseling that involves your whole family. A therapist helps you and your family communicate, maintain good relationships, and cope with tough emotions. During therapy, each person can talk about how a problem is affecting the family. Family therapy can help family members understand and cope with PTSD.

Your health professional or a religious or social services organization can help you find a family therapist who specializes in PTSD.

How can I take care of myself?

Helping a person with PTSD can be hard on you. You may have your own feelings of fear and anger about the trauma. You may feel guilty because you wish your family member would just forget his or her problems and get on with life. You may feel confused or frustrated because your loved one has changed, and you may worry that your family life will never get back to normal.

All of this can drain you. It can affect your health and make it hard for you to help your loved one. If you're not careful, you may get sick yourself, become depressed, or burn out and stop helping your loved one. To help yourself, you need to take care of yourself and have other people
PTSD (Continued on page 6)

PTSD (Continued from page 5)
help you care for yourself.

Don't feel guilty or feel that you have to know it all. Remind yourself that nobody has all the answers. It's normal to feel helpless at times. Don't feel bad if things change slowly. You cannot change anyone. People have to change themselves. Take care of your physical and mental health. If you feel yourself getting sick or often feel sad and hopeless, see your doctor. Don't give up your outside life. Make time for activities and hobbies you enjoy. Continue to see your friends. Take time to be by yourself. Find a quiet place to gather your thoughts and "recharge." Get regular exercise, even just a few minutes a day. Exercise is a healthy way to deal with stress. Eat healthy foods. When you are busy, it may seem easier to eat fast food than to prepare healthy meals. But healthy foods will give you more energy to carry you through the day. Remember the good things. It's easy to get weighed down by worry and stress. But don't forget to see and celebrate the good things that happen to you and your family.

During difficult times, it is important to have people in your life who you can depend on. These people are your support network. They can help you with everyday jobs, like taking a child to school, or by giving you love and understanding.

You may get support from:

- Family members
- Friends, coworkers, and neighbors
- Members of your religious or spiritual group
- Support groups like TIFA
- Doctors and other health professionals

What should I do if I have symptoms of PTSD?

PTSD symptoms usually start soon after the traumatic event. But for some people, they may not happen until months or years after the trauma. Symptoms may come and go over many years. So, you should keep track of your symptoms and talk to someone you trust about them. If you have symptoms that last longer than four weeks, cause you great distress, or disrupt your work or home life, you probably have PTSD. You should seek professional help from a doctor or counselor. [n](#)

The Texas Risk Assessment System:

a new direction in probation and parole planning

In 2015, TDCJ completed the agency-wide implementation of a new risk assessment tool designed to help community supervision, prison, reentry and aftercare professionals create custom case management programs for individual offenders. The Texas Risk Assessment System or TRAS ("tee-rass") interprets an offender's criminal history along with their criminogenic needs, allowing criminal justice professionals to devise the most efficient case plans possible, enabling the agency to carefully allocate supervision resources and, in turn, reduce offender recidivism rates and increase public safety. The capabilities TRAS offered for case management made the instrument equally useful for probation and parole supervision, and the related incarceration and reentry components made TRAS a logical choice for adoption throughout TDCJ.

The Texas Sunset Advisory Commission had recommended the agency implement "a system-wide risk and needs assessment for use in managing offenders on probation, parole and in prison." Subsequent to the Sunset recommendation, Senate Bill 213 by Senator John Whitmire was enacted which required the Texas Department of Criminal Justice to implement a standardized instrument by 2015.

The TRAS is divided into felony and misdemeanor sections, comprising a series of questions about the offender's education, family, job history, social support and substance abuse, along with a new section on criminogenic categories such as criminal attitudes and behavioral patterns. Prior to the assessment, the criminal justice professional examines an offender's criminal history as well as collateral sources of information, such as family members, to corroborate the offender's answers.

TRAS first identifies low-risk offenders using a "screener" before conducting a full assessment. During the instrument's validation process, it was found that among offenders deemed low-risk and tracked for more than a year, one in ten reoffended. Low scorers are placed on a low-risk caseload and are monitored, but not over-supervised or put into programs that they don't need.

The next step is to conduct the full assessment for those who did not screen out as low-risk. The full assessment tells the criminal justice professional which risks the offender is likely to face and how to change behaviors and target resources to best meet the needs of the individual. Are they getting enough social support? Are they associating with criminals? At this point, the tool becomes more of a risk management/risk reduction plan instead of a risk assessment, and moves onto the last step: recommendations on how to supervise, address needs, reduce risk and get the offender back on track.

If the offender leaves probation for prison, the assessment history follows that person through the criminal justice system, and is reassessed as needed. In prison, the assessment plays a role in the prioritization of offender programming through the offender's Individualized Treatment Plan. The TRAS also has a reentry supplemental tool designed to help receiving parole officers and reentry case managers plan for the person's community needs. The assessment is scanned into the Offender Information Management System so that (parole employees) are aware of all the work that's been done and by doing that, not only is the person released into the community aware of the resources that are out there, but the case manager knows what critical areas still need to be worked on.

TRAS has separate cutoff scores for male and female offenders, matching supervision style, well-researched interventions, treatments, services, programs and resources to the individual, as opposed to a one-size-fits-all approach. This innovative assessment tool allows TDCJ to fulfill its mission to successfully reintegrate offenders into society by using the best case plans possible to efficiently allocate agency and community resources. To impact public safety, resources should be spent on the offenders who need them most, not those who need them least. [n](#)

“Never Been Better”

By Douglas Smith - TCJC

A few months ago, I spoke with a good friend of mine who is still doing time in prison. It had been more than a year since I had last spoken with him, yet I could feel his warmth and gentleness as if we were in the same room together. It is true that the prison environment does little to engender the core attributes of friendship like trust, empathy, and compassion.

Yet, many people had shown him extraordinary kindness during his two decades in prison, and had had learned to pass that kindness on to others.

I asked him how he'd been doing, and he said to me, “Never been better!” His familiar positivity brought a smile to my face. It was that bright optimism that drew me to him in the first place. Being close to him lightened the shadows I still carried at that time, and gave me hope for the future.

He had embraced faith while in prison, and it became a living force within him. Unlike many people I meet out here in the “free” world, he actually lived his faith. It propelled him into service to others. He had been teaching newcomers in prison about sexual assault prevention for nearly five years before I met him. When he wasn't teaching, he worked in the chapel as a clerk, where he could assist the Chaplain and volunteers. Over time, they stopped seeing him as an inmate, and put him in charge of facilitating the Friday night chapel services.

He told his story one Friday night. I'll never forget it. He had experienced a traumatic childhood, with a chaotic home life and a father in prison. The turmoil led him to drugs and unhealthy acquaintances. Weeks before his 19th birthday, he accompanied two young men to buy some drugs. Unexpectedly, the two men attacked the drug dealer and killed him. My friend was horrified.

He spent an entire year in county jail claiming that he never had any intention of



harming the man who lost his life. The two men responsible for the murder quickly accepted plea agreements that would assure them of release from prison in their late 30s. My friend dared to claim innocence, and asked for a trial. Under the law of parties, my friend was charged and convicted of Capital Murder.

To punish him for refusing the plea agreement, the prosecutor demanded a sentence that would keep him in prison at least twice the length of time given to the actual murderers.

The judge agreed with the prosecutor, so my friend won't even be eligible for parole until 2033. His right to appeal expired long ago. Unless Texas passes a law that makes my friend eligible for a second look by the sentencing court, he will remain in prison until he is at least 58 years old. Some states allow certain individuals, like those who were children themselves at the time the crime was committed, to appeal for a sentence reduction after serving a certain percentage of the sentence. Such a law could be extended to those sentenced under the law of parties, particularly when the actual murderer(s) received more lenient sentences. Sadly, no such law exists in Texas.

My friend had to learn to forgive others in order to cope with injustice. After having served two decades in prison, my friend learned that one of the men who had committed the murder was on the unit awaiting parole release. The Chaplain accompanied my friend to the release gate, where they met the man.

My friend looked the man in the eye and said, “I forgive you.” They shook hands, and the man departed the unit to begin his adult life outside of prison.

Both of the men who committed the murder are now free from prison. They

are living their lives, able to pursue careers and family. Out here in the “free” world, the same prosecutor who abandoned all sense of fairness, demanding that my friend serve 20 years for being a party to a murder and an additional 60 years for daring to defend himself in court, gets to sleep in a comfortable bed and perhaps enjoy a round of golf this weekend. The judge who went along with the prosecutor, forgetting his sworn duty to remain just and impartial, also gets to enjoy his life, perhaps fishing along the Texas coast. My friend will experience none of these things.

As for my friend, he's “never been better.” He'll teach a class this week that will make prison safer. He'll share his kindness with people like me, helping them to heal and grow into the men they were intended to be. People who experience his friendship will return to the “free” world with a deeper commitment to improve the lives of others.

My friend will probably bring a message at the Friday night chapel service. He may talk about an ancient king named Solomon who knew a thing or two about justice. Perhaps my friend will teach others that, when it comes to matters of justice, where lives are at stake, one needs a double portion of wisdom.

Because wisdom is often lacking in the Texas courts, we need a Second Look Law. It's also time to take a second look at Law of Parties. [n](#)

Don't Forget!! TIFA's new Anniversary tee shirt celebrating 20 years!! Visit our website at tifa.org for sizes, availability and ordering information.





Texas Inmate Families Association

Strengthening families through support, education, and advocacy

TIFA
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Austin, TX 78703-0004

CONTACT
Vol.21 No. 1 Jan 2016

TIFA Chapters

Amarillo

1st Tuesday at 7 pm
First Christian Church
3001 Wolflin Ave.
(Snodgrass Hall)
Amarillo, TX 79107
(806) 352-6928

Austin- South

1st Monday, 6:30 pm
Sunrise Community Church
4430 Manchaca Road
Austin, TX 78745
(512) 371-0900

Austin - North

3rd Tuesday, 7:00 pm
Lord of Life Lutheran Church
9700 Neenah Avenue
Austin, TX 78717
(512) 371-0900

Beaumont

1st Tuesday, 6:30 pm
St. Jude Thaddeus Catholic
Church Family Life Center
6825 Gladys
Beaumont, TX 77726
(409) 617-8395

Conroe

Last Monday, 7:00 pm
Eagle's Nest Ministries
1450 Blake Road
Conroe, TX 77304
(281) 435-9908

Corpus Christi

2nd Tuesday, 7:00 pm
New Life Behavior Ministries
3833 S. Staples, Suite S-103
Corpus Christi, TX 78411
(361) 813-7106

Dallas

3rd Wednesday, 6:30 pm
Lover's Lane Methodist Church
9200 Inwood Rd Oxford Rm #103/105
Dallas, TX 75220
(817) 219-1628

Ft. Worth

1st Monday, 6:30 pm
St. Christopher Episcopal Church
3550 S.W. Loop 820
Fort Worth, TX 76133
(817) 798-9010

Houston

2nd Tuesday, 7:00 pm
Workfaith Connection
(Dacoma Location)
10120 Northwest Fwy 290 Suite 200
Houston, TX 77092
(281) 435-4143

Humble

2nd Thursday, 7:00 pm
Cavazos Insurance Agency
19333 Hwy 59 #165
Humble, TX 77338
(936) 217-0768

Killeen - Harker Heights

2nd Thursday, 6:00 pm
VFW (Ladies Auxiliary)
201 VFW Dr
Harker Heights, TX 76548
(254) 289-9429

Nacogdoches

3rd Saturday 10:00 am
First Baptist Church
411 North Street
Nacogdoches, TX 65961
(936) 564-4546

Pearland - South Houston

3rd Tuesday, 6:30 pm
Manvel Bible Chapel
4230 FM 1128
Pearland, TX 77584
(713) 303-9785

San Antonio

2nd Tuesday, 7:00 pm
St. Vincent De Paul Catholic
Church Parish Hall
4222 Southwest Loop 410
San Antonio, TX
(210) 387-1558

San Antonio - North

3rd Thursday, 7:00 pm
St Marks Evangelist
Catholic Church
1602 Thousand Oaks Dr.
San Antonio, TX
(915) 204-5870

Tyler

2nd Saturday, 10 am
Freedom Fellowship
2915 SSE Loop 323
Tyler, Texas 75701
(903) 504-9771

*If you are interested in starting a TIFA chapter in your area,
please contact the TIFA office. (512) 371-0900 or send an
email to tifa@tifa.org*