

Quarterly Issues & Program Report

1st Quarter 2022

1/14/22 Title: Point of View
 Start: 11:00am
 Length: 30 minutes
 Issues: Supporting Sexual Assault Victims
 Talked with: Katie Bulwehr

Discussion focused on: The Louisiana Foundation Against Sexual Assault provides a helpline for survivors of sexual assault and their loved ones in Louisiana, one of only four states to provide the service for texting in addition to the phone line. It expands accessibility for the deaf, as well as providing a safer outlet where people can text when speaking on the phone might not be an available option. The helpline assists victims with a safety plan as well as local resources available for food and housing. There are eleven centers across the state to assist victims, including children who have witnessed abuse. Sexual assault is about power and control so the foundation works eliminate those constraints that prevent victims from coming forward for help.

1/20/22 Title: Point of View
 Start: 11:00am
 Length: 30 minutes
 Issue: Thyroid Awareness
 Talked with: Dr. Corey Majors

Discussion focused on: Thyroid Awareness month is recognized during the month of January. Dr. Majors specializes in endocrinology and explained what the thyroid gland is and its function. The thyroid gland affects metabolism, heart, brain, kidneys, liver, muscle, skin and even bone health. The doctor explained common issues such as goiters, hypothyroidism, and hyperthyroidism and symptoms such as dry skin, fatigue, weight gain, forgetfulness, hair loss which can be the same whether the thyroid is over or under functioning. Thyroid issues can be caused by genetics, environmental factors, radiation treatments, or other autoimmune diseases. Women are at a higher risk of thyroid disease than men.

1/28/22 Title: Point of View
 Start: 11:00am
 Length: 30 minutes
 Issue: Ponchatoula Revitalization
 Talked with: Faith Allen

Discussion focused on: The small town of Ponchatoula has initiated a revitalization effort to promote economic development in the historic district. The pandemic has created a lot of hurdles especially for small municipalities. The project helps support the small downtown business owners by promoting holiday and seasonal events, as well as developing awareness to specifically support economic growth. The businesses provide feedback and suggestions for the advisory council that they can all benefit from.

2/03/22 Title: Point of View
 Start: 11:00am
 Length: 30 minutes
 Issues: Campus Safety
 Talked with: Chief Michael Beckner

Discussion focused on: The University Police Department has started a ‘Click-it or Ticket’ program to remind people to use their seatbelts with the objective of increasing compliance of the law. He discussed how even in the slowest crashes, the force drivers would impact their steering wheels, compounded by an airbag deploying at 200 miles per hour. Because of the safety aspect of seatbelt compliance, it is a primary violation that drivers can be stopped for even if they aren’t speeding or doing anything else wrong. Chief Michael Beckner discussed how stalkers are utilizing technology to track people with Apple air tags. Air tags can be dropped into a person’s bag, jacket, or attached to a vehicle. The Apple phone will notify them that a new unknown device has been detected, which is with a Bluetooth connection, and the notification will allow for the connection to be deleted. The Chief advised if someone receives a notification that they are being tracked, don’t disregard it and ask them for help. The University Police Department will be providing active shooter training for the campus community.

3/03/22 Title: Point of View
 Start: 11:00am
 Length: 30 minutes
 Issue: Cancer Awareness
 Talked with: Brenna Barzenick

Discussion focused on: The Mary Bird Perkins Cancer Center will be having a community event that provides screening for breast cancer, skin cancer, and colon cancer. The event will be held in Cate Square Park in Downtown Hammond and will include an opportunity to participate in a yoga class. There will be food, music, and children activities including STEM activities. The fundraising portion of the event will help cancer patients to get their treatments. The last event they had like this detected four persons with cancers, which helped them seek treatment options sooner.

3/10/22 Title: Point of View
 Start: 11:00am
 Length: 30 minutes
 Issue: Hospice
 Talked with: Lisa Goings, North Oaks Hospice Director

Discussion focused on: The hospice program is a philosophy of care that embraces the idea of comfort and dignity at a person's end of life. It is the celebration of their life that helps them live their fullest life until death. It provides physical, emotional and spiritual care to the patient as well as the family members. Their team includes a medical director, registered nurses, certified nurse's assistants, a chaplain, social worker and grief counselor. The team provides patients and families with knowledge about the process they are going through and provides the support members to help them through it. The team provides an objective view for the participants when being objective can be difficult during such a stressful time.