

## ABOUT ONE VOICE

**ONE VOICE** is a network of public, private and non-profit organizations in the greater Houston area working together to ensure that the health and human services needs of all Texans are addressed in legislative, regulatory, funding and other public policy initiatives.

### **WHO ARE WE TALKING TO?**

Elected representatives and public officials at the local, state and federal levels.

### **WHAT ARE WE SAYING?**

One Voice supports the need for strong prevention and early intervention programs, and the ability to maximize federal funding for health and human service programs in Texas, so that we can

*"Keep Texas Dollars Working in Texas".*

### **HOW CAN THIS BE DONE?**

- Address the needs of all Texans - children through seniors.
- Assure that the greater Houston area receives equal per capita federal funds in comparison to other metropolitan areas of similar population in other states, including federal funds to serve hurricane evacuees living in Texas.
- Restore state funding and coverage for the Children's Health Insurance Program and Medicaid.
- Facilitate collaboration, communication, and cooperation among community organizations in the greater Houston area in advocacy efforts, applying for grants and identifying specialists for issue areas addressed by the legislature.
- Research and identify matching fund opportunities that would allow Texas to draw down available federal funds.

For more information, visit:

[www.onevoicehouston.org](http://www.onevoicehouston.org)

## CONTACT INFORMATION

### **ONE VOICE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Laurie Glaze  
713.333.2232  
713.829.7276 (cell)  
[lglaze@onevoicetexas.org](mailto:lglaze@onevoicetexas.org)

### **WORKGROUP CHAIRS**

#### **BASIC NEEDS**

Eva Thibaudeau  
713.739.7514  
[ethibaudeau@homelesshouston.org](mailto:ethibaudeau@homelesshouston.org)

#### **BEHAVIORAL HEALTH**

Leslie Gerber  
713.456.0822 (cell)  
[lsgerber@comcast.net](mailto:lsgerber@comcast.net)

#### **CHILD WELFARE**

Conni Barker  
713.802.7706  
713.201.8895 (cell)  
[cbarker@depelchin.org](mailto:cbarker@depelchin.org)

#### **COMMUNITY CARE FOR SENIORS AND PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES**

Leah Mueller  
713.667.9336  
[leah@jfshouston.org](mailto:leah@jfshouston.org)

#### **COMMUNITY SUPPORT FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION**

Mandi Kimball  
713.713.869.7740  
[mkimball@childrenatrisk.org](mailto:mkimball@childrenatrisk.org)

#### **EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION**

Sul Ross  
713.600.1188  
[sross@collabforchildren.org](mailto:sross@collabforchildren.org)

#### **HEALTHCARE**

Randall Ellis  
832.202.4722 (cell)  
[rellis@legacycommunityhealth.org](mailto:rellis@legacycommunityhealth.org)



## Advocacy 101

4550 POST OAK PLACE DRIVE, SUITE 100  
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77027  
713.333.2232

[www.onevoicehouston.org](http://www.onevoicehouston.org)

[www.onevoicehouston.org](http://www.onevoicehouston.org)

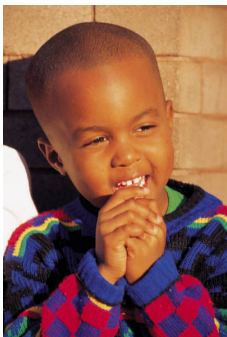
## ADVOCATING FOR A HEALTHY TEXAS: ADVOCACY 101

The Texas state government is of significant importance to the delivery of health and human services in Texas. State statutes address programs for children and youth, the aged, people with mental or physical disabilities and the poor, among others. The Texas Legislature establishes the policies and budgets affecting most governmental and voluntary health and human services programs in the state.

**Advocating for a Healthy Texas: Advocacy 101** covers the definition of advocacy, lobbying vs. advocacy, an overview of the Texas Legislature and how legislative bills become law, keys to effective communication with government officials and how to identify and develop health and human services public policy issues.

### Objectives:

- Learn what advocacy is and how to be an effective advocate for health and human services issues.
- Receive an overview of the Texas Legislature and develop an understanding of how the Legislature effects the delivery of health and human services in Texas.
- Learn how to identify and develop health and human services public policy issues and how to effectively advocate for change in public policies.



## TRAINERS

**Randall K. Ellis** is the Senior Director of Government Affairs at Legacy Community Health Services where he oversees the organization's policy and advocacy efforts at the local, state and federal levels. Prior to working for Legacy, Ellis served as the Executive Director of the Lesbian/Gay Rights Lobby of Texas. At LGRL, he led the effort to defeat anti-gay foster care and adoption legislation, lobbied on the importance of work place protection for LGBT Texans and worked to educate the public on the issue of marriage equality. He began his work in politics with State Representative Garnet Coleman, serving as the Representative's District Director. He also served as a policy analyst in Representative Coleman's capital office where he worked on issues of civil rights, HIV/AIDS, Medicaid, drug addiction and treatment, and mental health. A native Houstonian, Ellis received his BA in Economics and Romance Languages from Washington and Lee University in Lexington VA. He is currently working on his thesis to complete a Master's Degree in Public Health at the University of Texas School of Public Health—Houston.

**Nicole D. Porter** is Policy Director for Texans Together. Previously, Porter served as a Public Policy Analyst with CHILDREN AT RISK and as the Director of the ACLU of Texas' Prison and Jail Accountability Project. She graduated from the University of Texas at Austin with a Master's Degree in Public Affairs from the LBJ School of Public Affairs. Her master's thesis addressed exploring self employment as an economic strategy among formerly incarcerated African Americans. Porter received her BA in International Affairs from Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore MD. She also studied African Politics at the University of Ghana, West Africa. Porter has also worked for the Appleseed Foundation and the National Women's Political Caucus.

## CEUs

### Continuing Education Units (CEUs) can be offered by:

IntraCare Medical Center Hospital  
Provider Number: 1629  
Provider Number Expiration Date: 01/31/2009  
Texas State Board of Social Worker Examiners

**Social Work: 0.3 CEUs**  
**LPC: 3.0 Hours**  
**LMFT: 3.0 Hours**

**Individuals must be present for the entire training session to receive CEUs. Partial credit will not be given.**

## SCHEDULE A TRAINING

### The Texas Legislature will convene for its 81<sup>st</sup> Regular Session on January 13, 2009.

It is not too early for advocates to begin developing issues and strategies for the upcoming session. As part of the preparation process, agencies and organizations are invited to schedule **Advocacy 101** training for staff, volunteers and/or Board members.

**One Voice** will work with an organization to arrange an advocacy training at its location at a time convenient for the organization. A minimum number of ten attendees is required to schedule a training with a maximum number of 25—30. CEUs can be offered if desired.

For more information about scheduling **Advocacy 101** and pricing, please contact:

### Laurie Glaze, Executive Director

One Voice  
4550 POST OAK PLACE DRIVE, SUITE 100  
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77027  
713.333.2232

EMAIL: [lglaze@onevoicetexas.org](mailto:lglaze@onevoicetexas.org)  
[www.onevoicehouston.org](http://www.onevoicehouston.org)

