



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs  
 Veterans Health Administration  
 South Texas Veterans Health Care System



## The Stand Up to Stop Harassment Now! Committee would like your input!

“*Stand Up to Stop Harassment Now!*” A national campaign that recommits the VA to a harassment-free healthcare environment for employees, trainees, Veterans, volunteers and all visitors. Harassment is any verbal or physical interaction that makes VA a less than welcoming place to come for healthcare or for work, and it has no place in our facility, our organization, or our society.

### Recruiting for Focus Groups

The “*Stand Up to Stop Harassment Now!*” Committee is asking for Veterans, employees, trainees and volunteers to have a conversation about harassment within the VA. Focus groups will last one hour. Separate groups will be held for self-identifying men and women, each group will be capped at 10 participants.

### Who is appropriate for focus groups?

- Veterans, employees, trainees and volunteers who have experienced or witnessed harassment within the VA, or individuals with insight on how to improve response to harassment within the VA
- Individuals of all races, ethnicities, gender identities or expressions, national origins, ages, religions, disabilities, and sexual orientations

### Who is not appropriate for focus groups:

- Individuals who are at high risk for suicide

## Volunteers for Focus Groups

To make a referral or to self-refer, send an email to

VHASTXEEOStopHarassment  
 Campaign@va.gov

Once an email is received, the Veteran or staff member will be contacted to confirm participation.

Date, time and Skype link will be provided to Veterans or staff members upon confirmation.

For questions, please contact:

Rikkita Hughes,  
 EEO Manager  
 (210) 617-5300 Ext. 15813

## Stand Up To Stop Harassment Focus Group Sessions

Date	Time	Focus Group	Skype Link
Thursday, May 14, 2020	12:00 pm – 1:00 pm	Female only <b>employee</b> group (federal, contract, trainees, volunteers)	To be provided to participants
Thursday, May 21, 2020	12:00 pm – 1:00 pm	Female only <b>veteran</b> group	To be provided to participants
Thursday, June 11, 2020	12:00 pm – 1:00 pm	Male only <b>employee</b> group (federal, contract, trainees, volunteers)	To be provided to participants
Thursday, June 18, 2020	12:00 pm – 1:00 pm	Male only <b>veteran</b> group	To be provided to participants
Thursday, July 9, 2020	12:00 pm – 1:00 pm	Female only <b>employee</b> group (federal, contract, trainees, volunteers)	To be provided to participants
Thursday, July 16, 2020	12:00 pm – 1:00 pm	Female only <b>veteran</b> group	To be provided to participants

**NOTE: Each session is capped at 10 participants, and each participant will need to RSVP to [VHASTXEEOSStopHarassmentCamapaign@va.gov](mailto:VHASTXEEOSStopHarassmentCamapaign@va.gov) one week prior to their respective session. All participants must complete the consent form which can be found [here](#). Completed forms can be emailed to the above email address or faxed to (210) 949-3304. To ensure confidentiality, the group Skype link will be provided to the group facilitator and participants **only**. Prior to each session, each facilitator will be provided a list of their participants in addition to the Skype link to their respective session.**