

“UNITED VOICES for SEX OFFENSE REFORM”

General Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, May 27, 2025, 7:30 PM EST / Via ZOOM

Attendees: 28

Overview:

- Team updates will be discussed and the 5/13/2025 meeting minutes will be reviewed at our next general meeting on 6/10/2025
- Procedure for the meeting protocol with a guest speaker and for asking questions
- Information about tonight's topic, guest speakers, introduction, and welcome
- Group discussion

Notes:

1. Meeting called to order at 7:35 PM EST
2. Introduction and welcome to our guest speakers, Brian Kelmar and Carol Nesteikis who are co-founders of [DTHREE](#) – Decriminalize Developmental Disabilities. As President, Brian collaborates with families of autistic individuals who are entangled in the criminal justice system. He partners with organizations in the US, Canada, and the UK. As the lead advocate for criminal justice reform, he has championed five legislative bills related to this cause, all of which have been signed into law. Carol is the Vice-President of DTHREE. Her son has an intellectual disability; her family was caught up in the criminal legal system in 2012 and along the way they found many more families across this country suffering the same nightmare. DTHREE is an organization by families for families.
3. Discussion and group questions.
 - Brian gave a [presentation](#) and reviewed the background of DTHREE, explaining the need for change with laws and discrimination against people with developmental disabilities. He discussed the differences between developmental disabilities and mental illness and the failures of the criminal justice system. His advocacy has led to changes in laws in Virginia for prevention, intervention, and diversion. Work is continuing to roll out for reform across the US.
 - Carol spoke about her journey and how she became involved in giving a voice to those with developmental disabilities and their families. She has collaborated with various advocates and organizations to bring awareness to the many issues surrounding the challenges facing families and individuals in navigating the criminal justice system. She shared her story on an [Amplified Voices](#) podcast [HERE](#).
 - Brian can be reached at b.kelmar@dtthree.org or by phone at 804-363-0767. Carol can be contacted at c.nesteikis@dtthree.org.

Meeting adjourned at 8:51 p.m.

The next meeting is on Tuesday, June 10, 2025, 7:30 p.m. EST