



**SOUTH TEXAS
COLLEGE**

FUTURE OUTLOOK

**Results of Discussion Activity on Opportunities for Utilization
of the Regional Center for Public Safety Excellence**

**NOVEMBER 2019
PRESIDENT'S ADVISORY
COUNCIL MEETING**

SUMMARY

At the November 19, 2019 President's Advisory Council meeting, members had the opportunity to give input on the future training offerings, partnerships, and opportunities for their departments to utilize the RCPSE.

Members were given three questions to complete and the results have been compiled by STC Research and Analytical Services.



For more information on the STC
Regional Center for Public Safety Excellence visit:
southtexascollege.edu/rcpse/

QUESTION 1:

WHAT CAN WE DO WITH THIS OPPORTUNITY?

Member responses pointed out two main opportunities:

1. **Increase training** that covers the area's present needs but also prepares for future challenges
2. **Strengthen partnerships** by having better communication and sharing of ideas

TRAINING: Responses highlighted the need for standard training and curriculum that helps establish continuity, increases professionalism across the region, and assures officers are prepared and ready to respond to future challenges.

PARTNERSHIPS: Responses highlighted an opportunity to improve communication across agencies for better working together on solutions and to encourage sharing of resources and ideas to benefit the region.

Figure 1. Thematic Overview of Question #1
What can we do with this opportunity?

Major Theme	Mentions Count	Sub-Themes (if any)	Example Comment
General Training	12	- Regional Consistency - Future Thinking	<i>"Produce a better law enforcement force, that thinks out of the box with changing times and have the same training regionally."</i>
Partnership	7	- Dialogue - Solutions Focus	<i>"There are many minds with a great vast of experience. Do what is being done now and think-work together and get things DONE."</i>
Sharing	5		<i>"Share ideas and identify training needs"</i>
Specific Training	5		<i>"intelligence training (human, different disciplines)"</i>
Expansion	2		<i>"Build a center that can lead to international training & better relationships"</i>
Cost	2		<i>"Continue to comply with state's mandated courses and saving money that can be used for other resources such as equipment needed for officers."</i>
Marketing	1		<i>"Work on sharing RCPSE accomplishments a little better on all platforms and media."</i>

QUESTION 2: HOW CAN WE WORK TOGETHER?

Members responded with two opportunities for agencies throughout the region to work together.

COLLABORATION: The increased sharing of ideas, best practices, and resources will benefit the region as a whole. It is necessary to set up a method of effective communication to better share ideas across agencies.

REGIONAL FOCUS: A second theme emerged regarding the necessary mindset to put aside egos, be open minded and consider the good for all. Focusing on the good of the region instead of individual agencies will drive an advanced training environment for the region.



Figure 2. Thematic Overview of Question #2

How can we work together?

Major Theme	Mentions Count	Example Comment
Sharing	6	<i>"Collaborate sharing ideas that will work for all of the public safety"</i>
Mindset	6	<i>"Put aside egos and territorialism"</i>
Meetings	4	<i>"A continuation of these meetings to look for opportunity"</i>
Communication	3	<i>"Use effective communication"</i>
Faculty	3	<i>"Recruit/invite officers (experienced) to come into the center and train"</i>
Partnership	2	<i>"Continue to cultivate law enforcement partnerships amongst the local, state, and federal levels"</i>
Process	3	<i>"Continue to work through establish POC"</i>
Solutions	3	<i>"Bring forth ideas that can produce a common or similar training environment for our area"</i>
Management	2	<i>"Draw backs are: funding, change of commands (people here today may not be here next time we meet) retire, move on, promote, etc."</i>

QUESTION 3: WHAT ARE YOUR PRIORITY NEEDS?

Members responded with the need for specific course offerings and specific training that would address current and future needs. Responses included several suggested trainings on individual readiness for the current environment and future trends.



CURRENT TRAINING NEEDS:

- Advanced Driving
- Background Investigations
- Criminal Investigations
- Medical Training for First Responders
- Dispatcher Training
- Leadership Training
- Health and Wellness
- Patrol Response

PREPARING FOR FUTURE TRENDS:

- Changes in Communication
- CSI/Forensics
- Digital "Dark Web" Training
- Recruitment

Figure 3. Thematic Overview of Question #3
What are your priority needs?

Major Theme	Mentions Count	Example Comment
Specific Training	14	"Criminal Investigations," "Medical training for first responders"
General Training	6	"Training personnel for today's environment with an advantage for tomorrow."
General Needs	5	"Personnel," "Cooperation"
Facilities	3	"Expansion of facility to provide additional training indoor range, driving track, fire training"
Management	3	"Facilitating work schedules to meet training time. Time management"
Funding	2	"Becoming a National model that leads to funding"
Personnel	2	"We feds need more home-grown personnel"
Needs Met	1	"Our needs are currently met"
Marketing	1	"Successfully sharing the message"

APPENDIX:

CATEGORIZED VERBATIM RESULTS

Question #1 – What can we do with this opportunity?

Cost

- *Continue to comply with state's mandated courses and saving money that can be used for other resources such as equipment needed for officers.*
- *The availability of cost savings for smaller agencies will draw tremendous support.*

Partnership

- *Begin dialogue with each other and develop ideas*
- *Continue to have fluid discussions that lead to actual change and solutions as it pertains to the facility.*
- *Find solutions for problem areas specific to our region*
- *Improve partnership between state, local, federal agencies*

General Training

- *#1 provide local training for law enforcement complete with central training facilities*
- *Cross train*
- *Establish and teach a consistent way of doing things so that majority of LE's are consistent in their approaches.*
- *Increase the level of professionalism of law enforcement*
- *Initiate the working needs of the different departments organized by South Texas College Regional Center using the most skilled trainers.*
- *Prepare officers to address the challenges of today's law enforcement demands.*
- *Produce a better law enforcement force, that thinks out of the box with changing times and have the same training regionally.*
- *Receive quality & proper training –better officers-better service*
- *STC Regional Center for Public Safety Excellence must continue its efforts to provide specialized training.*
- *This is a center for Public Safety Excellence therefore, let's develop public safety personnel that meets today's environment with an advantage for future demands.*
- *Train all law enforcement to meet the needs currently and the future for law enforcement*

- *Train/prepare future leaders for our agencies*

Expansion

- *Build a center that can lead to international training & better relationships*
- *Continue to expand the program*

Marketing

- *Work on sharing RCPSE accomplishments a little better on all platforms and media.*

Network

- *The valley is unique that we have many law enforcement agencies that have a wealth of knowledge in various fields. Coming together collectively will allow the Regional Center to host great trainings that would normally have to be taken further North.*
- *There are many minds with a great vast of experience. Do what is being done now and think-work together and get things DONE.*

Sharing

- *Continue sharing viable ideas with all local state & federal law enforcement-we are all in this crime prevention unit.*
- *Share ideas*
- *Share ideas and identify training needs*
- *Share our resources*
- *Sharing of information*

Specific Training

- *Digital training "dark web"*
- *intelligence training (human, different disciplines)*
- *Specialized training must focus on our current and future needs of law enforcement. The training must focus of each individual position within the organizational (patrol, criminal investigations, CSI, School resource officers, etc.)!*
- *Urban training*
- *We must not forget to train the communication divisions to respond to active shooters, critical incidents, or other high-profile cases. We focus on officers but I strongly believe that dispatcher, call takers need the same amount of training to help the situation.*

Question #2 – How can we work together?

Communication

- *Discuss ways to meet our needs and possibly propose a solution*
- *Use effective communication*

Faculty

- *Additionally, we must input from different specialist in the training topics.*
- *Recruit/invite officers (experienced) to come into the center and train*
- *We can work together by using trainer experts in those areas by teaching at the Regional Center.*

Management

- *Draw backs are: funding, change of commands (people here today may not be here next time we meet) retire, move on, promote, etc.*
- *The center must get commitments from local law enforcement administrators so they in turn can get instructors to meet and coordinate with STC instructors to develop the curriculum.*

Meetings

- *A continuation of these meetings to look for opportunity.*
- *Continue meetings with actionable results*
- *Meet more frequently*
- *Monthly meetings*

Mindset

- *Be open minded*
- *Consider the good for all rather than just my agency*
- *Continue to think outside of the box*
- *Each agency has their personnel which working together can accomplish a lot of things being presented today. Egos have to go, be left out.*
- *Put aside egos and territorialism*
- *We first need to begin and come together*

Partnership

- *Continue to cultivate law enforcement partnerships amongst the local, state, and federal levels.*
- *Offer/accept mutual aid*

Process

- *#1 ID training requirements for each agency and develop curriculum*
- *Continue to work through establish POC.*
- *Invite the higher leadership of our respective agencies to meet the local needs of agencies. For example: Have the higher leaders of the federal agencies come down to meet the RCPSE leadership and the local RCPSE member representatives*

Sharing

- *By sharing practices finding ways to improve them*
- *Collaborate sharing ideas that will work for all of the public safety*
- *Combine our knowledge and resources*
- *Needs are different to each agency but at one point may need to be addressed by others. Networking, sharing what works and what does not will be a big step into developing a regional mindset of training.*
- *Share information real time with each other and talk about trends.*
- *Work together to find training that can be shared with our agencies*

Solutions

- *Bring forth ideas that can produce a common or similar training environment for our area.*
- *Bring solutions*
- *Pool ideas together the best develop public safety personnel for today's environment and with an advantage for tomorrow.*

Question #3 – What are your priority needs?

Facilities

- #1 facilities to use for mandated training. For example: firing ranges, less lethal training, classrooms, virtual training
- Expansion of facility to provide additional training indoor range, driving track, fire training
- Federal owned training facilities

Funding

- Becoming a National model that leads to funding
- Funding

General Needs

- Cooperation
- Equipment
- Equipment
- Our department's priority needs is to train our police officers in today's technology.
- Planning

General Training

- Futuristic training
- Mandated training
- Specialized training
- The priority needs should focus on current & future training needs again and individualized positions.
- Training
- Training personnel for today's environment with an advantage for tomorrow.

Management

- Having time and opportunity to carry out these tasks
- Facilitating work schedules to meet training time. Time management
- Serve the community the best we can, and to work on making a better law enforcement agency region wide.

Marketing

- Successfully sharing the message

Needs Met

- Our needs are currently met

Personnel

- Personnel
- We feds need more home-grown personnel

Specific Training

- Advance training in tactics, Driving
- As a new agency we are starting from the ground up, better training in background investigations would be something I would like to see.
- Communications
- Communications certifications as well
- Criminal Investigations
- CSI
- Leadership training
- Media Relations
- Medical training for first responders
- Patrol Response
- Recruitment!
- Regional Electronic Forensic Training Center and Collection
- School Resource Officers
- To increase the awareness of the importance of an officer's health and wellness.