



Policy & Public Affairs
Office 614-466-4320
Fax 614-644-6135

30 E. Broad St., 17th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215
www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov

Human Trafficking Commission
Meeting Minutes
150 E. Gay St., 18th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215
April 27, 2015
2pm-4pm

In Attendance:

Veronica Scherbauer – AGO
Amy O’Grady – AGO
Michelle Gillcrist – AGO
Allison Romelfanger – Homeland Security Investigations
Yung-Chen Lu – The Ohio Asian American Pacific Islander Advisory Council
Andrea Lewis – Ohio Commission of Hispanic and Latino Affairs
Kayla Atchison – Ohio Right to Life
Brett Bogan – Read Elsevier
Kirsten Minnie – Homeland Security Investigations
Lance Armstrpng – Homeland Security Investigations
Jarrod Allen (Media) – I Heart Media
Kathleen Lowery – Buckeye Association of School Administrators
Shannon Farley – Helpline of Delaware & Morrow Co.
Danny Elbredge (Media) – Hannah News Service
Mindy May – Cedarville University
Melissa Diley (Media) – Gongwer
Andy Chow (Media) – Ohio Public Radio
Ashley Moore – AGO
Kimm Hrdlicka-Tigges – Zonta Columbus
Adreana Tartt – Ohio Mental Health and Addiction Services
Amy Roberts – Ohio Network of Child Advocacy Centers
Chelsea Gensler – Justice League of Ohio
David Steker – Tactical Response Group Inc.
Alicia Stamonouch – Homeland Security Investigations
Matt Hillbert – AGO
Larry McCoy – BCI
Toshia Kimbler – Central Ohio Rescue and Restore Coalition
Jeff Reynolds – Ohio State Highway Patrol
Maria Marballi – Office of Criminal Justice Services
Maggie Toal – Governor’s Office

Erin Cordle – Catholic Diocese of Columbus
Patrick O'Rourke – BCI
Sheila Crane – Abolition Ohio/HER Realtors
Gene Kelly – Clark Co. Sheriff
Bryttani Barker – Athens Area HT Coalition
Yolandè Berger – Ohio Department of Education
Lilly Cavanaugh – Ohio Latino Affairs Commission
Tony Talbott – Abolition Ohio/University of Dayton
Michelle Hannan – The Salvation Army of Central Ohio
Debra Seltzer – Ohio Department of Health
Claire Childers – Ohio House of Representatives
Celia Williamson – University of Toledo
Brant Cook – BCI

- I. Welcome
- II. Introductions
Commission Members
- III. Summary of Subcommittee Co-Chair Meeting
Veronica Scherbauer
- IV. Subcommittee Reports
Subcommittee Co-Chairs
 - a. Research and Analysis Subcommittee
 - i. Covered current research being conducted in Ohio (see handout); reiterated this subcommittee's purpose: to help break down state and city trafficking statistics for grants
 - ii. Discussed future research topics, including patterns related to jail re-entry and foreign born victims
 - iii. Reminded members about the Annual Human Trafficking and Social Justice Conference at the University of Toledo on September 10th and 11th
 - b. Victims Services Subcommittee
 - i. Discussed attorney training regarding visas and human trafficking
 - ii. Columbus Bar Association plans CLE on September 25 on this topic
 - iii. Proposal to come from this subcommittee
 - c. Legal and Legislative Subcommittee
 - i. Discussion of the implementation of HB 262.
 - d. Prevention, Education, & Awareness Subcommittee
 - i. Working on best practices for education youth about human trafficking

- ii. NEST (National Education to Stop Trafficking)
- iii. More specifically, working on developing minimum guidelines and standards for curriculum (not drafting actual curriculum)
- e. Demand Reduction Subcommittee
 - i. Developing resources for individuals interested in incorporating demand reduction concepts and strategies into their existing human trafficking trainings
- f. Law Enforcement Subcommittee
 - i. Continuing to collaborate with local law enforcement agencies to ensure that human trafficking cases are being handled properly and reported to the Attorney General's Office

V. Discussion

- a. Mindy May, Cedarville University Counseling Center, dissertation research
 - i. Research: a qualitative study on needs of adolescent trauma victims of sex trafficking
 - ii. Wants to help create safehouses and build curriculum for treatment and services provided
 - iii. Discussed complexity of trauma, many layers of abuse
 - iv. Study done in 30 minute interviews with adolescents, with open-ended questions like, "What's your story? What's been your counseling experience? What do you want people to know about your experience and how to help you?"
 - v. In Texas, she conducted interviews on site of safehouse with which she had built trust; looking for contacts here in the area now
- b. Sheila Crane, HER Realtors
 - i. Goal is to work with youths and build safehouses for victims
 - ii. Wants to address trauma care and addiction needs
 - iii. Montgomery Development Center (MDC) closing in 2017—need a campus for those transitioning back to the community
- c. Brittany Barker, Athens (Area) Coalition
 - i. Just started drafting mission statements
 - ii. Have gotten local mental health services, children's services, and domestic violence shelter on board
 - iii. Still need to reach out to law enforcement and prosecutors
 - iv. Want to conduct trainings once/quarter for hotel staff, gas station owners, etc.

VI. Next Steps

- a. Who isn't being trained that could be?
 - i. All mandated reporters in code

- ii. Attorneys
- iii. Community:
 - 1. Hotel employees
 - 2. Businesses
 - 3. Nail technicians
 - 4. Hair/cosmetology employees
 - 5. Massage therapists
 - 6. Professional license boards—should require training as a rule
 - 7. UPS drivers
 - 8. Home technicians (cable, home repair people, etc.)
 - 9. Truckers
 - 10. Public transportation workers (bus drivers in Columbus!!)
 - 11. Health department—they go into restaurants and business and see employees
 - 12. Tattoo parlors (branding)
 - 13. Reproductive health centers
 - 14. Suicide prevention/crisis hotline workers
 - 15. Dispatchers
 - 16. Vets/animal care
 - 17. EMT/paramedics
 - 18. Faith-based community
 - 19. Teachers/superintendents (September BASA conference)
 - 20. School officials, nurses
 - 21. Corrections
- b. What should training consist of?
- c. Let people know that giving a tip to Polaris Project doesn't require certainty of the situation; just give a tip
- d. Updating data and coalition map
- e. Next meeting: bring someone from a business who might need training
- f. Next meeting: talk about services

Research and Analysis Committee

Committee Members

Celia Williamson- University of Toledo
Tanisha Knighton – Cuyahoga County Sheriffs Dept.
Tonya Folks – Be Free Dayton
Beverly Gartland – North East Ohio Coalition Against Human Trafficking
Tony Talbott – University of Dayton
Ashley Wickerham
Nora Riggs
Fanell Williams
Emily Kennedy

Current Research in State

Domestic Sex Trafficking of Minors in Ohio: Perspectives from Perpetrators – Mark Welty, Ph.D., Director of Research and Innovation, The Village Network, Smithville, Ohio

- To examine how offenders perceive the nature of their relationship with their victims, as well as how offenders perceive the qualities and characteristics of potential victims that make them attractive targets for sex trafficking. 4 perpetrators involved.
- Study in temporarily on hold.

Montgomery County John School Survey - Tonya Folks, Be Free Dayton

- This data was pulled from pre/post surveys administered by the John School's 10 question yes/no instrument.
- 2011-2013 Study being revised and will be ongoing. Covers Miami Valley Region

Miami Valley Online Commercial Sex Market Analysis – Tony Talbott, University of Dayton

- Content analysis of Backpage.com ads under “Escorts” section for the Dayton-Springfield market area. 846 total ads analyzed.
- 10/16/14-12/7/14 Covers Miami Valley Region

Analysis of Effectiveness of California Transparency in Supply Chains Act of 2010 – Tony Talbott, University of Dayton

- Content analysis of articles from four national and regional newspapers accessed via Lexis-Nexis Academic. Articles dealing with forced labor-related topics are collected and analyzed for time, size, prominence, sophistication of knowledge, and tone.
- December 2015-June 2015. Covers USA, Global.

Human Trafficking Public Awareness in Ohio – Tony Talbott, University of Dayton

- Cross-sequential, multi-year survey of a sample of general public of Ohio on attitudes, knowledge, and awareness of human trafficking and the state awareness campaign. Sample selected via Amazon.com's MTURK crowdsourcing work marketplace.
- Survey 1 completed March 2014, Survey 2 ongoing.
- January 2014-June 2015. Covers Ohio Region

Youngstown/Warren Backpage Research Study - Beverly Gartland, North East Ohio Coalition Against Human Trafficking (NEOCAHT); formerly NEOCORR

- The study replicates previous Backpage studies (Operation Broken Silence (2010). The Memphis Backpage Report; Operation Broken Silence and The Imagine Foundation (2011). The Cleveland Backpage Report; and The Imagine Foundation (2014). The Cincinnati Backpage Report.
- To assess the volume of commercial sex advertising and potential sex trafficking in northeastern Ohio with emphasis on the Youngstown/Warren area.
- May 2015 through August 2015; Covers NE Ohio (Ashtabula, Trumbull, Mahoning and Columbiana Counties), additionally incorporating west through Akron-Canton and east incorporating the Pennsylvania border area of Sharon/Hermitage.

Differences Between Prostitution and Human Trafficking: Law Enforcement and Prosecutors Views – Dr. Jo Ann Scott, History, Politics, and Justice Department, Ohio Northern University

- Exploratory study of law enforcement officers and prosecutors understanding of the differences between human trafficking and prostitution.
- Surveying law enforcement officers and prosecutors in all 88 Ohio counties.
- Study began in January 2015, data to be analyzed in late August 2015

City Reports

- Still a work in progress. Reports estimated to be completed by June, 2015

Proposed Research

- Responding to Trafficking in Jails and Re-Entry Linkages
- Foreign Born Human Trafficking Victims in Ohio
- Forensic Interviewing Protocol Study:
- Effective Elements of Trauma Treatment

Human Trafficking and Social Justice Institute

- Ribbon Cutting Ceremony – Tomorrow – April 28, 2015

12th Annual Human Trafficking and Social Justice Conference

- September 10th and 11th, 2015 University of Toledo. See traffickingconference.com to submit an abstract or register to attend