



Policy & Public Affairs
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Human Trafficking Commission Meeting

30. E. Broad St
Columbus, Ohio 43215
February 8, 2012
2pm-4pm

In Attendance:

Mike DeWine, Ohio Attorney General
Melinda Sykes, AGO
Anil Patel, AGO
Alex Kraemer, Legislative Fellow to Rep. Cheryl Grossman House of Representatives
Cora Slack – Ohio House of Representatives
Charles Willoughby – Legislative Liaison, AGO
Kristin Strobel – Legislative Liaison, AGO
Stephanie Rider – Ohio Right to Life
Liz Tiemeier – NASW-OH
Jessica Styleto – Ohio House of Representatives, HD50
Jeff Barrows – Gracehaven
Marta Mudri – Office of Rep. Fedor
James Harde – F.B.I.
Pete Swartz – Toledo Police
Kathleen Lowery – BASA
Kimm Hedlicka-Tigges – From the Heart
Brent Currence – AGO
SLT Gene Jarvi – Ohio State Patrol
Lilly Cavanaugh – Ohio Latina Affairs
Gene Kelley – Clark County Sheriff
Katie Hanna – Ohio Alliance to End Sexual Violence
Heather Hill – U.S. Attorney's Office
Debra Seltzer – Ohio Department of Health
Trisha Smouse – Salvation Army
Crystal Alexander – ODPS/OCJS
Paul Herbert – Franklin County Municipal Court Judge
Anthony Talbott – Abolition OH/UD
Alex Kreidenweis – Abolition OH
Stephanie McManis – Ohio Senate
Charlyn Bohland – Ohio Public Defender
Mark Ballard – Homeland Security Investigation
Jeff Reynolds – Ohio State Patrol
Judith Bird – Hannah Needs
John Murphy – Ohio Pros. Attorneys Association
Crystal Allen – Public Children's Services Association of Ohio
Krista Allison – Ohio Department of Education
Maggie Toal – Governor's Office
Jai Chabria – Governor's Office
Nancy Nexla
Theresa Flores – Gracehaven

Julie Clark – DOMA

Via Tele/Video Conference:

Brittany Thompson, Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy
Pastor MacDonald
Michelle Gillcrist, AGO
Sister Anne Victory, Collaborative Initiative to End Human Trafficking
Craig Tame, US Attorney's Office
Michelle Oliver

Mike DeWine- thanked Governor Kasich for highlighting human trafficking. From the law enforcement point of view, lack of public awareness hinders us.

- BCI putting more of a focus on this particular problem.
- Because our office does not have original jurisdiction, we must work with the local law enforcement.
- We need to inform the public so we can get tips from the public.

Melinda Sykes- any suggestions for our website?

- Lili suggested that we add a Spanish translated section to our website. She offered to help with translating.
 - o Add a translation for the Asian community. (not sure which a language)
- Debra mentioned that one of the subcommittee reports has some links that we could pull out to put on the website.

Melinda- suggestions for law enforcement training guide? I hope to have a draft by the next Commission meeting.

- Brittany from OPOTA is helping us with the law enforcement guide.
- Use both state and federal laws in these guides.
- We can distribute theses through our field reps at the AG's office.
- We can add a section to the guide to refer victims to services. Also put this online (Michelle will send this to Melinda to put up).
- Add a FAQ section for both the website and the guide.
- We may want to consider making hat cards for law enforcement.

We need to start reaching out to Juvenile Detention Centers and make them aware of human trafficking. Many of the kids at DYS and detention homes who are there for theft or other crimes are involved in trafficking.

- Dept. of Youth Services may have a curriculum to help educate students about human trafficking.
 - o We should do a course for detention intake.
 - o Some of their training is done online.
- Should reach out to Juvenile Court Judge's Association

Sheriff Kelly- 40-50% of the 18,000 officers have had some human trafficking training.

- Goal is to train all LE- would like to see this training mandatory
- Lots have done online training
- 100 investigators have taken the 8 hour Human Trafficking Investigators Course
 - o Goal- 2012- will have all 100 of these investigators on LE working group. Want to have 4 hour advanced training for peace officers only (shooting for May).
 - o Part of issue is getting people to know about human trafficking.

At the Superbowl, investigators did see victims from Ohio, and encountered 1 adult who was coerced.

Brent- update on Dallas High Risk Model Pilot Project- at the last meeting, DYS, Franklin County Detention Center, and Franklin County Children's Services were all represented. They are currently in the process of developing what we consider "high risk."

- Some examples include:
 - o More than 4 times running away
 - o If anyone in the location where the child is recovered has a history of trafficking, promoting prostitution, etc.
 - o What is the location like where the child was found? A McDonald's is less suspicious than a hotel room.
- This was the second meeting. Now that Franklin County Children's Services staff is trained, they are seeing human trafficking victims. The next meeting will be in 6 weeks.

Victims Services and Safe Location- Michelle Hannan's group identified four main goals and developed subcommittee sub groups around each one.

- 1) Support Peer Review Process
 - o The 8 anti-trafficking coalitions have completed the first draft of the scoring rubric to see to what extent a person has been victimized. Megan Crawford from Gracehaven is heading up this group.
- 2) Coalition coverage in southern Ohio.
 - o Please let Michelle know if you have contacts who are interested in this region. Melinda will have Lanny contact Michelle.
- 3) Develop training for Medical Personnel.
 - o Jeff Barrows heading up this effort.
- 4) Institutionalize human trafficking training in major health and human services areas.
 - o Spoke at Dallas High Risk meeting, so starting with child welfare.
- All of the four subgroups will meet in February, and the larger Victim's Services committee will meet in March.

Sheriff Kelly- we need to be able to get information out- for example, there was an arrest in Tipp City and trafficker pled guilty. Need to get this out for public awareness.

Michelle H.- the coalitions have agreed to share the number of victims identified and collect other data

- Currently, the coalitions are piloting the use of a google docs webpage. Should be out this quarter.
- National hotline number has a protocol

Dr. Talbot- UD has a list of 50 human trafficking cases from Ohio. Send to Melinda and she will post on AG website.

Need to get BCI agents training to work at the casinos so that they will be able to spot signs of human trafficking.

Prevention, Education & Outreach

- Crystal- PCSAO has a human trafficking webpage and links to the AG website. Trying to collect data on human trafficking cases in child welfare to share with the rest of the public children's services agencies.
- Maggie- Governor's office is working actively with the human trafficking issue. Office is working on a PSA right now, and will be filming in the next few weeks.

- Jai- human trafficking will be a big issue for the Governor's office and looking at Rep. Fedor's safe harbor.
 - Trying to get a coordinated approach from all agencies
 - Heard that man camps being set up at new shale sites ripe for human trafficking. Would like to talk to people in other states who are experiencing this.
- Alex K. is heading up the social media presence.
- Webinars from the Dept. of Education
 - Krista- current dates – April 2nd (education), April 9th (families), & April 16th (students).
 - Webinars will last for 40mins.
 - US Dept. of Education has human trafficking fact sheet.

Research- Celia Williamson

- 13 is the most common age of children being trafficked in Ohio.
- Only 9% reported not travelling outside of the state to sell sex.
- 3 biggest groups at highest risk
 - Runaways
 - Homeless
 - Child Abuse – not in line with the rest of country. Rest of country replaced this category with “involved with child welfare/services.” Only 22% reported ever being involved with child welfare. This highlights the need to focus on child welfare.
 - Even kids who are involved with child welfare have their cases closed at the time they are at the highest risk (right before being trafficked).
- Child Welfare mandate – human trafficking not explicitly selected.
 - Term child abuse is not a broken down into separate groups.
 - Need to find out who is at high risk.
 - Kids in trafficked situations are marked as victims but arrested because of some other violation (ex. shoplifting).
 - Need Trauma informed care for kids and families.
 - 10% of cases, the child is sold into human trafficking by their families.
 - What percentages of trafficked kids are in custody of county vs. parents?

Demand Reduction- Theresa Flores and Debra Seltzer

- Create programs for men and boys on not participating in human trafficking. Maggie Billings is taking the lead on john schools.
- Concern that casinos could attract human trafficking amongst other problems.
- Pledge code of conduct (EPCAT) for hotels.
 - They are getting hotels to sign this contract stating that all employees are aware of the signs of human trafficking.
 - States that they will not condone trafficking to take place in their hotel.
 - In Indianapolis they were able to identify 6 kids being trafficked and get them back to their families.
 - 1 from Cleveland
 - 1 from Las Vegas
 - Several from Illinois
 - Dayton Marriott was not allowed to have law enforcement teach human trafficking awareness because NCAA said no.
- Tabitha from CORCC creating a blog to collect more human trafficking research
- Labor Trafficking
 - Make organizations more aware.

- Demand reduction should meet with research and analysis and compare notes/strategies.