



# HUMAN TRAFFICKING COMMISSION OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL

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## **MEETING MINUTES**

**June 9, 2025 | 10 A.M. - NOON**

### **I. Welcome and Introductions**

- Virtual attendees introduced themselves in the chat and on mic.
- In-person attendees introduced themselves.

### **II. Ambassador Advisory Council Updates**

- The current Ambassador term is ending June 30<sup>th</sup>.
- We will be honoring graduating at the July 30<sup>th</sup> Human Trafficking Summit.
- Interviews for new Ambassadors have been completed and selections are in progress! Returning Ambassadors will serve as mentors.
- Comments from Ambassadors:
  - Harold D'Souza: Announced graduation from the Ambassador role; shared updates on the Assisi Free Bread House in Tanzania, which was launched by his organization, Eyes Open International: [Pingara - From Chains to Change: Survivor Family Feeds Hope Across Continents Through Acts of Love](#)
  - Nancy Hashman: Shared that she is excited to return and continue training youth on human trafficking.

### **III. Subcommittee Updates**

#### **A. Healthcare – Lily Holderbaum**

- The subcommittee continues to explore avenues for nurses to be required to receive human trafficking training. Discussions have been had with the Ohio Nursing Association (ONA) and a meeting is pending with the Ohio Board of Nursing (OBN) in attempts to gauge potential support and paths forward.
- The group is also working on creating posters for various patient settings.

#### **B. Law Enforcement**

- No representatives were present and no updates were given.
- Aaron Dennis will take over as chair of this subcommittee and plans to attend the next quarterly meeting with updates.

#### **C. Legal & Legislative – Linda Majeska Powers (on behalf of Samantha Salamon)**

- This subcommittee is partnering with the Healthcare subcommittee to focus on mandating human trafficking training for nurses.



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- The group is also considering the possible of landlord engagement as a strategy for combatting illicit massage businesses. They are in the process of gathering templates and discussing potential risks of the displacement of victims.

### **D. Demand Reduction – Tony Talbott**

- Tony reported that scheduling conflicts have limited meetings
- The group continues to work on the white paper draft, which is expected to be completed in 1–2 months

### **E. Public Awareness – Mary Kate Waggoner (on behalf of Lara Wilken)**

- A draft has been completed for the updated ‘Apps to Watch For’ guide
- The group is currently working on updating the online safety resources for parents and caretakers.
- This year, the annual public awareness survey indicated that the Human Trafficking Commission’s trainings reached 9 new counties. The graphic with the full results will be included in the upcoming 2024 Human Trafficking Annual Report.

### **F. Research, Data & Gap Analysis – Amy Lagesse (on behalf of Kirsti Mouncey)**

- The FOCUS Youth screener has expanded to more counties!  
The University of Toledo is exploring the possibility of creating a web platform for aggregate ZIP code data.  
The subcommittee continues to partner with Dr. Rosario Allen for the FOCUS adult screener validation.

### **G. Victim Services – Michelle Hannan & Rebekkah O’Bryan**

- The subcommittee is beginning the renewal process for organizations that met the Standards of Service for Trafficked Persons back in 2022.
- New documentation is required for agencies that have met the standards, including a support letter and training details.
- A full review of the Standards of Service for Trafficked Persons is scheduled, and a new edition is planned for May 2026.

## **IV. Human Trafficking Initiative (HTI) Updates – Linda Powers & Mary Kate Waggoner**

- HTI is working on onboarding new Ambassadors and introducing them to returning Ambassadors as mentors.
- The Human Trafficking Summit (July 30<sup>th</sup>) is approved for up to 5 CEUs (counselor, social worker, and marriage & family therapist), CLEs, healthcare



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CEs, and CPTs. The keynote speaker is Dr. Alexis Kennedy, who will speak on combatting compassion fatigue and burnout in the anti-trafficking field. Early bird registration closes June 16<sup>th</sup>; the final deadline to register is July 11<sup>th</sup>.

### **V. Upcoming Trainings & Announcements**

- The 22nd annual International Human Trafficking & Social Justice Conference is being held virtually and scheduled for September 17–19. Registration is open and free for survivors who want to attend: [International Human Trafficking and Social Justice Conference!](#)
- Beyond Inclusion: A Survivor-Centered Approach to Leadership & Partnership – the Governor's Ohio Human Trafficking Task Force will host a series of webinars. Please register for each webinar in the series separately to receive the links.
  - July 17, 11:30 AM - 1 PM, virtual
  - July 21, 11:30 AM - 1 PM, virtual
  - July 28, 11:30 AM - 1 PM, virtual
- Identifying and Responding to Youth Victims of Human Trafficking in the Juvenile Justice System – the Governor's Ohio Human Trafficking Task Force, in partnership with the Department of Youth Services and Advocating Opportunity, is hosting an eight-hour training. This interactive training is for all (non-CPS) child-serving professionals interacting with high-risk youth in Northeast Ohio and provides 6.5 CEUs.
  - July 18, 8 AM – 4 PM, Ashtabula County Juvenile Court, 4717 Main Ave., Ashtabula, OH 44004