



# Arizona Human Trafficking Council

## 2016 Annual Report

**EndSexTrafficking**.AZ.gov



Arizona Human  
Trafficking Council

Governor Ducey's Office of Youth, Faith and Family

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## INTRODUCTION

On December 22, 2015, Arizona Governor Doug Ducey renewed the Arizona Human Trafficking Council by signing Executive Order 2015-12.

The goal of the Arizona Human Trafficking Council is to implement best practices; develop a comprehensive and coordinated victims' service plan; evaluate and report to the governor statewide data on human trafficking; promote greater collaboration with law enforcement, state agencies and the community-at-large; and raise public awareness about victims services, restitution and prevention.

Current Arizona Human Trafficking Council Members are:

Cindy McCain (Co-Chairperson), The McCain Institute for International Leadership  
Gil Orrantia (Co-Chairperson), Arizona Department of Homeland Security  
Allie Bones, Arizona Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence  
Heather Carter, Arizona House of Representatives  
Cara Christ, Arizona Department of Health Services  
Vinny Chulani, Phoenix Children's Hospital  
Robert Conrad, Phoenix Police Department  
Tanya Corder, Scottsdale Police Department  
Doug Coleman, Arizona House of Representatives  
Jon Eliason, Maricopa County Attorney's Office  
Nathaniel Brown, Navajo Nation Council  
Debbie Johnson, Arizona Department of Tourism  
Carolyn Jones, Streetlight USA  
Joseph Kelroy, Administrative Office of the Courts  
Zora Manjencich, Arizona Attorney General's Office  
Gary McCarthy, Arizona Department of Transportation  
Gregory McKay, Arizona Department of Child Safety  
Frank Milstead, Arizona Department of Public Safety  
Sheila Polk, Yavapai County Attorney  
Dominique Roe-Sepowitz, Arizona State University  
Brian Steele, Phoenix Dream Center  
Jim Waring, Phoenix City Council

## **TRAINING ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

### **Arizona Human Trafficking Council Speakers Bureau**

In 2016, the Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family provided 11 human trafficking trainings for 282 professionals and community members. This includes presentations at the Arizona Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence Annual Conference, the Arizona Summit on Service and Volunteerism and the Keeping Communities Whole Through Collaborative Partnerships Conference.

### **Arizona Department of Public Safety Trafficking Interdiction Program**

On March 1st, Captain Jennifer Pinnow, Arizona Department of Public Safety (DPS), presented on DPS's Interdiction for the Protection of Children (IPC) Program. DPS has conducted four IPC trainings in Arizona since July 2014 and a train-the-trainer class in September 2015. The training teaches officers how to identify factors that indicate a child has been trafficked and specific questions to ask in a potential trafficking situation. The training has been provided to 626 law enforcement, the Department of Child Safety, probation, prosecutors, and child advocacy center staff.

### **School Resource Officer Training**

In June, Arizona Human Trafficking Council member Dr. Dominique Roe-Sepowitz, in partnership with Phoenix Police Department Sergeant Clay Sutherland, provided two 90-minute trainings to 72 Arizona school resource officers at the annual Arizona School Resource Officer Association conference. The training combined the description of federal definitions, details about sex trafficking situations from research and experience and reviews of true school-based sex trafficking case studies.

### **Court Appointed Special Advocate Training**

In August and November, specialized training was provided for 48 Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASAs). These trainings incorporated the federal definition of sex trafficking, the similarities and differences between domestic violence and sex trafficking situations, red flags for sex trafficking situations, recruitment techniques and types of traffickers. The training also included scenarios involving youth in child welfare situations, introduction to trauma-informed work with sex trafficking victims, and exploring the trauma bond with the sex traffickers.

### **Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections Training**

In October, sex trafficking awareness training was offered to Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections (ADJC) secure care and community corrections staff that have direct involvement with youth. Staff that received this training included psychologists, psychology associates and youth program officers as well as relevant community corrections personnel. Five training sessions were held, 34 staff attended the Sex Trafficking 101 training, and 16 of those staff also attended Advanced Sex Trafficking training. Additionally, 12 clinical staff attended a separate training on providing Sex Trafficking Awareness and Recovery (STAR) group therapy sessions.

### **Arizona Department of Economic Security Computer Based Training**

On December 7<sup>th</sup>, the Arizona Department of Economic Security (DES) presented to the Council on a new computer based interactive training module to deliver basic sex and labor trafficking training. The 30 minute module teaches participants how to recognize and report human trafficking and includes a 16 question assessment that must be passed with a score of 80% or above to receive certification. All DES employees will be required to complete the training.

## **OUTREACH AND AWARENESS ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

### **Human Trafficking Awareness Month Proclamations**

Governor Ducey proclaimed January as Human Trafficking Awareness Month. The Arizona State House of Representatives issued HCR 2041 proclaiming January as Human Trafficking Awareness Month.

### **EndSexTrafficking.AZ.gov**

In January, the Arizona Human Trafficking Council launched a revamped website as an important tool to inform and encourage Arizonans to be a voice in the fight against human trafficking. The site is optimized for mobile use, and contains human trafficking facts and figures, resources, training and outreach materials.

### **Public Service Announcement**

In January, Governor Ducey and Mrs. McCain filmed a new human trafficking awareness public service announcement (PSA). The PSA is available on the Arizona Human Trafficking Council's website and was aired 710 times by COX Communications in the Phoenix metro area.

### **Human Trafficking Awareness Brochure**

In January, the Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family, in collaboration with the Arizona Human Trafficking Council, completed a new human trafficking brochure. The brochure includes information about human trafficking and available resources. The brochure is available to the community and organizations for distribution.

### **Women's Health Week at the Capitol**

In May, the Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family (GOYFF) participated in Women's Health Week. During the event staff discussed and provided resources on sex trafficking to hundreds of state employees. The GOYFF also held a hygiene drive to collect items for victims of sex trafficking. During the drive over 25 boxes of hygiene items were collected and provided to Arizona State University to support pop-up, drop-in centers for trafficking victims.

### **Human Trafficking Bumper Sticker**

On June 9<sup>th</sup>, the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT), in collaboration with the Arizona Human Trafficking Council, announced the development and distribution of human trafficking awareness bumper stickers for ADOT vehicles. The bumper sticker prominently features the Council's website and the National Human Trafficking hotline.

### **Human Trafficking Train-the Trainer**

The Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family, in collaboration with the Arizona Human Trafficking Council and Arizona State University conducted three Human Trafficking Train-the-Trainer sessions. The purpose of the trainings was to cultivate a group of professionals that can provide human trafficking presentations within their organizations, local community and around the state. 80 select professionals completed the Train-the-Trainer at regional trainings offered in Prescott, Tucson and Phoenix. Trainees have full access to the Arizona Human Trafficking Council's PowerPoint presentation, detailed talking points and additional materials that can be incorporated into training presentations.

## VICTIM SERVICES ACCOMPLISHMENTS

### **Guidelines for Developing a Regional Response to Youth Sex Trafficking**

The Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family (GOYFF), together with the Arizona Human Trafficking Council, developed and released the *Arizona Guidelines for Developing a Regional Response to Youth Sex Trafficking*. The purpose of the guidelines is to aid in the identification of minor victims of sex trafficking, as well as those at risk, and to provide a coordinated and consistent victim-centered response based on best practices. As Arizona moves to combat minor sex trafficking, numerous professionals and concerned citizens with a deep desire to bring justice and healing to those affected offer their time and talents. It is vital to understand the sequencing and processes required for an effective response. To this end, these guidelines outline a multidisciplinary approach that respects the roles and objectives of the various disciplines.

### **New Legislation to Combat Trafficking**

On March 11<sup>th</sup>, on recommendations from the Arizona Human Trafficking Council, H.B. 2374 was signed into law by the Governor, expanding the offense of child prostitution to include knowingly providing a means for a minor to engage in prostitution. The main purpose of the bill was to allow prosecution of traffickers that have removed themselves from the scene of the crime by providing youth victims with cell phones, hotel rooms, and computers, in order to induce sexual acts for money. The bill designated the violation as a Class 2 felony.

### **New Website to Help Sex Trafficking Victims in Arizona**

On June 9<sup>th</sup>, Dr. Dominique Roe-Sepowitz, Director of the Office of Sex Trafficking Intervention Research at ASU and Training Committee Chair, unveiled the new website "[sextraffickinghelp.com](http://sextraffickinghelp.com)" to offer specific services to help victims in Arizona. The website is a valuable resource for victims and those who care for victims of sex trafficking. The website has links to assistance regarding housing, medical services, legal services, educational services, case management, and victim advocacy. The website also has convenient access on the homepage to contact information for the Phoenix Vice Squad, Arizona Child Abuse hotline, and the National Human Trafficking hotline.

## STATE AND NATIONAL COLLABORATION

### **Arizona Human Trafficking Council Explores Succeeding Through Achievement and Resilience (STAR) Court**

On January 27<sup>th</sup>, the Arizona Human Trafficking Council welcomed the Honorable Catherine Pratt, Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge, to present an overview of the STAR Court in Los Angeles County. The Court is a specialized Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) Juvenile Delinquency Court which provides the following: frequent court appearances; a collaborative team; and dedicated public defenders, district attorneys, probation officers and advocates who are consistent and non-adversarial. Judge Pratt stated that over 350 youth have been served by the court, with over 50% of 18 year olds graduating from high school, 73% not being rearrested either as a juvenile or as an adult, and approximately 30% remaining in voluntarily contact with the court.

Judge Pratt explained that there are still challenges the Court faces, such as, providing long-term support, jobs training and retention, more consistent treatment, and full engagement of child welfare and other youth serving systems. Judge Pratt provided information on working collaboratively with other agencies to ensure program success, such as providing a prevention curriculum training for probation officers and trainings for law enforcement on first responder CSEC Protocols. Judge Pratt described the collaboration with outside advocacy groups to enforce education rights, ensure safety, and support academic achievement for juveniles.

Last year Arizona Human Trafficking co-chairs, Mrs. Cindy McCain and Mr. Gil Orrantia, visited the STAR Court in Compton, California.

### **Arizona Human Trafficking Council Receives TOR Dark Web Briefing**

On March 1<sup>st</sup>, Special Agent Pete Manning and Special Agent Gregory Squire, US Department of Homeland Security Investigations (HSI), presented their work on the dark web. The dark web is similar to the open web, except users are anonymous and are routed through various encrypted networks around the world which eliminate IP addresses and locations. The dark web is also unindexed by search engines, and accessible only with special browsers such as the Onion Router also known as TOR. Because of the anonymity, TOR sites offer hidden services such as child pornography and trafficking. Users can locate the sites through “trailheads” or encrypted emails. The tradecraft used by traffickers on TOR is similar to that used by terrorist networks.

Special Agent Manning and Special Agent Squire discussed what was being done by law enforcement to combat the illegal activity occurring on TOR. They stated that Homeland Security Investigations examines links between users on TOR and the open web and can pick-off lower level or less experienced users in order to find links to higher level “players.” This proactive approach and enhanced collaboration at the local, state, federal and international levels have led to a dramatic increase in the number of children rescued.

### **Phoenix Police Department Making Significant Impact on Combating Human Trafficking**

On June 9<sup>th</sup>, Lt. Robert Conrad of the Phoenix Police Department, who also serves on the Arizona Human Trafficking Council, reported to the Council that so far this year Phoenix Police have identified 21 adult victims and one juvenile victim of human trafficking. Phoenix Police have also arrested two suspected human traffickers. Additionally, Phoenix PD has provided human trafficking training to 63 recruits.

### **Arizona Department of Public Safety Update**

On June 9<sup>th</sup>, Captain Pinnow provided the Arizona Human Trafficking Council with an update on the Arizona Department of Public Safety's (DPS) efforts to combat human trafficking. To date in 2016, DPS had rescued 20 children from human trafficking situations. Of the 20 victims, seven were runaways with ages ranging from 14-17. At first, all of the victims lied about their age and about being victims of human trafficking to protect their traffickers. The victims only opened up to tell the truth to DPS officers after they felt comfortable and were removed from the view of their traffickers.

### **Arizona Attorney General's Office Enhances Efforts to Address Human Trafficking**

On September 7<sup>th</sup>, the Arizona Attorney General's Office presented to the Arizona Human Trafficking Council on their progress to combat human trafficking. The Council is proud to report that the Attorney General's Office has filed seven major human trafficking cases since Attorney General Brnovich took office in January of 2015. Additionally, the Attorney General's Office has made 336 statewide presentations as part of "internet safety" training, and has presented to every child in the Tucson Unified School District about the dangers of human trafficking. The Office has educated over 9,000 parents and 30,000 children statewide.

### **Cities Empowered Against Sexual Exploitation (CEASE) Demand Reduction Update**

On November 1<sup>st</sup>, Ms. Angie Bayless, from CEASE Phoenix Metro updated the Arizona Human Trafficking Council on the CEASE Demand Reduction project. The goal of the CEASE project is to impact 28,800 sex buyers and 2,100 high frequent buyers in the Phoenix-metro area. In less than two years, the project has reached 34,560 sex buyers (120% of goal) and has reduced measurable demand for online commercial sex by 18% through the following strategies:

- 269 arrests;
- 12,909 buyers contacted via online deterrence campaign with Google ad words;
- 359,662 Google impressions;
- 10,624 Not Worth It website visits;
- 1,300 buyers reached through a graphic text campaign;
- 4,461 buyers communicated with law enforcement either by text warning or phone conversation; and
- Millions of billboard impressions through a year-long campaign with Clear Channel.

Ms. Bayless recommended that the Council examine the following:

- Amend Arizona Revised Statutes (ARS) to include language which would allow the arrest of sex buyers who post reviews and promote prostitution
- Encourage an increase in sex buyer arrests by multiple law enforcement agencies and encourage media coverage when arrests are made; and
- Encourage cyber patrols by multiple agencies.

### **Tucson Police Department Combating Human Trafficking**

On December 7<sup>th</sup>, Sergeant Dan Spencer provided the Arizona Human Trafficking Council with a presentation on Tucson Police Department's (TPD) efforts to combat human trafficking. In February, TPD received a \$740,000 grant from the Department of Justice to focus attention on human trafficking cases. TPD is working with federal partners from Homeland Security Investigations, and the FBI, as well as collaborating regionally with California, Nevada, and Texas. TPD is also working with CEASE on a "Buyer Suppression Program," to target demand. Additionally, TPD is in the process of improving their tools, equipment, and software to confront human trafficking cases.



## RESEARCH

### **Youth Experience Survey (YES)**

On January 27<sup>th</sup>, Dr. Roe-Sepowitz presented the Council with information from the second year of the Youth Experiences Survey (YES). The purpose of the survey was to understand the scope and complexity of sex trafficking among homeless youth. The survey included 215 homeless young adult responses with the average of age of 21.2 years old. Of the respondents 51.6% were male, 43.7% were female and 4.7% were transgender/other gender. Dr. Roe-Sepowitz provided statistics for housing, mental health, medical issues, alcohol and drug usage, and negative and positive life experiences. Of the 215 homeless young adult respondents, 35.8% identified as being sex trafficked.

Dr. Roe-Sepowitz provided comparisons between sex trafficked youth and non-sex trafficked youth and found that those sex trafficked youth were significantly more likely to have a drug addiction and drink alcohol excessively, engage in self-harm and high risk activities, have current mental health issues and suicide attempts, as well as have chronic pain and poor vision issues. Comparing the YES results from 2014 and 2015, the percentages of sex trafficking for males and females increased, a decrease was seen in the percentage of other genders, and there was an increase in the percentage of those who were sex trafficked as a minor.

On November 1<sup>st</sup>, Dr. Roe-Sepowitz presented the Council with the findings of the third year of the Youth Experiences Survey. The survey included 199 homeless young adults with the average age of 21.1 years old. Males made up 51.3% of the respondents, 41.7% were female, 4.5% were transgender and 2% responded as other gender. The portion of respondents born and raised in Arizona was 68.3% of the respondents were born and raised in Arizona. Overall, 33.2% of the homeless young adults identified as being a sex trafficking victim. One out of every three (38.6%) female respondents and one out of four (25.5%) self-reported they had been trafficked, with 74.2% respondents reported they had a sex trafficker.

In a three-year analysis, sex trafficking was reported by participants at an average of 31.5%. LGBTQ participants were increasingly likely over the three years to report being a sex trafficking victim and went from being 38.4% of the sex trafficked group to 54.4%. Other increases among the sex trafficked group included suicide attempts, depression diagnoses, anxiety, posttraumatic stress disorder and bipolar disorder. Increases were also found in reports of being kicked out of their homes and having received previous residential treatment. Participants reported an increased use of technology in their exploitation, including the use of a smartphone, Facebook and Backpage.

### **Incidences of Sex Trafficking in Arizona Juvenile Probation System**

On January 27<sup>th</sup>, Council member Dr. Dominique Roe-Sepowitz presented her study t on the Incidences of Sex Trafficking in the Arizona Juvenile Probation system. The purpose of the study was to continue to build new knowledge about sex trafficking in Arizona; provide a targeted training on sex trafficking to juvenile probation officers; survey attendees about sex trafficking victims on current caseloads; and to gather information on probation officer opinions on how to improve policy, programming and interventions targeted at sex trafficking victims.

The results of the assessment included: 179 juvenile probation officers responded; 103 of the respondents identified having at least one sex trafficking victim on their current caseload; and 271 juvenile victims of sex trafficking were identified; and 34 detailed cases were identified. Half of the 34 detailed cases also were

reported to be involved with the Arizona Department of Child Safety. The pathway into sex trafficking for the 34 detailed cases included recruitment by a boyfriend, friends, drug addiction and being a runaway. Dr. Roe-Sepowitz provided recommendations from probation officers based on the trainings previously discussed:

- Create a sex trafficking-specific protocol;
- Develop diagnostic tools;
- Develop sex trafficking-specific caseloads;
- Create specific interventions for the sex trafficked youth;
- Provide continuing training;
- Provide additional therapeutic services; and
- Sex trafficking training for all detention staff, guardian ad litem, county attorneys, and defense attorneys.

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