



ARIZONA HUMAN TRAFFICKING COUNCIL MINUTES

June 9, 2016

9:00 AM

1700 West Washington Street,
Governor's 2nd Floor Conference Room
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

A meeting of the Arizona Human Trafficking Council (Council) was convened on June 9, 2016 at 9:05 AM in the 2nd Floor Conference Room, 1700 West Washington, Phoenix, Arizona 85007. Notice having been duly given. Present and absent were the following members of the Council:

Members Present

Cindy McCain (Co-Chairperson, via phone)	Debbie Johnson
Gil Orrantia (Co-Chairperson)	Joseph Kelroy
Allie Bones	Zora Manjencich
Heather Carter (guest)	Greg McKay
Robert Conrad	Sheila Polk
Jon Eliason	Dominique Roe-Sepowitz
Tim Jeffries	Jim Waring

Members Absent

Nathanial Brown	Carolyn Jones
Cara Christ	Gary McCarthy
Doug Coleman	Frank Milstead
Tanya Cordor	Brian Steele

Staff Present

Debbie Moak
John Raeder
Myriah Mhoon

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Gil Orrantia called the meeting to order at 9:05 AM.

2. INTRODUCTIONS

Mr. Gil Orrantia welcomed those in attendance and asked the Council members to briefly introduce themselves.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (ACTION)

Minutes from the April 26, 2016 meeting were reviewed. Lt. Robert Conrad motioned to approve the April 26, 2016 minutes as drafted. The motion was seconded by Ms. Zora Manjencich. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

4. JUVENILE PROBATION TRAFFICKING SPECIALIST PROGRAM

Mr. Joe Kelroy, Administrative Office of the Courts, updated the Council on the juvenile probation trafficking specialist program. He explained that the program included human trafficking training for all juvenile probation officers and advanced training for one officer in each county to serve as a specialist. Mr. Kelroy described how the program was instrumental to identifying and responding to trafficking victims. Once a victim is identified, the specialist is available to provide assistance and to maintain communication with key stakeholders and providers. He concluded by explaining that the specialist program is invaluable in educating court staff on human trafficking and ensuring the best outcome for youth.

Mr. Kelroy recognized and thanked the juvenile probation trafficking specialists, many of whom were in attendance.

5. SEX TRAFFICKING SPECIFIC SERVICES IN ARIZONA

Dr. Dominique Roe-Sepowitz, Arizona State University, explained that after a practitioner identifies trafficking victims many are unaware of available services. To address this issue, Arizona State University created an online resource of Arizona specific providers that have enhanced training and specialty programs for trafficking victims. The site, www.sextraffickinghelp.com, has tools readily available if someone suspects an individual is a victim of sex trafficking and directs the user to specific person(s)/agencies who has the assets and knowledge to respond. The site lists agencies by available service and by location.

Ms. Sheila Polk asked why all counties were not listed on the site.

Dr. Roe-Sepowitz responded that either no services existed and/or information was not available for all counties.

6. ARIZONA GUIDELINES FOR DEVELOPING A REGIONAL RESPONSE TO YOUTH SEX TRAFFICKING

Mrs. Polk, Yavapai County Attorney, announced the release of the *Arizona Guidelines for Developing a Regional Response to Youth Sex Trafficking (Guidelines)*. Mrs. Polk stated the Victim Services Committee recognized the need for guidelines/ protocols to help guide and promote a regional response to address youth sex trafficking. The Guidelines are structured on seven core principles and encourage local jurisdictions to develop a multi-leveled, coordinated response to trafficking victims. Mrs. Polk thanked the many stakeholders that participated in the development of the Guidelines.

Mr. John Raeder, Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family, thanked Mrs. Polk for her leadership and hard work on the Guidelines. He explained that the Guidelines are a statewide model that will serve as a roadmap of best practices for providing a trauma-informed, coordinated response to victims of human trafficking.

Mr. Raeder described the seven core principles outlined in the Guidelines:

1. Youth who are sex trafficked are victims and survivors, not criminals.
2. Services should be victim-centered and individually tailored.
3. The response, from first contact to long-term services, should be trauma-informed.
4. Responders should demonstrate cultural competence.
5. Local, regional and statewide collaboration and coordination is necessary.
6. A multi-layered, multi systems approach is needed.
7. A data-informed approach should drive system improvements.

Mr. Raeder stated that the Guidelines also recommend that regional responses to youth sex trafficking include two major components with defined responsibilities: regional sex trafficking task force (task force) and a regional sex trafficking multidisciplinary team (MDT). The task force and MDT may be developed from existing or newly formed groups and membership in each component may overlap. Mr. Raeder reviewed some sample roles for MDT and/or Taskforce members and discussed recommended screening questions for identifying victims.

Mr. Orrantia and Mrs. Cindy McCain commended the Victim Services Committee and noted that the Guidelines were a major achievement for the state.

7. SOJOURNER CENTER TRAFFICKING PROGRAM

Dr. Maria Garay-Serratos, Sojourner Center, explained that the Sojourner Center provides a continuum of multicultural services to individuals and families impacted by domestic violence in Arizona, while collaborating with the global community on education, research and advocacy to end domestic violence. She explained that the agency has historically served trafficking victims and recognized the similarities between human trafficking and domestic violence. This recognition led to the creation of the trafficking program which provides an array of comprehensive services so that victims can succeed in life. The program includes the following components:

- Crisis shelter services and support;
- Transitional living opportunities;
- Community-based services;
- Education, awareness and resources to the community; and
- Data collection to demonstrate impact.

The Sojourner Center trafficking program receives referrals from the US Department of Homeland Security, Tempe Police Department, Phoenix Police Department, Community Bridges and Catholic Charities. Through these referrals the program has served 24 trafficking victims in crisis. The Sojourner Center received a Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) grant to expand the human trafficking program and will report back to the Council on outcomes and recommendations for replication.

8. CITY OF PHOENIX POLICE DEPARTMENT UPDATE

Lt. Robert Conrad, Phoenix Police Department, remarked that the City of Phoenix received a Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) grant for a full-time advocate to serve trafficking victims. Lt. Conrad updated the Council on the multi-jurisdictional human trafficking taskforce which continues to work to detect traffickers and rescue victims.

Mr. Orrantia asked about the composition of the task force.

Lt. Robert Conrad explained that the task force is comprised of partners from the FBI and several other Phoenix-metro police departments.

9. ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY UPDATE

Captain Jennifer Pinnow, Arizona Department of Public Safety (DPS), recounted several instances of DPS officers identifying and responding to cases of human trafficking. DPS Officers receive training on recognizing indicators of trafficking through the Interdiction for the Protection of Children (IPC) training classes offered by DPS.

Dr. Roe-Sepowitz recognized Lt. Colonel Tim Chung for his role in beginning the IPC classes. As the previous chair of the Council's Training Committee he facilitated the train-the-trainer courses developed by the Texas Rangers. The Texas Rangers trainings were funded by the Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family and supported by the Council.

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Outreach and Awareness Committee

Mr. Raeder updated the council on the following activities:

- Trafficking bumper stickers are now available and are being placed on Arizona Department of Transportation vehicles.
- During *Women's Health Week* the Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family (GOYFF) discussed trafficking with state employees. The GOYFF also held a hygiene drive for the trafficking pop-up drop-in center and collected over 25 boxes of hygiene items.
- The GOYFF and the Council were interviewed and included in the RadioWorks story, "Numbers elusive when it comes to trafficking".
- The Council and Ms. Carolyn Jones were featured in a recent news story on ABC 13 in Yuma.

Training Committee

Dr. Dominique Roe-Sepowitz updated the Council on the Starfish fund which has provided \$4000 to victims of trafficking.

11. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Brenda Gifford, R.A.T. Race Arizona and Myanmar, expressed praise for the Council and provided an update on upcoming activities.

Ms. Nancy Baldwin, Hickey Family Foundation, mentioned the Shared Hope International Conference on June 28-29 in Mesa, Arizona. She stated that the Hickey Foundation would be providing scholarships for first responders interested in attending.

Ms. Leah Benson, Street Light USA, discussed the use of Streetlight's recent Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) grant.

Mr. John Burgess, President, New Foundation, stated that the mission of the New Foundation is to help children and families attain healing through recovery and growth by identifying strengths and building new foundations.

Ms. Nancy Ash, Mercies New, expressed the desire to prevent trafficking through education and stated her agency was working to raise awareness in schools.

Ms. Allie Bones requested a report on VOCA grants at the next Council meeting.

12. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 10:52 AM.