



Arizona Human
Trafficking Council

**Arizona Human Trafficking Council
Victim Services Committee**

March 27, 2018

8:30 AM

1700 West Washington Street, PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85007

A general meeting of the Arizona Human Trafficking Council's Victim Services Committee was convened on March 27, 2018 at 8:30 AM 1700 West Washington Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85007, notice having been duly given.

Members Present (2)	
Brian Steele, Chairperson	
Allie Bones (Phone)	
Staff/Guests Present (8)	Members Absent (1)
Sarah Beaumont	Cara Christ
Stacey Sutherland	
Sarah Kent	
Melissa Brockie	
Dominique Roe-Sepowitz	
Nikki Green	
John Raeder	
Joanna Jauregui	

Call to Order

- Mr. Brian Steele, Chairperson, called the Victim Services Committee meeting to order at 8:40 a.m. with two members and eight staff and guests present.

Welcome/Introductions

- Mr. Steele, Chairperson, welcomed everyone, and discussed the transition of the chairperson position from Sheila Polk to him. Mr. Steele asked all members to introduce themselves.

Approval of Minutes

- No minutes for approval

Top 5 gap areas needing to be addressed

- **Mr. Steele** discussed the Youth Experience Survey (YES) and the great data it provided. He then asked committee members and guests, to tell how results from YES can mold and shape efforts in the community. He also asked committee members and guests to establish the top five gap areas to address.
- **Ms. Stacey Sutherland, TRUST**, stated that the finding of the YES survey in which trafficked persons traded sex for food was most disturbing. She stated that food accessibility is a basic human need, and that trading sex for food should not be an option.
- **Ms. Melissa Brockie, UMom**, stated that the dating violence component should be addressed, even if the individual is no longer being trafficked. Ms. Brockie asked the committee what can be done from a prevention standpoint prior to exploitation, starting with foster youth, and whether an event could be coordinated to talk about this issue with foster youth.
- **Dr. Dominique Roe-Sepowitz** stated that YES captured the scope of the issue, but that the community has been able to gain traction to act. Dr. Roe-Sepowitz stated that many of the kids are hiding for many reasons, and are unable to walk into places like CASS and ask for help. She states that we recognize that kids are not coming to us, there is a need to get to them and establish trust.
 - **Ms. Brockie** stated that traditionally, there is not a market to serve minors and a lack of documentation is a barrier to receiving services
- **Ms. Sarah Kent, one-n-ten**, stated that prevention should also focus on things that lead to trafficking such as cam work, porn, stripping and modeling. She stated that prevention should address glorification of sex work in general.
 - **Ms. Brockie** stated that receiving attention and feeling valued are motivators for engaging in that type of work, and that it fulfills needs that are not being met in foster care or behavioral health settings.
- **Ms. Sarah Beaumont, Phoenix Children's Hospital**, stated that from a medical standpoint, gaps exist in identification of victims in emergency departments and street outreach. Ms. Beaumont stated a need to provide training and education to all medical providers

Reflection of each agency's capacity or ability to collectively fill some service gaps

- **Ms. Brockie, Ms. Sutherland, Dr. Roe-Sepowitz and Mr. John Raeder** discussed the possibility of a simplified and universal screening tool.
- **Ms. Allie Bones** stated that human trafficking is now a requirement for central screening. She stated that this will provide opportunity to reach out beyond the service provider world and reach organizations that come in contact with youth, but are not considered victim services providers.
- **Dr. Roe-Sepowitz** stated that substance abuse is another common gateway for sex trafficking and a need exists to work with kids on addiction and support harm reduction. Dr. Roe-Sepowitz asked whether there was a way to integrate substance abuse intervention to prevent sex trafficking.
 - **Ms. Brockie** stated that traditional substance abuse models have not been successful
 - **Ms. Beaumont** stated that providers must be more comfortable with medications, providing them on-site, and ensuring training.

Discussion of milestones and target dates for implementation of strategies to address gaps.

- N/A

Next steps plan for meeting again after initial tasks are completed

- **Mr. Steele** asked what the next steps are.
- Committee and guests discussed a focus group meeting or round table with survivors through a non-profit organization, to better understand their viewpoint on what is needed and important for the year.
- **Mr. Steele** stated that after the round table with survivors, the committee meeting date will be determined.

Call to the Public

- N/A

Adjourn

- **Chairperson Brian Steele** called for adjournment at 9:48 a.m.

Dated the March 27, 2017
Arizona Human Trafficking Council Victim Services Committee
Respectfully Submitted By:
[Name]
Program Administrator, GOYFF