



ARIZONA HUMAN TRAFFICKING COUNCIL MINUTES

February 18, 2015
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 February 18, 2015 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)	Joseph Kelroy
Gil Orrantia (Co-Chairperson)	Debbie Johnson
Margery Ault	Sheila Polk
Allie Bones	Dominique Roe-Sepowitz
Chris Bray	Sarah Suggs
Timothy Chung	Brian Steele
Jon Eliason	Doug Coleman (special guest)
Chuck Fitzgerald	

Members Absent

Chad Campbell
Carolyn Jones

Staff Present

Debbie Moak
John Raeder

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Cindy McCain called the meeting to order at 9:05 AM.

2. INTRODUCTIONS

Mrs. McCain requested that the members introduce themselves.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Council approved the November 17, 2014 minutes by unanimous vote.

4. GIRL SCOUTS SEX TRAFFICKING PREVENTION PROGRAM

Ms. Tamara Woodbury, CEO, Cactus Pine Council, explained that nationally, Arizona ranks 46th on the overall well-being of its youth; and girls in Arizona face real and daily challenges

that they must overcome. There are societal (equalization of children), community (peer pressure and societal norms), relationship (family conflict) and individual risk factors (history of child abuse, homelessness) that can lead to exploitation. To prevent girls that are at-risk of being exploited, the Girl Scouts provides an age-specific learning and development model to build leadership. This model is built on three 'keys' to leadership, each linked to leadership outcomes. Ms. Woodbury stated that Girl Scouts acquire lifelong competencies enabling them to successfully navigate our complex, fast-changing world, including: the ability to effectively work with diverse groups; critical thinking skills; and creativity in generating or improving on ideas. Girl Scouts also have increased confidence in their decision-making ability and in their leadership capacity; and are more likely to consider themselves leaders as compared to other girls.

Ms. Woodbury expounded that Girl Scouts also has a role in social justice programs and serving sexual exploited girls in confinement. She explained that 15 years ago the Girl Scouts created, in partnership with the Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections (ADJC) and Catholic Charities, a program which helps support and educate girls about healthy and unhealthy relationships, and diverts them from the harmful lifestyle in which they were engaged. The program is held at ADJC Black Canyon School, the Maricopa County Juvenile Court Center and with juvenile probation.

Ms. Woodbury concluded by stating that Girl Scouts focuses on prevention and defines girls by their assets.

5. ARIZONA ATTORNEY GENERAL PRESENTATION

Attorney General Mark Brnovich thanked the Council for their hard work and commitment. He also applauded the Girl Scouts for their excellent presentation. He stated that the issue of human trafficking requires the entire community and that his main priority is protecting the most vulnerable and those that cannot fight back. He continued by saying that in politics sometimes we disagree, but when it comes to issues like sex trafficking, we should always remember that it is not an issue of right or left; but right and wrong.

Attorney General Brnovich reiterated that combating human trafficking starts with raising awareness of the issue so that the general public is working with law enforcement. He also noted that law enforcement must also change their attitude toward investigating these types of crimes and must hold "johns" and traffickers accountable.

Attorney General Brnovich highlighted the importance of HB2517 and HB2553 but noted that legislation is only one step. He explained that he had instructed the Attorney General's Office's Criminal Division to target human trafficking organizations and highlighted work being done with Western Union to target financial networks. He concluded by saying that the time for talk is over and was excited to be part of all the good work that the Council is doing.

Mrs. McCain thanked Attorney General Brnovich and stated that the Council looks forward to a working relationship with the Attorney General's Office.

6. PHOENIX-METRO DEMAND REDUCTION PROJECT

Ms. Angie Bayless, Project Coordinator, CEASE Phoenix-Metro, updated the Council on the Demand Abolition Cities Empowered Against Sexual Exploitation (CEASE) Project. She explained that Phoenix has joined 10 other cities in the United States to reduce demand for illegal commercial sex in their locality by 20% in two years. Ms. Bayless stated that the

challenge in the Phoenix-Metro area is very large, with approximately 1 in 20 men actively shopping online commercial sex ads. The participating jurisdictions will be implementing innovative approaches and strategies to reduce the number of men seeking to purchase sex.

Ms. Bayless explained that the CEASE Project is funded by Demand Abolition, which was created by Ambassador Swanee Hunt, with a vision of cities working together to reduce demand. Each city has a Coordinator, which works as part of a team of law enforcement, local government and other key stakeholders. The effort to reduce demand is research based, with continual efforts to track traffic on online websites. Demand Abolition and the CEASE Project also conduct regular surveys in order to better understand societal attitudes and behaviors.

Ms. Bayless stated that the Phoenix-Metro CEASE Project will employ advanced technological strategies, innovate law enforcement operations to stop habitual buyers from continued purchasing, and deter potential buyers from entering the market. The Project will also work with non-profits and other community based organizations to evolve the cultural attitudes toward the purchase of sex.

7. ADULT PROBATION SEX TRAFFICKING STUDY

Dr. Dominique Roe-Sepowitz provided a presentation on the incidence of sex trafficking in Maricopa County Adult Probation. She explained that the purpose of the study was to provide training to probation officers to enhance their ability to identify and support victims of sex trafficking. After the training, probation officers were asked to assess their current case load and complete an online survey. 121 adult probation officers responded (65.1% of training participants); 50 of the respondents identified having at least one sex trafficking victim on their current caseload and identified 165 adult victims of sex trafficking. 32 (26.4%) adult probation officers reported that they also had at least one sex trafficker on their current caseload and identified 79 sex traffickers.

The results of the study identified the following risk factors for sex trafficking victims:

- Substance abuse;
- Moving frequently;
- History of sexual abuse;
- Homelessness;
- Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD);
- Tattoos/branding;
- Juvenile probation;
- Involvement in the juvenile justice system;
- Involvement in the Department of Child Safety (DCS) family services;
- Involvement in foster care system;
- Signs of violence; and
- Gang affiliation.

The study also identified the following treatment needs for victims:

- Substance abuse treatment;
- Supportive and stable housing with treatment for sexual abuse;
- Post-traumatic stress disorder; and
- Issues related to domestic violence victimization and sex trafficking victimization.

Dr. Roe-Sepowitz explained that there are currently no services targeted for sex trafficking victims or traffickers on adult probation. The following recommendations were made by probation officers as part of the study:

- Screening tools;
- “Flag” in the system;
- Access to therapeutic services as part of probation;
- Develop an open psycho-education group for sex trafficking victims;
- Create a residential program for transition from jail for high risk women;
- Further training;
- Communication and collaboration with law-enforcement; and
- Trafficking-specific caseloads.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Outreach and Awareness Committee

Ms. Debbie Johnson reported that the Committee’s outreach and awareness efforts included the distribution of over 5,000 *Blue Campaign* posters through the following venues:

- 23 truck stops and 26 rest areas from support of the Arizona Department of Transportation;
- 750 restaurants and taverns from the support of Hensley Distributing Company;
- 50 airport vendors through the support of the McCain Institute;
- 40 hotels through the support of the Arizona Lodging & Tourism Association; and
- ASU campus through the support of All Walks, reaching approximately 20,000 students.

Ms. Johnson also highlighted the following Committee activities:

- The Arizona Department of Transportation has produced a survivor focused public service announcement;
- The *End Sex Trafficking AZ* website continues to be updated on a regular basis. Since the launch of the website, there have been approximately 6,500 unique page views of the website;
- 36 Human Trafficking 101 presentations have been made thus far reaching approximately 1,260 of people.

Ms. Johnson identified the next steps in addressing the Committee’s assignments:

- Continue to distribute public awareness materials to educate the general public on sex trafficking issues.
- Continue with the development of the Speaker’s Bureau and standardized PowerPoint Presentation.
- Utilize social media outlets to market the Council’s website.

Training Committee

Lt. Col. Tim Chung reported that the Training Committee continues to explore mechanisms and opportunities to provide human trafficking training to first responders and other key stakeholders throughout Arizona. Lt. Col. Chung highlighted the following Committee achievements:

- The AZPOST *Human Trafficking Training Video* was released statewide. The video is also available to law enforcement online.
- The Governor’s Office for Children, Youth and Families (GOCYF) is working with Prevent Child Abuse Arizona to include a human trafficking training offering in the list

of available Children's Justice Trainings. These trainings are free and available upon request to law enforcement, prosecutors, and law enforcement statewide.

- The GOCYF has scheduled a human trafficking training on February 27th with the State's Children Justice (CJ) Coordinators. The CJ Coordinators facilitate the multidisciplinary investigation of child abuse and provide mandatory reporter trainings in seven different (7) counties in Arizona.

Lt. Col. Chung also identified the following next steps in addressing the Committee's assignments:

- Work with the Department of Public Safety (DPS) to assist in efforts to develop a high-risk runaway database. The database will allow DPS to identify youth which are at high-risk of being trafficked and work directly with the investigating jurisdiction.
- Schedule a meeting with the Department of Child Safety (DCS) to discuss human trafficking training protocols and procedures for workers, supervisors, group home providers and foster parents.

Victim Services Committee

Ms. Sheila Polk reported that the Victim Service Committee continues to work on a coordinated and comprehensive plan to provide human trafficking victims with appropriate services. She highlighted the following activities:

- Approaches to assist with the completion of the National Hotline Protocols for the State of Arizona.
- The Arizona Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence (Coalition) and the Governor's Office for Children, Youth and Families have secured funding from the Department of Justice to develop/support Sexual Assault Response Teams (SART) in each of Arizona's 15 counties. The Coalition will provide technical assistance to each of the respective SARTs to assist in the development of unique county protocols to address sexual assault, including human trafficking.

Ms. Polk also identified the following next steps in addressing the Committee's assignments:

- Review existing multidisciplinary human trafficking response protocols being utilized nationally in order to craft a "model protocol" which can be modified for Arizona depending on the unique needs of individual jurisdictions.
- Review existing human trafficking screening tools.
- Add new elements to the endsextrafficking.az.gov website specific to victim services which will include resources for providers and links to human trafficking service providers.

9. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Ms. Sharon Hettick, American Association of University Women, updated the Council on HB2553, which allows victims of human trafficking, convicted of prostitution, to apply to the court to vacate the conviction.

Ms. Lynda Hartzler, Streetlight USA, provided a follow-up on the Scarlet Cord Exhibit, which was in Phoenix during the week of the Super Bowl. The purpose of the exhibit was to raise awareness; dispel myths; and engage the public to change attitudes about sex trafficking.

Ms. Karen Gifford, Education Technology Conference, announced that the Annual Education Technology Conference would feature a presentation from Dr. Dominique Roe-Sepowitz on sex trafficking.

Ms. Erin Schulte, All Walks Project, announced that the week leading up to the Super Bowl the All Walks project hosted the first ever ASU human trafficking awareness week, which reached over 20,000 ASU students. She thanked Mrs. McCain and the McCain Institute for their help and support and announced that All Walks would be working to expand to the other campuses in the State.

10. ADJOURN

Mr. Orrantia adjourned the meeting at 11:05 AM.