

The San Diego Regional Human Trafficking – Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children



Advisory Council

Meeting Minutes

April 12, 2023

1:30 p.m. – 3 p.m.



1. Welcome
 - a. Mary-Ellen Barrett welcomed and opened the meeting with an inspirational quote from Lady Bird Johnson: “Where flowers bloom so does hope.”
2. Announcement of members participating by teleconference, proxy, and in-person
 - a. Attending online – Trish Martinez (Illness), Ellora Nyhan (Just Cause – Caregiving)
 - b. Attending in Person – Mary-Ellen Barrett, Susan Munsey, Joanna Tol, Alicia Brav, Zheath Sanchez, Carolyn Matzger, Monica Ulibarri, Carli Richie-Zavaleta, Marjorie Saylor, Melissa Haupt
3. Approval of March minutes
 - a. Approved
4. Public Comment on Non-Agenda items
 - a. None
5. Preview of Human Trafficking Advisory Council Website, Mary-Ellen Barrett
 - a. The contractor has explained delays on the website will be fixed soon. We will look at it next month.
 - b. The County will have access to the contractor for 90 days to help make corrections and additions to the website.
6. Notice of Upcoming Elections
 - a. Guy Nelson explained the elections process from the bylaws.
 - b. Each subcommittee must choose two new chairs to serve on the committee. At the July 2023 meeting, these new members will be seated as the new Advisory Council.
7. Subcommittee updates
 - a. Community
 - i. Carmen from La Maestra presented on their efforts to combat human trafficking at the international level.
 - ii. National Indian Child Welfare Conference was held April 2-5, 2023.
 - b. Survivor Voices
 - i. The subcommittee provided a training to medical responders in March. The

group needs to continue training to this and other sectors.

c. Survivor Services

- i. The subcommittee is working to take a more united front on decriminalization of prostitution.
- ii. The next meeting will be virtual.

d. Child Welfare

- i. Child Welfare Services is now part to the Child and Family Well-Being Department
- ii. April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month
- iii. A virtual town hall about child abuse prevention is being held on April 25.
- iv. Press Conference at County Administration Center with Chairwoman Nora Vargas, Promises2Kids and CWS—Wednesday, April 26, 1 p.m.
- v. County Administration Center lighting in blue—Wednesday, April 26
- vi. At the last meeting, Shannon Jackson presented on behavioral health programs for youth.
- vii. Leanne Urada presented on trafficking of college students.

e. Research and Data

- i. Sharp Mesa Vista has requested human trafficking training.
 1. Thursdays 8 to 10 am are open in June and July
 2. Training can be virtual or in person.
- ii. HT RADAR
 1. Leann Urada is sharing her findings at the June HT RADAR meeting in June.
 2. There are lots of funding opportunities in the latest update, please check out the upcoming newsletter.
 3. The HT RADAR conference is October 20th and 21st (potentially).
 4. Piloting a new updated assessment tool for the kNOw MORE! programming to better assess the identification of potential victims.

f. Law Enforcement

- i. The subcommittee is currently supporting filming human trafficking awareness training video to send to law enforcement agencies. The video will focus on types of calls and what to look for.
- ii. Zheath Sanchez reported a callout on Easter Sunday. SDPD responded to an assault with deadly weapon call that rescued a 16-year-old female being trafficked in Victorville.
- iii. The subcommittee is working with US attorney on a training on human trafficking prevalence among 7th to 12th graders for native populations in San Diego County.

g. Prosecution

- i. The Human Trafficking Task Force officers are part of a judge training on a national scale that includes a video in production.
- ii. There has been recent success reducing activity at Main and Dalbergia by providing more opportunities to survivors.

1. The San Diego City Attorney closed a Main Street hotel that was contributing to the problem.
- iii. There is action pending on multiple massage businesses. Letters are going out to property owners.
- iv. The San Diego City Attorney received permission from the city to rename the Prostitution Impact Panel to the Sex Trafficking Education and Prevention Panel to better align with the goals of education and prevention.
 1. The city is increasing the program fee to \$600 from \$200 to align with other programs in the state.

h. Business

- i. The subcommittee is planning a smaller job placement resource fair that will serve 10 to 12 survivors at a time by appointment.
 1. There is no cost to attend.
 2. Hoping to get MTS to provide transportation.

i. Education

- i. Grossmont school district superintendent has prioritized training for staff.
 1. The County Office of Education was able to train over two hundred staff.
 2. Technical assistance is available if they would like to obtain human trafficking safety protocol.
- ii. Project safe is conducting informative discussions on labor trafficking including what smuggling and coercion looks like in schools.
- iii. Legislation
 1. AB 800 - This bill would require the week of each year that includes April 28 to be known as "Workplace Readiness Week."
 2. AB 640 - Existing law authorizes specific school administrators to issue a work permit to pupils subject to specific requirements, including requiring certain information to be included on a notification of intent to employ a minor, provided to the administrator by an employer. This bill would specifically authorize an employer to employ a minor subject to the above-described provisions to work partially or exclusively online.