



**Trafficking Intervention Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
April 26, 2024 – 9:00 am to 10:12 am
Video Conference**

In Attendance: Liz Alston, Rich Austria, Angie Denning, Mary Dirksen, Esther Garrett, Kristen Harris, Alhena Herrera Martin, Ashley Johnson, Heidi Moon, Sage Neilson, Richard Sheldon, Amanda Swanson, Cassie Trahan, Rosa Van Gordon, Brittany Zitzelberger

Absent: Dr. Bimpe Adewusi, Joyclyn Bell, Nina Belli, Jay Benke, Teresa Cowing, Jim Goodwin, Katilyn Hardy, Chelsea Holcomb, Lina Lechlech, Judge Valerie Love, Florence Mackey, Robin Miller, Tom Perez, Chad Opitz, Eliza Rodriguez, Margaret Scott, Shannon Sivell, JR Ujifusa

Minutes: Letetia Wilson

Welcome - Amanda opened the meeting with group introductions. Sage Neilson is the newest member to the group, from Oregon Health Authority.

Minutes – The Advisory Committee (AC) members present approved minutes from the February meeting. However, as there was not a quorum, the minutes remain outstanding until further group review and approval.

Updates

- *Dept. Of Justice (DOJ) Criminal Justice* - the DOJ Human Trafficking Analyst provided analytical support to Lake Oswego in an illicit massage business investigation. They are working to assist other investigations. There is more need for support for victims in some of these cases.
- *A Village for One* – Cassie Trahan is leaving mid-June, and the organization plans to have Ashley Purdy step in as the Interim Director.
- *Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT)* has been contacted by the nonprofit, World Oregon, which partners with international visitors to Oregon to share innovative ideas and best practices on a variety of topics/themes. A visitor group of trafficking intervention leaders is coming from Thailand. They want to partner with ODOT to network and share ideas related to this work.
ODOT is currently researching with DHS how to place survivors with job opportunities. ODOT hopes to apply for a grant that would assist with specific funding for this in the future.
- *Dept. of Human Services (DHS)- Child Welfare* continues incorporating labor trafficking into their work. *Self Sufficiency* reports a legislative win in temporary assistance for domestic violence survivors. Their allowance will be updated from \$1200 to \$3200 in August.
- *DOJ Crime Victim and Survivor Services* continues training and other work:
 - ~ A training in Pendleton has sparked discussion of a task force there. Planning is under way.
 - ~ The Roadmaps training, which DOJ created as a simulation to walk participants through survivor stories, is being more broadly distributed. The first facilitator training is planned for April 30- May 1.
 - ~ A law enforcement training is planned for this summer.
 - ~ They have embarked on a safe harbor conversation with Multnomah County.



Applications

The group reviewed and discussed the application for Ashley Purdy. As there was not a quorum a binding vote was not possible. This will be tabled for the next meeting.

Definition – Appropriate Services

The draft definition is stated as: *“Appropriate Services for victims of trafficking are services that are, trained to respond to survivors of human trafficking. These services are transparent, culturally responsive, trauma informed (SAMHSA), survivor centered, meets victims where they are and allows for autonomy for choice.”* The AC brainstormed edits and suggestions for revision.

Labor Trafficking Update – Alhena Herrera Martin

The work is focused on developing labor trafficking trainings for the state. There were two subcommittee meetings in the first quarter of 2024. They are working to incorporate subcommittee members into local task forces. They are looking into developing a collaborative model and hope to organize trainings for subcommittee members, to develop protocols to review services and determine victim needs.

Topics for future work

The group discussed work for moving forward. These included: familial trafficking, how probation officers can initiate conversations with parents related to their child being trafficked, document sharing among the AC, statewide awareness of illicit massage businesses, discussion of the hearsay exception for law enforcement, and extra protection for minors when testifying.

The meeting adjourned at 10:12 am.

Next meeting: August 9, 2024