



Human Trafficking Advisory Board Meeting
MINUTES
April 13, 2018
1:30 P.M.
Florentine Room, Jayhawk Tower, Topeka

Members Attending: Karen Countryman-Roswurm, Sharon Sullivan, Travis Rakestraw, Ed Howell, Kirk Thompson, Eric Smith, Jeff Richards, Derrick Wilczek, Jennifer Hansen, Christine Kenney (liaison), Kris Wade, Debbie Kennedy, Marci Francisco, Patricia Long (for DCF Secretary Gina Meier-Hummel), Jennifer Montgomery, Pat Colloton, Dorothy Stucky Halley.

Guests: Angela Bayless, Sgt. Dan Oblinger, Jim Johnson, Russell Wilson, Allison Farres, Alyssa Bauer, Jenna Christopher, Emily Schwertfeger, Amber Cunningham, Jenny Falk, Frank Papish, Cory Nicolet, Mark Masterson, Vicky McArthur.

Opening: Chair Pat Colloton called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm. Due to upcoming threatening weather expected to hit Topeka at 3:30, Pat noted she will keep the meeting short, and try to be done by about 2:30 so attendees can safely get home or safely on the road and out of this area before it strikes.

Committee reports:

Law Enforcement Training: Pat discussed having an option to provide information for the municipal judges training. She discussed that the current law allows a fine of \$1200 to \$2500 at the discretion of the judge, so it is very important they understand the law. They will also be strongly encouraging that municipal court disposition be sent to the KBI Central Depository so that statewide data can be collected.

Data Committee: no report but the importance of collecting statewide data from municipal courts was noted because that is the venue where charges against buyers are traditionally brought.

Victim Services: Dorthy Stucky Halley reported that the Victim Services Committee has met, but due to the time limitations she would like to report further at the next meeting, leaving as much of the meeting as possible to address Demand. She noted that the Victim Services Committee has previously made recommendations to the HTAB that Kansas have a strong response to demand.

Public Awareness and Anti-Demand: Jennifer Montgomery reported that both committees have met during the interim, but since the content of the meeting is related to this, she will provide update in her report on Demand an End initiative.

Report on Demand: Kris Wade reported on the benefits of having an anti-demand focus. Kris reported that it is economically sound. Victims are sometimes tortured by sex buyers, and sometimes killed, contributing to the short life-span of those “in the life”. She reported that purchasing sex can also be dangerous for sex buyers, and brings criminal activity to places where most people are not criminals—hotels, etc. Kris reports that most who are viewed in the criminal justice system as first time offenders are not, but instead have simply not been caught when using this behavior for years. They tend to have had deep denial of what they are affiliated with. Kris noted that if fewer people are buying, then there is less need for supply.

“Demand an End” Report: Jennifer Montgomery provided information about the “Demand an End” public awareness initiative. Kansas is one of eleven states signed on for this effort. This campaign is basically demanding an end to sex buying, with a focus on “unmasking the buyer.” The OAG is planning the development of a public service announcement, but is first enlisting other partners. The Rotary Clubs in Topeka are supporting the initiative. The plans are to launch a public awareness phase this summer, with Attorney General Schmidt initiating it. The OAG will also be introducing an on-line petition re: “Demand an End”. Phase I launch is expected to be in June or July. Phase II will be targeting universities, getting students to take a stand.

Motion: that HTAB provide a recommendation to Attorney General Schmidt to go forward with the Demand an End Campaign. Karen Countryman-Roswurm made the motion; Sharon Sullivan seconded. Motion passed.

Introductions were made.

Presentation by Angelyn Bayless: Angelyn explained the use of a bot for deterrence of sex buyers, and how she used a bot to obtain an estimation of sex buying activities in Wichita and Topeka. Considering the inclusion of law enforcement response, about 10% of adult men in Wichita buy sex; most communities indicate approximately 5%. Topeka indicated between 4 and 5%. Angela believes Wichita has a considerable problem with a culture that enables sex buying. The purpose of a community project/law enforcement using a bot is to disrupt the market-place. Angelyn reports that data shows there is 18% reduction of women putting up their ad in Arizona due to the successful usage of the bot. Angelyn reported that Arizona first got active in this effective approach through becoming a CEASE community. There are 12 CEASE cities in the nation, organized through the Demand Abolition project that Swanee Hunt developed. Angelyn reported she will be running the CEASE network in the future through her organization in Arizona, as the Demand Abolition has shut down Swanee Hunt's projects. She invited Kansas to join the CEASE network. Staff from the CEASE cities get together once or twice per year. She report that she believes "Demand an End" is good because it deters boys and men from being involved in sex-buying through fear.

Angelyn also reviewed the Phoenix city administrative regulation related to sexual exploitation and sexual abuse and encouraged Kansas to do similar regulations in its cities. She urged HTAB to explore if major companies/big employers in Kansas could develop a policy against sex buying. She also reported she believes there are many untapped resources in our faith communities. Angelyn encouraged tapping into the tech sector as well. Angelyn likes the JUST Men Project, and believes this direct man-to-man education can be effective. She reports that Tom Perez from Portland could assist Kansas in using this approach. As HTAB moves forward on addressing demand, Angelyn believes engaging the media is critical. All too often, the media does not provide coverage of the criminal justice response to buyers. To end demand, we need a multi-sector approach.

Sgt. Dan Oblinger, Wichita: Dan reported that law enforcement in Wichita began to focus on demand two years ago. He described the approach and reported they initially arrested more than 30. 29 pled; one went to trial. Another approach described then led to arresting an additional 40. Dan advised that when arresting buyers, law enforcement need to be prepared to arrest their own, as well as powerful community members. Due to this, it is essential that the number of individuals provided knowledge about any demand project be very small, even within the LE agency.

Det. Derrick Wilczek, Johnson County: Det, Wilczek discussed the procedure used in Johnson County to target buyers, with good results. Most are handled through a diversion program, requiring attendance at a john school. A mandatory fee is only upon conviction—courts need to oversee diversion programs. Det. Wilczek has arrested one john twice, which is important, since the second conviction is felony. Det. Wilczek reports he believes it is imperative that the response to HT include a high focus on demand, and this include partnering with more rural jurisdictions. If they are willing, it can help address the demand across the state.

Massage Parlor Discussion: Pat Colloton informed HTAB that Kansas is one of 3 or 4 states that does not have licensure. Wichita now has had massage parlor licensing for the past two years. It was noted that if you don't have LEO's willing to implement the anti-demand laws, the impact of such regulations will be nonexistent.

Allison Farres asked the HTAB how victim service agencies are partnered with in the demand response. Several HTAB members noted their law enforcement agencies make referrals to victim service agencies. Kris Wade reported that the Justice Project is often on-site during a LE operation: her agency comes in within minutes and partners with the local vice squad. She reports that those selling sex will get a signature bond with a court date if there are no active warrants. They are to receive services from the Justice Project. If they continue to stay in victim services and don't get re-arrested, and show up in court, charges against them will get dropped.

WSU: Karen Countryman Roswurm expressed excitement about the opportunity for Kansas to get involved in the CEASE network, if it is structured in a way that it brings survivors who are also professionals into leadership. She reported that this

needs to be intentional. Karen discussed the need for victim services. Allison and Karen were just in the detention center this morning. Victims are getting locked up in Kansas, while in other states, some victims having felony convictions are getting pardoned by a few brave governors. The American Bar Association and others are starting some initiatives to inform attorneys how to more effectively defend victims. Kate Mogulescu will be providing training in Wichita on Wed., June 13th; June 14th for lawyers, advocates and social service providers.

Wichita Children's Home: Debbie Kennedy reported a house has been gifted that will be used for individuals after they've gone through the staff secure unit. The board of directors has committed to a 2 year negative budget for this project. She expects this longer care facility to be up and going in the next couple of months.

Topeka Task Force: Sharon Sullivan reports there is a Topeka Symposium scheduled for June 8. 70 individuals are currently registered.

Sen. Marci Francisco believes we need to work on licensing massage parlors and include in our July or September agenda, so this group will be ready to make a solid recommendation to the Kansas legislature. She noted that both the House and Senate Resolution passed this year.

Meeting adjourned 2:45 p.m.