Human Trafficking Advisory Board Meeting

MINUTES

October 15, 2018


Guests: Angie from Minneapolis, Cassie Roth, Amber Cunningham, Sara Shipman, Sarah Haldeman Smith, Alyssa Bauer, Jenna Driskell, Yesenia Ceja-Ramirez, Lynnea Kaufman, , Frank Papish

Approval of Minutes: Lt. Mattern moved; Jeff Richards 2nd. HTAB Minutes of July 9, 2018 were approved.

LE Report: AG office is coordinating the development of another HT webinar to be hosted on the KLETC website for LE training. Vice detective training will be occurring again in November and participation has expanded across the Midwest. This is the only known training specific to vice work in the country, although there is interest in replicating it in other regions. Wichita PD is hosting it. Some prosecutors went last year and more are expected this year. This training should be very helpful in HT cases.

Data: Pat provided a handout that compiled 2017 data for Kansas from various sources. The Data Committee is expecting 2018 data in January. 53 is # of identified juvenile HT victims taken into custody by Wichita PD; the data does not show the number that went to the WCH staff-secure facility. The question was raised of whether there is a way of tracking the number of victims from outside of Wichita area who are brought to the staff-secure facility.

Victim Services: This committee met in the morning of Oct. 15, and will be working on developing a document regarding the strengths and challenges for victims in working with different disciplines. It is hopeful that this document can benefit new community coalitions. Deb Klutz, from the Homestead, shared information about her program. Additionally, this committee wants to revisit the tools used in the rapid response to HT, so the Victim Services Committee is forming a subcommittee with that focus.

Public awareness: The committee did not meet since our last quarterly meeting.

Anti-demand committee: did meet and did some long range planning. The anti-demand campaign kicked off with over 65 partners. Right now the focus is on getting signatures on End-the-Demand petition. You can go online and sign. All we ask for is your name and county. When you sign, you can post and put this online. There will be high profile signings and media events. OAG will send out a template that you can use.

Thank you to LE for making arrests of buyers, as this can make such a difference in preventing additional victimization.

Pat discussed the change in where the funds from buyer fines go. She noted that the fine did not grow, but now that we are splitting it, this has helped. Pat followed up with the League of Municipalities who will write an article in their monthly publication highlighting the need for local efforts to arrest and prosecute buyers. Splitting the fine money with localities is making local funds available for LE to set up stings and for municipal prosecutors to seek convictions. This can deter the “opportunity” buyers who will not risk getting caught.
Pat shared that Debbie Kennedy had a death in the family and is unable to be here. Garver Home is the extended stay facility for staff secure placements. Pat noted that HTAB has always wanted and envisioned a longer-term facility. The Wichita Children’s Home was able to get a house donated; Wichita Builders Association refurbished it and donated all their work and materials. Two youth have now transitioned from their SSF Unit to the extended stay Garver Home. Pat provided a summary of the terms for using the extended stay in Garver Home. This stay lasts up to one year. It has 8 beds. WCH has arranged with the Wichita school district to have classes via internet and to have an instructor who comes to Garver Home to work with these juveniles. This is one of the few facilities in the United States that has this capacity.

Protocol: Review of proposed changes in protocol as explained through a flowchart. Randy Bowman reported that Juvenile Intake will begin training based upon the flowchart in 2019.

Ed Klumpp explained some of the flowchart input. One of the things they were hearing from LE was that they were spending an extensive amount of time waiting for the Rapid Response Team assessment. He explained that “reason to believe” can be a thin line— in some cases LE really needs confirmation to occur that this is an HT victim but LE and DCF (including their contractors) need to know what each other’s role is. Ed Klumpp believes the flowchart is a pretty good format now. The flowchart starts at the LE level and addresses how and when LE make a request for assistance— whether through DCF or through a child welfare contractor.

Randy Bowman—LE brings 40,000 kids to JIA and so this body needs to examine the screening tool used. The JIA will pilot the screening tool using the directions on the flowchart.

Dr. Hansen—Nowhere in the flowchart is medical evaluation mentioned: anyone coming in needs a thorough medical exam: not as the case dictates. There was discussion that “shall” can be challenging in the protocol. Without rural pilot sites, we might miss out on some of the more difficult challenges in rural areas. We certainly need to discuss greater inclusion of the medical as we move forward.

Jim Johnson discussed the process that was used in developing the intake flow chart.

Lynnea Kaufman: Reported that DCF is looking at the training being done for DCF staff and contractors. Kent is working with Erica Hunter, supervisor of the Reporting Center. One of the biggest areas DCF wants to concentrate on is building relationships and finding out the resources they have and opening the doors; making certain we are reaching those. Pat noted she was involved in helping when those involved tried to refer through the hotline—it did not work well, so they went through direct contact with Kent, and things went smoothly. LE is being offered Kent’s cell phone number in HT trainings.

Massage Parlors: Jennifer reported she was asked to speak to the Board of Cosmetology. They, and Board of Healing Arts, are interested in introducing legislation. Jennifer’s intern, AJ, provided his report. It was noted that in addition to legislation specific to massage parlors, addressing building codes is promising in addressing the problems. Jennifer discussed the need to think about “what is our vision”? How can we really focus on Demand in our massage therapy approach?

Jennifer has asked what others need re: demand campaign—she is happy to send posters, etc., when requested.

Adjourned at 2:47 PM