



# HUMAN TRAFFICKING COMMISSION

## OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL

### MEETING MINUTES

December 14, 2021 | 10-11:30 AM

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1. Welcome and Introduction by HTI – Jennifer Rausch and Emily Billman
2. Summit Fund Donation discussion – Group
  - a. Jennifer Rausch welcomed the group and announced five preliminary organizations identified by the HTI team for the Commission members to decide between for the 2021 Summit fund donation. These organizations are: My Project USA (Columbus), Survivor Advocacy Outreach project, also known as SAOP (Appalachian Region), Harriet Tubman Movement (Geauga), Genesis House (Lorain) and Josephine’s Clinic (Cincinnati).
  - b. Each of these organizations are being vetted by the Attorney General’s Charitable Law section. Once that process is complete, the HTI team will send a survey monkey poll for members to vote on which organization they would like the funds to be sent. The poll will close on 12/30.
3. Advisory Council Ambassador Updates – Ambassadors
  - a. Ambassadors Stephanie Rollins, Annette Mango and Mandie Knight shared updates.
4. Presentation of Ohio HT Healthcare Protocol – Lara Wilken and Heather Wilde
  - a. Emily Billman introduced Lara Wilken, clinical professor for the RN & BSN program at BGSU, and Heather Wilde, Forensic Nurse Coordinator at Mt. Carmel Hospital to the Commission members.
  - b. Lara and Heather presented a Human Trafficking Healthcare protocol policy they developed in conjunction with the Healthcare Subcommittee and Ambassadors. This protocol was created for hospitals looking to give service and support to human trafficking victims. The intention of the policy is to also help standardize protocols for hospitals throughout Ohio.
  - c. Tony Talbott asked if the healthcare policy could have an official letter from the Attorney General to provide a stamp of approval. This could bring more attention and also encourage hospitals to implement the policy. Jen Rausch stated the HTI team will look into this.

- d. Commission members should review the policy and provide any feedback to the HTI team by 12/30.
5. Subcommittee Updates – Group
- a. Demand Reduction Subcommittee – Tony Talbott
    - i. Tony Talbott stated their group is working towards streamlining their meetings and focusing on specific areas such as labor trafficking campaigns, training material for demand reduction and research.
  - b. Health Care Subcommittee – Ruth Downing
    - i. The Human Trafficking protocol is finalized and hoping to be published in January.
    - ii. The Healthcare simulation videos are on hold with the OAG videographer until after January 1 and will hopefully start back up in the new year.
    - iii. The Ohio hospital healthcare data collection is on hold until 2022. The pilot hospitals will go first. Ruth also echoed that an official letter for the healthcare policy would be great to get the hospital systems on board.
  - c. Law Enforcement Subcommittee – Open
    - i. The former chair had difficulty finding a new chair for the subcommittee and the HTI team would like to fill this ASAP so the subcommittee can continue.
    - ii. The group had previously been closed to only law enforcement personnel, but the next chair can determine with the group how they would like to move forward.
    - iii. Please reach out to HTI if you are interested. Typically, the position is held by someone within law enforcement.
  - d. Legal & Legislative Subcommittee – Samantha Salamon
    - i. Sam Salamon stated their subcommittee is creating more of a formal structure and the legal and legislative subgroups will no longer meet separately. They are now meeting monthly.
    - ii. They have noticed some legislators are introducing legislation before the subcommittee is able to review it. They would like to review bills before they are introduced.
    - iii. The group is also looking at different ways they can help raise Ohio's Shared Hope International score from an F to a higher grade for next year.

Ohio was ranked 36 out of 50 for this year's rating. The Shared Hope pillars had changed to be victim-centered focused and are strictly based on statutes.

- e. Public Awareness Subcommittee – Brianna Combs
  - i. Bri Combs stated no one has taken the public awareness chair position yet, but they have had an increase in new members joining the subcommittee.
  - ii. They finalized their subcommittee charter which includes who they are, their mission and the types of work they will focus on. Emily will send out the subcommittee charter to the commission members.
  - iii. Lastly, Bri stated their group would like to partner with other subcommittees if they have items for collaboration.
- f. Research/Data & Gap Analysis Subcommittee – Christi Bartman
  - i. Christi Bartman announced their new subcommittee chairs, Kirsti Mouncey and Jennifer Taber.
  - ii. Their subcommittee has accomplished much over the last two years including their “Formal Report on Data Collection Practices and Findings on Human Trafficking in Ohio.”
  - iii. The vulnerability map that the OSU students created will now be developed further in collaboration with Eyes Up Appalachia, Ohio Population Health Alliance, University of Toledo and Ohio University college of Engineering and Technology over the next few years.
- g. Victim Service Subcommittee – Michelle Hannan, Kelli Cary
  - i. Michelle Hannan stated the service standard self-assessment is in the final stages. There has been a coding problem with the scoring and they have contacted Ohio State to fix it. Michelle and Kelli asked if another group would volunteer to take the assessment before they send it out. Erin Meyer said End Slavery Cincinnati would take it.
  - ii. Once this is completed, they are hoping to have it sent out at the beginning of January and have it close by the end of the month. After the assessment closes, the evaluations will start and they will start building the results into a service matrix for the AG's website.
  - iii. Michelle and Kelli recorded a demo of the assessment for the Human Trafficking Summit. Jen Rausch stated they are going to edit the video so they can use it for training materials and share it with others as a tutorial.

Kelli said their next meeting as a subcommittee is December 28<sup>th</sup> and they can share a demo of the assessment during the meeting if people would like.

- iv. Samantha Salamon gave the labor trafficking victim service group update. They are looking into broader awareness since there is a lack of knowledge and understanding about the issue. Their group and Demand Reduction received a social media campaign focused on labor trafficking that they are going to review. They are going to figure out how to work together in practical ways.
- v. Summit County Collaborative is doing a labor trafficking awareness during January.
- vi. Megan Mattimoe with Advocating Opportunity announced they are hosting a labor trafficking cohort training approved with their OVC grant funding. It will be a free training on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of December and the 13<sup>th</sup> of January.

#### 6. General HTI updates – Jennifer Rausch and Emily Billman

##### a. Pending Legislation

- i. Crime Victims Bill – passed and goes into effect at end of February. This made significant changes to Victims of Crime Compensation and could benefit our HT victims.
- ii. We are also watching three other bills – addition of Trafficking in Persons to mandatory kit tracking, amendment of “compel” to include manipulation of drug addiction, and Receiving Proceeds.

##### b. Summit 2022

- i. The Summit will be hosted on the Whova platform again this year. It will feature 16 different workshops and keynote speaker, Cyntoia Brown-Long. Please send the registration to your networks.

#### 7. Upcoming Trainings and Developments – Group

- a. Ambassador Vanessa Perkins announced she started a new job with Freedom a la Cart as their new development program manager.
- b. Ambassador Annette Mango asked the Commission members to let the Ambassadors and other survivors know of any open employment positions willing to hire within the anti-trafficking field.

- c. Christi Bartman from Eyes Up Appalachia announced an in-person human trafficking training that will take place at Shawnee State with Halea Hatten. The HTI team will also be speaking at the event.
- d. Michelle Hannan with the Columbus Salvation Army provided an update on staff changes at the Salvation Army. Terri Foltz is the new program coordinator and her position has been filled. There is now a part-time position open they are looking to fill with someone who will work on case management, focus-groups with survivors and coalitions. There are also 2 contract positions open for those with lived experience. Please share these positions with your network. The HTI team will send the job postings as well.
- e. Bri Combs with the Salvation Army Cincinnati/ End Slavery Cincinnati announced their awareness day.
- f. Harold D'Souza with Eyes Open International is currently in India meeting with the U.S. Embassy and other groups to stop labor trafficking.
- g. Megan Mattimoe with Advocating Opportunity stated they will also be hosting an advanced trauma training.

Attendance: Jennifer Rausch, Emily Billman, Gwen England, Matt Hilbert, Annette Mango, Stephanie Rollins, Mandie Knight, Vanessa Perkins, Christi Bartman, Maria Busch, Veronica Scherbauer, Katie Blankemeyer, John Morgan, Troy Dexter, Victoria Dingee, Maggie Kane, Pete Swartz, Megan Mattimoe, Crystal Rankins, Kirsti Mouncey, Jennifer Tscholl, Kathryn Taylor, Patricia Stipek, Courtney Schmackers, Levi Gross, Tony Talbott, Kelli Carey, Greg Colbeck, JP Rigaud, Harold D'Souza, Debra Seltzer, Erin Meyer, Bri Combs, Pete Swartz, Rebekkah O'Bryan, Ruth Downing, Heather Wilde, Lara Wilken, Jodi Slagle, Jennifer Riley-Himes, Samantha Salamon, Chelsea Golterman, Representative Catherine Ingram