

Human Trafficking Interagency Coordinating Council
Victim Services Sub-Committee
August 1, 2018 1:00PM

Minutes

Melissa Pennachi welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the VS subcommittee of the HTICC

Introductions were made:

Council members present: Melissa Pennachi (chair), Elizabeth McCourt (designee for Amanda Alcaraz), Susan Alfree, Carl Colantuono, Deb Reed, Aimee String

Public present: Leslie Brower, Rosemary West, Elisa Lehman, Alyce Doody, Dale Wyatt, Erin Connelly

Discussed our goals for the subcommittee. Overall, to determine what needs there are for victims of trafficking and what is lacking in the area. Discussed needs immediate, versus long term. Carl mentioned that the Salvation Army is very interested in working to build residential program for victims. Melissa did speak with Johanna bishop about the survey she prepared for delCAT and that we are able to view that as well. Elizabeth McCourt discussed the YWCA having working with CLASI and that they provide legal service time for DV, SA, and HT victims. CLASI can assist with a variety of services including expungement, outstanding legal issues, and name changes.

Elizabeth noted working on a service flow, what that might be if we have an identified victim and what services are available for instance, system vs. non-system. She suggested putting forth a service map to work on as a way to identify resources. Deb also said that Stephanie (Hamilton) was working on a draft web of services.

Deb noted with ID-ing victims, is difficult to determine if victim of HT, as often a victim won't ID themselves as such.

Elisa suggested bringing Catholic Charities to the table and can provide us with the contact person there. Also discussed other missing agencies such as Pressley Ridge and DFS. Polaris was discussed as they can offer tools to assist with training and identifying human trafficking. Elizabeth suggested Futures Without Violence as well.

Also noted that training and awareness is always needed, especially for those already doing direct service.

Next steps: meeting doodle for next meeting, follow up with S.H. re: service web and J.B. re: survey.

Meeting adjourned