



## **TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS COUNCIL**

MINUTES  
April 16, 2015

Council Members Present: Jillian Gilchrest; Colette Anderson; Hakima Bey-Coon; Laura Cordes; Sylvia Gafford-Alexander; Karen Jarmoc; Tracey Kelly; Leonela Cruz for Alicia Kinsman; Tammy Sneed for William Rivera; Marla Shiller; Faith Voswinkel; Mauread O'Reilly for Kara Hart; Frances Fallon for Barbara Geller; DeVaughn Ward for Elizabeth Keyes

The following members gave notice that they could not attend: Linda Cimino; Kara Hart; Deborah Sullivan; Beau Thurnauer

Call to Order: Chairperson Jillian Gilchrest called the meeting to order at 10:07AM.

### **I. Approval of Minutes**

A correction to attendance was made. On motion made by Faith Voswinkel, seconded by Karen Jarmoc, the minutes from April 15, 2014 were approved unanimously.

### **II. Review of Council's Mandate**

Karen Jarmoc asked to revisit a previous Council discussion on conducting a 'needs assessment'. Faith Voswinkel mentioned large momentum in the state to address child victims. Sylvia Gafford-Alexander questioned how we obtain information about victims who aren't identified yet. Members expressed a need for data to be tabulated and pulled together from multiple entities. Gilchrest suggested that for the time being, a reoccurring agenda item should be 'needs assessment' and 'centralized data'.

### **III. Legislative Updates**

SB 446, AAC The Definition of the Term 'Domestic Worker'  
*Status: Introduced in the Labor Committee and JF'd to the Senate*

HB 6849, AA Strengthening Protections for Victims of Human Trafficking  
*Status: Introduced in the Judiciary Committee and JF'd to the House*

Discussion: Council members raised questions about how the erasure of police and court records process would work. Gilchrest will work to provide an answer to the Council.

### **IV. Presentations & Discussions**

Tammy Sneed, Director of Gender Responsive Adolescent Services and co-chair of the Human Anti-Trafficking Response Team (HART) at the CT Department of Children & Families presented on statewide efforts of the child welfare system to strengthen identification, prevention, and early intervention in child trafficking cases. Distributed materials are available online at <http://ctpcsw.com/trafficking-in-persons/>.

Leonela Cruz, Program Manager of Project Rescue Anti-Trafficking Program at the International Institute of Connecticut presented on the work of the Connecticut Coalition Against Trafficking.

Discussion: Council members asked about data collection and if the International Institute is tracking data from their partner organizations. Jarmoc mentioned that CCADV receives a small grant to shelter some victims and could

provide that data to a centralized collection effort. Hakima Bey-Coon asked how the International Institute collaborates with DCF.

VosWinkel suggested that another standing agenda item going forward should be a report out from Council members on what their respective organizations or agencies are doing regarding trafficking. Sneed mentioned that it would be good to have the Department of Education at the table and the Department of Disability Services.

**V. Other Business and Announcements**

Future Meeting dates for 2015 were announced and will be held on June 18<sup>th</sup>, September 17<sup>th</sup> and November 19<sup>th</sup> from 10AM-12PM in the Legislative Office Building.

Advanced Human Trafficking Investigation Training will be held on August 3-5 from 8AM-5PM, hosted by New Haven Police Department, the University of New Haven Department of Forensic Science, and the CT Department of Children and Families. For more information call 651-287-7441.

Adjournment: Chairman Gilchrest adjourned the meeting at 11:27AM.