



TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS COUNCIL

MINUTES
June 18, 2015

Council Members Present: Jillian Gilchrest; Colette Anderson; Hakima Bey-Coon; Deb Heinrich; Sylvia Gafford-Alexander; Karen Jarmoc; Tracey Kelly; Leonela Cruz Krystal Ambrozaitis for Alicia Kinsman; Yvette Young for William Rivera; Faith VosWinkel; Dina Naiem for Kara Hart; DeVaughn Ward for Elizabeth Keyes; Linda Cimino; Beau Thurnauer; Deborah Del Prete Sullivan

The following members gave notice that they could not attend: Kara Hart; Marla Shiller; Frances Fallon

Call to Order: Chairperson Jillian Gilchrest called the meeting to order at 10:06 AM.

1. Approval of Meeting Minutes

On motion made by DeVaughn Ward and seconded by Hakima Bey-Coon, the minutes from April 15, 2015 were approved unanimously.

2. Legislative Updates

HB 6849, AA Strengthening Protections for Victims of Human Trafficking

Status: Signed into law by Governor, Public Act 15-195

Discussion: The key components of the bill were discussed. Jillian offered clarity on questions associated with the erasure provision that were raised at April's TIP meeting. Council members asked for additional clarification on eligibility.

SB 446, AAC Domestic Service and the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities

Status: Signed into law by Governor, Public Act 15-249

3. Presentations & Discussion

Beau Thurnauer, Deputy Chief of the East Hartford Police Department presented on some recent cases to paint a picture of what sex trafficking looks like locally and some of the barriers to investigating these crimes. Council members engaged Beau in conversation about his knowledge of similar cases statewide and how, if at all, victim's needs are addressed. The Council expressed interest in having Beau present again regarding his investigative work on 'massage parlors'.

Natalicia Tracy PhD(C), Executive Director of the Brazilian Worker Center & Brazilian Policy Center Inc. presented information on domestic workers to paint a picture of what labor trafficking looks like locally and on her work with the Domestic Workers Task Force.

4. Needs Assessment

Jillian gave a brief presentation about The Laboratory to Combat Human Trafficking and their work in Colorado to address human trafficking. The Laboratory has offered to provide Connecticut with technical assistance in replicating a statewide needs assessment and subsequent action plan to address both sex and labor trafficking. Jillian discussed the TIP Council taking next steps to replicate the work which includes identifying a lead researcher from a university or college in Connecticut and formulating a working group. Members of the Council suggested reaching out to the University of Connecticut School of Social Work, Trinity College, and Quinnipiac Law School. Jillian made a motion to move forward with project replication and phase I. The motion was moved by Faith VosWinkel and seconded by Karen Jarmoc.

5. Council Updates

Jillian read an update from the Department of Children and Families regarding their training work and the Human Anti-trafficking Response Team (HART). Jillian also mentioned that she will be reaching out to Council members this summer to update the TIP Council files with accurate membership information. Finally, as per PA 15-195, the Council will have two new members appointed by the Governor. Jillian asked that those interested in the appointments contact her.

6. Other Business & Announcements

Jillian asked Council members for their feedback on soliciting member updates. Council members agreed that an email reminder sent with the meeting agenda as well as a standing agenda item would work best. Finally, Jillian announced care.com's "Fair Care Pledge" effort to raise awareness about domestic work and fair practices.

7. Adjournment

Adjournment: Chairman Gilchrest adjourned the meeting at 11:52AM.