

**Anti-Human Trafficking Task Force
Workgroup Report Summary
March 10, 2016**

Overview

After the initial meeting of the statewide Anti-Human Trafficking Task Force, workgroup chairs and staff organized an initial workgroup meeting. Common discussion themes across groups included:

- Introduction of members, discussion of member roles and identification of additional individuals, stakeholders or systems that needed to be represented on the workgroup.
- Establishing clarity about how we are defining human trafficking and what that means for the scope of services.
- The overlap with other workgroup charges and activities and the need to establish good communication patterns and identify specific activities that will ensure coordinated efforts.

Workgroups are planning to meet on a regular basis. Updates will be provided on activities at the quarterly full Task Force meetings. Following is a summary of the key discussion items for each workgroup.

Training Workgroup

Charge: A common core of training material will be developed and disseminated for use by professionals in all systems involved with sex trafficking victims, including law enforcement, health professionals, child welfare workers, juvenile justice workers, foster parents and other out-of-home care providers, judges, legal professionals, mental health providers, service providers, and teachers.

Co-Chairs: Maya Krajcinovic, Madison Police Department and Mariana Rodriguez, UMOs

State Staff- Miriam Falk, DOJ and Dion Racks, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Summary:

- Discussed sharing information and ideas with each other in between meetings, particularly concerns related to confidentiality.
- Beginning to share curricula and other resource material with workgroup members for discussion at the next meeting.

Next steps:

- Developing competencies that all professionals that work with victims of sex trafficking should have.
- Developing specific training modules that include a clear set of learning objectives and goals that will be derived from the individual, specific topics for each module.
- Building capacity within the group, as well as throughout the state, of individuals who would be proficient in training others in their individual fields about human trafficking using the curriculum developed, including a train-the-trainer course.

Identification and Screening Workgroup

Charge: A validated screening tool will be identified for use by child and youth serving agencies throughout the state, including child welfare agencies, juvenile justice agencies, runaway and homeless shelters, and others.

Co-Chairs: Tim Baack, Pathfinders and Emily Erickson, DCF

State Staff: Kimber Blum, DCF

Summary:

- Recruited and engaged additional membership to achieve broad-based representation. Workgroup has been expanded to include three different law enforcement jurisdictions, Department of Justice, Department of Corrections, Bureau of Youth Services, Department of Education, medical, public health, County Human Service representation, Tribes, and advocacy organizations.
- Outlined three tasks consistent with the workgroup
 - Identify validated screening and identification tools used in Wisconsin and across the country
 - Define the target user(s) and target population and if specific tools are required for specific users; and,
 - Define best practices surrounding tool implementation.
- Discussed need for on-line sharing tool to share group work.

Next Steps:

- Analyze screening tools collected, eliminate tools that are not validated and/or do not follow Wisconsin's guiding principles.
- Develop an evaluation tool for workgroup use when considering each identified sex trafficking screening and identification tool.

Prevention and Public Awareness Workgroup

Charge: Public awareness materials will be developed and disseminated to local communities for use in local public awareness activities, thereby achieving statewide public education coverage and a shared statewide message.

Co-Chairs: Nancy Irizarry, DHS and Nicole Tynan, REACH Counseling Services

State Staff: Naomi Takahashi, DCF

Summary:

- Discussed ideas for preventing sex trafficking in Wisconsin, including:
 - Developing a shared message across the state that reaches those most at-risk;
 - Increasing awareness in the school system through identifying opportunities to engage with younger youth; and,
 - Improving awareness that trafficking is happening across Wisconsin, including discussion of a possible Wisconsin version of the video “Chosen.”
- Began articulating what currently exists in the state including: national and other awareness videos, such as Chosen, initiatives at the local level in schools and other training/awareness work done by local coalitions, and efforts to reduce demand (Johns Schools, Voices of Men, End Demand Campaign, etc.)
- Discussed who would help engage health and individuals/organizations working on the demand side of trafficking to broaden the conversation.

Next Steps:

- Generate list of current awareness campaigns and initiatives happening around the state and evaluate as potential campaigns.
- Ensure that all meetings focus on information gathering, sharing and identifying clear and specific action steps and responsible individuals and organizations that will follow up on activities identified.

Placement and Services Workgroup

Charge:

- *Non-residential, community-based services provide support to victims seeking assistance who were never involved in, or who have exited, a court-ordered system, such as the child welfare or juvenile justice system. A regional hub approach is a cost-effective way of achieving coordinated and accessible services in all parts of the state, including rural areas. Through the Placement and Services workgroup, strategies will be identified and implemented to expand non-residential community-based services within a regional hub structure.*
- *Strategies will be identified and implemented to expand residential placement capacity by building on existing successful residential models and developing other types of safe, trauma-sensitive residential service capacity for sex trafficked victims, including emergency placement options .*
- *Competencies needed for service providers to serve sex trafficked minors in a trauma-informed, victim-centered, and culturally competent manner will be identified.*

Co-chairs: Dan Magnuson, Lad Lake and Steve Gilbertson, Wraparound Milwaukee

State Staff: Allison Budzinski, DCF

Summary:

- Engaged in gathering of information, including how other states have developed and organized their response to children and youth that have been sexually exploited (CSEY), especially systems focused on regional hub approach.
- Developing a survey of the Wisconsin landscape in terms of services and support for commercially sexually exploited youth (CSEY)

Next Steps:

- Continue information gathering and Wisconsin Landscape survey.
- Continued analysis of other state models particularly those using a regional approach.

Data and Research

Charge: *Mechanisms will be identified to collect and link data regarding sex trafficking victims across systems through modifications of existing information systems and/or development of new systems and procedures. Accurate and comprehensive data will help inform the development of policies and programs as well as measure the effectiveness of particular services and programs.*

Chair: Derek Veitenheimer, DOJ

State Staff: Kelly Smithback, DCF

Summary:

- Members from the workgroup provided information about the currently existing data collection systems that were represented by the workgroup participants, including systems from the Department of Children and Families, Department of Justice, Department of Corrections; Office of Court Operations, Brown County Sheriff's Office; and UW-Whitewater.
- Initial discussions identified strengths and limitations of currently available sex trafficking data tracked by the above organizations.

Next Steps:

- Data Workgroup members will develop a presentation about the current data they collect including what systems are used and how data is currently used at the next workgroup meeting.