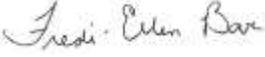


To: DCF Area Administrators
Child Placing Agency Directors
Child Welfare Agency Directors
County Departments of Community Programs Directors
County Departments of Human Services Directors
County Departments of Social Services Directors
Group Home Providers
Tribal Social Service/Indian Child Welfare Directors
Private Child Placing Agencies
Residential Care Center Providers
Shelter Care Providers
Tribal Chairpersons

From: Fredi-Ellen Bove 
Administrator

Re: Anti-Human Trafficking Efforts

PURPOSE

The purpose of this memo is to inform counties about the department's recent anti-human trafficking efforts. These efforts include the completion of a state plan as required by the Federal Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act of 2014, PL 113-183. The plan is published on the Department's website at the following link: <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/aht/taskforce>

BACKGROUND

The Federal Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act of 2014, PL 113-183 requires that states develop policies and procedures for serving and reporting minor victims of sex trafficking and establishing efforts to prevent sex trafficking of minors.

INFORMATION SUMMARY

Consistent with the Federal Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act of 2014, PL 113-183, the Department of Children and Families (DCF) engaged in extensive consultations from February-June 2015 with stakeholders involved in the issue of human trafficking. In addition, DCF gathered information on practices in other states to serve sex trafficked victims. Based on the stakeholder consultations and information gathered, DCF developed a plan to create a comprehensive approach to prevent sex trafficking of minors and provide effective, culturally competent, victim-centered, and trauma-informed services that meet the needs of victims and survivors of sex trafficking. The plan is posted on the Department's website at the following link: <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/aht/taskforce>

A key component of the plan is the creation of a state-level Anti-Human Trafficking Task Force to develop a cross-system, comprehensive, trauma-informed service and response system in Wisconsin for minors who are victims or at risk of being victims of sex trafficking. The Task Force will support and enhance the work of currently operational local and regional human trafficking workgroups and task forces. Co-chaired by the Secretary of the Department of Children and Families (DCF) and Wisconsin Attorney General, the Human Trafficking Taskforce was launched in December 2015 and is composed of a broad range of stakeholders located across the state committed to serving the victims of human trafficking. WCHSA appointed the following two members to serve as the WCHSA representatives on the Task Force: Dawn Buchholz, Director, Waushara County Department of Human Services and Fred Johnson, Director, St. Croix County Department of Health and Human Services. The Task Force will oversee and provide

guidance to workgroups charged with meeting key deliverables to advance Wisconsin's efforts. Workgroups are established in the following issue areas: training; screening and assessment; prevention and public awareness; placement and services, and data.

DCF has created a website at the following link to house information on DCF's anti-human trafficking efforts: <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/aht>. The website includes information about the Task Force, including meeting dates and agenda materials; resources on the topic of human trafficking; and other details of the state's efforts. Information about the Task Force workgroups, including the charge to each workgroup, specific expectations for workgroup members and how to apply to participate on a workgroup can also be found on this website.

CENTRAL OFFICE CONTACT: Policy Initiatives Advisor
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MEMO WEB SITE: <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/cwportal/policy>