

Meeting Minutes – Human Trafficking Health Adv. Board

Location: South Grand Building, Conference Room 11, 333 S. Grand Ave., Lansing, MI

Date: May 10, 2018

Time: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Attendance

Present:

- Jay Kommareddi (Chair)
- Ruth Rondon
- Sheila Meshinski
- Dr. James Blessman
- Dr. Subburaman Sivakumar
- Dr. Lori Ryland
- Brigette Robarge

Absent:

- Dr. Herman McCall
- Matt Lori (Vice-Chair)

Presiding: Chair Kommareddi

Scribe: Jon Breems

Agenda

I. Call to Order

- Meeting called to order by Chair Kommareddi at 10:00 a.m.

II. Roll Call

III. Adoption of Meeting Minutes from January 31, 2018

- *Minutes approved unanimously with no changes.*

IV. New Member Introduction: Dr. James Blessman

- Chair Kommareddi introduced Dr. James Blessman of Detroit as a new member of the Human Trafficking Health Advisory Board. Dr. Blessman represents physicians and serves as the nominee from the Speaker of the House. He will serve a four year term expiring on December 31, 2021.

V. Presentation from Kathy Maitland, Michigan Abolitionist Project

- Kathy Maitland, executive director of Michigan Abolitionist Project, presented to the board about her work on victim services with the Human Trafficking Commission and Joint Anti-Trafficking Task Force (JATT) in southeastern Michigan.

VI. Updates from previous meetings

- SOAR Trainings- Jon provided an update to the board that the SOAR training curriculum created by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services now has pre-recorded modules available online for healthcare professionals

- EMS Provider Training- Vice-chair Matt Lori spoke with EMS leadership at MDHHS following the last board meeting. Leadership confirmed that the new EMS human trafficking training course that was developed is optional for EMS providers.
- Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program Policies- Jon provided an update to the board. Based on recommendations from board members, the WIC program is planning to implement a policy that allows for survivors of trafficking to still access benefits if they do not have access to their identifying documents due to being trafficked.

VII. MDHHS Human Trafficking Coordinator Position

- Jon provided an update to board on a new human trafficking coordinator position that is being established within the Division of Victim Services at MDHHS based on a recommendation from board members. The position will serve as the main point of contact and coordinator of anti-human trafficking related activities within the department. The coordinator has been hired, and they are schedule to start later in May.

VIII. Upcoming Events

- Members shared about upcoming human trafficking related events and trainings.

IX. Questions/comments from members

- Board members shared updates with the board.

X. Public Comment

- Members from the public in attendance were given the opportunity to speak to the board.

XI. Adjournment

- *Meeting adjourned by Chair Kommareddi at 12:00 p.m.*