

# Meeting Minutes – Human Trafficking Health Adv. Board

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**Location:** South Grand Building, Conf. Room 1L, 333 S. Grand Ave., Lansing, MI

**Date:** October 5, 2016

**Time:** 10:00 a.m.

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## Attendance

### Present:

- Jay Kommareddi (Chair)
- Elizabeth Hertel (Vice-Chair)
- Dr. Dena Nazer
- Ruth Rondon
- Sheila Meshinski
- Dr. Subburaman Sivakumar (via phone)
- Dr. Lori Ryland (via phone)

### Absent:

- Steve Yager
- Brigette Robarge

**Presiding:** Chair Kommareddi

**Scribe:** Jon Breems

## Agenda

### I. Call to Order

- Meeting called to order by Chair Kommareddi at 10:07 a.m.

### II. Presentation on Girls Court by Judge David Newblatt

- Judge David Newblatt gave a presentation on the Girls Court in Genesee County

### III. Adoption of Meeting Minutes from June 29, 2016

- *Motion to approve by Sheila Meshinski; Second by Dr. Nazer. Minutes approved*

### IV. New Member Introduction: Lori Ryland

- Chair Kommareddi introduced Dr. Lori Ryland as a new member of the board. Dr. Ryland serves as a representative of mental health professionals, and will finish the previous member's four-year term ending Dec. 31, 2018

### V. MDHHS Updates

- Human Trafficking Grants
  - Jon Breems gave an update on the grants. Two types were awarded: Community Services Grant and Human Trafficking ER Pilot. Alternatives for Girls and Hope Project were awarded the Community Services grant, and Genesee Health Foundation was awarded the Human Trafficking ER Pilot grant. Both grants are for 12 months.
- Human Trafficking Public Awareness Campaign
  - Jon Breems gave an update on the department's Human Trafficking Public Awareness Campaign. The department met with the Michigan Department of Civil Rights and the Michigan Office of New Americans to develop materials to reach at-risk populations like

immigrants, migrant laborers, and refugees. The materials are being finalized, and the campaign should begin soon.

#### **VI. Human Trafficking Commission Site Visits**

- Several members went with the Human Trafficking Commission to site visits at Alternatives for Girls, Common Ground, and the Human Trafficking Law Clinic at the University of Michigan

#### **VII. Subcommittees Update**

- Education, Training, and Awareness
  - Chair Kommareddi gave the update. The subcommittee is creating a standardized presentation for board members to use when asked to give presentations. Several members attended the Human Trafficking Commission's conference in Ann Arbor on September 29.
- Victim Services
  - Update will be given at next meeting
- Policy and Legislation
  - Chair Kommareddi gave an update on state law regarding labor trafficking and recent national developments on prosecuting certain sex buyers for human trafficking. She will share an article with board members about a recent case in Florida.

#### **VIII. Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder Treatment Workgroup**

- New workgroup met with Mike Milks, MDHHS child welfare director in Genesee County, to discuss problems child welfare is having working with minor victims of trafficking. Issues included: access to substance abuse treatment for minors and quicker placement in residential treatment for minor victims who are removed by CPS. Group plans to keep meeting

#### **IX. 2016 Annual Report**

- Board is required to submit a report to the legislature every year in February. Draft will be sent to members for feedback and edits in December. Final draft will be voted on by the Board at the January meeting.

#### **X. Upcoming events**

- Several members have speaking engagements in the coming months.

#### **XI. Questions/comments from members**

- Dr. Nazer told the board about video tutorials by the Ohio State Police that teach officers about how to respond to trafficking situations. Board would like to view the videos. Matt Opsommer from Michigan State Police said he will help obtain these videos.
- Board members would also like to work with Michigan State Police on their human trafficking presentations to make sure information is consistent between presenters. Members suggested having survivors give feedback on presentations used by MSP, the board, and other state bodies who educate the public about human trafficking.

#### **XII. Public Comment**

- Matt Opsommer from Michigan State Police (MSP) offered to set up a site visit for the board with the Southeastern Michigan Trafficking and Exploitation of Children (SEMTEC) task force
- Matt Opsommer also mentioned an opportunity to partner with MSP in a program to educate immigrant populations about how to interact with law enforcement

**XIII. Adjournment**

- *Sheila Meshinski motioned to adjourn meeting; Dr. Nazer seconded. Meeting adjourned at 11:31 a.m.*

**Next meeting is January 12, 2017**