

Meeting Minutes – Human Trafficking Health Adv. Board

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

Date: May 9, 2017

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Attendance

Present:

- Jay Kommareddi (Chair)
- Matt Lori (Vice-Chair)
- Ruth Rondon
- Sheila Meshinski
- Dr. Herman McCall
- Dr. Lori Ryland

Absent:

- Brigette Robarge
- Dr. Dena Nazer
- Dr. Subburaman Sivakumar

Presiding: Chair Kommareddi

Scribe: Jon Breems

Agenda

I. Call to Order

- Meeting called to order by Chair Kommareddi at 10:06 a.m.

II. New Member Introduction- Dr. Herman McCall

- Matt Lori introduced Dr. Herman McCall as the new representative from MDHHS on the board. Dr. McCall is replacing Steve Yager who retired in April.

III. Roll Call

IV. Adoption of Meeting Minutes from January 12, 2017

- *Motion by Sheila Meskinski to adopt the minutes. Second by Dr. McCall. Minutes approved.*

V. 2016 Annual Report

- Jon Breems told members that the board's 2016 annual report was submitted to the legislature on February 1, 2017. Members were given a copy of the report, and it will be made available online

VI. Subcommittee Updates

- **Policy and Legislation**
 - Chair Kommareddi gave the update for the Policy and Legislation subcommittee. The subcommittee is looking into assistance for paying for immigration medical exams for survivors who are foreign nationals. The subcommittee is also looking into the issue of allowing child abuse victims (including trafficking victims) to testify in a separate room from the perpetrator to avoid re-traumatization.

- **Victim Services**

- Jon Breems gave the update for the Victim Services subcommittee. The subcommittee is researching victim compensation/assistance funds and how survivors of trafficking in Michigan access these funds. The subcommittee is also exploring the possibility of having a training with both law enforcement and Community Mental Health/PIHPs to improve access to substance use disorder treatment services

- **Awareness, Education, and Training**

- Sheila Meshinski gave the update for the Awareness, Education, and Training subcommittee. The subcommittee developed a PowerPoint presentation that members can use or customize for speaking engagements if they would like. The subcommittee is also exploring options for sharing information online about the human trafficking training requirement for health care professionals. Finally, they are working with MDHHS to identify opportunities for training at migrant health clinics

VII. MDHHS Child Welfare Update- Robert Harvey, Human Trafficking Analyst

- Robert Harvey from MDHHS shared with the board his work as the human trafficking analyst in child welfare.

VIII. Human Trafficking Survivors and Dental Needs

- Chair Kommareddi would like the board to focus on dentistry as an opportunity to identify survivors of human trafficking. She is looking into bringing someone to speak about this issue at a future board meeting.

IX. Upcoming Events

- Board members shared about upcoming conferences and speaking engagements

X. Questions/comments from members

- Ruth gave an update on the training program for healthcare professionals that she has developed.
- Ruth also mentioned that as a survivor, she sees a need for safe houses' staff to be accountable to an outsider to ensure victims don't lose their voice while being treated. She suggest victims/residents be given a chance to safely report abuse or mistreatment anonymously and/or privately by way of survey or an ' in person visit
- Members expressed an interest in learning about what anti-trafficking activities are occurring with the tribal nations in Michigan

XI. Public Comment

XII. Adjournment

- *Dr. McCall motioned to adjourn meeting; Dr. Ryland seconded. Meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.*

Next meeting is July 27, 2017, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.