

Meeting Minutes – Human Trafficking Health Adv. Board

Location: Due to Covid-19 health concerns and in accordance with Executive Order 2020-75 dated May 6, 2020, the regular meeting of the Human Trafficking Health Advisory Board was held electronically via Zoom, which as posted on the Board's webpage.

Date: September 17, 2020

Time: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Attendance

Present:

- Jay Kommareddi (Chair)
- Debi Cain
- Ruth Rondon
- Dr. James Blessman
- Brigette Robarge
- Sheila Meshinski

Absent:

- Dr. Subburaman Sivakumar
- Stacy Doctoroff
- John Breems co-chair
- JooYen Chang (representative participated)

MDHHS DVS Staff Present:

Jess Averill
Gail Krieger
Lore Rogers
Aleksa Andjelkovic

Minutes: Aleksa Andjelkovic

Agenda

I. Call to Order

- Meeting called to order at 10:02 a.m.

II. Roll Call

III. Membership Update

- No updates

IV. Welcome and Introductions:

- Compliance with the Open Meeting Act reviewed by Debi Cain.

V. Change of Agenda: Chair Kommareddi proposed approval of the minutes from December 5, 2019

VI. Vote on the Meeting Minutes from December 5, 2019

- Ruth Rondon made a motion to approve the minutes. Second by Dr. James Blessman. Minutes were corrected. Minutes approved as presented and corrected.

VII. Updates from the Chair

- Chair Kommareddi thanked Debi Cain and the rest of DVS staff, as well as Jon Breems for the work that goes into preparing remote Board meetings.
- Chair Kommareddi reported that a meeting was held with Kelly Carter of AG's Human Trafficking Commission to emphasize the need for collaboration due to the overlap of some charges designated by legislation between the Board and commission.
- Chair Kommareddi met with Representative Mary Whiteford who wanted to come and address the Board in March. The March and June meetings were cancelled due to the pandemic.
- Chair Kommareddi participated in meetings hosted by Aleksa Andjelkovic and Kathy Maitland [AG's Human Trafficking Commission, Victim Services Subcommittee co-chair, and MAP Director] with organizations and individuals around the state related to services during the pandemic.

VIII. Division of Victim Services (DVS) Updates

- Debi Cain congratulated Alternative for Girls and Ruth Ellis House for recent receipt of competitive federal OVC awards.
- Debi Cain reported that Division of Victim Services (DVS) was approached to assist with developing policies and materials to respond when human trafficking victims disclose as part of their application for benefits through MI-Bridges. DVS staff and five different DHHS departments are now working on products, procedures, and protocols that will address this need and are based on DHHS standards. Some of the products include a Palm Card for victim/survivors, Resource list, and review of Human Trafficking for benefits workers.
- Debi Cain asked Board members to reach out with additional suggestions for the materials that DVS is currently developing.

IX. Enabling Legislation Review

Board reviewed enabling legislation and began discussion of possible priority areas.

X. Public Comment

- There were no public comments made during this period.

XI. Upcoming Events

- Next Board meeting is on Thursday, December 3, 2020 from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Motion to adjourn meeting made by Ruth Rondon; Second by Dr. James Blessman. Meeting adjourned at 11:53 p.m.