

# Meeting Minutes – Human Trafficking Health Adv. Board

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**Location:** South Grand Building in Conference Room 1A,  
333 S Grand Avenue, Lansing MI 48933

**Date:** September 30, 2021

**Time:** 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

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## Attendance

### Present:

- James Blessman (Conference line)
- Debi Cain
- Jay Kommareddi (Chair)
- Sheila Meshinski
- Rodica Richmond
- Brigette Robarge

### Absent with Notice:

- Stacy Doctoroff
- Dr. Subburaman Sivakumar
- Demetrius Starling

**Scribe:** Michael Bobbitt

## Agenda

- I. Call to Order** • Meeting called to order at 10:03 a.m.
- II. Roll Call**
- III. Adoption of September 30, 2021 Agenda as presented.**
  - *Motion by Debi Cain to approve; second by Sheila Meshinski. Agenda approved unanimously with no changes.*
- IV. Adoption of Meeting Minutes from June 10, 2021**

- *Motion by Debi Cain to approve; second by Sheila Meshinski. Minutes approved unanimously with changes.*

#### **V. Updates from the Chair**

- Chair Kommareddi said Sheila Meshinski, Tiffany Martinez, and herself are on an Attorney General's Commission to work on guiding principles for survivors of human trafficking.
- Chair Kommareddi said there are opportunities to fund members of the Board to attend relevant conferences.
- Chair Kommareddi said Polaris Project, a U.S.-based anti-trafficking institute, found that calls for labor trafficking are 60% higher for migrant workers with a visa. She said 1/3 of these workers complained about being denied medical treatment.

#### **VI. Updates from Debi Cain**

- Debi Cain provided an updated on the work of the Attorney General's Human Trafficking Commission. She is the DHHS representative and works closely with the Commission to coordinate activities with the DHHS Human Trafficking Health Advisory Board.

#### **VII. Update on Health Protocol / Survey Project by Gail Krieger from the Division of Victim Services.**

Gail Krieger said the Health Protocol / Survey Project is launching in the next fiscal year. Policy and protocol work at Ascension was paid for over a period of 3-4 years. The lessons learned from Ascension will be documented and used to create a product that other hospitals can use. Michigan Public Health Institute (MPHI) will coordinate with a working group of experts at Ascension to document what the process was and the lessons that were learned. This should provide a toolkit that other hospitals can use. After the toolkit is completed, the search can begin in future fiscal years to partner with hospitals that may want technical assistance to adopt the toolkit. This model will allow hospitals to engage in the process of developing their own system specific tools.

The Board discussed potential training tools that could be promoted to health facilities. Gail Krieger said there will be two subcommittee meetings that Board members can participate in. One work group will cover the protocol and the other will cover useful training resources.

#### **VIII. Update on Human Trafficking Media Campaign by Gail Krieger from the Division of Victim Services.**

Gail Krieger spoke about the human trafficking media campaign that was paid for with VOCA funds. The campaign started in June and ran through September 2021. Data will be provided at the next Board meeting regarding the campaign. The Division of Victim Services worked with the MDHHS Communications Department to republish data from Polaris on Instagram and other social media platforms. In June there were almost 400,000 impressions and 20,000 post engagements that were clicked to find out more information on the Polaris site. Posters were also distributed at 215 locations across the state. The VOCA funds come from crimes and fees of federal crimes which fluctuate.

**IX. Update on the Budget by Tiffany Martinez from the Division of Victim Services.**

Tiffany Martinez said a request for proposal (RFP) is being created for Human Trafficking funding in Michigan.

**X. Questions/Comments from members**

- None.

**XI. Public Comment**

- Aleksa Andjelkovic said she is looking forward to collaborating with the Board.

**XII. Board Comment**

- No Board comments.

**XIII. Upcoming Events**

The next Board meeting is on Thursday, December 9, 2021 from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

*The meeting adjourned at 11:54 a.m.*