

# Meeting Minutes – Human Trafficking Health Adv. Board

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**Location:** Zoom Virtual Meeting

**Date:** June 10, 2021

**Time:** 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

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## **Attendance**

### **Present:**

- Stacy Doctoroff
- Debi Cain
- Jay Kommareddi (Chair)
- Sheila Meshinski
- Rodica Richmond
- Demetrius Starling

### **Absent with Notice:**

- Dr James Blessman
- Brigette Robarge
- Dr. Subburaman Sivakumar

**Scribe:** Michael Bobbitt

## **Agenda**

- I. Call to Order** • Meeting called to order at 10:00 a.m.
- II. Roll Call**
- III. Adoption of June 10, 2021 Agenda as presented.**
  - *Motion by Stacy Doctoroff to approve; second by Debi Cain. Agenda approved unanimously with no changes.*
- IV. Adoption of Meeting Minutes from March 11, 2021**

- *Motion by Debi Cain to approve; second by Stacy Doctoroff. Minutes approved unanimously with no changes.*

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

- Chair Kommareddi expressed her appreciation for all the hard work Debi Cain, Gail Krieger, and Tiffany Martinez are doing to update everyone on human trafficking issues in Michigan.
- Chair Kommareddi attended an event hosted by the Michigan Abolitionist Project (MAP) where she shared how the Human Trafficking Health Advisory Board collaborates with other organizations and institutions.
- Chair Kommareddi had a conversation with staff at the Secretary of State to expedite state IDs for some human trafficking survivors who had to move quickly out of state. She hopes this process can be widely distributed across Michigan.

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

The Division of Victim Services handles many different funding sources which provide services to victims of crime in Michigan. One of these funding sources is the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) dollars which go to private non-profit agencies. Some of these dollars are being allocated to fund human trafficking media campaigns. The Division of Victim Services, the Michigan Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence and Uniting Three Fires Against Violence are all collaborating on a statewide media campaign to spread the message that help is available for human trafficking victims.

Media campaigns regarding the Polaris U.S. National Human Trafficking Hotline are intended to reach children, adults, and the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Questioning community during LGBTQ+ Pride Month. Another media campaign will focus on missing and murdered indigenous children across the state. Many social media platforms, such as Facebook, will be used to inform the public about the Polaris hotline and raise awareness of human trafficking issues in Michigan.

Debi Cain reported on efforts by the Michigan Legislature to include \$500,000 to the Division of Victim Services for funding human trafficking programs. The budgeting and appropriations process will determine if these funds will be approved. The goal is to use the funding to increase the number of programs that understand human trafficking and can provide help to trafficking victims.

## **VII. Update on Provider Resource Directory by Tiffany Martinez from the Division of Victim Services.**

The Board's has a responsibility to distribute a resource directory for survivors. Gail Krieger and Aleksa Andjelkovic surveyed funded programs across the state that perform victim service provision. There are a wide range of programs providing differing and evolving levels of services to victims of human trafficking. Staff recommended limiting the list to DVS and or OVC

funded programs consistent with DHHS practices and to postpone release of a list until the next round of funding has been released.

- *Motion by Chair Kommareddi to refrain from distributing a provider resource directory and revisit the issue in six months after the RFP process is completed; second by Demetrius Starling. The motion passed.*

#### **IX. Update on hospital protocol and survey by Gail Krieger and Tiffany Martinez from the Division of Victim Services**

The Division of Victim Services is providing funding to Ascension to conduct a Human Trafficking Health Protocol. Work is currently being done to expand the protocol to create a toolkit for use by hospitals other than Ascension. Technical assistance will be offered to hospitals that would like to adopt the protocol. The current model would involve contracting project management work to the Michigan Public Health Institute (MPHI). An implementation tool is being mapped out that can replicate what Ascension has accomplished for use at other health care systems.

A survey to determine how many hospitals in Michigan have human trafficking protocols will eventually be distributed to health systems. A subcommittee meeting will be held in July to discuss details.

#### **X. Questions/Comments from members**

#### **XI. Public Comment**

- No public comments.

#### **XII. Board Comment**

- Rodica Richmond said there will be a fund raiser held at the Freedom Center Church in Fenton, Michigan for the Prism Project on June 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.

#### **XIII. Upcoming Events**

Next Board meeting is on Thursday, September 9, 2021 from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

*Motion to adjourn meeting by Debi Cain; second by Sheila Meshinski. Meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.*