

# MICHIGAN HUMAN TRAFFICKING COMMISSION



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## 2022 REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR AND LEGISLATURE





## COMMISSION MEMBERS

Ms. Kelly Carter, Commission Chair, Michigan Department of Attorney General

Mr. Forrest Pasanski, Vice-Chair, Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs

Office of the Governor (vacant)

Ms. Debi Cain, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Victim Services, Michigan Domestic and Sexual Violence Prevention and Treatment Board (partial year)

D/Lt. Edward Price, Michigan State Police

Hon. Lisa K. McCormick, Ingham County Circuit Court, Family Division

Mr. Jeff S. Getting, Kalamazoo County Prosecuting Attorney

Chief Chad Baugh, Canton Township Police Department

Ms. Judy Emmons, Office of Senator Rick Outman; Emmons Farms

Ms. Kathy Maitland, Michigan Abolitionist Project

Ms. Elizabeth Moon Carter, The Salvation Army

Mr. Hassan Beydoun, City of Detroit

Ms. Joyce A. Dixson-Haskett, Daylily Health, LLC

Ms. Alice Johnson, Neighborhood Legal Services of Michigan; Sister Survivor National Connect

## Message from the Attorney General: Dana Nessel

Dear Reader:

Human trafficking continues to plague the most vulnerable among us. Using control and submission, traffickers exploit their victims, subjecting them to sexual, physical and emotional abuse. To prevent these crimes, it remains incumbent on all of us to know the signs, review the resources and report trafficking when we suspect it.

My office will continue to fight to hold traffickers accountable and work to meet the needs of victims and survivors of trafficking. Prevention, of course, is a critical part of this work. The responsibilities of the Michigan Human Trafficking Commission are numerous, and I am proud to host the Commission within the Department of Attorney General.

With the help of a new website launch, the Commission this year expanded access to training and public awareness resources, took a substantial step in establishing standardized data collection, and sought to bring together the voices of survivors.

I look forward to continuing the Department's work with Commission and the Legislature to address the realities of this deplorable crime and reduce its impact on our communities.

Sincerely,

Sincerely,



Dana Nessel  
Attorney General, State of Michigan





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# BACKGROUND

The first Michigan Commission on Human Trafficking was launched in March 2013. The Commission immediately began gathering information. Numerous experts gave presentations to the Commission, including those in law enforcement, health care, academia, non-profit organizations, and Attorneys General from other states. The Commission also heard heart-breaking survivor testimonies. That work resulted in a comprehensive package of bills that the Legislature enacted and was signed into law in 2014. The legislation included safe harbor provisions and stronger tools to hold traffickers accountable. It also created the Michigan Human Trafficking Commission, a standing commission within the Department of Attorney General. By statute, the Commission has five members designated by various state agencies and other organizations and nine members appointed by the Governor to represent various groups and officials. The Commission's mission as set forth in statute, Public Act 325 of 2014, includes the following:



*"The Michigan Human Trafficking Commission is a proven effective partnership of government agencies and private citizens working to reduce some of the most heinous crimes that impact residents and communities in our state. While much remains to be done, we should pause to celebrate the accomplishments of the past year and look forward to what we can achieve in this new term."*

*--Dana Nessel, Michigan Attorney General*

Section 4(a). Identify sources for grants that will assist in examining and countering human trafficking in this state and apply for those grants when appropriate.

Section 4(b). Fund research programs to determine the extent and nature of human trafficking in this state.

Section 4(c). Provide information and training regarding human trafficking to police officers, prosecutors, court personnel, health care providers, social services personnel, and other individuals the commission considers appropriate.

Section 4(d). Collect and analyze information regarding human trafficking in this state.

Section 4(e). Identify state and local agencies within this state and other states, as well as within the federal government, that are involved with issues related to human trafficking, and coordinate the dissemination of information regarding human trafficking in this state to those agencies.

Section 4(f). Review the existing services available to assist victims of human trafficking, including crime victim assistance, health care, and legal assistance, and establish a program to make those victims better aware of the services that are available to them.

Section 4(g). Establish a program to improve public awareness of human trafficking.

Section 4(h). Review state laws and administrative rules relating to human trafficking and make recommendations to the legislature to improve those laws and rules to address human trafficking violations in this state.

# COMMITTEE OVERVIEW

The Human Trafficking Commission operates with seven committees:

- 1. Data Collection and Research:** This committee is charged with reviewing strategies to collect statewide data to enable policymakers and law enforcement to assess progress in their efforts to tackle this growing problem.
- 2. Funding and Resources:** This committee is charged with identifying and applying for potential grants and other forms of funding.
- 3. Policy and Legislation:** This committee is charged with reviewing Michigan's human trafficking laws and policies to determine whether new legislation or policy changes are required.
- 4. Public Awareness:** This committee is charged with developing strategies to raise public awareness of human trafficking.
- 5. Training and Education:** This committee is charged with reviewing existing training efforts for professionals and determining how those efforts can be enhanced and expanded. These professionals include various groups who may encounter human trafficking such as: law enforcement, health care providers, social-service providers, hospitality providers, and those in code enforcement and regulatory agencies.
- 6. Victim Services:** This committee is charged with reviewing the needs of human trafficking survivors to determine how those needs can be met at the local and state levels.
- 7. Courts/Summit:** This committee was established in October 2015. The subcommittee focuses on planning future conferences and working cooperatively with Michigan courts on human trafficking issues.

# COMMISSION MEETINGS

The Michigan Human Trafficking Commission met on the following dates during 2022:

Tuesday, January 11, 2022

Tuesday, April 5, 2022

Tuesday, June 21, 2022

Tuesday, September 27, 2022



*"This year the Commission continued progress in setting standards for approaches to human trafficking across the state. The Commission has provided standards for interactions with victims, as well as publishing resources for the public at large, and training for professionals. Moreover, the Commission has made significant strides in establishing standards for data collection with a view toward coordinated and consistent data collection in years to come. I am privileged to work with the dedicated members of the Commission."*

*--Kelly Carter, Michigan Human Trafficking Commission Chair*



## DATA COLLECTION AND RESEARCH

### Committee Members:

*Ms. Elizabeth Moon Carter, Committee Chair, The Salvation Army*  
*Mr. Forrest Pasanski, Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs*  
*Chief Chad Baugh, Canton Township Police Department*  
*Mr. Kristopher MacNeil, Measurable Change*

Throughout 2022, the committee continued work on its primary project of creating standards for human trafficking data collection. The goal of this project is to identify types of data that will be most useful for service providers to track, with the goal of providing guidance for agencies.

Beginning the year with a draft document defining a victim typology and service list drawn from definitions found in federal grant reporting requirements for human trafficking service providers, the committee invited stakeholders to discuss the proposed categories and data collection methodologies.

The committee then finalized a standardized data reporting framework specifically for victim services providers with categories for victim typology and services provided. The standards for human trafficking data collection were recommended for adoption by the full Commission who approved the standards and recommended their posting on the website.

Now that the data set is identified, the committee will work with stakeholders to begin implementation of the standardized data collection. The committee will then begin collecting data from service providers across the state to provide a periodic snapshot of trends in human trafficking victimization and service provision across Michigan. Ultimately, the committee intends to publish this data on the Commission's webpage as a valuable resource, especially for organizations applying for grants and crafting policy and legislation.

### Human Trafficking Victims/Survivor Characteristics, Service List and Categories

Report only NEW victims in "Type of Trafficking Victim/Survivor" category for the reporting period

Number	Type of Trafficking Victim/Survivors Served	
	Sex Trafficking only	Trafficking type experienced
	Labor trafficking only	
	Sex & Labor Trafficking	
	Child/Youth (0-17 years old total)	AGE
	0-5 years old	
	6-14 years old	
	15-17 years old	
	Adult (18 and over total)	
	18-26 years old	
	27-65 years old	GENDER
	over 65 years old	
	Male	
	Female	Residency status
	TQIA+ or non binary	
	Foreign National with status (total)	
	Permanent Resident (or spouse of)	
	Work visa holder (or spouse of)	
	Student visa holder (or spouse of)	
	Visitor visa holder (or spouse of)	Disability status
	Foreign National without status	
	Domestic born w/o status	
	U.S. Citizen (including naturalized)	
	Physical disability	Marginalized or underserved
	Mental/emotional disability	
	Other specialty needs	
	Runway and homeless youth (under 18)	Ethnicity*
	Homeless	
	Incarcerated or institutionalized	
	Individuals with limited English proficiency	
	Victims/survivors of hate or bias crime	
	Victim of crimes list	Race *
	Latino, Hispanic	
	White/Caucasian	
	Indigenous populations (Native Americans and Alaskan Indians)	
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	
	Black/African American...?	
	Asian	
	Other	
	Unknown and/or wishes not to disclose...	

\*This is the demographic information Collected by the Census

### Human Trafficking Victims/Survivor Characteristics, Service List and Categories

Number	Service Provided	Service Categories
	Criminal and/or Civil Justice System-Based Advocacy	Advocacy and Legal Assistance
	Legal Services	
	Victim advocacy & information about crime victims' rights, compensation, and services	Client Service Coordination
	Client Intake (i.e., biopsychosocial) & service eligibility assessment	
	Client Orientation	
	Ongoing & Intensive Case Management	
	Social Service Advocacy and Explanation of Benefits/ Entitlements/ Availability	
	Documentation Assistance, ORR Certification & Eligibility Letter with HHS	Client Safety and Well-Being
	Utilizing Multi-Disciplinary Approach	
	Crisis Intervention & 24-hour Response	
	Rescue, Law Enforcement Assistance, Escape	
	Emergency Assistance	
	Emotional/Moral Support (Informal Counseling)	
	Mental Health Treatment (emergency, assessments, individual and/or group counseling, short and Long Term)	Education/ Employment Assistance
	Protection & Safety Planning	
	Education & Life Assistance and Skills	
	Employment Readiness & Assistance	Health-Related Services
	Dental (Emergent and Long Term)	
	Medical Care (Emergency and Long Term)	
	Substance Abuse Access & Treatment	Basic Necessities, Life Sustenance and Housing Assistance
	Childcare and Assistance	
	Financial Assistance	
	Housing/Shelter Advocacy & Sustenance	
	Personal Items, Clothing, Food, Cell phones	Reunification and Repatriation Assistance
	Family Reunification	
	Repatriation	Support Services
	Interpretation/Translation	
	Transportation	
	Other Assistance	Other

## FUNDING AND RESOURCES

### Committee Members:

*Mr. Hassan Beydoun, City of Detroit*

*Ms. Debi Cain, Michigan Division of Victim Services; Michigan Domestic and Sexual Violence Prevention and Treatment Board*

*Ms. Margaret Talburtt, Committee Chair*

In an attempt to identify methods for providing funding for anti-human trafficking efforts the committee undertook a survey of other states to examine their approaches to funding anti-human trafficking efforts. The survey revealed that most states allocate funding for such efforts.

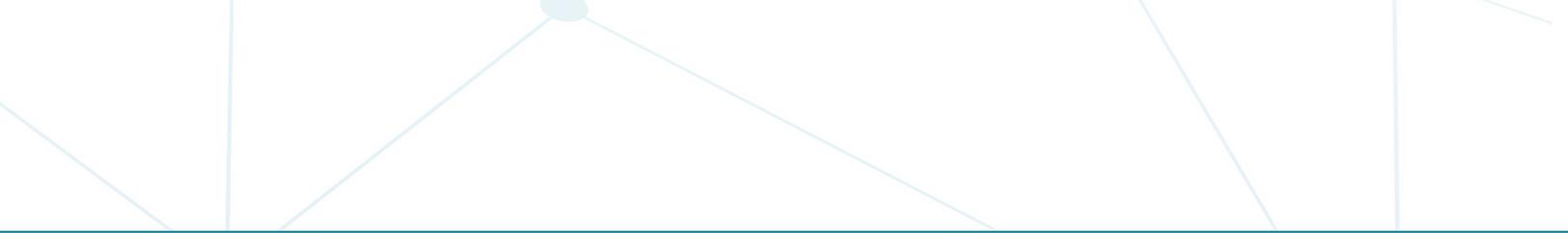
In 2021 the committee launched a series of funding workshops to equip potential grantees with tools, resources, and information to successfully apply for, receive, and administer grant funding. Offered remotely initially, the workshops were recorded and posted on the website as a continuing resource. The workshops remain available on the Commission's webpage free of charge. Since posting in 2021, the workshops have been viewed over 1000 times, including views from 5 nations and 14 other states. In 2022 alone, 130 visitors enrolled in at least one of the sessions.

Building on the workshop series, this year the committee began developing a funding request template for posting on the website. The goal of this resource is to provide a guideline for those seeking funding for anti-human trafficking efforts.

The committee also continues work on posting grant funding resources on the website. The work continues to weigh whether to alert stakeholders to specific grant announcements or whether to provide a static list of well-known sources for funding for anti-trafficking efforts.

The committee looks forward to continuing to support those pursuing funding for anti-human trafficking efforts by focusing next on developing published resources to aid in grant applications including a fact sheet providing information about human trafficking in Michigan. The committee is looking forward to working with the Data and Research committee to utilize the standardized data collected from their ongoing data project.

The committee remains committed to identifying and securing dedicated, even institutional, sources for funding the Commission's work as well as other anti-trafficking efforts.



## POLICY AND LEGISLATION

### **Committee Members:**

*Ms. Kelly Carter, Committee Chair, Assistant Attorney General*

*Mr. Hassan Beydoun, City of Detroit*

*Mr. Jeff S. Getting, Kalamazoo County Prosecuting Attorney*

*Hon. Lisa K. McCormick, Ingham County Circuit Court, Family Division*

*Det/Lt Edward Price, Michigan State Police*

In late 2019, the Commission voted to recommend a package of 30 bills addressing issues related to human trafficking including mandatory training, criminal justice issues and prostitution. The recommendations resulted from a Legislative Workgroup comprised of bi-cameral and bipartisan legislators, legislative staff as well as stakeholders such as law-enforcement and victim service providers. The group worked through the second half of 2019 on a number of legislative proposals across three categories: criminal justice, training, and funding. While the resulting package was comprised primarily of criminal justice and training proposals the workgroup identified a number of proposals that are worthy of additional consideration.

By early 2020, all but one of the Commission recommendations had been introduced as bills in the Michigan Legislature. Unfortunately, shortly thereafter, the Covid-19 pandemic took hold and consumed the legislative focus. During 2021, the majority of the 30 bills had been reintroduced. There was some legislative action on the introduced bills this year. In March, several bill sponsors, Attorney General Dana Nessel and Commission Chair, Kelly Carter testified before the House Judiciary Committee in support of the package. In May, Chair Carter testified again before the House Judiciary Committee in support of several of the bills individually. However, movement on the package seemed to end there. The Committee continues to back the proposals and will work for their reintroduction next year. The package is detailed below.

### **The 2019-2020 Human Trafficking Legislative Package Reintroduced in 2021**

#### **Criminal Justice:**

The workgroup developed a number of criminal justice proposals either directly benefitting trafficking victims or strengthening prosecutor tools to hold traffickers accountable.

## ***STRENGTHENING VICTIM AND SURVIVOR PROTECTIONS***

**Expanded Minor Rebuttable Presumption:** Recognizing the many challenges that minor sex trafficking victims face, the workgroup developed a proposal to expand the rebuttable presumption afforded to minors found in commercial sexual activity situation. Previously, a minor who was presumed to be a victim of sex trafficking was required to substantially comply with court-ordered services in order to preserve that presumption. Now, rather than failure to comply with court-ordered services being a complete bar to a minor benefitting from the presumption, a court can consider the minor's compliance a factor to consider in continuing the presumption.

**Expansion of adult and juvenile HT victim expungement:** Expanding the special human trafficking expungement to apply to all crimes will allow survivors to clear their record of convictions for crimes committed as a result of trafficking.

As the Commission works with those who assist survivors of trafficking, we are enlightened in the ways that victims continue to suffer. Previously, the Commission had proposed bills allowing victims to clear their trafficking-related convictions for minor state prostitution offenses. That was expanded to include previously overlooked minor prostitution ordinance violations, only to again realize we have victims who are prevented relief because they were, instead, charged with loitering or disorderly person as a "common prostitute."

Rather than continuing to incrementally expand the commercial sex-related crime list, the Commission is recommending a more comprehensive expansion of the Safe Harbor expungement beyond the current commercial sex-related crimes. Through repeated and continuous interaction with victims in both a service provision scenario as well as victims cooperating in criminal prosecution, we repeatedly see victims who are forced by their traffickers to engage in other types of criminal activity commonly including drug offenses, theft offenses, gun offenses and other various offenses. In recognition of the realities of human trafficking victims, there are two bills that seek to expand expungement opportunities for human trafficking victims under an adult approach as well as expansion of expungement for juvenile offenses.

**Affirmative Defense for Victims of Human Trafficking:** Along the same lines as expungement, the Commission has recommended creation of an affirmative defense for victims of human trafficking to prevent future convictions for crimes committed as a result of trafficking. The proposal would create an affirmative defense to any crime for a victim of human trafficking who can establish that the commission of the crime was a direct result of their being a victim of human trafficking.

## **STRENGTHENING TOOLS TO HOLD TRAFFICKERS ACCOUNTABLE**

**Amend Expert Testimony for Human Trafficking cases:** For years, case-law in Michigan (as across the country) has been developing to allow expert testimony at trial to explain victim behavior where it would seem to deviate from what the general public would expect. The development has come in the areas of domestic violence and sexual assaults, but there have been no cases in Michigan extending the same to human trafficking cases. The same challenges exist in human trafficking cases as domestic violence and sexual assault cases, indeed even more so in human trafficking cases.

Although a law was enacted in 2017 that sought to permit the introduction of expert witness testimony, that new provision only goes so far as allowing the expert testimony if it “is otherwise admissible under the rules of evidence as laws of this state.” MCL 750.762g(2). Unfortunately, the amendment as enacted fails to be specific enough to address the problem. The proposed amendment would specifically codify case law which sets forth the appropriate standard a court should apply in determining who meets the qualifications to provide expert testimony under these circumstances.

### **Expand Statutory Immunity for Compelled Testimony to Human Trafficking Chapter:**

The prostitution chapter includes statutory immunity for any person compelled to give testimony in a case involving charges from the prostitution chapter. No doubt, this is in recognition that those who have committed criminal acts such as prostitution, would be unwilling to provide testimony about those controlling the prostitution for fear of exposing themselves to criminal liability. This is equally true – if not more so – in human trafficking cases. Accordingly, we are recommending that the prostitution immunity provision be added to the human trafficking chapter.

**Include Human Trafficking in propensity evidence expansion:** Last year’s sexual assault package saw the expansion of the introduction of propensity evidence in domestic violence and sexual assault cases to now include sexual assault crimes committed against adults. Again, given the incredible similarities between domestic violence, sexual assault and trafficking cases – particularly sex trafficking, the Commission is recommending adding human trafficking to the class of crimes in which propensity evidence is admissible.

## **NEW COMMERCIAL SEXUAL ACTIVITY STATUTE: MODERNIZING THE PROSTITUTION CHAPTER**

Finally, in recognition of the inescapable overlap between sex trafficking and “prostitution” there are over a dozen proposals that fundamentally alter the landscape with regard to what should formally be known as prostitution. Starting from realization that nowhere previously in Michigan state statute was the crime of “prostitution” ever defined, but more importantly, recognizing the stigma and judgment that is so often inflicted with the use of the term “prostitution” the Commission embraced the recommendation that we replace the term “prostitution” throughout Michigan law with the defined term: commercial sexual activity. The package contains over a dozen recommendations that seek to strike the term prostitution and all references to it throughout the Michigan code. Instead that term would be replaced with the term commercial sexual activity that is defined in the human trafficking chapter as generally, a sex act provided in exchange for something of value.

In addition to the change of terminology, the package includes recommendations for additional changes to the former prostitution - now commercial sexual activity statute – chapter. Those proposals would clearly and unambiguously define the crimes of providing commercial sexual activity and obtaining commercial sexual activity. The crime of providing commercial sexual activity would not only specifically include an exemption for commercial sexual activity provided through force fraud or coercion [sex trafficking], but would also create an exemption for a victim of pandering - a 20 year felony - wherein the panderer through inducement, persuasion or encouragement, by promise, threat or scheme, causes the “provider” to engage in the commercial sexual act.

What’s more, this recommendation seeks to recognize the increased level of vulnerability of those providing commercial sexual acts as opposed to those from a position of power obtaining commercial sexual acts. To that end the recommendation would decrease penalties for providers of commercial sexual activity to misdemeanors while conversely increasing penalties for obtainers of commercial sexual activity to all felonies. Additional changes to the former prostitution -now commercial sexual activity statute would replace archaic language with more applicable and appropriate descriptions of the realities of commercial sexual activity today. Thus, terminology such as “house of ill fame,” or “bawdy house” would be replaced with terminology accurately reflecting the current state of commercial sexual activity.

### **2019 Proposals to be Reintroduced**

As identified above, the 2019 legislative Recommendations by the Commission included a number of legislative proposals aimed at addressing human trafficking training. These recommendations were not reintroduced this year. The Committee will continue to work for reintroduction and passage of these proposals.

**Training:** The work regarding human trafficking training legislation focused on developing mandates for additional professionals to receive training in human trafficking. Included in the 2014 human trafficking legislative package was a mandate that licensed health professionals receive training on human trafficking prior to licensure or re-licensure. This original mandate directed the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) to work with each board responsible for licensing the various health professional to develop rules and procedures regarding the human trafficking training. The various boards developed consistent, if non-specific, rules for what would satisfy the training mandate.

Yet, the effectiveness of the training mandate has been evident. Requests for training and presentations have increased dramatically. Moreover, reports to the National Human Trafficking tip-line by health professionals has increased noticeably.

Given the demonstrated success in mandating training for healthcare licensees, the workgroup identified additional professions that were amenable to mandated training on human trafficking. While the list was longer, several professions were not as amenable to a mandate as they are not regulated or licensed by a centralized entity. While there was consideration of implementing training for hotel and hospitality

professionals, continued work will be necessary to develop an approach that effectively targets that group. Regarding other identified professions, who are licensed or regulated, the workgroup developed a working template for implementing human trafficking training in this package and going forward. The approach is two-pronged: the mandate on the licensing side and the added Commission requirement to develop minimum standards for training.

On the licensing side, each new mandate requires the licensing entity to develop training which references recommendations for minimum standards for training. Those professions that will now be required to receive human trafficking training for licensure include commercial driver's, educators and educational-based counselors, and cosmetologists.

On the training standards side, the companion bill now amends the Human Trafficking Commission Act to develop those minimum standards for training. Thus, going forward, as other licensed and regulated professions are identified as being appropriate for mandated human trafficking training, each mandate will reference the minimum standards for training developed by the Commission.

In addition to the package already introduced, the Commission's Policy and Legislative Committee will continue to work on the area of identifying reliable sustained funding for the Human Trafficking Commission, victim services and training on human trafficking, as well as evaluating emerging trends in nation-wide human trafficking legislative efforts.



*"After having had the opportunity to serve as a member of this commission, I am proud to call its members my peers. The time and effort put into this work is really inspiring for me and a testament to what can be accomplished when good people focus their collective energy on making a better tomorrow, today."*

*– Hon. Lisa K. McCormick, Ingham County Circuit Court, Family Division*



## PUBLIC AWARENESS

### Committee Members:

*Ms. Kelly Carter, Committee Chair, Michigan Department of Attorney General*

*Ms. Judy Emmons, Office of Senator Rick Outman; Emmons Farms*

*Ms. Alice Johnson, Neighborhood Legal Services of Michigan; Sister Survivor National Connect*

*Ms. Kathy Maitland, Michigan Abolitionist Project*

*Mr. Kristopher McNeil, Measurable Change*

Throughout 2022, the committee focused on updating and rebranding the access and searchability of Public Awareness for Human Trafficking. The focus was updating the website to make resources more obtainable and user friendly.

This year saw the launch of the newly designed and independent [Michigan Human Trafficking Commission Website](#). Previously, the Commission's online presence was only accessible via the [website of the Attorney General](#) (michigan.gov/ag)– the Commission's host department. With the redesign, however, the Commission launched its independent home online at "michigan.gov/mhtc." This new resource will provide updates on our efforts to combat human trafficking here in Michigan and showcase information like public awareness resources and training on human trafficking, as well as other Commission resources.

In addition, the committee's focus during the year was continuing the regular delivery of quality and topical Human Trafficking Public Awareness material. Utilizing the "updates" section of the website, information on human trafficking is available to interested parties upon viewing on the website directly or via subscription delivered via email or other social media platforms. These updates now include information about the Commission as well as general information on human trafficking, such as articles on the issue, information about changes in state and federal laws on trafficking, reports on work on human trafficking issues from across the state and other pertinent information.

Equipped with the previously developed guidelines for providing human trafficking resources, the committee continued the work of identifying, evaluating, and recommending for distribution "updates" that comprise a library full of helpful human trafficking resources. The updates, delivered bi-weekly via email to over eight hundred subscribers, are also available on the webpage. The committee reviewed and recommended the following for distribution as public awareness updates:

### **From the White House:**

- “Fact Sheet: The National Action Plan to Combat Human Trafficking”

### **From Polaris Project:**

- “Sex trafficking and LGBTQ Youth” a fact sheet on sex trafficking and LGBTQ youth.
- “Pride Month Social Media Toolkit” a collection of shareable social media posts.
- LGBTQ Sex Trafficking video
- Human Trafficking on temporary visa: Data analysis 2015-2017
- Breaking Barriers: Improving Services for LGBTQ+ Human Trafficking Victims
- Top Ten List for Service Providers

### **From the U.S. Department of Homeland Security Blue Campaign**

- “Labor Trafficking Awareness Video – Medical Clinic,” a video addressing labor trafficking in a medical setting
- “Mia’s Story” the first in a 4-part animated video series aimed at youth depicting a trafficker grooming Mia into a human trafficking situation.

### **From the Michigan Abolitionist Project (MAP) “Say This Not That,” a glossary reviewing terminology used (and misused) regarding human trafficking.**

### **From the University of Arizona James E. Rogers School of Law and the University of San Diego School of Law, available at [SupportHTSurvivors.org](http://SupportHTSurvivors.org), “[Working with HT Survivors: LGBTQ+ Communities.](http://SupportHTSurvivors.org)”**

The committee continues to identify, evaluate and recommend helpful resources to keep the public informed about human trafficking.

## TRAINING AND EDUCATION

### Committee Members:

*Chief Chad Baugh, Committee Chair, Canton Township Police Department,  
Mr. Jeff S. Getting, Kalamazoo County Prosecuting Attorney  
Hon. Lisa K. McCormick, Ingham County Circuit Court, Family Division  
Mr. Forrest Pasanski, Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs  
Det/Lt Edward Price, Michigan State Police  
Mr. Kristopher McNeil, Measurable Change*

After developing and adopting guidelines for evaluation of third-party trainings in 2020, the Training and Education Committee focused on implementing the evaluation process by reviewing a number of training materials on human trafficking for various professional audiences. The committee had identified a number of online publicly available training sources.

Throughout 2022, the committee evaluated a number of additional trainings. The committee noted throughout the year that there were several trainings they reviewed but did not recommend to the Commission as the committee determined the resource did not meet the Commission's evaluation criteria. Nevertheless, the committee did recommend posting of several valuable trainings. The full Commission approved and recommended the following trainings for posting on the Commission webpage:

- "Your Role in Preventing HT: Recognizing the Signs Training" by End Child Prostitution and Trafficking (ECPAT-USA). This free 30-minute online training program for hotel associates was developed by ECPAT-USA in collaboration with the American Hotel and Lodging Association and Marriott.
- "Writing it Right: Documenting Human Trafficking" by AEquitas, a nonprofit organization focused on developing, evaluating, and refining prosecution practices related to human trafficking. This free 90-minute webinar focuses on the core competencies needed by law enforcement and prosecutors to establish the elements of human trafficking.
- "Highway Stop - Human Trafficking Training Video" AND "Car Crash (Police & EMTs) - Human Trafficking Training Video"  
Both trainings by Blue Campaign through the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) are free short videos for law enforcement and first responders respectively.

The committee will continue to identify, evaluate, and recommend for posting on the Commission's training website additional valuable human trafficking training for professionals.

In addition to postings on the training website, the Commission also sponsored an in-person advanced sex trafficking training: “Sex Trafficking Investigations for Law Enforcement: Sleuthing Force, Fraud or Coercion–Dispelling the Consensual Myth.” Hosted by the Eastern Michigan University Department of Public Safety, this half-day law enforcement training was a culmination of ongoing conversations across the Policy and Legislation, Victim Services, and Funding and Resources committees.

The training announcement included the following description:

*Approaches and attitudes toward commercial sex and prostitution are evolving across the state, increasing the vulnerability of providers in the commercial sex industry. Law enforcement must increase the focus on uncovering instances of sex trafficking. Now more than ever, investigators must focus on detecting whether the exchange of commercial sex is the result of force, fraud, or coercion. Assuming the exchange is consensual, or simply asking the conclusory question “is this consensual” will inevitably fail to uncover the likely truth, that someone else is calling the shots. In an effort to equip law enforcement on all levels with strategies and techniques to delve deeper, this training will focus on investigating the impact of force, fraud, coercion and other influences on the provision of prostitution and commercial sex acts.*

The training included an overview of sex trafficking, an in-depth focus on the issues of force, fraud and coercion, and law enforcement examples of how this may present. Most importantly, the training included a survivor panel providing real life examples of tips and strategies to effectively pursue the investigation of force, fraud, and coercion. The agenda included the following sessions:

- Prostitution and Commercial Sex: From Consensual to Pimped to Trafficked
- Sex Trafficking: The Element of Force/Fraud/Coercion - Interview strategies to uncover the WHY
- Survivor Panel – The real-life interactions
- Resources Rather Than Arrest– Identifying local trafficking support organizations

The Commission has been contacted by the Oakland Police Academy who is interested in sponsoring another session of the training. Planning is underway to provide that training again in spring of 2023.

Also stemming from collaboration with the Policy and Legislation Committee, the Training and Education Committee continues planning a training for the defense bar for those who may be (unknowingly) representing victims of sex trafficking. This training highlighting statutory protections available for sex trafficking victims.

## VICTIM SERVICES

### Committee Members:

*Ms. Kathy Maitland, Committee Chair, Michigan Abolitionist Project,*

*Ms. Kelly Carter, Michigan Department of Attorney General*

*Ms. Debi Cain, Michigan Division of Victim Services; Michigan Domestic and Sexual Violence Prevention and Treatment Board*

*Ms. Joyce A. Dixson-Haskett, Daylily Health, LLC*

*Ms. Judy Emmons, Office of Senator Rick Outman; Emmons Farms*

*Ms. Alice Johnson, Neighborhood Legal Services of Michigan; Sister Survivor National Connect*

*Ms. Elizabeth Moon Carter, The Salvation Army*

The Victim Services Committee continued work this year on developing and deploying a Listening Tour to learn directly from survivors of human trafficking how best to serve them. The Listening Tour will allow members of the Commission a chance to hear, confidentially, from victims and survivors of labor and sex trafficking. The goal of the tour is to invite a diverse group of victim and survivor voices to fully inform the committee's conversation on what services are available, what services are needed and how the delivery of those services can be improved.

Building on progress from 2021 where the committee received assistance from the Community Technical Assistance Collaborative (CTAC), at the University of Michigan, a community-university partnership that focuses on supporting nonprofits, schools, and governmental organization to build capacity while meeting the educational goals of students. CTAC assisted in the development of some of the support resources needed to conduct the Listening Tour and they will also help to compile a report based on the feedback obtained in the pilot. Although the report will protect participant's confidentiality, it will provide a useful summary and compilation of responses received.

The committee conducted two pilot sessions of the listening tour in 2022. The two pilots, focused on one set of survivors, allowed the committee to explore two difference approaches. The purpose of the pilot is to explore the best approaches, and the initial pilots provided lessons learned. Initially, we learned that timing is paramount, and providing survivors ample time to share their experiences is key. The committee also discovered that conducting sessions in person is vital, both due to technical issues, but more importantly to provide more meaningful interaction between the participants. The committee is planning pilot session 3 with a new group of survivors for early 2023. If all goes well a fourth and final pilot will follow with a view toward launching the actual listening tour before the end of 2023.

Continuing the theme of developing and deploying best practices, the committee reviewed and recommended for adoption an existing resource developed through the Administration of Children and Families. The “Guiding Principles for Agencies Serving Survivors of Human Trafficking” is an extensive resource which encompasses the values adopted by the Training and Education and Public Awareness subcommittees. After convening a workgroup last year to craft Michigan-specific principles, it became clear that the most efficient approach was to adopt the Guiding Principles in its entirety. The committee recommended the adoption of the Guiding Principles and the Commission approved. The Guiding Principles were posted on the new Michigan Human Trafficking website for all to utilize.

In order to ensure successful adoption and deployment in Michigan, the Commission is partnering with the Michigan Abolitionist Project (MAP, led by Commissioner Kathy Maitland) for a Summit at the end of January 2023. The summit will include programming to introduce stakeholder to the principles and provide guidance on implementation through guidance of stakeholders.

Moving forward, the committee will continue to work on implementation of the best practices while beginning work toward crafting a framework for compliance assessment.



*“It is an honor and privilege to serve on the Michigan Human Trafficking Commission; I am deeply committed to its mission. Human trafficking is a complex issue and we must continue to shine a light on the social issues and injustices that fuel this crime. I am grateful for all the Commission members, staff, and volunteers who dedicate their time to do this important work.”*

*– Kathy Maitland, Michigan Abolitionist Project*

# CONCLUSION

Thank you to all the Commission members for their work during another year of continued progress. The Commission also extends grateful appreciation to the following individuals who contributed their time and talents to various committees throughout the year:

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Ms. Margaret Talburtt  
Ms. Aleksandra Andjelkovic

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Ms. Veneshia Cezil  
Mr. Scott Damich  
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Mr. Matthew Payok

The Commission offers special thanks to Ms. Harmony Glashower, from the Attorney General's Office of Public Information and Education, for her expertise in coordinating the Commission's website.

The Commission also thanks the Salvation Army for providing stipends to those survivors participating in the Listening Tour pilots.





# MICHIGAN HUMAN TRAFFICKING COMMISSION

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