



**Pitt County Coalition Against Human Trafficking
Agenda
December 19, 2019**

Introductions

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Brandi Garner, Mid-East Commission, bgarner@mideastcom.org
Kia Glosson, TEDI BEAR CAC, glossonk15@ecu.edu
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Pam Strickland, NC Stop Human Trafficking, pam@ncstophumantrafficking.org
Melinda Sampson, NC Stop Human Trafficking, melinda@ncstophumantrafficking.org

Good News

Pam Strickland: NC Stop Human Trafficking has fair trade products to buy for last-minute Christmas shopping.

Juliana Mariani: One of her clients was able to get stable housing.

Keith Letchworth: Pitt County has been awarded the Trauma-Informed Communities grant.

Rapid Response Team Report

Juliana Mariani: Project FIGHT's Greenville office is serving 8 Latinos, three are male, 5 are female. All the females are in their 20s and are exiting sex trafficking. All the males are labor trafficking victims and in their 30s. There are also 8 domestic-born clients, all of them female and all are victims of sex trafficking.

Human Trafficking Cases in NC

Pam Strickland:

REFERENCING: Man bragged about beating human trafficking charges in 2 states. What happened in NC?

November 22

Central North Carolina

<https://www.newsobserver.com/news/local/crime/article237663529.html>

This conviction is groundbreaking. So often when we are talking about human trafficking to law enforcement and professionals in the court system they say that the case can't be prosecuted or a conviction can't be gotten because a witness won't testify, but in this case the district attorney said they were going to do it. It is retraumatizing for victims to take the stand and they are afraid.

Sharon Langley:

Some counties are using closed circuit TVs in domestic-related cases so the victim doesn't actually have to go to trial. Law enforcement has to go by what the law says, some will push the boundaries and some will play it safe. It is ultimately up to the district attorney to decide if that case gets prosecuted.

Pam Strickland:

I had a meeting with our district attorney and invited him or someone from his office to participate in the coalition. There is a lack of prosecutions of human trafficking cases in Pitt County. Both the chief of police in Greenville and the sheriff have indicated they would be interested in pursuing those cases. Historically, in Pitt County, there hasn't been an openness to prosecuting those cases. Mr. Dixon said he is open, but the charges aren't being brought.

Training Opportunities

January is Human Trafficking Awareness Month

Social Media:

Melinda Sampson:

There are more than 80 social media shareables available that you can share on your organization's social media sites for January. You can always reshare the Pitt County Coalition Against Human Trafficking's posts as well.

Municipal Proclamations:

Bethel: Second Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. (Sharon Langley will represent)

Fountain: Second Tuesday at 7 p.m. (Minerva Freeman will handle)

Pitt County Commissioners: Jan 13 at 9 a.m. (Pam will be there, but we need other coalition members to come out and show their support)

Greenville: Jan 13 at 6 p.m. (Pam will be there, but we need other coalition members to come out and show their support)

Farmville: First Monday at 6:30 p.m. (Melinda will be doing this)
Grimesland: First Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. (Jeannette Debs will represent)
Grifton: First Tuesday at 7 p.m. (Youth for Social Justice And Change will represent)
Simpson: Second Monday at 7 p.m. (Shaniqua Williams will represent)
Ayden: Second Monday at 7 p.m. (Liz Liles will Represent)
Winterville: Second Monday at 7 p.m. (Kia Glosson will represent)
Falkland: Minerva Freeman will do this one.

Follow up from last month's discussion:

**What are the needs of human trafficking survivors? How are they being met?
What needs are not being met? What steps can we take to fill those gaps?**

[\(See handout\)](#)

Announcements:

Check out the BRACE podcast that PCCAHT members Melinda Sampson (NC Stop Human Trafficking) and Bonnie Jean Kuras (TEDI BEAR) facilitate.

Chew and Chat: No Shame Book Club

Friday, January 10th from noon to 1 p.m.

McAlister's Deli, Greenville

COMPASSIONOMICS – The Revolutionary Science Evidence That Caring Makes a Difference by Stephen Trzeciak and Anthony Mazzeoli. The premise of the book is that compassion has vast benefits for patients/can reverse the cost crisis in health care and could be the antidote for burnout – compassion matters. There are multiple TED Talks related to this topic.

PCCAHT Fundraiser at Mellow Mushroom

Wednesday January 15, 2020

11:00am-11:00pm

<https://www.groupraise.com/events/120717>

2020 Charles Blvd

Greenville, NC

You can support us by eating there anytime that day, but you MUST tell your server that you want to support PCCAHT. If you want to socialize with your PCCAHT friends, come from 11am-1pm or 6-8pm. We'll reserve a table for PCCAHT.

Stewards of Children Training

Thursday, January 23, 2 p.m.-4:30 p.m.

Sheppard Memorial Library, 530 Evans Street, Greenville

Register: <https://tedibear.ecu.edu/stewards-of-children/>

Human Trafficking 101

Thursday, January 23, 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Sheppard Memorial Library, 530 Evans St., Greenville
Light supper served.
Register at: <https://humantrafficking101january.eventbrite.com>

“Blind Eyes Opened” (Documentary about Human Trafficking)

Thursday, January 23, 7pm
750 SW Greenville Boulevard
Greenville, NC 27834
[Trailer and more info](#)
[Tickets](#)

Circle of Security Parenting Classes

Location: TEDI BEAR Children’s Advocacy Center
2303 Executive Dr., Greenville, N.C.
Next session begins in January
See flyer for details to register.

Pitt County is Selected for Trauma-Informed Initiative

Keith Letchworth:

Pitt County is selected for Trauma informed initiative. We are so excited that we are receiving money and have to do it in six months. We are really excited to be selected for this.

1. There is a community survey going out requesting info about what service providers, faith-based organizations and nonprofits know about trauma. The survey is actually open through the end of January. What we hope to glean from survey is the community’s knowledge of trauma. Professionals in all fields are invited to fill this survey out, including law enforcement, EMS, physicians and the faith community.
2. There will be a Trauma-informed 101 training on Jan. 27 at Eastern AHEC from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. with registration at 8:30 a.m. It is free. It will focus on how to recognize trauma and how you can address trauma individually and look at some of the resources available. Trauma 101 is geared toward professionals and for new employees with a very basic understanding of trauma.
3. As result of the survey, we are looking at the training needs. As I said BRACE is focal point for this. What we hope to do from this effort is develop a long-range plan to help educate the community.

Next Meeting

January 16, 9:30 a.m.
Sheppard Memorial Library, Meeting Room A

Adjourn

Next meetings- Mark Your Calendars

January 16
February 20

March 19

www.pccaht.com

Email melinda@ncstophumantrafficking.org to add your organization.