



**August 19, 2020**

## **Minutes**

### **Introductions**

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### **Good News**

**Beauty Bar MediSpa and NC Stop Human Trafficking are beginning a partnership. Part of that includes free tattoo removal for human trafficking victims.**

**PCCAHT Account: \$237.33**

**Rapid Response Team Report**

**Juliana Mariani:** 17 clients; 14 are Latinos (11 women and three men. All the women are sex trafficked and the men are labor trafficked) Two Latino children, a girl and a boy. The girl is 15 (sex trafficking and labor trafficking) and the boy is 9 (labor trafficking). Then there are three U.S. born. All are women and all are sex trafficked.

## Training Opportunities ([See handout](#))

### Discussion:

#### [2020 Trafficking in Persons Report from the US Department of State](#)

The United States is at Tier 1. Tier 1 means a country meets the minimum standards for legislation and working to stop human trafficking.

- In 2019, the government decreased efforts that protected human trafficking victims. This includes making it more difficult to qualify for a T visa, longer processing times for applications, and if a victim is denied a T visa, they are immediately deported.
- Efforts that were discussed to improve support for human trafficking victims were to:
- Increasing long-term housing to provide spaces for human trafficking victims to recover.
- Increasing educational opportunities to provide means of employment to escape human trafficking.
- Increasing access to trauma-informed child-care to better provide for working parents who are also human trafficking survivors.
- US prosecutions of human trafficking cases and convictions of human traffickers are on the decline and less victims are being reached; however funding has been increased.

### Misinformation about Human Trafficking on Social Media

- Watch out for fake FBI seals
- **Every 40 seconds a child is taken (FALSE)**  
National Center for Exploited and Missing Children; almost always a family member abducts a child
- This misinformation causes parents to believe the way to protect their child from trafficking is to protect them from being abducted, which is false. The way to protect your child is to protect them from online predators, or an online boyfriend or girlfriend.
- **Wayfair Furniture Company is involved in Human Trafficking (FALSE).**  
There was a series of cabinets with high prices listed on the site with different names. Someone on reddit suggested this was a human trafficking situation. Because of these rumors, the human trafficking hotline was flooded with people

calling to report human trafficking by the Wairfair Furniture Company and clogged the line for actual instances of human trafficking.

- There are a lot of problems with imagery surrounding human trafficking advocacy. Imagery of women in chains or hand cuffed or beat-up with bruises all over their body. Most often this is not what a human trafficking victim looks like and this sort of imagery hurts victims of human trafficking because their cases are considered “not valid” or “not real cases of human trafficking:.
- **Human trafficking is a bigger deal then COVID. This is a false equivalency.** Human trafficking and COVID are both of equal importance.
- Outside human trafficking groups promoting misinformation spread distrust in the community and discourage collaboration between advocacy groups.

This misinformation is harmful and we as anti-human trafficking advocates need to respond to it on social media. NC Stop Human Trafficking [provided a handout](#) to assist.

## **Announcements**

### **Voices of Freedom Survivor Speaker Web Series**

Wednesday, Aug. 26, 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

[DETAILS](#)

### **Human Trafficking Commission Meeting**

Aug. 27, 10 a.m.

[DETAILS](#)

### **NC Stop Human Trafficking WEBINAR: Human Trafficking 101**

September 9, 2 p.m.

What is human trafficking? Why is it so prevalent in NC? Join us to learn the answers as well as how to identify red flags and warning signs in a potential victim; and how to report human trafficking.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

### **Stewards of Children Training**

Thursday, September 24, 2020, 6 p.m.-8 p.m.

To register: email [Glossonk15@ecu.edu](mailto:Glossonk15@ecu.edu) or [kurasb18@ecu.edu](mailto:kurasb18@ecu.edu)

### **NC Stop Human Trafficking WEBINAR: Labor Trafficking in the US**

October 28, 2 p.m.

[DETAILS](#)

### **Next Meeting**

September 17, 9:30 a.m.

Virtual or Sheppard Memorial Library, Meeting Room A

**Adjourn**

**Next meetings- Mark Your Calendars**

September 17

October 15

November 19

[www.pccaht.com](http://www.pccaht.com)

Email [melinda@ncstophumantrafficking.org](mailto:melinda@ncstophumantrafficking.org) to add your organization