



**March 18, 2021**

## **Agenda**

### **Introductions**

Juliana Mariani, Project FIGHT

Jeannette Debs, PFLAG

Bonnie Jean Kuras, TEDI BEAR Children's Advocacy Center

Minerva Freeman, Pitt County Family Development Corporation

Kayla Greene, C4FVP

Melinda Sampson, NC Stop Human Trafficking

Leah Arnold, Legal Aid of NC

Maria Pinto, C4FVP

Georgia Child, Pitt County Health Department

Deborah Savage, Pitt County Health Department

Deija Jone, REAL Crisis Intervention

Desha Lane, Pitt County Sheriff's Office

Marie Welch, NC Stop Human Trafficking

Shereena Foster, Pitt County DSS CPS

Liz Liles, Daughters of Worth

Jay Saunders, Pitt County District Attorney's Office

Laverne Coulten-Harrell, Roanoke-Chowan SAFE

Nicole Deen, PRIDE of NC

Nancy Hagan, NC Human Trafficking Commission

Pam Strickland, NC Stop Human Trafficking

SueAnn Pilgreen, Injury Prevention Program and SAFE Communities Coalition of Pitt County

### **Good News**

Liz Liles: Both survivors of trafficking are employed and are working toward a brighter future.

Pam Strickland: Requested funding for a new laptop, and we were granted that.

**PCCAHT Account: \$237.33**



**Speaker:** Dr. Nancy Hagan, NC Human Trafficking Commission

The Human Trafficking Commission is a legislatively mandated committee that was formed in 2013. It is commissioned to be a leader in the state around policy, developing a regional response team legislation, sometimes, when funding is available it is able to commission, fund and facilitate research. Quarterly meetings are open to the public and will resume in person once we are able to get back in gear.

A possible Human Trafficking Symposium may happen this year in September in the Raleigh area. It is a wonderful opportunity for stakeholders across the state to get together.

One ad hoc standards committee of the NC Human Trafficking Commission was charged with developing standards of care for service providers throughout the state. There is tremendous inconsistency across the state around service provision for victims and survivors of human trafficking. The commission gathered a group of stakeholder, such as providers and people working in the SA and DV fields.

They designed a core set of standards, meaning 106 standards, that should guide professional conduct and service provision for any organization serving survivors and victims of human trafficking.

We are in an emergent field, there are not a lot of standards or guidelines to choose from to seek guidance from. The standards are to guide organizations in their work but the commission hopes that the standards will be used in part how it responds to letters of support and funding determinations of organizations, and participate in the vetting process and the linkage in reporting to the NHTH.

The world of human trafficking can be a little bit like working in the wild west where the variants and protocols are changing and we need a place to consolidate that when the time is right.

Organizations are going to be asked to use this for self-assessment right now.

The idea is that the commission will host a directory of service providers on the website and agencies will report if they meet the standards through a self-assessment.

Foundational standards are ethical standards, they are basic and fundamental.



(SEE STANDARDS ATTACHED)

The standards don't encompass minors because of the Department of Social Services.

The NC Human Trafficking Commission would need recurrent funding to oversee these standards once they are in place. Commissioners approved the standards in 2019, but then the pandemic hit and it was almost a full stop.

Currently Margaret Henderson for the NC School of Government is looking at the standards, trying to consolidate and putting them together to address the field of human trafficking, yet is not overwhelming for organizations.

Questions emerged around faith-based organizations coercing/forcing participants to attend religious services to stay in the program or enjoy privileges.

There is no enforcement mechanism around these standards, but the transparency of whether the agency is meeting standards will be increased, so at the minimum referring agencies will know the practices.

The next steps are the focus groups.

### **Rapid Response Team Report**

Juliana: I have 11 Latino clients. Out of the 11, I have 10 female Latina clients, out of the 10, 8 were sex trafficked and 2 were labor trafficked. The male was also labor trafficked. I would also like to say, three of these ladies were trafficked at 13 and one at 16. Now they are in their early 20s. I only have one American lady, and she is in her 20, and she was trafficked at the age of 13. I have one in her mid-40s and she was labor trafficked.

### **Report from Facilitator**

We are trying to get funding for a part-time person.

Z Smith Reynolds Foundation grant application: They have declined our letter of intent.

Vidant Foundation: They have accepted and invited us to submit an application.



## **Training Opportunities**

### **Human Trafficking Cases in NC**

#### **Announcements:**

##### **Tiffany Herring, Trillium Health Resources**

24-hour training offered exclusively through Trillium  
Community Crisis Intervention

March 30-April 1

8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Contact [trainingunit@trilliumnc.org](mailto:trainingunit@trilliumnc.org)

##### **Long Sleeve Drive for Migrant Farmworkers in Greenville NC**

El Rancho - 2500 Charles Blvd.

Tropicana Supermarket – 1204 N Memorial Dr.

AMEXCAN Office – 1410 Evans St. Suite 1-A

La Sinaloense – 1700 W 5<sup>th</sup> St.

For more information:

Call: (252)329-0593

Email: [jrodriguez@amexcannc.org](mailto:jrodriguez@amexcannc.org)

##### **Tips for keeping kids safe online**

March 24, 3-4:30pm

[Register here](#)

##### **Stewards of Children**

April 8, 6-9pm

[Register here](#)

##### **Human Trafficking 101**

April 14, 2021 2-4pm

[Register here.](#)

#### **Next Meeting**

April 15, 9:30 a.m.



Virtual - [Link to zoom meeting](#)

Speaker: LaDwina Barlow, REAL Crisis, will speak on the intersection of sexual assault and human trafficking. (April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month.)

Need a facilitator

**Adjourn**

**Next meetings- Mark Your Calendars**

**April 15**

**May 20**

**June 17**

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

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