



**July 15, 2021**

**Minutes**

Meeting Recording:

[https://us06web.zoom.us/rec/share/niqRp\\_Z3z1hXu3SsysFGxOHWZhchMK6fTU7KkDIRj96BKnyAD--OewAGCNkrCSZh.MFghfDJ37TKfSaw4](https://us06web.zoom.us/rec/share/niqRp_Z3z1hXu3SsysFGxOHWZhchMK6fTU7KkDIRj96BKnyAD--OewAGCNkrCSZh.MFghfDJ37TKfSaw4)

Access Passcode: t%4@M8Du

**Introductions**

Pam Strickland, NC Stop Human Trafficking

Melinda Sampson, NC Stop Human Trafficking, [melinda@ncstophumantrafficking.org](mailto:melinda@ncstophumantrafficking.org)

Nicole Deen, Regional Director of Pride in NC, Greenville

Venus Curry, Pitt County Sheriff's Office

Sherry Thornton, Carolina Pregnancy Center

Minerva D. Freeman, Pitt County Family Development Corp., Inc.

Jeanette Debs, PFLAG

Georgia Childs, Pitt County Health Department

Rajendra Jagad

Jay Saunders, Pitt Co DA's Office

**Good News**

PREP clinics being started in the Fall in Pitt, Lenoir and Wayne County

NAMI Pride Event on June 26th was hugely successful

**PCCAHT Account: \$237.33**

**Vidant Funds Report**

Pam has been informed that she will receive the \$5,000 check on behalf of PCCAHT next

week. Because of an anticipated gap in resource availability, the MDT (more about that below) proposes making some of the \$5,000 available for immediate survivor needs like hotel rooms, clothing, food. Pam has checked with the Foundation Director, who approved the use of the funds for that purpose. The consensus of the group was that this is acceptable.

### **Project FIGHT update**

Project FIGHT is a project of the Salvation Army; works to fight human trafficking. In NC, they have several Human Trafficking case managers working across the state. Project FIGHT provides emergency housing, food and immediate needs for survivors.

Pitt County's case manager (Juliana Mariani) has been on medical leave for several months. Pam was informed that Emily da Camara (a case manager from Raleigh) would be taking over the Pitt County cases until another case manager was hired. However, Emily's last day was Tuesday. There is no immediate plan for covering Pitt County.

The Director of Project FIGHT for NC also recently left, and a replacement has not been named.

### **Rapid Response Team (RRT)/Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) Report**

There are several RRT's across the state. They were created to provide an immediate response when a trafficking victim/survivor is identified. They were activated and provided services for the first 48-72 hours.

The model has been changing across the country and state. Instead of RRT's, many communities are creating Multidisciplinary Teams. These teams provide an immediate response, but then continue to meet and discuss cases, to be sure that all relevant service providers are involved and informed, so that the needs of the victim/survivor continue to be met. Also, the team can discuss what went well, and what should be done differently next time.

Members of the former Pitt Co RRT have decided to reform as an MDT.

The MDT would benefit from additional structure that could be provided by becoming a sub-committee of PCCAHT.

The MDT will be a closed group of service providers, so that confidentiality can be maintained. The MDT members will sign MOUs to facilitate the partnership. If you know of an agency that would be a good addition to the group, please let Pam Strickland know.

## [Training Opportunities](#) (follow this link)

## [Human Trafficking Cases in NC](#) (follow this link)

**Speaker:** Pam Strickland, NC Stop Human Trafficking Founder  
NC Demand Reduction Task Force  
(Powerpoint is in the folder)

NC Stop Human Trafficking, Shield NC and Legacy of Hope International were interested in working to reduce demand for human trafficking and decided they would be stronger doing it together, and wanted to involve other people. Many state government agency stakeholders and businesses were invited to an information session that went well. Dept of Public Safety, Labor and NC Council for Women and Children and some others were invited. We invited anti-human trafficking nonprofits to an information session as well.

In the 570-page 2020 Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Report: “victim” or “survivor” is used 11,130 whereas “Buyer” is used 3 times. This gives you an idea about where the focus is. One country in the TIP report actually listed their “demand reduction” as arresting trafficking victims.

Demand Abolition Survey in the US reports only 6% of buyers have ever been arrested. 6.2% of their survey respondents have bought sex in the last 12 months. About 25% of active buyers report purchasing weekly or monthly, and they comprised nearly 75% of the market. If these buyers could be changed or rehabilitated, it could greatly change this data. Surprisingly, high-frequency buyers tend to make more than \$100,000 annually.  $\frac{1}{3}$  of active buyers strongly agree that they do not want to do it again; some of the proposals within this organization will be to help those people.

What does demand reduction look like already in NC? Shield NC sent a survey to all NC anti-trafficking groups and asked if they were doing any demand reduction and if they had any plans to. Some forms of demand reduction being used are cyber patrols, using technology as a deterrence method, John School/Diversion Program and public education. Education is a big piece of demand reduction; one important part of that is teaching the relationship between pornography and sex trafficking.

How can we create a demand reduction plan in NC? Awareness, collaboration, education. Changes in policy and technology use along with diversion and treatment of compulsive sex buyers could also help.

Sex trafficking policy starts with educating the public and reducing access to pornography by minors. Possible strategies: impose serious fines, impounding

vehicle/suspend license if soliciting from vehicle. Some districts use public shaming, such as sharing of mugshots, and Sex Buyer “John” Schools. Sex Offender Management Board has also been explored; the idea is that people are getting therapy and a board is keeping an eye on that group.

“What Are You Searching For?” is a digital NC prevention program. The target audience is people in Wake County intending on purchasing sex; utilized behavioral retargeting performance through advertisements.

Potential goals of the task force: tracking and reporting buyer data, identifying best practices in treatment, trying to initiate a cultural shift and increase capacity through technology.

The first meeting of the NC Demand Reduction Task Force will be in Raleigh on August 2. If you are interested in participating, please contact Pam.

#### **Announcements:**

#### **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: [jrodiguez@amexcannc.org](mailto:jrodiguez@amexcannc.org)

#### **Human Trafficking 101**

July 27, 6:00 p.m.

La Grange Public Library  
119 E Washington Street  
La Grange, NC 28551

#### **Webinar: How Porn Causes Harm**

July 28, 2 p.m.

Register here: [https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_oSnxXUatSsmErmNnDaR7XQ](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_oSnxXUatSsmErmNnDaR7XQ)

**Human Trafficking 101**

July 28, 6:00 p.m.

Greene County Public Library  
229 Kingold Blvd Suite G  
Snow Hill, NC 28580

**Human Trafficking 101**

August 12, 6 p.m.

Farmville Public Library  
4276 W Church St, Farmville, NC 27828  
Farmville, NC 27828

**National Night Out**

August 3, 5-8 pm

Belvoir Fire Department

**Sheriff's Office Summer Youth Camp**

August 9-13

Application Deadline: July 23

**Greenville JAYCEE's Prom: Through the Decades**

August 14, 7-11 pm

**Circle of Security Parenting Series (8 weeks, Thursday nights)**

September 9, 16, 23, 30, 7-8:30 pm

October 7, 14, 21, 28, 7-8:30 pm

Register here: <https://forms.gle/qpWN1q4YAWEBdTpi9>

**Next Meeting**

August 19, 9:30 a.m.

In person- Farmville Public Library

4276 W Church St, Farmville, NC 27828

Virtual - [Link to Zoom meeting](#)

**Adjourn**

**Next meetings- Mark Your Calendars**

**August 19**

**September 16**

**October 21**

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

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