



**Trafficking Intervention Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
February 7, 2020 – 9:30 am to 11:15 am
Tilikum Conference Room, Portland Legal Office**

In Attendance: Rich Austria, Nina Belli, Robin Miller, Esther Nelson, Tom Perez, Amanda Swanson, Cassie Trahan, JR Ujifusa

Phone Attendees: Nina Belli, Teresa Cowing, Mary Dirksen, Amber Harchuk, Molly McDade-Hood

Absent: Bimpe Adewusi, Elizabeth Alston, Hon. Valeri Love, Chad Opitz, Alex Palm, Margaret Scott, Shannon Sivell

Minutes: Sherree Rodriguez

Welcome

Amanda introduced Robin Miller to the Advisory Committee (AC) as the newest member. Robin represents trafficking survivors and works for Janus Youth Programs.

Updates

Amanda Swanson

- Department of Justice (DOJ) has begun a recruitment for a Trafficking Intervention Specialist to work alongside Amanda.
- The Research and Data Collection Subcommittee is starting at the end of February. The group is working to gather information that will provide data for ongoing development of the work. It will ensure the grant conditions are met. A data sheet was distributed at the January awareness event.
- Attorney General Rosenblum announced Labor Trafficking efforts are commencing in 2020. Amanda serves on the workgroup for this purpose.
- DOJ is developing curriculum for use in training county coordinators.

JR Ujifusa – The Association of Prosecuting Attorneys has started a human trafficking group which JR is chairperson for. They plan to conduct trainings specific to prosecutors. One was conducted in Miami in January, with 125 prosecutors present. Another is planned in Portland in September. The group is exploring ways to identify and get referral cases.

Esther Nelson – Safety Compass has hired two additional advocate positions. Esther and Sgt. Ritter will be conducting a training at the Western Information Systems Network conference this month. There is a survivor leadership group that is forming in Portland as well.

Tom Perez – Tom reported information gained from a meeting at the University of Northern Colorado to provide training for EPIK volunteers on motivation interviewing.

Cassie Trahan –

- A Village for One has received VOCA funding for their work, allowing for a bi-lingual staff person.
- Cassie is doing trainings for Oregon Youth Authority this year.
- The residential house construction is advancing. They have received very strong donation support from the community as support of this project. They hope to open for residents mid-summer. The house will be for statewide use, with most referrals going through Department of Human Services.



Minutes – previous meeting

The AC approved minutes from October 11, 2019 and December 13, 2019 meetings.

AC Membership Application

Jessica Benke applied as an additional survivor representation on the AC. The AC approved her application.

2020 Objectives

The group discussed AC objectives for the remainder of the year. Ideas to move forward on include:

- Conducting an annual training at Oregon District Attorney Association conference
- Creating a resource guide
- Creating a white paper on demand

ACTIONS

Amanda

- Send Tom information on a grant to assist in buyer research
- Send group a document published by Shared Hope and Villa Nova addressing victim/offender intersectionality.
- Reach out to county coordinators to obtain resource information

AC members

- Tom will bring the white paper draft to the May meeting
- The AC will send Amanda resources for the guide
- Cassie will send Amanda her therapist list

The meeting adjourned at 11:20 am.

Upcoming meetings: May 15, August 14, November 13