



“Collaborating for a Safer Idaho”

Idaho Criminal Justice Commission – Human Trafficking Sub-Committee
Quarterly Meeting
April 26, 2022
2:00-3:00 p.m.

Members Present:

Dave Jeppesen, Chair, IDHA
Eric Fredericksen, SAPD
Tim Brady, Co-Chair, Boise City Police
Cory Nielsen, Deputy Ada County Prosecutor
Michael Miraglia, Boise City Police
Anne Connor, IDJC
Tai Simpson, Engaging Voices
Eric Studebaker, SDE
Mark Kubinski, Office of Attorney General
Jennifer Zielinski, Idaho Anti-Trafficking Coalition
Heather Cunningham, Idaho Council on Domestic Violence
Bret Kessinger, Idaho State Police

Members Absent:

Taunya Jones
Sen. Melissa Wintrow
Anne Pelletier, ICASDV
Kelly Miller, Engaging Voices
Dawn Maglish, Inside Out

Others Present:

Kathie Brack, IDHW

Welcome – Dir. Jeppesen: Call to order and introductions of members.

Approve December 3, 2019, minutes: Motion to approve the minutes from the December 3, 2019, meeting by Anne Connor. Mr. Studebaker, 2nd the motion. No discussion. Unanimously approved.

Dir. Jeppesen: Spoke with Sen. Wintrow who is very interested in this work but was unable to attend today’s meeting.

HT Sub-Committee History Update regarding safe harbor – Eric Fredericksen, SAPD

The previous work of the committee focused on re-defining human trafficking in the Idaho criminal code to include labor trafficking, along with sex trafficking. Previously, human trafficking was an

enhancement to another offense. The committee also worked on safe harbor provisions to divert minor victims from the juvenile corrections system to get treatment. Idaho law has also been amended to include trafficking as an affirmative defense to an underlying crime(s) committed by a trafficked victim.

Committee History and HT Screening Tool – IDJC Pilot Report – Anne Connor, IDJC

IDJC agreed at the December 3, 2019, meeting to pilot a screening tool. Ms. Connor has been a committee member since 2017 when the committee chair transitioned from Mr. Fredericksen to IDJC Director Monte Prow. From 2017-2019 the committee's focus was largely on legal issues including draft language for statutory changes. In her work as the Interstate Compact Coordinator for IDJC, the agency has been focused on service provision to victims and coordinating with organizations that provide services. Ms. Connor returns kids back to Idaho when they are picked up in other states. The committee looked at 10 risk assessment models and decided on the Wisconsin screening tool. Ms. Connor worked to localize the Wisconsin model to meet Idaho's needs and it is now being used by clinicians at three IDJC facilities and 11 juvenile detention facilities. IDJC also currently uses the screening tool for juveniles committed from counties to IDJC as part of the routine screening and assessment process. The IDJC finding is that a high percentage of juveniles have several risk factors for human trafficking. The screening tool appears to be appropriate for the Idaho population and IDJC has verified the tool's efficacy against the histories of juveniles who are assessed.

Dir. Jeppesen – What was the committee's goal for the use of the tool? **Mr. Miraglia** – The tool is an important asset to identify juveniles who are trafficking victims to enable stakeholders to get victims help and justice. Law enforcement has been able to link juveniles with detectives who can investigate criminal cases.

Ms. Connor – Many Idaho stakeholders have adopted the Minnesota No Wrong Door approach: There is no wrong way to access services, including law enforcement, school, emergency rooms - regardless of how a victim is identified, they will receive services.

Dir. Jeppesen – A July agenda item will be to develop a plan to get the tool out to other organizations. Dir. Jeppesen will report this meeting to the July ICJC meeting.

Ms. Connor – There may need to be MOUs with other agencies/organizations, as not all organizations are coordinated with state processes. There will be a need for agreements about what groups and organizations can/will do when they identify trafficked victims.

Ms. Zielinski – There needs to be a process for victims to obtain appropriate services. The committee can expand communications across agencies and non-profits, etc., including the risk assessment tool and what to do when victims are identified. All stakeholders should be trained in identifying human trafficking.

Ms. Simpson – Engaging Voices represents five different tribes with different jurisdictions and different resources; procedures should be process-oriented, but also recognize multiple agencies need to be included in developing processes.

Ms. Zielinski – There should be discussions regarding a designated jurisdictional court in one location that would accept all traffic cases due to the challenges of collaborating across jurisdictions. **Mr.**

Kessinger – Director of ISP's Fusion Center (<https://atlasofsurveillance.org/a/aos2470-idaho-criminal-intelligence-center-fusion-center>) supports federal and state jurisdictional agencies. This could be a bridge for cross-directional work with various agencies. **Ms. Zielinski** – Some members have had conversations with established trafficking courts in some states.

Ms. Connor - Mandates from child welfare can be at odds with a centralized system; the focus on family reunification (child welfare) can be at odds with getting services and prosecutions. Los Angeles' Star Court has training for judges for child trafficking cases. If Idaho had one court in the state to send all the cases, a judge could receive NSJSCJ training. **Mr. Kessinger** -The Idaho Prosecuting Attorney's Association as also an option to train judges and prosecutors.

Dir. Jeppesen – Focus for next meeting and activities over the next year: Should the Idaho Child and Youth Trafficking Report Card be a focus over the next year?

Mr. Miraglia – Training officers to be able to investigate trafficking cases should be a priority. Over the last 10 years there have been few successful Idaho prosecutions relative to the incidence of human trafficking. Additional groups should also be added to the committee. **Ms. Zielinski** - Statewide training (of stakeholders) coupled with service-oriented protocols should be a focus. Idaho is currently too focused on punitive processes. Idaho received a zero on the report card for prevention and training. Idaho should develop best practices that have proven to be effective in other states. Idaho should broaden out processes, identification and training and work toward prevention.

Ms. Connor - Many states needed to get statutory changes to comply with the Shared Hope report card, then upgrade the criteria for grading. IDJC built a spread sheet with four areas in which Idaho received an F. (Will provide a copy to the committee members.) **Mr. Miraglia** - If the grading criteria has changed, the committee should look at that to make sure the metrics are valid. Shared Hope may not have the appropriate metrics for Idaho's needs. **Ms. Cunningham** – Statewide trainings for law enforcement, prosecutors and ISP training on demand for sexual assault but could be developed to include human trafficking. Trainers should be identified. ICDV can help with creating training conferences and opportunities for statewide trainings. ICDV collects data from federal grant programs and funds 47 programs in Idaho. Trafficking numbers are increasing; there is more reporting and more education. A dashboard should be created to show criminality and victimization reporting.

Mr. Kessinger – The Fusion Center has a training announcement on its website; this could broaden training opportunities.

Dir. Jeppesen – Other ways to move the sub-committee forward?

Mr. Fredericksen – Adding trafficking training to the POST academy should be a renewed focus to train officers early in their careers.

Dir. Jeppesen – Should other members be included in the committee? (Child Welfare)

Ms. Connor – Someone from an assessment center should be added. If the trend is to divert juveniles away from detention, there is a need to identify where to send juveniles. Assessment centers are now getting grants. If juveniles get put back in the community they go back to the traffickers. They must have a safe place to go. **Ms. Cunningham** – ICDV has some funding for centers (Hayes House, Bannock County, e.g.) The committee does not have anyone who focuses on labor trafficking. **Ms. Zielinski** – Providers need to utilize out-of-state treatment options. IDJC has an MOU with Hayes House for a model.

Adjourn 3:00 p.m.