



Collaborating for a Safer Idaho”

Idaho Criminal Justice Commission – Human Trafficking Sub-Committee

October 4, 2022

3:00-4:00 p.m.

Members Present:

Dave Jeppesen, Chair, IDHW
Michael Miraglia, Boise City Police
Jennifer Zielinski, Idaho Anti-Trafficking Coalition
Dana Weimiller, Idaho Council on Domestic Violence (for Heather Cunningham)
Sen. Melissa Wintrow
Dawn Maglish, Inside Out
Amanda Fisher, Inside Out
Amber Moe, Idaho Supreme Court (for Taunya Jones)
Mike Steen, Office of the Attorney General
Anne Connor, IDJC
Jared Larsen, Office of the Governor
Det. Chad Benson, Nampa Police Dept.
Cory Nielsen, Deputy Ada County Prosecutor
Brett Kessinger, Idaho State Police
Niki Flock, IDHW
Eric Studebaker, SDE

Members Absent:

Eric Fredericksen, SAPD
Taunya Jones, Idaho Supreme Court
Tim Brady, Co-Chair, Boise City Police
Tai Simpson, Engaging Voices
Mark Kubinski, Office of Attorney General
Anne Pelletier, ICASDV
Kelly Miller, Engaging Voices

Others Present:

Kathie Brack, IDHW

Welcome – Director Jeppesen: Call to order.

Comments: **Mr. Larsen** has been unable to schedule a meeting with Sen. Wintrow to discuss statutory changes/recommendations. He will also be conferring with Officer Kimball, the Canyon Cty Prosecutor, Sen. Ricks and Mike Miriglia who each have expertise in prosecuting human trafficking cases in Idaho and understand the gaps in the law.

Approval of September 6, 2022, minutes: Motion to approve by Ms. Zielinski and seconded by Mike

Steen to approve the minutes from the September 6, 2022, meeting. Unanimous vote to approve the minutes.

Work Group 1 Report: **Ms. Zielinski** would like to evaluate the POST training to determine whether the training is adequate. She and Ms. Maglish met with IDHW child welfare staff who use an assessment tool to determine if children are being trafficked. They also want to review the data and training modules used by the department. **Dir. Jeppesen:** Reminded the members that he would like recommendations by need of year to provide to ICJC to take to the legislature. **Ms. Zielinski:** Is currently evaluating curriculum now and will put together her recommendations. She would like help getting access to ISP to determine how officers are being trained and what assessment processes and protocols are being utilized. **Brett Kessinger** will speak with POST and coordinate with Ms. Zielinski and Ms. Maglish.

Niki Flock reported on the resources offered by IDHW: including the 2-1-1 line, navigation services, child protection screening for victims, children's mental health services and providing counselors/therapy to treat trauma. Victims don't have to be in care to receive assistance; service navigation is very helpful to direct people to resources, as well as SNAP and other benefits for families. Child Protection staff are being trained to recognize human trafficking with minors. CP staff also use a training and assessment tool. **Ms. Maglish** asked if these services available to kids who are not in CPS care. Ms. Flock indicated that these services are available to kids who have been referred for abuse. **Ms. Connor** returns minors from other states and coordinates returning (non-resident) kids in Idaho to other states. She identifies resources and services for both in and out-of-state victims with other trafficking units/other states. **Ms. Flock** indicated that when the department sends minors back to other states the domicile state provides resources. In-state kids receive services in-state, and receive wrap-around services while in care, including residential treatment and behavioral and mental health services. Department staff work with partners to locate out-of-state services when necessary. **Ms. Maglish:** Juveniles are often charged with crimes -- is DHW able to assist with this? Ms. Flock indicated that receiving state usually works with the charging state for services. **Ms. Connor:** If juveniles won't admit they are being trafficked they may be charged with crimes. **Det. Benson:** Idaho has a safe harbor law for juveniles; the challenge is getting juveniles to admit to trafficking to keep them from being charged with other crimes. Kids fall through the cracks in the CP system and don't get services if they aren't identified as trafficking victims. Some states require adjudication in order for victims to receive services. Juveniles often won't tell on their handlers for fear of retaliation. **Sen Wintrow:** The committee should assess what the Idaho response is and identify gaps and develop agreements between stakeholders so services are provided. **Dir Jeppesen:** There are lots of opportunities to identify victims, but services aren't coordinated among providers. **Ms. Maglish:** Idaho should have a no wrong door policy so that services are provided for anyone suspected of being trafficked. **Ms. Connor:** The Interstate Compact requires that regardless of how people come into the system they should get treatment and assistance. However, no protocols currently exist. **Ms. Zielinski:** Often victims get assistance via an initial punitive response - victims are charged with crimes. **Sen Wintrow:** It is important to develop a statewide protocol for how to handle victims and services provision. **Dir. Jeppesen** will speak with Dir. Prow to explore the cross sections between child protection and IDJC services and processes. **Sen. Wintrow:** This is a wicked problem, victims are brainwashed, coerced, traumatized.

Dir. Jeppesen: For the next meeting topics he will reach out to talk to ISP about the MDT currently employed by ISP and other Region 3 and 4 stakeholders to identify multi-agency actions. A report on proposed legislation and how to increase coordination among different agencies and stakeholders to create a systems level approach. **Ms. Maglish:** Idaho needs protocols and unified efforts; should we gather the training materials first or work toward protocols? **Dir. Jeppesen** – these can be developed in unison.

Adjourn 4:00 p.m.