

PUBLIC SAFETY COORDINATING COUNCIL

MINUTES

TUESDAY,
April 23, 2019

11:30

JUSTICE BUILDING -
JURY ASSEMBLY ROOM, 2ND FLOOR

MEETING CALLED BY	Eric Guyer
ATTENDEES	Joshua Aldrich, Joe Charter, Marie Curren, Rick Dyer, Doug Engle, Amber Freitas Eric Guyer, Danny Jordan, Tyler Lee, Jennifer Lind, Lorenzo Mejia, Robert Mountain, Jennifer Mylenek, Nathan Sickler, Aja Stoner, John Stromberg, Rita Sullivan, Julie Traverse

- Eric Guyer opened the meeting at 11:30
- Opening Remarks: Eric Guyer welcomed everyone to the April PSCC meeting.

Agenda Topics

MINUTE ADOPTION –FEBRUARY

ERIC GUYER, CHAIR

DISCUSSION	
No suggested revisions were identified for the February minutes, Danny Jordan provided a motion to adopt, seconded by Rick Dyer. A vote was requested, all were in favor, and none were opposed. The February minutes were officially adopted.	

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT DIVISION GRANT UPDATE

DISCUSSION	
<i>Joe Ferguson – Jackson County Juvenile Department Deputy Director</i>	
<p>The Youth Development Division is under the Department of Education and they provide funding to each county based on the percentage of the population that is between 0 and 17 years of age. Funding is to be focused on youth who are experiencing barriers to learning that may put them at risk of disconnecting from school, already disconnected from school or at risk of being unable to transition successfully to the labor force.</p> <p>Juvenile Crime Prevention (JCP) funds are being used to target youth transitioning from our detention and residential programs to ensure connection back to their home school, they provide tutoring to youth attending our after school program, vocational skills to youth 16 and older and skill development groups to youth to assist in breaking barriers that keep them from attending and achieving in school and/or the work force. Research has shown that truancy is related to delinquency, substance use and abuse, high school dropout, suicidal thoughts and attempts, and early sexual activity.</p> <p>Jackson County Community Justice – Juvenile Services has been designated to serve as the lead planning organization to facilitate the partnership among state and local public and private entities in our county by the Jackson County Board of Commissioners. The local high-risk juvenile crime prevention plan has been developed and reviewed through the Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee, which consists of organizations from education, health, human services, mental health, substance abuse, law enforcement and youth development.</p> <p>JCP will provide:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Transitional case management to approximately 300 unduplicated youth by ensuring reconnection with local school district upon release from detention and residential programs and assessed as medium or high risk by the JCP assessment. 2. Skills training to 50 unduplicated youth served by the department through diversion or probation caseloads to provide skills to reduce barriers of attending school, improving relationships or becoming employed. 3. Tutoring services to 25 youth attending department after school program or being served by the department to improve educational deficits. 4. Vocational skill services to 25 unduplicated youth served by the department through diversion or probation caseloads. <p>It will also fund 1.0 FTE case manager, 0.5 FTE skills trainer, tutoring services, incentives for youth participation and administrative costs associated with services.</p> <p>Joe Ferguson needed a formal vote from the LPSCC for approval. Judge Mejia approved and it was seconded by Jennifer Mylenek.</p>	

TRAFFICKING 101

DISCUSSION	
<i>Staysha Hackman – JCSTIF Coordinator</i>	

Staysha Hackmann is a Survivor Leader and the Coordinator of the Sex Trafficking Intervention Task Force. The Task force is a community collaboration formed to educate our community, empower survivors of sex trafficking and will work towards making our community a safer place for victims of sex trafficking to become survivors. Staysha was established as the coordinator for the Task Force through Community Works in late 2018. Staysha is a local survivor of sex and labor trafficking. She was first trafficked at the age of 19 and was trafficked for seven years. She experienced multiple attempts at recovery before permanently exiting that life and becoming a full-time advocate and survivor leader in the fight against sex trafficking. Staysha was born and raised in Medford, Oregon and has a heart for her community.

Human Trafficking has a two part definition: (1) When a person is forced to work through force fraud or coercion (2) Any minor under 18 who is involved with commercial sex. The Federal definition for "Severe Forms: of human trafficking are: (a) sex trafficking in which a commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such an act has not attained 18 years of age; or (b) the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purposes of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery. Part b of the Federal definition falls under the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000.

According to Polaris the 25 most common forms of human trafficking are: escort services, illicit massage, outdoor solicitation, residential sex, domestic work, bars and strip clubs, pornography, traveling sales crews, restaurants/food service, peddling and begging, agriculture, personal sexual servitude, health/beauty services, construction, hotel and hospitality, landscaping, illicit activities, arts and entertainment, cleaning services, factories/manufacturing, remote interactive sexual acts, carnivals, forestry and logging, health care, and recreational facilities. Some of these are pretty obvious but others are not and this just goes to show you how much growth we need within our communities.

A lot of people think that smuggling and human trafficking are the same thing but they are very different.

Smuggling:

- Crime against nation
- Must cross national borders
- Free to leave after border passage
- Person consents to be smuggled
- No labor or sexual exploitation required

Human Trafficking:

- Crime against a person
- No movement required
- Not free to leave
- A person is trafficked through force, fraud or coercion
- Involves labor or sexual exploitation

There is also a difference between labor exploitation and labor trafficking.

Labor exploitation:

- Unfair wages
- Poor living conditions
- Poor work conditions
- Controlling boss
- Sexual harassment
- Long hours
- Failure to give paycheck

Labor Trafficking

- Force, Fraud or Coercion
- Not free to leave
- Limited freedom to move
- Threatening to call police or immigration
- Threats to individual and/or family
- Long hours with little to no pay
- Large debts to employers that can never be paid back (i.e. rent and board, cost of cleaning supplies to do job, etc.)

In the United States, common types of labor trafficking include: people forced to work in homes as domestic servants, farmworkers coerced through violence as they harvest crops, factory workers held in inhumane conditions, door-to-door sales crews, restaurants, construction work, carnivals, health and beauty services, bars/strip clubs/cantinas. With marijuana being legalized people are being exploited to harvest crops.

There are three forms of sex trafficking. Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) which is a commercial transaction that involves the sexual exploitation of a child, such as the prostitution of children, child pornography, and child sex tourism. Adult sex trafficking is when an adult engages in a commercial sex act, such as prostitution, as the result of force, threats of

force, fraud, coercion or any combination of such means, that person is a victim of trafficking. Forced marriage is when a person is threatened or coerced into marrying someone against their will, and may suffer honor violence if they resists or refuse the marriage.

In 2013 and 2017 Polaris created a heat map which shows locations where trafficking occurred based on verified cases from calls they received. It was not until the 2017 map that Medford showed up with a high concentration of calls.

Staysha experienced trafficking on and off for seven years starting at the age of 17. She genuinely believed that nobody could save her, that she was a horrible person, and that all of the lies her trafficker told her she needed to believe in order to survive. When she was arrested her second time she had a giant bruise on her face and her lips were swollen. She thought that no one in the police station could save her or give her any information that was going to change her situation, and they didn't; nobody shared any information with her that would have helped her to realize that she was being trafficked. Staysha spent several years living with shame and guilt and not knowing how to experience life other than the one that was created by her trafficker.

Red flags and warning signs of sex and labor trafficking. It is important to note that some of them intersect but some of them are very different.

Sex trafficking:

- Tired during the day from working at night.
- Suddenly has expensive things: High-end, name-brand purse (such as Gucci), diamond bracelet, name-brand clothes or nails and hair done on a regular basis.
- Increasingly interested in or talks a lot about their partners dream, "we're going to..."
- Older partner, usually one not in school.
- Morals and values have slowly expanded.
- New tattoo or "brand" of initials, their name or a saying.
- Carries multiple cell phones –sometimes unnoticeable.
- Keeps eyes down while in public.
- Starts to become secluded, you see them less and less

Labor trafficking:

- Lack of control
- Few personal possessions
- Not in control of money, documents
- Not allowed to speak for themselves
- Not free to leave
- Unpaid or paid very little
- Long or unusual hours
- Not allowed breaks
- Recruited through false promise
- High security measures at work or living situation
- Lack of medical care
- Appears malnourished or exhausted
- Signs of physical abuse
- Fearful or avoids eye contact

It is common for traffickers to mark their victims so others can identify who these individuals belong to. Common types of tattoos are a: crown, name or initials, money signs or money bags, property of ..., "King" and the trafficker's street name, barcodes, and combination of these might also occur. Sometimes there can be more than one brand because they have more than one trafficker.

Common myths:

Myth: It's always or usually a violent crime

- Reality: By far the most pervasive myth about human trafficking is that it always - or often - involves kidnapping or otherwise physically forcing someone into a situation. In reality, most human traffickers use psychological means such as, tricking, defrauding, manipulating or threatening victims into providing commercial sex or exploitative labor.

Myth: People being trafficked are physically unable to leave their situations/locked in/held against their will

- Reality: That is sometimes the case. More often, however, people in trafficking situations stay for reasons that are more complicated. Some lack the basic necessities to physically get out - such as transportation or a safe place to live. Some are afraid for their safety. Some have been so effectively manipulated that they do not identify at that point as being under the control of another person.

Myth: Human trafficking only impacts girls and women

- Reality: Human trafficking impacts people of all genders: men, women, boys, girls and non-binary. Transgender people are particularly vulnerable to human trafficking.

Myth: Human trafficking survivors will identify as victims and ask for help

- Reality: Human trafficking victims rarely identify immediately as victims who need help due to trauma, self-blame, misidentification from over sensationalized depictions in the media, and social stigma.

The vulnerability factors for a person being trafficked are: poverty, discrimination, involvement in foster care system, homeless youth and homelessness, broken immigration system and undocumented status, lack of understanding of traffickers' tactics, and unhealed trauma and stigmatization. Any one or a combination of these factors can effect whether somebody can be lured into being trafficked. What is known about Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs is that if somebody does not have their physiological needs met then they do not need to worry about their safety needs, belongingness, or self-actualization. When working with survivors it is very important that you find out what their physiological needs are and then their safety need if you want to make any difference with these survivors.

The Sex Trafficking Intervention Task Force is comprised of four different committees: the steering committee, criminal justice subcommittee, training and education subcommittee, and victim services subcommittee. The steering committee is made of leaders/people that have the capacity to make a change in their agency and include the following: prosecutor's office, law enforcement, child welfare/self-sufficiency, community justice, advocacy, child abuse intervention center, shelter, survivor leader, culturally specific services, mental health, and health care. The purpose of the steering committee is to make sure that things get done, not only within their agencies but also within the taskforce. The criminal justice subcommittee is limited to criminal justice agencies and they focus on interventions and evidence based practices to remove barriers, keeping victims safe, and holding offenders accountable. A High level of confidentiality required for this group. The training and education subcommittee is open for community engagement and professionals and focuses on reducing human trafficking, facilitating community outreach, promoting public awareness, providing professional discipline specific trainings, and prevention in schools. The victim services subcommittee is open to victim service providers and is a place where we can create a response to support victims immediately after identification, create a 48 hour response for who do you reach out to when they need help, longer-term recovery solution, build a bridge between service providers and criminal justice agencies, and case reviews to identify gaps in the system that need to be addressed.

What can you do to help out? Know the National Human Trafficking Hotline (888-373-7888), educate yourself on the problem in your area, join the Sex Trafficking Intervention Task Force and help raise awareness in your community.

Jennifer Mylenek thanked Staysha for sharing her story.

Judge Mejia asked Staysha if she would be comfortable talking about when people realize that this is not love and what the dynamics are.

Staysha described that for her there was a lot of justification because she genuinely believed, based on certain situations, that what she was experiencing had to be love, because he would tell her things such as "well you do not have to walk the streets, you get put in nice hotel rooms, and I make sure you are safe and if anything goes wrong I can come and protect you. This is because I care about you, most traffickers would put you out on the street or wouldn't even care if something happened in this room so I love you." Staysha's trafficker would tell her that he loved her on a regular basis and she had several vulnerability factors. She did not have a strong male role model in her life and did not know what a healthy relationship was. When Staysha finally realized that her story was not unique and that there were other survivors that were experiencing the same tactics that her trafficker had used on her it made her realize that she was in a situation she knew nothing about, but she did not know how to reach out to understand more about her situation. The shame and the guilt is what really kept Staysha in the cycle. Staysha also accrued charges so being able to live a normal functional life was very difficult. Every time she attempted to get out, there was always this fear of the unknown. After going to 20 interviews in two weeks and getting turned down because of her past, Staysha did not believe that she could do better or was worth putting in the work to do better.

Rick Dryer wanted to know if there is a mechanism that will allow these solicitation charges to be expunged from someone's record if it is proven that they were sex trafficked.

Staysha explained that there is a vacatur law in California and other states. She is currently working on that process, but it is a long process because you have to do a discovery and give as much detail as possible to prove that you were actually in fact under the control of another person and had that person not been around you would not have done the act. It has taken Staysha almost two years and she is still not done with the process. There are some states that you have to be crime free for 99 years before you can even apply for vacatur.

Beth Heckert asked if you ran across someone that you thought was being trafficked what would be your advice for somebody that is not trained?

Staysha said that it completely depends upon how you came across the person. For instance, if you were at a convention out of town and you saw somebody in a hotel that kind of looked suspicious it would be best not to approach the person, but instead go to the hotel staff and report it to Polaris' National Human Trafficking Hotline. The hotline will be able to call the local police and let them know that it could be a potential situation.

Danny Jordan asked if the agencies that Community Works is working with to help inform them about this issue is making good progress in our county. This includes all agencies that may interact with Community Works.

Staysha states that in the 2017 report done by Polaris the State of Oregon received an F. In regards to Southern Oregon this taskforce is brand new and the only other available program with staff trained specifically in sex trafficking is Redemption Ridge

and they only work with minors so there is a huge gap in Jackson County. While the taskforce is in the beginning stages of growing the most amazing part is that Staysha has not come across an agency or organization that has said "no" when they were invited to the table. The taskforce has participation for a lot of organizations and agencies in the community.

Danny Jordan said that it seems like a community that has a person like Staysha who has experienced trafficking and can talk about it is going to make a lot more progress. He worked 15 years in public safety and now 15 years in county administration and this is the most impactful presentation he has heard regarding sex trafficking. Danny then thanked Staysha for her presentation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS

ERIC GUYER, CHAIR

DISCUSSION

Joe Ferguson is working with Staysha Hackman to present at the Juvenile Justice Conference in September.

Next Scheduled PSCC Meeting: June 25, 2019

Meeting Adjourned: 12:14 pm