



Agenda
Tuesday September 13, 2022
9:00am - 11:00am
WebEx

Call to Order Ashley McAree & Amanda Rodriguez, Co-Chairs

Approval of Minutes Jennifer Stine, Secretary

Member Updates

- Introductions and Agency Updates
- Prospective Members

Legislative/Policy Updates

- County Council Resolution [23-21](#)
 - Sub-committee update
- Legislative Committee Updates
 - Amanda Rodriguez

New Business

- Dulaney High School Anti-Trafficking Group
- Goal for 2023: January HT Awareness Month
- Awareness Materials
- Commission for Women Funds
- Baltimore County Fire Department Trainings
- Volunteer Opportunities
- Website Updates- dedicated email address

Upcoming

- Trainings/Events/Conferences-
Araminta Ignite the Light 10/3, Ocean City conference 10/16-10/19
- Community Outreach
- Next Meeting: December 13, 2022, 9am-10:30am

Roundtable Discussion

Adjournment

- Regional Navigator Meeting- Immediately to Follow

Call to order: 9:02

Present at Meeting: Ashley McAree, Co-Chair (GBMC); Amanda Rodriguez, Co-Chair (TurnAround); Milana Vayner (BC DHCD); Jenn Stine, Secretary (CASA); Joshua Greenberg (BC Office of Government Affairs); Laura Coleman (True POUR); Roz Berkowitz (Commission for Women); Celena Falline (DJS); Rachel Sye (TurnAround); David L. Barton (BCPD - Vice); Kelly Foster (DJS); Wendy Hildebrand (DJS); Liz Kimbel (Survivor Leader; Restoring Ivy Collective); Krista Trahan (BC CAC); Lauren Stokeling-Brewer (TurnAround); Danielle Nickles (GBMC); Carmen Christiana (Baltimore County Outreach Coordinator, Commission for Women); Evelyn Kim (GBMC); Tania Araya (); Kelly Traux (GBMC); Lauren Hanley (); Alex V (TurnAround);

Member Updates

NA

Legislative/Policy Updates

Amanda Rodriguez - Legislative Working Group talked through request from CE & Council re: ideas for local legislation. Several proposals – looked at info out of LA County. LA put forward early pieces of Safe Harbor legislation – diversionary court systems for youth charged with prostitution and other crimes as a result of being trafficked; also created task forces & working groups & protocols related to initial interactions and handling of youth identified as sex trafficking victims. Our group looked at the protocols and made recommendations to CE that we will create something similar. The recs from LA County were around two timeframes: 72 hours (crisis period) – assessments; 90 days (long-term for investigation & services). Provided recommendations about 2 weeks ago.

Josh Greenberg – Feedback from CE and learn more about our goals and legislative hopes for County. Typically, a proposal will come with recommendations for legislative working group:

- Where in code
- What language to advocate for

Clarification: looking to implement protocols that mirror LA County? (Yes) Interesting idea, open to hearing more. Need legislative language to gauge what we'd be putting forward to Council. Office of Law would communicate with the group to develop language – his recommendation at this point is to engage with the office of law/someone who can help with legislative language. In current form, can't bring a robust assessment to Council.

Question re: section indicating that the work Council would request info from the Work Group; does the Work Group need to wait for council requests to provide that info? Milana gave background on the initial request from the County. Was going to be actual legislation that was put forward, but Amanda connected with Council to explain what the action would/would not do; Council chose to limit it to a Resolution for recommendations, rather than actual legislation. Amanda – did draft a resolution that was included in initial draft, was so vanilla language, that ultimately we determined that policy is more important to change than legislation. Still unsure where the driver is – policy vs. legislation. Policy change can make a huge difference in how the County addresses trafficking. Happy to talk with law enforcement to come up with a resolution, or other avenue? Same end goal, so whatever the means are/ recommendations from Josh, would be appreciated.

Josh: If changes we're seeking are administrative, CE is looking for where in the police's matrix/ policies/procedures would we put these; where in current police procedure needs to be changed; looking at some specific language that is workable – if more administrative, not sure Office of Government Affairs would be as involved. Advice for CE's benefit: what does the language look like? Where in police policy/procedure would it go? What are the hurdles? Could be same as LA, or tailored to Baltimore County; not sure how it would conflict with state law. CE would want to see what exactly the operationalization would look like and what the CE's office needs to do. Wants more precision in what language we need.

Amanda: Part of why it landed here instead of a police recommendation is because it's more than a police policy – it's a collaboration of lots of entities around the County. Would there be interest at the County level to be the collaborator to bring everyone together? Or would it be best to just go to PD to look at their policies and make changes accordingly. Josh: Absolutely an appetite for cooperation among agencies. Would like to see in recommendations more specifics on what role each office would play; what specific agencies (not just "others as deemed appropriate"). Milana offered to help with structure of document, language, etc. *Change name from "Legislative Proposal"

New Business

Invited Teens Against Trafficking from Dulaney HS. Unable to come, but Laura Coleman is present representing them. Ashley saw them at MD Trafficking Conference – they were amazing and so passionate. Looking at creating teen advisory council, similar to how we have survivor input, as they can give us some insight on working/communicating with teens.

Laura showed message and video from Teens Against Trafficking; Ashley will email a poster presentation from them, as well.

Human Trafficking Awareness Month – January 2023. Ideas for awareness event?

- Perhaps a focus on the schools? Collaborate with Teens Against Trafficking to present at Dulaney and hopefully others. With Q&A at the end.
- **Let Ashley know if you're interested in helping out**

Awareness materials – finished!! Just waiting to be printed. We should also have the files so we can print in the future.

- Shoe card
- Pocket card (first responders, health care staff, police)
- Brochure (for awareness events, conferences, health care facilities, etc.)
- Badge cards (health care providers, others – helps keep people informed outside of training)
- Tablecloth
- Vertical banner

Roz – would you want to consider something like what they did for DV during COVID of putting help line on pizza boxes? Partnered with DV coordinator in each precinct, they picked the top 3 with most business in the area, and they went with Roz to talk to the businesses. Liz, any input? Great idea; only concern is that her first thought was if the trafficker is the first person to see it, or if the survivor took a picture and got in trouble for having it; but thinks it's a great idea, and probably better to put it out there and hope for the best. Suggests putting the text line as the bigger/first line and the hotline as the smaller, second line, because texting is more common/easier. Other idea – putting the sticker on to-go food or at the cashier at the airport vendors. Also pass out to university students. Put in bags at food drives.

Ashley – Commission for Woman had given some funds out of their budget – was it \$500? (yes) Is there a deadline for using those funds? Will need to be used by end of June 2023. Thoughts on how to spend it? Jenn – tables at festivals. Roz – fire companies often have open houses with free tables. Amanda – upcoming festival this Friday. We will have a table, just need people to staff it. Jenn & Liz will be there, but will need help to do the table. Liz suggested a shared calendar so everyone is aware of what's coming up, and maybe a way to sign up for things we're interested in and available for. Ashley will create that.

BC Fire Department trainings – discussed earlier in the year, but not much communication since then. Still need to develop training. Roz suggested utilizing the ones from Pikesville. Also, maybe we can get into the annual updates, and video would be mandatory for all EMTs/Paramedics to complete. Ashley will send something out today. Laura offered to help with outreach/education efforts.

Volunteer opportunities – no requests other than intern, who is assigned to CASA and doing great!

Website update – We got a dedicated email address: htwg@baltimorecountymd.gov. On the main website, have gotten several emails to request speakers, etc. already.

Upcoming

Events/Conferences:

- Amanda - Upcoming festival this Friday; one of 7 events, including a gala at the end.
- Araminta – Ignite the Light event on 11/3 – Martin's West benefit dinner. Free tickets
- OC Trafficking Conference in October

Roundtable Discussion

NA

Next meeting: December 13, 2023 9-10:30am

Adjourned: 10:09am