Steve Sisolak Governor

Richard Whitley, MS Director



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES DIVISION OF CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES *Helping people. It's who we are and what we do.*



NEVADA COALITION TO PREVENT THE COMMERCIAL SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN: EXTERNAL ENGAGEMENT SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

DATE: April 8, 2021, 10:00 am

LOCATION: This meeting will be conducted via teleconference, in accordance with Governor Sisolak's Declaration of Emergency Directive 006, Subsection 1; The requirement contained in NRS 241.023 (1) (b) that there be a physical location designated for meetings of public bodies where members of the public are permitted to attend and participate is suspended. Directive 006 was extended with Directive 29, Section 4.

TELECONFERENCE ACCESS: Join the meeting: <u>Click here to join the meeting</u> Call in number: <u>+1 775-321-6111</u>Phone Conference ID: 815 784 921#

1. Call to Order, Roll Call, Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 10:10am by Jessica Halling.

Members Present: Jessica Halling, Melissa Holland, Nicole Reilly, Eileen Hough, Brennan Paterson, Cara Paoli, Brenda Sanquist, Holly Gibbs, Heather Hughes, Lauren Boitel, Michael Bartel, Ryan Gustafson, Brittany Hopballe

Guests: Jennifer Spencer, Stacy Scott,

Members Absent: Brigid Duffy, Elynne Green, Detective Wes Leedy, Dan Musgrove

DCFS Staff Members Present: Hayley Jarolimek, Beverly Brown, Esther Rodriguez-Brown

Roll call was taken, and it was determined a quorum of the Nevada Coalition to Prevent the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children External Engagement Subcommittee was present.

2. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

3. For Possible Action: Overview, Discussion and Agreement of the Extended Engagement Charter. Jessica Halling informed the members that the mission of the External Engagement Subcommittee Charter is to create public awareness, legislative or regulatory affairs and other engagement with external partners to support the work of the coalition; and to develop and execute awareness strategies, targeted outreach to key industries, and legislative tracking. The subcommittee members agree to attend

and participate in team meetings as well as review previously received materials for said meetings, participate in identified subcommittees and follow up on assigned tasks.

Jessica Halling stated the role of the subcommittee is to develop a plan to implement the strategies previously put for by the CSEC Coalition. The strategies adhere to a timeline with the following date timelines: June 10th, September 9th, and December 9th. Available resources will be identified and utilized to complete the tasks.

Jessica Halling read the listed meeting dates in the charter and Nicole Reilly reminded the members to save them in their calendars to aid in establishing quorum. Jessica informed the group that any decisions made in the subcommittee by majority vote will be brought to the Coalition for final approval. She added that the identified outcomes are to implement the strategies identified in the Strategic Plan to Address the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in Nevada approved in 2018 by the Nevada CSEC Coalition.

Lastly, Jessica Halling informed the group of the subcommittee's strategies. Goal 2, Objective 2b is to provide a holistic continuum of care for CSEC, including quality placement options with secure funding sources. This strategy has a delivery date of June 10th. Objectives 2c and 3c both have a timeline of September 9th. Objective 2c is to disseminate information regarding services available for CSEC in Nevada. Objective 3c is to establish minimum training, service delivery and client outcome standards for service providers. Objectives 4a and 5c have a timeline of December 9th. Objective 4a is to partner with the Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH) to expand CSEC awareness and prevention and Objective 5c is to strengthen the laws against perpetrators and consumers of child sex trafficking and laws that support CSEC.

Action: A motion was made by Brennan Paterson to approve the Extended Engagement Charter as written. Motion was seconded by Eileen Hough. No objections, motion approved unanimously.

4. For Possible Action: Review of Strategic Plan

Melissa Holland informed the group of the strategies that would be implemented and their timelines. Goal 2- Objective 2b is to provide a holistic continuum of care for CSEC, including quality placement options with secure funding sources and its timeline is June 10th. Part of this objective is identifying and recommending a unified assessment and screening tool for all community organizations that work with or serve CSEC. The other component to the objective is identifying organizations and agencies servicing substance abuse clients to share the same tools to screen and assess their clients to identify CSEC.

Jessica Halling informed the group that the Nevada Rapid Indicator Tool (NRIT) is being used in the northern and southern part of the state. Part of the goal under this objective is to streamline the use of this tool and to encourage other organizations that serve CSEC to use it as well.

Melissa Holland asked if anyone in attendance currently uses the NRIT to assess CSEC.

Heather Hughes stated it is used at Washoe County Human Services Agency to assess runaways upon return and potential trafficking victims (WCHSA).

Stacy Scott stated it is used at Clark County Department of Family Services (Clark County DFS) as well.

Beverly Brown with the Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS) stated in accordance with the established statewide CSEC Policy, all child welfare agencies must use the NRIT in the way that Stacy and Heather have stated but also during investigations with children that are 10 and older.

Stacy Scott added that Clark County DFS has representatives at The Harbor where they use the NRIT as well.

Holly Gibbs asked via chat if the NRIT is answered with yes/no options and if there is a universal education component.

Heather Hughes replied that it is not meant to be used as yes/no, it is used in a conversational manner. She added that their Juvenile Justice system uses it for youth entering detention as well.

Melissa Holland stated there is no current training piece aligned with using the NRIT as the indication lies in the user's training coming from their work in the CSEC field. Training can be created.

Heather Hughes confirmed that an NRIT training does not exist in Washoe County however it is important to be experienced with CSEC when using because assessments could be incorrect if the user is not fully aware of what to look for.

Melissa Holland stated that although the NRIT does not have to be the assessment tool of choice, it is a Nevada specific tool developed by the previous Coalition therefore there is momentum picking up with its statewide use. She added that an important piece is assessment data collection, she asked if the agencies are individually collecting data.

Heather Hughes replied that to her knowledge, the plan in Washoe County was for the data to be stored but she does not have confirmation of it being done. There seem to be some concerns with the legalities given all of the identifying information included in the tool.

Melissa Holland informed the group that the NRIT is available on the DCFS website, but she will also include the link in the meeting chat.

Stacy Scott stated that all caseworkers at Clark County DFS are required to complete the NRIT for all investigations involving any minor aged 10 and older. She added that she keeps all of the hard copies of the NRIT's and their completion is case noted in their data system.

Jessica Halling asked if there is a subsequent assessment tool used after CSEC identification.

Stacy Scott replied that Clark County DFS's ARYS unit upon receiving CSEC identification, conducts forensic interviews.

Holly Gibbs stated she asked about the tool because at Dignity Health and Common Spirit they have learned that often times, victims of violence are usually aware of screening questions thereby choosing their answers depending on whether or not they're ready to disclose their situation. She added that their approach at service providers is to promote universal education on types of violence and sharing of available resources in a normalized way. Screening questions are worked in based on the direction of the conversation.

Melissa expanded on Objective 2c stating that part of the strategy is to update the Nevada 2-1-1 website to provide easily accessible information for survivors. The other part of the strategy is to implement trauma-informed education for staff answering phones that speak with potential victims/survivors and adding a human trafficking tab on the site. The timeline for this strategy is September 9th.

Melissa stated that Objective 3c is an expansion of Senator Ratti's SB293– minimum standards for training and identified current human trafficking curriculums that can be utilized to train community members. She added that this depends on the upcoming legislation, the timeline for this strategy is September 9th.

Melissa stated that Objective 4a has a timeline of December 9th and entails creating victim-sensitive and victim-centered recommendations for non-sensationalized awareness campaigns as well as a media toolkit on how to create victim-sensitive awareness campaigns to avoid re-traumatization.

Melissa stated that Objective 5c also has a timeline of December 9th and entails building upon new emerging legislation to strengthen laws against perpetrators and consumers of child sex trafficking and laws that support CSEC.

Eileen Hough asked if members of the subcommittee would break down into smaller groups to work on completion of the tasks, like the toolkit which is due on December 9th of this year.

Melissa Holland replied that yes and task distribution is next on the agenda.

No further discussion on this item.

5. For Possible Action: Task Distribution

Melissa opened the floor to volunteers for the objectives regarding the strategies discussed.

Eileen asked if the contacting the office of Analytics regarding data storage and perhaps an MOU is part of the tasks for the June 10th deadline for Objective 2b.

Melissa Holland replied that it is not part of the task however the recommendation could be made the toe Funding, Data and Sustainability Subcommittee.

Jessica Halling stated that she will send out their screen tool matrix to aid in narrowing the recommendation options.

Members volunteered for task objectives as follows:

- Eileen Hough- 2c, 4a
- Nicole Reilly- 5c
- Brenan Paterson- 4a
- Cara Paoli- 2b, 2c

- Brenda Sanquist- 2b
- Wes Leedy- 3c
- Holly Gibbs 2b, 4a, 3c
- Heather Hughes 2b, 3c
- Ryan Gustafson- 2b, 4a
- Brittany Hopballe- 2b, 3c
- Lauren Boitel- 2c, 4a, 5c
- Michael Bartel- Will review objectives further and notify his choice via email.
- Stacy Scott- 2b, 3c

Melissa Holland and Jessica Halling asked if the training components under Objective 3c should be moved to the Local Task Force Subcommittee.

Nicole Reilly stated that the Coalition already identified training resources which are available in the Toolkit. Each subcommittee is responsible for training related to their topic which in this case would be community training as part of external engagement. She asked that the toolkit be emailed to the group so that the members can verify the trainings are still accessible, identify any costs associated as well as any new trainings that could prove beneficial.

Jessica Halling asked if the primary goal is to narrow the training resources down statewide rather than compile a lengthy list.

Nicole Reilly replied that of the compiled list, only a couple will be recommended to the coalition for approval.

Eileen Hough added that Kathryn Roose will be sharing a training with the coalition members next week, she will share this training with Heather.

Hayley Jarolimek reminded the group that the focus of the subcommittees is implementation of what has already been done by the coalition. She added that there will be items that require updating however members should use the Strategic Plan, Model Coordinated Response & Toolkit and the CSEC Prevention Guide to steer them in the right direction.

Jennifer Spencer reminded the members to be mindful of the rules regarding work done outside of the scheduled meetings to ensure OML is not violated. Quorum still applies when informal meetings are held, or email discussions occur where meeting business is discussed, and opinions are weighed; violating OML because the public has not been made aware of the gathering. Mere fact finding can be done as long as opinions and decisions aren't shared or made. Discussion beyond mere fact finding has to adhere OML.

Nicole Reilly recommends the subgroups work in a shared document where only the resources are shared and later brought to the next scheduled meeting where action can be taken. These would need to be sent to Esther so they can be added as agenda items.

Hayley informed the members that if they feel a work session is beneficial or needed, FPO can have the agenda posted however the request and supplemental documents would have to be received at least 7 days prior to the anticipated meeting date.

Jennifer Spencer confirmed that Melissa Holland sending the individual objective groups confirmation of their tasks is not in violation of OML.

No further discussion

6. For Possible Action: Next Agenda Items

Melissa Holland stated that for the May 13th meeting, Objectives 2b and 2c will be reported on.

Cara Paoli, Holly Gibbs, Heather Hughes, Ryan Gustafson, Brenda Sanquist and Brittany Hopballe will bring their gathered facts on Objective 2b.

For Objective 2c, Eileen Hough, Cara Paoli and Lauren Boitel will bring their compiled information.

Nicole Reilly confirmed the Discussion and For Possible Action items on the May 13th meeting will be Objective 2b and Objective 2c.

Melissa Holland asked if 'Subcommittee and Guest Task Distribution' could be added to the item title.

Nicole Reilley yes.

Hayley stated that if the timeline needs to be modified as the work is being done, the item can be added to the agenda for action to be taken as well.

Melissa Holland asked that the review of the timeline be added to the May 13th agenda.

7. For Possible Action: Confirm Next Meeting Date

Nicole Reilly informed the members that there was a mistake on the agenda regarding the next meeting date. The next meeting date will be May 13, 2021from 10:00am-11:30am, not May 6, 2021.

8. For Information Only: Final Public Comment None

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:27am.