



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

DIVISION OF CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES
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NEVADA COALITION TO PREVENT THE COMMERCIAL SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN: STRATEGIC PLANNING SUBCOMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, April, 28, 2022

TIME: 10:00 am – 11:30 am (or until adjournment)

VIDEO CONFERENCE: [Click here to join meeting](#)

TELECONFERENCE: 1-775-321-6111 CONFERENCE ID: 318 324
217#

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- *Items may be taken out of order, may be combined for consideration by the public body, and/or may be pulled or removed from the agenda at any time to accomplish business in the most efficient manner.*
- *“For Information” items are informal in nature and may include discussion and ideas*
- *“For Possible Action” items may be voted on or approved by members of the commission.*

MINUTES

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Members Present: Makaya Swain, Shannon McCoy, Alexa Rodriguez, Brenda Sandquist, Brennan Paterson, Brittany Hopballe, Laurie Jackson, Andrea Davis, Chris Davin, Pauline Salla, Ryan Gustafson, Samantha Bailey, Dr. Tiffany Tyler-Garner, Sgt. Greg Flores, Leslie Bittleston

Members Absent: Cynthia Burboa, Det. Wright, Jason Guinasso, Jennifer Malnar, Cara Paoli, Mandy Hall, DaShun Jackson, Sharon Anderson, Christina Vela, Annie Lobert,

Guests: Tami Goulden-Bosco

DCFS Support: Esther Rodriguez-Brown, Jessica Freeman

2. Public Comment and Discussion (*Action may not be taken on any matter brought up under this agenda item until scheduled on an agenda for a later meeting*)

3. For Possible Action: Approval of March 17th, 2022 meeting minutes.

Makaya Swain opened the floor to discussion or revisions to the minutes.

ACTION: Laurie Jackson motioned to approve the minutes as submitted, Leslie Bittleston seconded the motion. No objections, no abstentions, motion passed.

No further discussion on this item.

4. For Discussion and Possible Action: Continue discussion and development of strategies for implementation:

- **Prevention Strategies (Prevention resource guide to address CSEC)**
- **Identification of validated screening and assessments tools for community organizations (NRIT and Vera Institute Assessment)**
- **Statewide service standards for providers (Southern Nevada Human Trafficking Task Force Best Practice for Standards of Service)**
- **Continuum of Care**

Makaya Swain reminded everyone that the documents listed under this item were provided ahead of time for the group to review and prepare for today's discussion.

Pauline Salla asked if the Prevention Strategies was already in place or a new document moving forward.

Esther Rodriguez-Brown informed Pauline Salla that the Prevention Strategies was created by the previous Coalition and sent out to this group for review so that any recommendations could be brought to today's meeting on strategies that could be implemented in our communities.

Shannon McCoy stated that it is important to consider that the Prevention Strategies clearly outlines the three different stages of prevention; Primary (awareness), Secondary (minimizing impact that has already occurred) and Tertiary (exploring long-term solutions).

Makaya Swain added that in looking at each of those stages, it is important to ensure the approach is tailored given the different needs of each child. to each child's needs. She opened the floor starting with the Primary stage and asked if anyone had ideas on organizations that serve children and could benefit from awareness and education.

Laurie Jackson suggested reaching out to organizations that are serve youth experiencing homelessness and asked if the NRIT is used at Eddy House or other homeless organizations at intake.

Shannon McCoy stated that the NRIT has been shared with Eddy House however because they do not serve minors, she does not believe it is not being used.

Laurie Jackson suggested providing Eddy House and similar organizations with tools that would help educate them on what to look for that could aid in referrals being made.

Makaya Swain stated that currently the NRIT is used by government agencies however under this agenda item, we also plan on discussing a screening tool to be used by community providers.

Shannon McCoy added that Boys and Girls Clubs statewide would be another organization that could benefit from receiving these tools.

Esther Rodriguez-Brown suggested the subcommittee members bring a list of organizations in their

community that can benefit from these tools. At the next meeting, the group can review the list and identify the approach for the organizations and needed tools for each.

Laurie Jackson suggested reaching out to places that youth in need of services visit often like food pantries or city/county offices to see if flyers could be posted that could offer help to those being trafficked or at risk of being trafficked.

Makaya Swain agreed with the idea and asked for clarification on whether the literature to be posted would be targeted at youth or their parents.

Laurie Jackson stated that she was thinking it would be more focused on youth given the high number of runaways that seek services in a lot of the places discussed. She added that for parents, she would like to see some literature in pediatrician's offices and places alike.

Tami Goulden-Bosco stated that currently for all schools in the county (Washoe), there are flyers in counseling offices as well as some of the family resource centers although they have recently lost some of those resource centers.

Laurie Jackson stated that yes, that is along the lines of what she was thinking and would like to see something similar be done for law enforcement, especially in the rural regions.

Esther Rodriguez-Brown stated that she can share the flyer created under the External Engagement subcommittee, which outlined reporting steps. Esther added that it is also important to ensure the language and frequency of the flyers is done carefully because if we only focus on awareness and do not add the education component, there will be an influx on reports coming in by concerned parents and caregivers.

Makaya Swain asked if the group agrees with starting with awareness and education before jumping solely into prevention – although they're connected, they're also separate.

Esther Rodriguez-Brown agreed and stated that this goal is focused on prevention given that awareness was addressed previously under the External Engagement subcommittee.

Brittany Hopballe asked if the primary stage of prevention is focused on averting injury.

Makaya Swain and Shannon McCoy confirmed that yes, it is focused on averting injury adding that if the group is aware of community providers already working on prevention, it would be a great addition to the subcommittee's conversation.

Brittany Hopballe referenced page. 9 of the prevention guide under the risk factors for exploitation and stated that working with agencies that serve youth that have been sexually exploited or assaulted, some being foster care homes. She suggested having curriculum in place to teach healthy boundaries and relationships to youth that have already demonstrated risk factors as an intervention mechanism.

Esther asked Brittany if the Enough Abuse training was still being offered as if used to be offered when Signs of Hope was the Rape Crisis Center.

Brittany Hopballe confirmed the training was still be offered and stated she could extend an invitation to their education director to the next meeting to discuss the training with everyone. She clarified that the organization she works for, Signs of Hope used to be the Rape Crisis Center in Las Vegas. She added that their education department does a lot of prevention and education for children at the center and in schools around things like healthy relationships, sexual abuse, exploitation. The campaign is called Enough Abuse.

Makaya Swain stated if there is an existing curriculum that this group could build off, that would be the route to take as exploitation could be tacked on to the prevention aspect.

Shannon McCoy stated this would be a great learning opportunity given that the rest of the state does

not have anything to that caliber when it comes to prevention and education. She added that Washoe is starting a new project called My Life, My Choice which will be presented as a closed curriculum. They will be sending a group out in partnership with Awaken to receive training on how to give the curriculum. Shannon added that it is important to explore some options for the rural region as well and the Enough Abuse campaign sounds like a good starting point.

Esther Rodriguez-Brown stated that if the Enough Abuse training can be offered virtually as a train-the-trainer option, this could be a great opportunity for the rural regions. She suggested that for the next meeting, members could bring organizations they've identified as benefiting from the Enough Abuse and My Life, My Choice curriculums and once implemented, the group can move on to a different prevention strategy.

Shannon McCoy asked if the LIGHTS curriculum by UNITAS can also be added to the lists of suggested curriculums.

Esther Rodriguez-Brown stated that conversations are being held with Clark County to implement the LIGHTS curriculum as it is specific to sexual exploitation. She added that she will update the group when she knows more. As for the prevention piece, she added that it is important to educate parents and children on the child abuse components and being able to recognize and prevent it. Following that, My Life, My Choice and UNITAS could be introduced.

ACTION: Makaya Swain motioned to establish the prevention package to include the primary and secondary prevention stages along with education and presenting the training curriculums at the next meeting. Pauline Salla seconded the motion. No oppositions, no abstentions, motion passed.

Makaya Swain informed everyone that the second bullet under this agenda item is Identification of validated screening and assessment tools for community organizations and hoped everyone had the opportunity to review them prior to the meeting.

Esther Rodriguez-Brown stated that the revised copy attached to the invite included language sensitivity revisions on words like 'victim' and also included identifiers that were inclusive of the LGBTQ+ community.

Shannon McCoy stated that some of the revisions also included adding areas where the agencies can tailor the form to their organization. She added that some of the language within will have to be changed depending on who is using it because the template includes child welfare policy specific guidance in some areas. She added that originally there was a cover page proposed that would include guidance on which areas of the document would require the agencies to tailor to their needs. Shannon offered to send the template to the group for review at the next meeting.

Esther Rodriguez-Brown asked for it to be sent to her to share with everyone and be able to keep with all of the Coalition's work.

Tami Goulden-Bosco asked about the relevance of pronoun identification on the NRIT.

Shannon McCoy stated that it is to ensure we're respecting the individual's identity and how they'd prefer to be referenced.

Tami Goulden-Bosco clarified that the only reason she asked was because some of the trainings she has taken at the school district offer divergent approaches to the same question. Some approaches align with what Shannon just described while others state the question as an involved question.

Makaya Swain added the importance a confidentiality requirement being part of the cover page for the agencies.

Chris Davin with the Henderson Equality Center stated that "What are your pronouns?" Should be

replaced with “What pronouns do you identify with?” because the former can be a strong statement. He added that the options provided in the two preliminary questions on self-identification should be listed with checkboxes rather than incorporated into a yes/no question and should be labeled as an optional question for them to answer. He added that the preliminary questions seem repetitive given the questions that precede it. Chris added that the list of sexual orientation and gender do not include all of the options. Legislation around the country is being watched carefully given all of the changes, like in Oklahoma where if a student relays to any school staff that they identify as gay, for example, the staff member is obligated to report it to their parents.

Esther Rodriguez-Brown informed Chris and the rest of the group that the following changes will be made to the form as requested:

- Changing “What are your pronouns?” to “What pronouns do you identify with?”
- Removing the two preliminary questions
- Removing the lists of gender and sexual orientation options– the question will be made optional and left open for them to answer without having to choose from a list.

Shannon McCoy clarified that the young people never see and complete the actual form, it is to be completed by a trained individual that is taking note of potential factors as they’re speaking to the young person.

Chris Davin asked why someone who identifies as LGBTQ would be identified as high risk.

Esther Rodriguez-Brown clarified that the questions in this section are important so the person completing the form is aware of how the young person would like to be referred to as. She added that studies have shown that children within the LGBTQ community have been shown to be more vulnerable given the lack of available resources and the rejection they may experience. She clarified that they’re not at risk for being LGBTQ just the way a youth experiencing homelessness is not at risk for the sole reason, these are risk factors. These sections being included on the NRIT are to ensure inclusivity.

Chris Davin reiterated the importance of ensuring the questions are presented as optional because there are legal ramifications that can arise.

Esther Rodriguez-Brown asked Chris if the questions should be removed as a whole.

Chris Davin recommended including that answering those questions is optional.

Makaya Swain stated that the NRIT should be used alongside the agency’s intake forms and process, meaning it will not be filled out with or by the child. She added that the questions regarding gender and sexuality are going to help disclose the reality of trafficking; it is not only males trafficking females. Furthermore, when answered, the questions help reveal discomfort or vulnerability with the child if the parents are answering one way and the child discloses something different. The person completing the form will need to be educated on how the information is to be collected.

Esther Rodriguez-Brown reiterated that the NRIT should be integrated into the intake process and the person completing it will need to be trained on the CSEC dynamics and the confidentiality aspects associated with it. The NRIT is not to be freely distributed for use without appropriate training.

Dr. Tiffany Tyler-Garner stated although she appreciates the concerns raised, a sense of prevalence and incidence needs to be established in order to contextualize the experience, as well as identify needs and resources. Dr. Tiffany Tyler-Garner encouraged the group to consider finding a way to incorporate SOGI (Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity) data collection into this process.

Makaya Swain stated the revised NRIT would be sent out to the group by Esther and asked everyone to review once again

ACTION: Makaya Swain motioned to have discussed revisions made to the NRIT to make it more inclusive and diverse and review again at the next meeting. Brennan Paterson seconded the motion. No oppositions, no abstentions, motion passed.

Shannon McCoy suggested adding a conversation to the next agenda regarding training for the NRIT as a number of requests have been received.

Esther Rodriguez-Brown agreed and stated it would be added.

Makaya Swain stated the third and fourth bullets; Statewide service standards for providers and Continuum of Care seemed to go together rather than two separate points and opened the floor to anyone that interpreted it differently.

Esther Rodriguez-Brown agreed and stated that both can be covered as one.

Makaya Swain reminded everyone of the best practices documents from the Southern Nevada Human Trafficking Association that were sent out for review prior to the meeting. She informed the group that the they were created with children and adults in mind and opened the floor to discussion around the topic areas included; Ethical Best Practices, Media Best Practices, 24-hour Response, Case Management and Victim Advocacy, Trauma Specific Therapy, Emergency or Short-Term Shelter and Diversity Responsiveness.

Makaya Swain explained that because this subcommittee is CSEC specific, the group is invited to provide feedback on whether the best practices are a good fit to implement in organizations service CSEC.

Esther Rodriguez-Brown reminded the group that at the last meeting, the need for standards of care for organizations that work with CSEC was agreed upon. Brittany Hopballe from Signs of Hope offered to share their best practices document which the group agreed to review in order to identify which align with the goals of legislating the standards of care for organizations that serve the CSEC population. She reiterated that the item is open for discussion and if there is additional time needed, the item can be tabled until the next meeting.

Shannon McCoy stated that she appreciated that a lot of attention was provided in the document to be broad enough and are easily achievable across multiple programs.

Makaya Swain informed the group that the best practices were created as a minimum requirement and agrees with them being achievable and added how beneficial they can be for organizations that are just getting started.

Esther Rodriguez-Brown suggested tabling this agenda item until the next meeting in the interest of time. She reminded the group to take the time to review the documents and be prepared to bring feedback to the next meeting.

ACTION: Makaya Swain motioned to table this agenda item until the next meeting where members will provide feedback, Pauline Salla seconded the motion. No oppositions, no abstentions, motion approved.

No further discussion on this item.

5. Final Public Comment and Discussion (*Action may not be taken on any matter brought up under this agenda item until scheduled on an agenda for a later meeting*)

None.

6. Adjournment

Esther Rodriguez-Brown reminded the group that the next meeting is on May 26, 2022 at 10:00am and

Makaya Swain adjourned the meeting at 11:25am.