



EASTERN SHORE HUMAN TRAFFICKING TASK FORCE
Moving forward to combat this evil together

MEETING SUMMARY
April 6, 2016

Following is a summary of the highlights of the discussions that took place during the Wednesday April 6th meeting of the Eastern Shore Human Trafficking Task Force (ESHTTF) held at The Church of the King, Easton.

ATTENDANCE:

Robin Dunning
Silvia Garwood
Michelle Harding
Kim and Kevin Hendricks
Ann Holladay
Carol Kunkel
Melody Prairie
Ivette Riera Salarich
Diane Shaffer
Ed Thomas
Ann Wilson

DISCUSSION: Ann Holladay provided a brief summary of the ESHTTF March 5 meeting and an overview of the prior activities of the Task Force. She reviewed recent Human Trafficking meetings she attended which further confirm the need for awareness and training to combat human trafficking.

Diane Shaffer, Talbot County, Assistant Director, Department of Social Services, described the trafficking related activities of her department and the work of the Talbot County Children's Advocacy Center (CAC). She stressed that the CAC needs volunteers to stay with children while the CAC staff is interviewing other family members. Diane mentioned the Empower Me Program for young children indicating churches and other organizations may want to take advantage of this resource for training young children as a means of preventing trafficking.

Silvia Garwood and Ivette Salarich outlined the work of the Mid-Shore Council on Family Violence (Kent, Caroline, Queen Anne's, Talbot, Dorchester Counties). She described the difficulties of gaining the trust and providing assistance particularly to the Hispanic communities. Mid-Shore uses a variety of methods to reach out about available violence services including visiting schools and churches and getting information to community leaders.

Robin Dunning and Ann Wilson gave an update on their "Horse Therapy" provided by The Horse Inspired Growth & Learning Center indicating it produces rapid positive results "it is better than talk therapy." They have not worked with human trafficking victims on the Eastern Shore to date. The availability of their services has been made known to the local service providers. They provide demonstrations and offered to do so for the ESHTTF. A future meeting of the Task Force will be scheduled to take place at the Center.

Carol Kunkel summarized her recent activities regarding truck drivers pointing out that she has an appointment with the new director who oversees trucking operations at Perdue.

Kevin and Kim Hendricks described their focus on prevention and awareness going to churches and other groups. They provided an update on showing of "Caged No More" at the Regal Theatre in Salisbury on May 16th 7:30-9:30 pm. They indicated that a minimum of 103 tickets must be sold at \$13.50 each, 22 tickets had been sold as of April 6. A couple attendees stated that they would buy 10 each. Kim provided copies of a Caged No More, Small Group Curriculum (Leaders Handbook and Student Edition) four-week Bible Study. Everyone was requested to promote the May 16 movies and make information known about the Bible Study.

Melody Prairie expressed her interest in helping human trafficking victims and in preventing trafficking. She will volunteer time and her hair stylist services. Melody said that she has many opportunities to make people aware about combatting human trafficking.

Michelle Harding outlined her prior Task Force and trafficking activities. She stated that she would be starting a series of regional human trafficking "what is going on" prayer breakfasts. The first breakfast will be held in the Easton area on June 4. Michelle indicated that in the long-term she hopes to see a safe house created for trafficking victims.

Ann mentioned that Alice Browning, Community Empowerment, will be doing some work related to human trafficking. Ann will contact her to see if the Eastern Shore, or parts thereof, can be the subject of her work. She encouraged everyone to attend the American Conversations panel discussion addressing human trafficking on April 19th at the Avalon Theater in Easton.

FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES: Ann reviewed the progress on the actions contained in the “Next Steps” list, from the March meeting and added a couple items forming the following follow-up actions list:

- **Fund Raising** – Ann will look into the possibility of obtaining foundation funding. Ed will see what funding may be available through the Governor’s Office of Crime Control and Prevention.
- **Trucking Industry** – Carol Kunkel will continue exploring ways that trucking firms and drivers can be challenged to address Human Trafficking issues. She will be meeting with the trucking supervisor at Purdue Poultry.
- **Awareness Products** – Julie Wheatley will draft some sample HT awareness brochures, messages tailored for specific target groups.
- **Media, Social Networking** – The group will develop suggestions for how to get the HT message out to the public; for example, press releases, media contacts, public service announcements, face book, twitter, Instagram other social media outlets and blogs.
- **Faith Community** – Michelle is starting a series of regional prayer breakfasts to reach out to and engage the faith community to become aware of and work toward stopping Human Trafficking.
- **Website** – Ed will continue to explore means whereby the Task Force website can be restarted/created.
- **Resources** – Develop a list of available books, films, DVDs, handouts etc. that can be used and made available to spread the Anti-HT message.
- **Membership** – Everyone was asked to provide names (to Ann H) of prospective Task Force members and to feel free to contact potential members and invite them to the next meeting.
- **Legislation** – Katie (Delegate Mautz’s office) and Ed will provide a summary at the next meeting of what took place during the General Assembly session that ended on April 11. The group needs to prepare a strategy for getting Eastern Shore members of the General Assembly engaged in and taking action to combat Human Trafficking.
- **Caged No More** – Everyone was requested to promote and attend the showing of the movie “Caged No More” on May 16th in Salisbury.
- **Community Empowerment** – Ann to contact Alice Browning regarding her upcoming empowerment activities.
- **Roper Program** - Robin volunteered to look into the Roper Violence Assistance Program.
- **Equine Therapy Center** – Robin/Ann W to arrange for the Task Force to meet at the Center and see demonstration.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be held on May 24 in Easton beginning at 6:30 pm, location to be determined.

NOTE: This meeting summary was prepared by Ed Thomas if you have additions, deletions or corrections send them to edtho@comcast.net.