

Our Children, Our Families Council
Summary of the Mayor's Task Force on Anti-Human Trafficking
(Last updated 5/18/15)

Goals of the Effort

The mission of the Mayor's Task Force on Anti-Human Trafficking is to advance anti-trafficking efforts in the following ways:

1. Examine the nature and scope of human trafficking across San Francisco and the Bay Area;
2. Evaluate progress in combating human trafficking in San Francisco;
3. Identify challenges and opportunities in protecting and assisting victims and bringing traffickers to justice;
4. Identify and address gaps in services for survivors of human trafficking;
5. Create a city-wide strategic plan including milestones and timelines;
6. Release an annual report on Task Force activities.

Focal Population of the Effort

While the Task Force focuses first and foremost on victims and perpetrators of human trafficking, they also engage with the business community and the public to spread awareness of human trafficking in San Francisco.

Impact

Soon after the Mayor's Task Force was created, the members recognized there was a gap in available data surrounding human trafficking in San Francisco. Thus, one early accomplishment of the Task Force was creating a standardized data collection tool for information on sex trafficking, and then encouraging all relevant agencies to adopt the collection tool. Agencies across the city are now tracking the metrics that the Task Force identified as most important for gathering a detailed picture of human trafficking in the city.

The Task Force was also instrumental in gaining funding for a number of anti-trafficking initiatives in the city: Not for Sale, a vocational program for sexually trafficked young adults; Safe House, a case worker program for victims; and St. James Infirmary, which will be compiling a database on sexual predators.

Challenges

The Mayor's Task Force on Anti-Human Trafficking currently struggles with a lack of staffing. While members of the Task Force actively participate, a large portion of the work falls on Ms. Kandel's shoulders as the only full-time staff member supporting the initiative. Because her responsibilities as the Director of Women's Policy with the Department on the Status of Women have her overseeing both the Task Force and the Family Violence Council, Ms. Kandel believes more full-time staff members would help the Task Force make an even larger impact.

Origins of the Effort

In March, 2013, Mayor Ed Lee launched the Mayor's Task Force on Anti-Human Trafficking to review current efforts to improve the City's response to human trafficking and identify gaps in services for survivors. Since its formation, the Mayor's Task Force on Anti-Human Trafficking has taken a comprehensive, victim-centered approach, and the task force includes partners from law enforcement, social services agencies, and community based organizations. It aims to effectively intervene in human trafficking situations and focuses on long-term local solutions to human trafficking. The Department on the Status of Women staffs the Task Force.

Leading the Effort

Ms. Minouche Kandel, Esq., Director of Women's Policy at the Department on the Status of Women, currently staffs the Task Force. She is the only full-time staff member working on the Task Force, and the group is one of her many responsibilities at the Department. She receives substantial assistance from interns throughout the year, particularly in preparing the reports.

Members of the Effort

While membership in the Task Force fluctuates from year to year, in 2014 a total of 73 individuals representing 16 public agencies and 24 community agencies participated in the Task Force. The table below identifies 2014 membership.

PUBLIC AGENCIES	STAFF
Board of Supervisors	Katy Tang, Dyanna Quizon, Carol Mo
City Attorney's Office	Elizabeth Pederson, Melissa Millsaps
Department of Children, Youth and their Families	Glenn Eagleson, Mia Satya
District Attorney's Office	Tara Anderson, Julius De Guia
Human Rights Commission	Nadia Babella
Human Services Agency	Johanna Gendelman, Barrett Johnson, John Tsutakawa
Juvenile Probation	Ana Villagran
Labor Standards Enforcement	Donna Mandel
Mayor's Office	Paul Henderson, Diana Oliva-Aroche
Police	Capt. Teresa Gracie, Lt. Trenia Wearing, Sgt. Inspector Antonio Flores, Lt. Michael Dodoroff, Capt. Joseph McFadden
Public Defender	Rebecca Marcus, Simin Samji
Public Health	Edward Walsh, Alison Lustbader, Cindy Comerford, Cristy Dieterich
Status of Women	Dr. Emily Murase, Minouche Kandel, Stephanie Nguyen, Grace Fisher, Kristin Snell, Eva Morgenstein, Celia Flinn
Unified School District	Maya Webb, Carley Amigone
US Attorney's Office	Annemarie Conroy
Victim Witness	Delia Montiel, Maria Bee
COMMUNITY AGENCIES	STAFF
APILO	Cindy Liou, Hyun-Mi Kim
Asian Women's Shelter	Hediana Utarti, Elizabeth Kirton
Bayswan	Carol Leigh
California Massage Therapy Council	Beverly May
CASARC	Dr. Tonya Chaffee
Community United Against Violence	Carolina Morales
ECPAT	Brenda Hepler
Family Builders	Jill Jacobs
Freedom House SF	Frances Byrne
Huckleberry Youth Programs	Mollie Brown, Patrick Buckalew
Larkin Street Youth Services	Irene Casanova
Legal Services for Children	Carolyn Reyes
LYRIC	Denny David
Nalls Foundation	Kelly Gillian
Northern Coalition Against Human Trafficking	Sister Marie Gaillac
Not for Sale	Venus Rodriguez
RTI International	Alexandra Lutnick
SAGE	Ellyn Bell, Paniz Bagheri
San Francisco Child Abuse Prevention Center	Kathy Baxter, Katie Albright
San Francisco Collaborative Against Human Trafficking	Nancy Goldberg, Antonia Lavine
SFWAR	Zully Batres
Sojourner Truth Foster Family Service Agency	Carletta Jackson-Lane
St. James Infirmary	Stephanie Ashley, Dee Michel, Cyd Nova, Pratima Gupta
US Prostitutes Collective	Rachel West

Structure of the Effort

The Mayor's Task Force on Anti-Human Trafficking meets every other month, and these meetings are consistently attended by over half of the Task Force's members. Furthermore, the Task Force is divided into subcommittees with focused objectives, and these subcommittees convene according to their own schedules, anywhere from monthly to quarterly. Subcommittees include a child sex trafficking subcommittee, the illicit massage subcommittee, the superbowl committee, the sex worker & trafficking committee. Ms. Kandel staffs the subcommittees as well, and often oversees the agendas at subcommittee meetings.

The Role of Data

As highlighted above, before the Task Force was formed, comprehensive data on human trafficking in San Francisco didn't exist. The Task Force convinced various agencies across the city to collect consistent data surrounding human trafficking, and the Task Force will now publish the findings on human trafficking trends in its annual report. The Task Force now compiles information on country of origin, languages, sexual orientation/gender, neighborhood, etc, in addition to numbers of trafficking incidents. The first report including the data will be published in June of 2015.

Related Documents

- Website <<http://sfgov.org/dosw/mayors-task-force-anti-human-trafficking>>, which includes background information, meeting notes, and more.
- First Year Highlights:
<http://sfgov.org/dosw/sites/sfgov.org.dosw/files/1%20year%20highlights%20of%20MTF%20on%20Human%20Trafficking_2.doc>
- Second Year Highlights:
< <http://sfgov.org/dosw/sites/sfgov.org.dosw/files/2nd%20year%20highlights%20of%20MTF%20on%20Human%20Trafficking.doc>>