

**NORTH ALABAMA HUMAN TRAFFICKING TASK FORCE
MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 3, 2017**

Present: Berniece Andrus, Lori Bateman, Charity Bowie, Lauren Brooks, Lois Carson, Shelia Champion, Pam Clasgens, Tracy Gibson, Drew Gilbert, Andy Gollop, Denise Johnson, Bhavani Kakani, Tiffany Lockett, Kevin Mays, Rick Nelson, Michael Rains, Lisa Rhodes, Brenda Sanders, Spencer Schneider, Helen Smith, Linda Snead, Peggy Stewart, Rick Tate, Sandra Vieira, Meghan Watson, Kay West, and Bo Williams.

1. Welcome: A welcome was extended by Chair Pat McCay to all new and returning members. Introductions were made around the room by everyone attending the meeting.

2. Treasurer's Report - Pat McCay (for Treasurer Bhavani Kakani)

The current balance is \$4,221.79; there are some expenses that will be reimbursed for film screening and printing expenses. Donations from the film screening of \$46.00 less the cost of the bottled water (\$12.00) will be deposited.

3. Meeting Minutes

The meeting minutes for August 1, 2017 were approved as distributed.

4. Rummage Sale for Tennessee Valley Services

Kay West announced that the Rummage Sale raised a total of \$2056.00. Thank you to everyone on the task force who helped by donating items and/or helping during the Sale. It was felt that the Rummage Sale was a huge success.

5. Training Coordinator – Rick Tate

A handout of upcoming training and speaking activities was distributed. Anyone who is interested in attending any of these activities are welcome to do so,, especially those in the Speaker's Bureau training program. The group was reminded that all speaking and training requests should be directed to Rick.

- A new task force has been formed in Lauderdale County (Florence); and Birmingham is in the process of trying to put one in place as well. The Birmingham task force would be in addition to the U. S. Attorney's Human Trafficking Task Force that already exists there.
- A group from the University of Georgia invited the Task Force to participate in their Annual Spring Social Justice Event in March 2018. We have agreed to participate again.
- Huntsville City Schools has requested an annual presentation for school counselors, social workers, nurses, security, and administrative personnel. Pat McCay will follow up with Dr. Wilson to put this meeting on the calendar.

6. Other Upcoming Events – Pat McCay

- Fall Awareness Event: Shelia Champion has agreed to chair the event. The focus of the event will be on Labor Trafficking. A big thank you to Spencer Schneider for his help in finding a possible speaker for the event. The potential speaker is a retired Homeland Security Federal Agent from New Orleans.
- January Awareness Event: - Kay West has volunteered to chair this event. 9 a.m. to 12 noon (8 a.m. Registration), on January 13, 2018, at Trinity United Methodist Church. We will be working on the program content in the near future.

7. Speakers Bureau – Pat McCay and Rick Tate

We have approximately 8 new speakers for Speakers Bureau who have completed all the prescribed training to date. Congratulations to all of them and Thank You for a great job! Training was held on January 20, May 9, May 11, August 26 and August 28. There are still a few who were unable to attend the last training session. We will schedule additional training for these remaining individuals in the near future.

8. New Business?

- The task force would like to make contact with colleges and universities to raise awareness of human trafficking among students and young adults with the goal of developing human trafficking awareness groups on campuses across the state. This could also result in having younger people out in the community as well as on their campuses raising awareness.
- Bracelets - The current supply of bracelets have been depleted and we need more ordered. A motion to approve the purchase of additional bracelets for the task force was made and seconded. Motion was approved by unanimous vote.

The next meeting of the North Alabama Human Trafficking Task Force will be held on October 3, 2017, at 2:00 p.m. at NCAC

Meeting Adjourned at 3:02 p.m.

Meeting Minutes Respectfully Submitted by Linda Snead, Task Force Secretary