

Meeting Minutes

Iowa NAHT & Slavery Board of Directors
Tuesday, May 14th, 2019, 2:30pm - 4:00pm

Present: George Belitsos, Jonathan Causey, Lauren Camp, Alyse Harden, Taylor Houston, Jennifer Kerger, Katie Kyker, Shirlee Reding, Bernadette Rixner, Suzanne Wright, and Tish Young
Excused: Angela Davis, Elizabeth Quinn, Joy Fopma, Alissa Stoehr, Maggie Tinsman, and Mike Tupper, Roxanne Reisberg
Guests: Shannon Findlay and Jessie Johnson
Absent: Sister Shirley Fineran

Houston called the meeting to order and reviewed the agenda. A motion by Belitsos to accept the April 9, 2019 minutes with corrections was made and seconded. Belitsos asked Houston to add the resignation of Cox to the agenda. Houston added this topic to the end of the day's meeting agenda. Motion passed.

Kerger gave the treasurer's reported. She stated that the beginning balance for the month of April was \$4,803.59, income deposited was \$6,604.40, expenses paid out were \$673.86, which left an ending balance of \$10,734.13. She noted that there were two outstanding deposits of \$267 and 3 outstanding checks of \$161.80. Belitsos believed the deposits came from the PayPal account and will check their last statement. Kerger will do a follow up on the three other checks. The treasure report would be filed for audit.

Belitsos lead the discussion on the web analytics for INAHT's website. He pointed out that the unique visits (people not coming from the same IP address) to the website had increased from 828 to 1,219. This was due to the fact that when people search human trafficking in Iowa, Iowa NAHT's website showed on top. He also noted an increase of the use of the resource button from 642 to 848, which in his blogs he had been encouraging people to click on for further information.

Wrap up from the Legislative Advocacy Committee (Davis & Tinsman) - Explanation from Roxanne Riesberg – Mandatory Reporter Bill - No report was given by Davis, Tinsman, and Riesberg as they all were unable to attend. Belitsos reminded the Board that Tinsman and Davis were very instrumental in getting the Mandatory Report Bill passed with total bipartisan support. Those in attendance of the signing of the bill by the Governor were Cox, Reisberg, Tinsman, and Belitsos.

Progress Report from Johnson County Human Trafficking Coalition and Review of Partnership with NAHT. Belitsos introduced Shannon Findlay, a physician at the University of Iowa and a leader of the Johnson County Human Trafficking Coalition. He reiterated that at the previous meeting the Board voted to accept a donation of up to \$10,000 from 100+ Women Who Care: Hawkeye Chapter and to partner with the Johnson County Human Trafficking Coalition and to be their fiscal agent to do training and awareness in Johnson County. Findlay reported that they were delighted to partner with Iowa NAHT and to increase awareness in Johnson County and to help build a method of trauma support for victims and survivors of human trafficking. They are looking at using the funds to partner with DVIP (Domestic Violence Intervention Program) to do a two day conference in 2020 on April 28th

and 29th. They are reaching out to speakers to put together a human trafficking track which would include community providers as well as the medical services. The Coalition would be meeting with DVIP monthly until the conference. The Coalition's next meeting with DVIP will be on May 21st to start working out the details. She also stated that the Coalition would have one of their members attending the NAHT Board meetings to give monthly progress reports. Other potential uses of the money that she mentioned were billboard ads, the University's scoreboard ad, distribution of Rescue Stickers, Hotel/Motel Employee Trainings, and local theaters ads to bring awareness in Johnson County. On June 6th, the Coalition will be meeting with 100+ Women Who Care: Hawkeye Chapter. If there was someone from the Board who would be available to attend this meeting, he/she were sure welcome. Findlay stated that education awareness would also be part of the use of funds as well as the sticker program.

Outreach Coordinator for the Refugee and Immigrant Trafficking Awareness and Prevention Service (TAPS) - Jessie Johnson, the Outreach Coordinator of TAP, is running a three year capacity building grant from OVC (Office for Victims of Crime). The program is designed to identify and address gaps in services in response to survivors of all sorts of trafficking. She will be looking closely at labor trafficking in Iowa. As she gets things up and running during the first year, she will be mapping out resources available throughout the state. She plans to connect with all the organizations working in the anti-trafficking world as well as the domestic violence or sexual assault agencies who serve survivors of human trafficking.

The plan is to gather information from these agencies as to what gaps and barriers to services are affecting victim survivors. The information collected will be disbursed statewide to service providers, giving them a greater sense of what the challenges are for victims and what is working well for some of these organizations around the state. She stated that once this is accomplished, she will be available for some training and education awareness. In year two, the plan is to provide case management services in response to the information collected in the first year of the program. The main components of this program are education, awareness, and in 2020 providing case management services to immigrants and refugees in Iowa.

Johnson was originally from Des Moines and moved back this past fall. She has an extensive background in immigrant workers advocacy and has worked with domestic violence agencies. She holds a J.D. and Certificate in Advocacy and Problem Solving from Mitchell Hamline School of Law in Minnesota.

Belitsos has met with Johnson and will be writing up an introduction and description of TAP for the Network Blog.

Fundraising Committee Report: Kyker reported that the fundraising committee, which consists of Belitsos, Greenlee and herself serving as committee chair. The committee met to brainstorm on ideas for fundraising opportunities. She signed the Iowa NAHT up for AmazonSmile. AmazonSmile will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to the charitable organization of your choice. Here is how it works:

To select your charitable organization:

1. Sign in to smile.amazon.com on your desktop or mobile phone browser using your Amazon login.
2. From your desktop, go to **Account & Lists** from the navigation at the top of the page, and then click AmazonSmile Charity Lists.
3. Search and select **Network Against Human Trafficking**
4. Visit smile.amazon.com to complete any Amazon shopping and the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible AmazonSmile purchases.

For more information about the AmazonSmile program, go to <http://smile.amazon.com/about>.

Greenlee stated that she had signed up Iowa NAHT for “Choice Dollars”, a program set up for Thrivent members to give Thrivent grant dollars to a charitable organization of the member’s choice.

Kyker also mention that the committee is looking into grants from foundations within the state and service clubs. We have determined who has given to us through facebook and are working on getting the contact information. We are looking at different 100+ Women Chapters in Iowa that we could approach for a donation.

Proposal to restart the human trafficking provider collaboration (Belitsos & Fopma)

- Update on the Iowa Anti-Labor Trafficking Alliance

Belitsos reported that there was a need for someone from the Board to resurrect the provider collaboration committee. Fopma founded and has lead the Collaboration for the last 2 years but decided to terminate Iowa provider meetings. In conversations with Gretchen in the Attorney General’s Office, it was agreed that the Collaboration be reorganized. Wright agreed to take on the task of getting providers (anyone providing services) together quarterly but can only attend conference call meetings. Belitsos reported that past meetings were always face-to-face, to work on best practices, put together an agenda, and seek speakers. Belitsos suggested that Wright and Gretchen Brown-Waech co-lead the meeting with alternating meetings being face-to-face and conference calls. Belitsos mentioned that most of the collaboration meetings had been held at YSS in Ames and that he would be willing to schedule future meetings at YSS.

- Update on the Iowa Anti-Labor Trafficking Alliance

Belitsos reported that Reding, Kerger, and he met with Gretchen Brown-Waech from the Attorney General’s Office. He had sent out a memo in an email that outlined what they discussed. The AG Office would like Iowa NAHT to partner with them on the “End the Demand Campaign.” Belitsos stated that at the meeting with the AG Office they were shown a TV ad and were given some radio material that demonstrated to the buyers how much damage they were doing and that they could not hide forever. The TV ad they saw was well done and did not stereotype the images of buyers, victims, and pimps. Houston suggested that they might do a pre and post baseline collection of data to see how effective the ads were.

Kerger made a motion to partner with The Attorney General's Office on the "End the Demand Campaign." Motion was seconded and passed

Progress Report on Sticker Campaign

Houston reported that the NAHT Sticker Campaign was still going to continue next fall with new student leadership taking over for those students graduating. Houston asked Belitsos to have another 2,500 stickers printed and sent to the Mt. Mercy student group for distribution.

Announcements From Members

Tuesday, May 21st – 9am to 2 pm at Hallagan Education Center, Mercy Hospital, Cedar Rapids, "Breaking the Chains of Human Trafficking: What hospitals need to know" presenter Theresa Davidson
[Register Online At Mercycare.Org/Breakingchains](http://Mercycare.Org/Breakingchains)

Resignation of Board Chair

Houston shared that Cox had resigned from the Board and as Chair due to a major new job change. He also announced that he was willing to continue to serve as vice-chair but to not move up to chair. Houston will be moving to North Carolina next month but could continue to participate on the board until next December.

A special Executive Committee meeting was called for next Tuesday, May 21st, to discuss filling the chair position ASAP.

Meeting adjourned at 4:02 pm.

Next Board of Directors Meeting Tuesday, June 11th 2:30 - 4:00pm with Holly Witt as a guest speaker.
Next Executive Committee Meeting May 21st, 2:30-4:00pm.