WELCOME

The Task Force is continually developing new information and resources to assist with the launch of a new national human trafficking awareness campaign. On October 20th, 2021, Edgewood, McCormick, and Saluda counties partnered with the Task Force in order to increase regional capacity to respond to human trafficking cases. The Task Force is using a multi-prong approach, including the establishment of key task forces and partnerships.

The Task Force has also been exploring a number of data collection and research methods to identify gaps in our understanding of COVID-19 related human trafficking response efforts efforts. The Task Force partnered with the University of South Carolina to develop a COVID-19 related human trafficking assessment tool to service providers. The data is being collected as part of the 2021 COVID-19 Annual Report.

In January, the Task Force has begun meeting with key state agencies in order to grow South Carolina’s human trafficking data elements. The Task Force is monitoring data through 2021. By improving human trafficking data collection, the Task Force aims to better quantify the magnitude of the issue and combat the spread of COVID-19 related misinformation and reporting gaps in many needed service areas.

COVID-19 and Human Trafficking

Office on Trafficking in Persons — National Advisory Committee on the Sex Trafficking of Children and Youth in the United States: Best Practices and Recommendations for States

HVIIC — Carolina Youth Development Center to train in My Life My Choice Prevention Curriculum Training Model

Office on Trafficking in Persons — Resources for Adult Certification Letters

The Latino Family of Human Trafficking and Exploitation in the United States

Office on Trafficking in Persons — SOAR to Health and Wellness Training for Continuing Education Credits

Department of Homeland Security — DHS Launches New Center for Coercive Human Trafficking

State of the Sea in sex trafficking cases in South Carolina share their stories of how trafficking happens now

Separating Fact From Fiction: Recent Cases of Recovered Missing Children and What They Show About Child Sex Trafficking

Human Trafficking Misinformation

NEITH — Special report: How human trafficking conspiracy theories keep human trafficking victims from getting help

NEFH — How Conspiracy Theories Are Diseasing Efforts to Fight Human Trafficking

Shared Hope International — Fact or Conspiracy Theory? How the Spread of Misinformation Threatens Effective Solutions That Work

Report for the state’s first ever National Human Trafficking Awareness

Human Trafficking Task Force

The State Task Force is proud to announce the launching of the Lexington, Edgefield, McCormick, and Saluda (LEMS) Regional Task Force. This Task Force will also be joined by the Disabilities Children’s Advocacy Center and the 11th Circuit Solicitor’s Office.

The task force launch is scheduled for early December. Representatives from the Office on Trafficking in Persons, the Department of Health and Human Services, and a number of local agencies will participate.

The launch of the upcoming four regional Task Forces will be a key partner in strengthening the Task Force strategic response model and improving local and regional capacity to respond to human trafficking cases. This partnership will be built on this in the future.

Regional Task Force to Launch in December

STATE MEETING AND UPDATES

Due to COVID-19, the Sex Slave Task Force Meeting will be held virtually. Registration is now open. Register here: https://bit.ly/2aiaihZ

January is National Human Trafficking Awareness Month! The Task Force will be releasing in 2021 a report on efforts to honor National Human Trafficking Awareness Month. The report will be released, the report can be accessed here: https://bitly.com/3t3f17k

Law Enforcement Training & Identifying & Responding to Child Sexual Exploitation from 12:30-4pm. This training is open to all law enforcement officers. RSVP Here

Save the Date: Labor Trafficking Conference on May 21st, 2021 in Louisville, KY. Click here for more information.

REGIONAL MEETINGS AND UPDATES

Richland County Anti-Human Trafficking Coalition (RCAHTC) Meeting will be held on 1st of December.

2nd Judicial Circuit Human Trafficking Task Force Meeting Topic: The Terrible Four: The Four Days. The meeting will be held on Dec. 1st at 10AM. Zoom Zoom. The meeting will be open to the public and the goal is to have key stakeholders & advocates. RSVP Here

Upstate Human Trafficking Task Force

The next meeting will be held on Jan 11th to report on 2021 calendar meetings, and to plan for 2021 meeting and event information.

Coastal Region Human Trafficking Coalition

The Coastal Region Human Trafficking Coalition (Coast) will convene the 2021 Coalition Meeting on Wednesday, February 10th from 9:00 AM to 11:45 AM, at the Conway Christmas Parade and the Surfside Christmas Parade on Dec. 12th. The vehicle will feature a banner that states: “Coastal Region Human Trafficking” and hosts how events and meetings will be scheduled in each month.

CLM 2021 Meeting

During January, the task force will host a virtual meeting. The task force will be called “Share a Light” every Thursday. The task force will also be updating the CLM for 2021. The Support Task Force Meeting and the CLM will be held on Thursday, January 28th.

Upstream Human Trafficking Task Force

The task force will be held virtually on Tuesday, February 9th from 12:30 PM to 2:30 PM. The task force will be updating the task force meeting.

South Carolina’s human trafficking report

UPCOMING GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

The Task Force has identified opportunities for states to receive funding and alleviate the state’s human trafficking prioritization have been forecasted and are expected to be posted in 2021.

- Victims of Human Trafficking - Services and Outreach Program - A Department of Health and Human Services
- Violence Against Women Assistance Program

Visit grants.gov to search for these and future human trafficking grants.

FOLLOW US

Website: https://humantrafficking.sc.gov/
Twitter: @SCHumanTrafficking

THE TRAFFICKING VICTIMS ASSISTANCE ACT (TPA) CELEBRATES ITS 20TH ANNIVERSARY

South Carolina Human Trafficking Task Force

On December 28th, the 20th anniversary of the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2000, which is a reauthorization of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, the United States Senate passed S. 3610, the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2019. The bill will be sent to the House of Representatives.

South Carolina Human Trafficking Task Force in South Carolina

Since its passage twenty years ago, the TPCA has provided critical funding to state agencies and organizations that combat human trafficking around the country. It has been the cornerstone of the anti-trafficking law enforcement and criminal justice system.

The TPCA has helped South Carolina repeal laws criminalizing prostitution, remove barriers to seeking help, and empower survivors of trafficking. It has also enabled the state to take a comprehensive, partnership-based approach to preventing and responding to trafficking.

With the strong foundation of the TPCA, the state of South Carolina anticipates future progress for potential continued growth.