

***The San Diego Regional Human Trafficking and  
Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children  
Advisory Council***



**Meeting Minutes**

April 8, 2026

1:30 p.m. - 3 p.m.

County Administration Building

1600 Pacific Highway San Diego, CA 92101

3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Room 302

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**Attendees:** David Oates, Aron Pritchard, Amanda Garcia in proxy of Amanda Stephens, Ember Price, Trish Martinez, Heather Nemour, Francisco Brambila, David Jarman, Jerrica Phillips, Carolyn Matzger, Kanani Titchen, Ami Carpenter, Mariah in proxy of Arturo Garcia, Marjorie Saylor, Melissa Haupt, Susan Munsey

**I. Chair welcome**

The meeting was called to order at 1:30pm by Susan Munsey

**II. Announcement of members participating by teleconference and proxy**

- **Virtual:** David Oates, Aron Pritchard, Trish Martinez, Francisco Brambila, David Jarman, Kanani Titchen
- **In-person:** Ember Price, Heather Nemour, Jerrica Phillips, Carolyn Matzger, Ami Carpenter, Marjorie Saylor, Melissa Haupt, Susan Munsey, Mariah Rief in proxy of Arturo Garcia, Amanda Garcia in proxy of Amanada Stephens
- **Proxy:** Mariah Rief in proxy of Arturo Garcia, Amanda Garcia in proxy of Amanda Stephens

**III. Approval of minutes**

- February 2026 minutes were reviewed
- Motion to approve was made and seconded
- Minutes approved without objections

**IV. Public comment on non-agenda items**

- **Isaac McKeithen**
  - i. A community advocate, Isaac McKeithen, presented a proposed 12-week diversion and accountability program for buyers, describing its educational structure, lived-experience components, and its goal of reducing demand through moral and behavioral intervention. Discussion followed regarding the gaps in current diversion practices, the complexities of California misdemeanor diversion law, and opportunities for cross-sector collaboration, including potential partnership with the Data sector to help evaluate outcomes. Representatives from the City Attorney's Office, public defenders, and community organizations expressed interest in continuing the conversation and exploring integration with local justice partners.
- **Emergency Management – External Affairs Association**
  - i. Introduction from Sandra of the Emergency Management External Affairs Association, who described her focus on integrating human trafficking prevention into disaster and crisis response. She emphasized the heightened vulnerability of trafficking survivors during emergencies and encouraged collaboration with council sectors.
- **Community Organization**
  - i. Robert Forte shared resources available through his work in Alternatives to Incarceration and his nonprofit providing enhanced care management. He voiced

concerns about hotel and motel complicity in trafficking and asked about pursuing liability-based policy solutions. Chair encouraged him to connect with Community, Law Enforcement, and Victim Services sectors for further engagement.

## V. Council updates

- **Ordinance**

- i. The ordinance and bylaws formally establishing the Council within the County structure have been approved, codifying sector designations and election procedures. Updated bylaws and roster are available on the Clerk of the Board website.

- **Summit report**

- i. The report has undergone review by county departments for technical accuracy while preserving the substance, voice, and recommendations generated by council members and community stakeholders during the January summit. The report is currently with the District Attorney’s Office to determine how it will be presented to the Board of Supervisors. Council members expressed initial concern regarding layers of revision but affirmed that the report remains substantively consistent with the original findings, and they agreed to move forward with the draft.

- **Membership**

- i. Vacancies will be opening in the Research & Data and Survivor Services sectors, which will be filled through an application process. Applications will be accepted through May 1, with the new members expected to be appointed at the June meeting. Due to Chair’s upcoming departure from the Council, she announced the appointment of Carolyn Matzger as Acting Chair and Melissa Haupt as Acting Vice Chair until formal elections can be held in June, as outlined in council bylaws.

## VI. Presentation

- **Kristi Wells, CEO and Co-founder of Safe House Project**

- i. The meeting then featured a presentation from Kristi Wells, CEO and co-founder of the Safe House Project, who introduced the “Simply Report” app—an AI-powered national reporting system designed to improve the speed and accuracy of trafficking identification. She explained the system’s use of natural language processing, a 700-indicator behavioral matrix, and real-time routing to law enforcement dashboards. She described the strict separation between victim service requests and law enforcement routing, ensuring confidentiality and informed consent. She also shared national data demonstrating system performance, discussed how multi-agency collaboration is supported through shared dashboards, and provided insight into pattern-recognition capabilities that link related cases across jurisdictions. Council members asked questions regarding data security, the risk-scoring system, local adoption, and survivor service routing. Kristi committed to providing additional materials, including the recently published national data report.

## VII. Roundtable Updates

- Due to time constraints, sector updates were not provided verbally, and members were invited to email updates for distribution through staff.
- Updates received through email:
  - i. **Research and Data** supported the bi-annual HT-RADAR meeting that took place on Tuesday, April 14th. We spent much of our time at our last meeting discussing the process for choosing a new representative to the Advisory Council, and

developing the position description that we shared with you. We also heard a presentation on the latest research brief from the Center for Justice and Reconciliation.

- ii. **Survivor Services** met on March 19, 2026 and discussed several key areas of focus. Members identified the need to invite the national hotline for a presentation to clarify their current operations and distinctions from the former Polaris-run model, with plans for the sector to generate questions for Compass Connections to support aligned messaging. The group also discussed future sector priorities, noting that resources and training received the most support from members. Training interests included topics such as burnout prevention, team development, confidentiality, provider wellness, specialized populations including incarcerated survivors, labor trafficking, victim recruitment in shelters, human rights, sextortion, trafficking for criminal enterprise, trafficking on college campuses, and technology-facilitated trafficking. Members also highlighted the importance of developing resources on name changes, credit repair, and civil legal options. The sector emphasized the need for trauma-informed training for resource providers—including dental care, tattoo removal, and other services—particularly addressing survivor storytelling and concerns around feeling pressured to share personal histories. The group expressed interest in developing a standardized training module to deliver in person to these resource providers. Additionally, the sector requested a legislative update from Marjorie Saylor, as her schedule allows, to help organizations stay informed about key bills affecting the anti-trafficking movement. Members also discussed meeting in person on a quarterly basis. Finally, the sector completed and shared the finalized Work Readiness, Employment and Education Resources document, a collaborative compilation of employment and education supports for survivors, including resources tailored for those interested in survivor leadership and advocacy roles.
- iii. **Education** reported extensive human trafficking prevention training efforts aligned with Recommendation 12 from the Summit Report. Between January and February 2026, the sector delivered eight training offerings, including four webinars introducing the Preventing and Reporting Human Trafficking in Schools Digital Toolkit, which helped participants understand key components of the toolkit, implementation strategies, and school-based response protocols; two additional toolkit presentations were provided during regular district leadership meetings. The sector also conducted two virtual multidisciplinary trainings for school staff that emphasized cross-agency collaboration and provided guidance on identifying at-risk or exploited students, understanding the impact of trafficking on school communities, applying the Human Trafficking School Safety Protocol (HTSSP), and connecting families with community resources. In addition, the sector held a webinar for elementary parents focused on digital safety and human trafficking awareness, as well as two webinars for middle and high school parents addressing online safety, internet crime prevention, and trafficking risks. In total, the training series reached 243 school participants, 102 parents, and 344 agency partners.

## VIII. Adjournment

- Before adjournment, the Council recognized and honored Council Chair Susan Munsey for her years of leadership and longstanding service, presenting a certificate acknowledging her contributions from 2020 through 2026. The meeting concluded at 3:00 p.m.