

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



Meeting Minutes

December 10, 2025

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

One Safe Place

401 Mile of Cars Way, National City, CA 91950

Hope and Healing Training Room

Attendees: David Oates, Aron Pritchard, Amanda Stephens, Ember Price, Yusef Miller, Trish Martinez, Heather Nemour, Bridget Henderson, Francisco Brambila, David Jarman, Jerrica Phillips, Carolyn Matzger, Kanani Titchen, Ami Carpenter, Arturo Garcia, Marjorie Saylor, and Susan Munsey

I. Chair welcome

The meeting was called to order at 1:36pm

II. Announcement of members participating by teleconference and proxy

- **Virtual:** David Oates, Aron Pritchard, and Kanani Titchen
- **In-person:** Amanda Stephens, Ember Price, Yusef Miller, Trish Martinez, Heather Nemour, Bridget Henderson, Francisco Brambila, David Jarman, Jerrica Phillips, Carolyn Matzger, Ami Carpenter, Arturo Garcia, Marjorie Saylor, and Susan Munsey

III. Approval of Minutes

- Minutes from the previous meeting (October 2025) were reviewed and approved unanimously

IV. Public comment on non-agenda items

- Linda: Announced participation in a Nexus study examining connections between sex trafficking and drugs (University of Massachusetts) and promoted the Jan 22 Human Trafficking Awareness event at One Safe Place North; flyers to be distributed.
- Robert Forte (CalAIM/ECM): Highlighted housing barriers for survivors (mothers) enrolled in ECM and community supports—specifically challenges placing older children (15+) under the same roof; requested Council connections to family-inclusive housing providers and indicated availability of youth consultants with lived experience to inform Council work.
- Jason Moore (Hotel Industry): Proposed (1) a City of San Diego ordinance requiring hotel bookings to list number of children in the room to create evidentiary paper trails and prompt staff awareness, and (2) a County excise tax on adult entertainment businesses (e.g., strip clubs/online platforms) to fund survivor services and county programs.

V. Vote on bylaws

- Discussion:
 - i. Align bylaws with forthcoming County ordinance and Brown Act considerations
 - ii. Terminology change: move away from “subcommittee” due to Brown Act implications; adopt “sectors”
 - iii. Clarified that sector groups may set their own meeting formats while any special committees convened under the Council follow the bylaws.
- Motion: Approve revised bylaws reflecting these changes.
- Outcome: Approved.

VI. Summit report update

- Update
 - i. County Departments reviewed Council recommendations for feasibility and alignment
 - ii. A high-interest recommendation (discussed as “assigning/holding” survivors) was softened due to legal constraints (cannot hold individuals against their will);

- proposed a workgroup to study policy options and any legislative pathway needed.
- iii. Chairs have received updated draft for Council review; departments (e.g. Health and Human Services Agency) are available for follow-up discussion if needed.

VII. Presentations

- **Conference Update, Bilateral Safety Coalition, Narisa Ugarte, Executive Director**
 - i. Marisa shared outcomes from a recent conference on human trafficking and exploitation emphasizing cross-border collaboration and multi-sector engagement.
 - ii. Key themes:
 1. Global Trends: Highlighted the intersection of organized crime, money laundering, and trafficking networks, particularly along border regions.
 2. Policy gaps: Stressed the need for bilateral agreements and shared intelligence frameworks to address transnational trafficking.
 3. Community engagement: Advocated for joint prevention strategies and capacity-building among NGOs, law enforcement, and survivor-led organizations.
 - iii. Next steps: Encouraged Council members to contribute to regional action plans and explore funding opportunities for collaborative initiatives. Plans to circulate a summary report and invite stakeholders to a follow-up strategy session in early 2026.
- **Modernizing How Sex Trafficking is Understood in a Digital World, Mariah Rief, Sex Trafficking Survivor/Advocate & Digital Exploitation Policy Consultant**
 - i. Context: One of ~572 identified victims in the Girls Do Porn case; has served as liaison supporting FBI/police engagement with wary victims and assisting in identification (including five additional victims found via exploited websites).
 - ii. Modus Operandi: Victims responded to legitimate-seeming modeling ads (Craigslist, reference model assurances), were flown to San Diego, separated upon arrival, and subjected to coercion; victims were often 18–22 with some minors identified.
 - iii. Case Outcomes:
 1. Ringleader Michael Pratt (FBI Top 10) sentenced to 27 years (government recommended 21); co-conspirators received ~12–14 years; final co-conspirator (reference model/airport pick-ups) pending sentencing the Friday after this meeting; multi-agency collaboration (FBI/ATF/US Marshals/local police) praised.
 - iv. Policy Gaps Identified:
 1. Copyright awards to victims (rare, previously known primarily via Ratajkowski’s litigation) do not ensure deletion due to mass duplication and presence on hundreds of platforms (including foreign sites); survivors face burdensome, retraumatizing takedown processes.
 - v. Proposed Direction:
 1. Pursue state-level legislative framework to classify and hash Non-Consensual Intimate Imagery (NCII)/Sexual Exploitation content (adult and minor victims) with secure submission, verification, and hash-based detection (akin to CSAM hashing) to trigger platform compliance and rapid removal.
 2. Engage California legislators (bill packages forming now), coordinate with federal partners (UN planning committee, Washington contacts), and review tools like “Take It Down” while broadening scope (Google indexing, social media reposts)

VIII. Roundtable Updates

- **Business:**
 - i. Reported that GenerateHope is building a quarterly career sponsor and job fair covering six disciplines and has already secured six mentors from the local business community. They are actively seeking additional employment pathways for survivors. In addition,

the sector is launching an outreach initiative through service clubs and the Chamber of Commerce in 2026 to recruit mentors for at-risk youth via Big Brothers Big Sisters.

- **Child and Family Well-Being:**

- i. Celebrated National Adoption Month and is continuing its revision of the speaker response interview protocol to incorporate legislative updates. Feedback is being solicited through January, and smaller working groups will be formed for section-specific improvements. The sector is also partnering again with Imagine Brave Spaces to bring the “Story” program—a social-emotional, faith-aware statewide initiative—to additional sites, particularly short-term residential programs.

- **Community:**

- i. Hosted the “Wellness Through Cultural and Care” event in collaboration with the Missing and Murdered Indigenous (MMI) program and tribal substance abuse program, focusing on vulnerabilities of Indigenous youth and local MMIP cases. They are planning a November 13 event honoring veterans and Native American Heritage Month, which will include a ceremony and medicine bags for the first 100 veterans. The sector raised concerns about gaps in Ebony Alert implementation, citing multiple San Diego cases where alerts were not activated or understood, including one tragic case where a child was later found deceased. They are pursuing ordinance language clarity and training for proper alert deployment. Preparations are also underway for the Second Annual Anti-Human Trafficking March along the North County corridor (Oceanside–Escondido–Vista–San Marcos), aiming to standardize responses and improve information access.

- **Education:**

- i. Announced January parent webinars, including an elementary-focused session on online safety with San Diego Youth Services and a two-part series for middle and high school parents with North County Lifeline. A multidisciplinary virtual training for educators is scheduled, and the sector continues to promote the county’s K–12 Human Trafficking Prevention Toolkit to districts and charters statewide, with a webinar planned to provide an overview.

- **Health:**

- i. Piloting program with GenerateHope to support them with clinic connections to improve survivor healthcare access and is recruiting nurses and dietitians to provide educational series and case management. The goal is to launch these efforts in January once volunteer onboarding is complete.

- **Law Enforcement:**

- i. Reported that the Human Trafficking Task Force has made 105 arrests year-to-date and recovered 62 juveniles, up from 48 in October, reflecting a surge in juvenile recoveries and increased workload for the City Attorney and District Attorney offices.

- **Prosecution:**

- i. District Attorney’s Office and City Attorney’s Office have been busy with human trafficking and prostitution cases.

- **Research and Data:**

- i. Explored the use of AI to streamline research and data analysis, citing an example where emergency department presentations involving tattoos and pelvic inflammatory disease among foster youth yielded an estimated 60–85% risk for CSEC. The sector also launched a bilingual graphic novel on labor trafficking through illicit drug sales, piloting it with youth ages 13–26 at higher risk. Participants receive a \$25 Amazon gift card for

completing a short read and survey. Plans are underway to expand the pilot to schools next year using a non-IRB quality improvement approach for timely feedback.

- **Survivor Services:**

- i. Finalizing a comprehensive survivor resource compendium and introduced the State House Project's Symphonic Report app for reporting and referrals, which some jurisdictions are adopting as a hotline alternative with direct law enforcement linkage. An April briefing by CEO Christine Wells is planned. The sector also hosted a holiday celebration and invited Research & Data to present on data needs to align providers on consistent data capture.

- **Survivor Voices:**

- i. Distributed an 11-page legislative update and report with implementation guidance for 2026 bills impacting multiple sectors, including recommendations for the Board of Supervisors. They continue engaging with legislators on approximately ten initiatives, prioritizing four major efforts. A kick-off meeting is scheduled for January 10 to recruit and engage new survivors across sectors.

IX. Adjournment

X. Tour of One Safe Place (optional)