



Meeting Minutes June 22, 2018

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT *(in person)*

Janet Drake, Council Chair	Patricia Medige
Angela Lytle, Council Vice-Chair	Nhu Minh-Le
Tom Acker	Don Moseley
Lester Bacani	Jo-Ann O'Neil
Andrea Bradbury <i>(on behalf of Tony Spurlock)</i>	Steven Ramirez
Jill Brogden	Elise Reifschneider
Maureen Cain	Fikile Ryder
Minna Castillo-Cohen	Tammy Schneiderman
Claude d'Estrée	Raana Simmons
Mari Dennis	Dan Steele
Amanda Finger	Cathie Swanson
Christian Gardner-Wood	

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT *(remotely)*

Matt Dodson
Robert Lung

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT

Sterling Harris
Lynn Johnson *(Proxy vote to A. Lytle)*
Saida Montoya
Jerry Peters
Tony Spurlock *(Proxy vote to R. Simmons)*
Linda Weinerman

DCJ STAFF

Kelly Kissell, Office for Victims Programs, Manager
Maria Trujillo, Human Trafficking Program Manager
Catherine Bowman, Human Trafficking Program Coordinator
Brendan Davidson, Office for Victims Programs, Program Associate



MEETING CONVENED: 9:03 am

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

Council Chair Janet Drake opened the meeting by thanking Catherine Bowman and Maria Trujillo for their efforts in putting together the Council summary document prepared for the Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA), which was provided to Council members ahead of the meeting for their review. Ms. Drake articulated the reasons why the Council was initially informed, stating that the Council is intended to bring together a diverse group of stakeholders from a range of backgrounds to address human trafficking issues in Colorado.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Lydia Waligorski, Public Policy Director with Violence Free Colorado, provided public comment on behalf of her organization. Her public comment was in reference to the Council's mandate to make recommendations to the General Assembly on whether to establish standards and a process for the certification for organizations that provide services to victims of human trafficking. Her comments focused primarily on the recommendation the Council made in regards to standards and guidance for community-based victim advocates. It is her organization's view that the standards and certification recommendations of the Council for community-based victim advocates go beyond the intended scope of the Council's legislative mandate.

SUNSET REVIEW DOCUMENT DISCUSSION & VOTES

Ms. Drake led the discussion about the Council's sunset review process. As part of a Title 2 review, DORA has requested the following information from DCJ:

- The names of current members of the Council;
- All revenues and all expenditures, including Council expenses, per diem paid to members, and any travel expenses;
- The dates Council meetings were held and the number of members attending each meeting;
- A list of all advisory proposals made by the Council together with an indication as to whether or not each proposal has been acted on, implemented, or enacted in statute;
- The reasons why the Council should be continued.

The summary document prepared for DORA (hereafter referred to as the DORA report) was crafted to address each of DORA's questions and to provide a summary of the Council activities. The final report DORA will provide to the General Assembly based on DCJ's summary document will be similar in nature to the examples given to the Council prior to the meeting. At the conclusion of the June 22nd meeting this summary document will also reflect the Council's input on whether each of the eight mandates are complete, should continue, and/or be modified.

Prior to this conversation, Ms. Drake provided some background on how and why the Council was formed. She noted that while little legislation had been passed by the Colorado General Assembly based on the Council's recommendations, the General Assembly did add human trafficking of a minor as a form of child abuse and neglect. Moreover the Council has provided a valuable space in which varying stakeholders can discuss human trafficking issues.



Following Ms. Drake's opening remarks, the Council discussed the manner in which it would provide comment to DORA. As a Title 2 review, Council members will not be individually solicited to provide comment. In reference to this, the day's Council meeting provided members an opportunity to voice their opinion on the Council, its various mandates, and what things the Council might consider moving forward. Maureen Cain noted that should Council members want to provide individual comment, DORA has been receptive to individual board member feedback during other reviews she had been involved in. Ms. Cain also inquired why Council members were not provide a copy of the financial information requested by DORA. Ms. Trujillo responded that the DCJ accounting staff was working on completing the financial documentation and can provide it to Council once it is complete.

SUNSET REVIEW SURVEY

In order to provide DORA accurate information on the Council's views of its various mandates, Council members engaged in a series of votes in reference to each Council mandate. For each mandate, members voted on the following:

- Whether or not they agreed with the status of the mandate as reflected in the report to DORA;
- Whether or not they thought the mandate should continue;
- If it was determined that a mandate should continue with modifications, what modifications to statute should be made and how should mandate be rewritten.

Prior to the first vote, Raana Simmons noted for the record that the Colorado Coalition Against Sexual Assault (CCASA), Violence Free Colorado, and the Rocky Mountain Victim Law Center (RMVLC) are in opposition to the creation of certification. Ms. Simmons provided Council members a policy memo with opinions from their constituents as to why they believe the standards and certification mandate – and to a lesser degree the grant funding mandate – given to the Council are unnecessary. The memo and the survey responses solicited as a part of that memo are included in the minutes as Appendix A.

Council members who supported the mandate felt that standards and certification are necessary as some guidelines to ensure that the needs of trafficking survivors are better served and that professionals have the requisite expertise and training to serve this population. Others felt that the Council had fulfilled its obligation in crafting standards and certification and the standards set forth by the Council were predominately aspirational. Others echoed CCASA's sentiments that if the Council keeps its standards and certification mandate, the General Assembly will eventually decide to legislate standards and certification—which may constitute government overreach and burden communities serving human trafficking victims and other vulnerable communities unnecessarily.



Council Vote #1

Make recommendations as to whether the General Assembly should establish standards and a process for the certification of organizations that provide services to victims of human trafficking.

Do you agree with the status as reflected in the DORA report? The DORA report draft state the status as complete.

The Council voted 20 yes, 3 no, 3 abstentions

Yes	No	Abstain
Tom Acker	Matt Dodson	Janet Drake
Lester Bacani	Nhu-Minh Le	Elise Reifschneider
Jill Brogdon	Robert Lung	Cathie Swanson
Maureen Cain		
Minna Castillo-Cohen		
Claude d'Estreé		
Mari Dennis		
Amanda Finger		
Christian Gardner-Wood		
Lynn Johnson		
Angela Lytle		
Patricia Medige		
Don Moseley		
Jo-Ann O'Neil		
Steven Ramirez		
Fikile Ryder		
Tammy Schneiderman		
Raana Simmons		
Tony Spurlock		
Dan Steele		

Council Vote #2

Make recommendations as to whether the General Assembly should establish standards and a process for the certification of organizations that provide services to victims of human trafficking.

Do you want this mandate to continue?

The Council voted 5 yes; 4 yes, if amended; 14 no; 3 abstentions

Yes, as written	Yes, if amended	No	Abstain
Lester Bacani	Tom Acker	Maureen Cain	Janet Drake
Jill Brogdon	Minna Castillo-Cohen	Mari Dennis	Elise Reifschneider
Steven Ramirez	Claude d'Estreé	Matt Dodson	Tammy Schneiderman
Fikile Ryder	Robert Lung	Amanda Finger	
Cathie Swanson		Christian Gardner-Wood	
		Lynn Johnson	
		Pat Medige	
		Nhu Minh-Le	
		Angela Lytle	
		Don Moseley	
		Jo-Ann O'Neil	



		Raana Simmons Tony Spurlock Dan Steele	
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The Council also considered whether it had addressed the mandate to make recommendations on whether or not the General Assembly should establish a grant program to which organizations that provide services to victims of human trafficking may apply. The 2017 Annual Report contains information about the existing funding landscape for organization that work on the issue and/or provide services to human trafficking survivors in Colorado. This information indicated that it may not be an issue of available funding dollars, but perhaps access to these dollars and the requirements for applying for these funds may be difficult for some organizations that serve victims of human trafficking. However, the Council has not yet put forth a formal recommendation as to whether or not the General Assembly should establish a grant program to which these organizations can apply. As such, the DORA Report reflects the status of this mandate as ongoing.

Council Vote #3

Make recommendations on whether the General Assembly should establish a grant program to which organizations that provide services to victims of human trafficking may apply for grants, including consideration of how such a grant program may be funded.

Do you agree with the status as reflected in the DORA report? DORA report draft states the status of this mandate as ongoing

The Council voted 20 yes; 2 no; 4 abstentions

Yes	No	Abstain
Tom Acker	Maureen Cain	Janet Drake
Lester Bacani	Nhu-Minh Le	Don Moseley
Jill Brogdon		Raana Simmons
Minna Castillo-Cohen		Tony Spurlock
Claude d'Estreé		
Mari Dennis		
Matt Dodson		
Amanda Finger		
Christian Gardner-Wood		
Lynn Johnson		
Robert Lung		
Angela Lytle		
Patricia Medige		
Jo-Ann O'Neil		
Steven Ramirez		
Elise Reifschneider		
Fikile Ryder		
Tammy Schneiderman		
Cathie Swanson		
Dan Steele		



Council Vote #4

Make recommendations on whether the General Assembly should establish a grant program to which organizations that provide services to victims of human trafficking may apply for grants, including consideration of how such a grant program may be funded.

Do you want this mandate to continue?

The Council voted 17 yes; 2 yes, if amended; 4 no; 3 abstentions

Yes, as written	Yes, if amended	No	Abstain
Tom Acker	Elise Reifschneider	Lester Bacani	Janet Drake
Jill Brogdon	Cathie Swanson	Maureen Cain	Raana Simmons
Minna Castillo-Cohen		Pat Medige	Tony Spurlock
Mari Dennis		Nhu Minh-Le	
Claude d'Estreé			
Matt Dodson			
Amanda Finger			
Christian Gardner-Wood			
Lynn Johnson			
Angela Lytle			
Robert Lung			
Don Moseley			
Jo-Ann O'Neil			
Steven Ramirez			
Fikile Ryder			
Tammy Schneiderman			
Dan Steele			

Prior to the 5th vote, Ms. Cain voiced her opinion that the Council is not the proper forum to make decisions about the prosecution and punishment of traffickers. Her view is that the Council has not effectively taken a formal position on human trafficking bills the past several years and has demonstrated that it is not well-positioned to tackle legislative issues. Christian Gardner-Wood agreed with Ms. Cain's assessment that the Council has not taken many formal positions on human trafficking bills, however, he noted that this does not preclude the Council from doing more policy work moving forward.

Council Vote #5

Consider and make, as it deems necessary, recommendations to the Judiciary committees of the House of Representative and Senate, or to any successor committees concerning any statutory changes that the Council deems necessary to facilitate the prosecution and punishment of persons who engage in, and to protect the victims of, human trafficking.

Do you agree with the status as reflected in the DORA report? The status is reflected as ongoing in the DORA report draft.

The Council voted 20 yes; 5 no; 1 abstentions

Yes	No	Abstain
Tom Acker	Jill Brogdon	Janet Drake
Lester Bacani	Maureen Cain	



Minna Castillo-Cohen Claude d'Estreé Mari Dennis Matt Dodson Amanda Finger Christian Gardner-Wood Lynn Johnson Nhu-Minh Le Robert Lung Angela Lytle Don Moseley Jo-Ann O'Neil Steven Ramirez Elise Reifschneider Fikile Ryder Tammy Schneiderman Cathie Swanson Dan Steele	Patricia Medige Tony Spurlock Raana Simmons	
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Council Vote #6

Consider and make, as it deems necessary, recommendations to the Judiciary committees of the House of Representative and Senate, or to any successor committees concerning any statutory changes that the Council deems necessary to facilitate the prosecution and punishment of persons who engage in, and to protect the victims of, human trafficking.

Do you want this mandate to continue?

The Council voted 15 yes; 3 yes, if amended; 5 no; 3 abstentions

Yes, as written	Yes, if amended	No	Abstain
Tom Acker	Mari Dennis	Maureen Cain	Jill Brogdon
Lester Bacani	Robert Lung	Pat Medige	Janet Drake
Minna Castillo-Cohen	Steven Ramirez	Nhu Minh-Le	Tammy Schneiderman
Claude d'Estreé		Raana Simmons	
Matt Dodson		Tony Spurlock	
Amanda Finger			
Christian Gardner-Wood			
Lynn Johnson			
Angela Lytle			
Don Moseley			
Jo-Ann O'Neil			
Elise Reifschneider			
Fikile Ryder			
Dan Steele			
Cathie Swanson			



Council Vote #7

Develop an implementation plan for a public awareness campaign to educate the public about human trafficking and place victims services contact information in places where victims of human trafficking are likely to see it. Reflected as complete in the DORA Report.

Do you agree with the status as reflected in the DORA report? The status was reflected as complete in the DORA report draft.

The Council voted 21 yes; 3 no; 2 abstentions

Yes	No	Abstain
Lester Bacani Jill Brogdon Minna Castillo-Cohen Claude d'Estreé Mari Dennis Matt Dodson Amanda Finger Christian Gardner-Wood Lynn Johnson Patricia Medige Nhu-Minh Le Robert Lung Angela Lytle Don Moseley Jo-Ann O'Neil Steven Ramirez Elise Reifschneider Fikile Ryder Tammy Schneiderman Cathie Swanson Dan Steele	Tom Acker Maureen Cain Raana Simmons	Janet Drake Tony Spurlock

Council Vote #8

Develop an implementation plan for a public awareness campaign to educate the public about human trafficking and place victims services contact information in places where victims of human trafficking are likely to see it.

Do you want this mandate to continue?

The Council voted 6 yes; 13 yes, if amended; 5 no; 2 abstentions

Yes, as written	Yes, if amended	No	Abstain
Tom Acker Lester Bacani Claude d'Estreé Robert Lung Steven Ramirez Elise Reifschneider	Jill Brogdon Minna Castillo-Cohen Matt Dodson Amanda Finger Christian Gardner-Wood Lynn Johnson Angela Lytle Don Moseley	Maureen Cain Mari Dennis Pat Medige Nhu Minh-Le Raana Simmons	Janet Drake Tony Spurlock



	Jo-Ann O'Neil Fikile Ryder Tammy Schneiderman Dan Steele Cathie Swanson		
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The Council discussed various ways to change the wording of the mandate following the eighth vote. The Council decided to continue the mandate with modifications with the final version of the mandate to be determined at a later time.

Council Vote #9

Change the language of the mandate from “develop an implementation plan” to “implement a statewide public awareness campaign on human trafficking.” The vote below reflects the Council’s interest in modifying the mandate as stated above but reserve the option to make additional modifications at later time.

The Council voted 21 yes; 2 no; 3 abstentions

Yes	No	Abstain
Tom Acker Lester Bacani Jill Brogdon Maureen Cain Minna Castillo-Cohen Claude d'Estreé Mari Dennis Matt Dodson Amanda Finger Christian Gardner-Wood Lynn Johnson Robert Lung Angela Lytle Don Moseley Jo-Ann O'Neil Steven Ramirez Elise Reifschneider Fikile Ryder Tammy Schneiderman Cathie Swanson Dan Steele	Patricia Medige Raana Simmons	Janet Drake Nhu-Minh Le Tony Spurlock



Council Vote #10

Develop training standards and curricula for organizations that provide assistance to victims of human trafficking, for persons who work in or who frequent places where human trafficking victims are likely to appear, and for law enforcement agencies.

Do you agree with the status as reflected in the DORA report? It is reflected as ongoing in the DORA report draft.

The Council voted 20 yes; 3 no; 3 abstentions

Yes	No	Abstain
Tom Acker	Maureen Cain	Jill Brogdon
Lester Bacani	Patricia Medige	Janet Drake
Minna Castillo-Cohen	Raana Simmons	Tony Spurlock
Claude d'Estreé		
Mari Dennis		
Matt Dodson		
Amanda Finger		
Christian Gardner-Wood		
Lynn Johnson		
Nhu-Minh Le		
Robert Lung		
Angela Lytle		
Don Moseley		
Jo-Ann O'Neil		
Steven Ramirez		
Elise Reifschneider		
Fikile Ryder		
Tammy Schneiderman		
Cathie Swanson		
Dan Steele		

Council Vote #11

Develop training standards and curricula for organizations that provide assistance to victims of human trafficking, for persons who work in or who frequent places where human trafficking victims are likely to appear, and for law enforcement agencies.

Do you want this mandate to continue?

The Council voted 11 yes; 6 yes, if amended; 5 no; 4 abstentions

Yes, as written	Yes, if amended	No	Abstain
Tom Acker	Lester Bacani	Maureen Cain	Jill Brogdon
Mari Dennis	Minna Castillo-Cohen	Christian Gardner-Wood	Janet Drake
Claude d'Estreé	Matt Dodson	Pat Medige	Don Moseley
Amanda Finger	Robert Lung	Nhu Minh-Le	Tony Spurlock
Angela Lytle	Jo-Ann O'Neil	Raana Simmons	
Lynn Johnson	Fikile Ryder		
Steven Ramirez			
Elise Reifschneider			
Tammy Schneiderman			



Dan Steele			
Cathie Swanson			

Robert Lung stated that he thought the mandate could be amended, but he would like to have a dialogue about this vote to better understand where people stand on the mandate.

Council Vote #12

Identify best practices for the prevention of human trafficking, particularly for the prevention of child sex trafficking.

Do you agree with the status as reflected in the DORA report? It is reflected as in progress in the DORA report draft.

The Council voted 21 yes; 2 no; 3 abstentions

Yes	No	Abstain
Lester Bacani	Tom Acker	Maureen Cain
Jill Brogdon	Raana Simmons	Janet Drake
Minna Castillo-Cohen		Tony Spurlock
Claude d'Estreé		
Mari Dennis		
Matt Dodson		
Amanda Finger		
Christian Gardner-Wood		
Lynn Johnson		
Patricia Medige		
Nhu-Minh Le		
Robert Lung		
Angela Lytle		
Don Moseley		
Jo-Ann O'Neil		
Steven Ramirez		
Elise Reifschneider		
Fikile Ryder		
Tammy Schneiderman		
Cathie Swanson		
Dan Steele		

Council Vote #13

Identify best practices for the prevention of human trafficking, particularly for the prevention of child sex trafficking.

Do you want this mandate to continue?

The Council voted 7 yes; 14 yes, if amended; 3 no; 2 abstentions

Yes, as written	Yes, if amended	No	Abstain
Minna Castillo-Cohen	Tom Acker	Maureen Cain	Janet Drake
Amanda Finger	Jill Brogdon	Nhu Minh-Le	Tony Spurlock
Christian Gardner-Wood	Lester Bacani	Raana Simmons	



Robert Lung Don Moseley Fikile Ryder Dan Steele	Mari Dennis Claude d'Estreé Matt Dodson Lynn Johnson Angela Lytle Pat Medige Jo-Ann O'Neil Steven Ramirez Elise Reifschneider Tammy Schneiderman Cathie Swanson		
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Council Vote #14

Change the language of the mandate to be more inclusive of best practices for the prevention of all forms of human trafficking.

The Council voted 20 yes; 3 no; 3 abstentions

Yes	No	Abstain
Tom Acker Lester Bacani Jill Brogdon Minna Castillo-Cohen Claude d'Estreé Mari Dennis Matt Dodson Amanda Finger Lynn Johnson Robert Lung Angela Lytle Patricia Medige Don Moseley Jo-Ann O'Neil Steven Ramirez Elise Reifschneider Fikile Ryder Tammy Schneiderman Cathie Swanson Dan Steele	Maureen Cain Christian Gardner-Wood Raana Simmons	Janet Drake Nhu-Minh Le Tony Spurlock



Council Vote #15

Collect data relating to the prevalence of, and the efforts of law enforcement to combat, human trafficking in Colorado. The Council shall annually report the data to the Judiciary Committees of the House of Representatives and Senate or to any successor committees.

Do you agree with the status as reflected in the DORA report? The status is reflected as ongoing in the DORA report draft.

The Council voted 22 yes; 2 no; 2 abstentions

Yes	No	Abstain
Tom Acker	Maureen Cain	Janet Drake
Lester Bacani	Raana Simmons	Tony Spurlock
Jill Brogdon		
Minna Castillo-Cohen		
Claude d'Estreé		
Mari Dennis		
Matt Dodson		
Amanda Finger		
Christian Gardner-Wood		
Lynn Johnson		
Patricia Medige		
Nhu-Minh Le		
Robert Lung		
Angela Lytle		
Don Moseley		
Jo-Ann O'Neil		
Steven Ramirez		
Elise Reifschneider		
Fikile Ryder		
Tammy Schneiderman		
Cathie Swanson		
Dan Steele		

Council Vote #16

Collect data relating to the prevalence of, and the efforts of law enforcement to combat, human trafficking in Colorado. The Council shall annually report the data to the Judiciary Committees of the House of Representatives and Senate or to any successor committees.

Do you want this mandate to continue?

The Council voted 15 yes; 6 yes, if amended; 3 no; 2 abstentions

Yes, as written	Yes, if amended	No	Abstain
Lester Bacani	Tom Acker	Maureen Cain	Janet Drake
Jill Brogdon	Claude d'Estreé	Nhu Minh-Le	Tony Spurlock
Minna Castillo-Cohen	Matt Dodson	Raana Simmons	
Mari Dennis	Pat Medige		
Amanda Finger	Steven Ramirez		
Christian Gardner-Wood	Cathie Swanson		
Lynn Johnson			



Robert Lung Angela Lytle Don Moseley Jo-Ann O'Neil Elise Reifschneider Fikile Ryder Tammy Schneiderman Dan Steele			
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Mr. d'Estreé noted that the mandate should be adjusted to collect data on incidence, not prevalence, as it is impossible to accurately collect data on the prevalence of human trafficking.

Council Vote #17

Research and pursue funding opportunities for the Council.

Do you agree with the status as reflected in the DORA Report? This is reflected as ongoing in the DORA report draft.

The Council voted 21 yes; 2 no; 3 abstentions

Yes	No	Abstain
Tom Acker Lester Bacani Jill Brogdon Minna Castillo-Cohen Claude d'Estreé Mari Dennis Matt Dodson Amanda Finger Christian Gardner-Wood Lynn Johnson Patricia Medige Robert Lung Angela Lytle Don Moseley Jo-Ann O'Neil Steven Ramirez Elise Reifschneider Fikile Ryder Tammy Schneiderman Cathie Swanson Dan Steele	Maureen Cain Raana Simmons	Janet Drake Nhu-Minh Le Tony Spurlock

Ms. Cain raised questions around grants that DCJ has applied for and how these funds are being spent on Council activities. Ms. Trujillo explained that all grant proposals were presented to the Council for approval prior to submission. She also clarified that all funds go directly towards fulfilling Council activities, for example, to deliver CHTC developed training programs.



Council Vote #18

Research and pursue funding opportunities for the Council.

Do you want this mandate to continue?

The Council voted 19 yes; 1 yes, if amended; 4 no; 2 abstentions

Yes, as written	Yes, if amended	No	Abstain
Tom Acker	Amanda Finger	Maureen Cain	Janet Drake
Lester Bacani		Pat Medige	Tony Spurlock
Jill Brogdon		Nhu Minh-Le	
Minna Castillo-Cohen		Raana Simmons	
Mari Dennis			
Claude d'Estreé			
Matt Dodson			
Christian Gardner-Wood			
Lynn Johnson			
Robert Lung			
Angela Lytle			
Don Moseley			
Jo-Ann O'Neil			
Steven Ramirez			
Elise Reifschneider			
Fikile Ryder			
Tammy Schneiderman			
Dan Steele			
Cathie Swanson			

Council Vote #19

To consider the enactment of legislation concerning:

A. the prosecution of, or granting of immunity to, a child victim of commercial sexual exploitation for offenses related to that exploitation.

Do you agree with the status as reflected in the DORA report? The status is reflected as complete in the DORA report draft.

The Council voted 18 yes; 4 no; 4 abstentions

Yes	No	Abstain
Tom Acker	Maureen Cain	Janet Drake
Lester Bacani	Claude d'Estreé	Nhu-Minh Le
Jill Brogdon	Patricia Medige	Elise Reifschneider
Minna Castillo-Cohen	Raana Simmons	Tony Spurlock
Mari Dennis		
Matt Dodson		
Amanda Finger		
Christian Gardner-Wood		
Lynn Johnson		
Robert Lung		
Angela Lytle		
Don Moseley		



Jo-Ann O'Neil Steven Ramirez Fikile Ryder Tammy Schneiderman Cathie Swanson Dan Steele		
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Council Vote #20

To consider the enactment of legislation concerning:

A. The prosecution of, or granting of immunity to, a child victim of commercial sexual exploitation for offenses related to that exploitation. The status of this mandate is reflected as completed in the DORA Report. The status of this mandate is reflected as complete in the DORA Report.

Do you want this mandate to continue?

The Council voted 10 yes; 4 yes, if amended; 8 no; 4 abstentions

Yes, as written	Yes, if amended	No	Abstain
Tom Acker	Jill Brogdon	Maureen Cain	Janet Drake
Lester Bacani	Matt Dodson	Amanda Finger	Nhu Minh-Le
Minna Castillo-Cohen	Lynn Johnson	Christian Gardner-Wood	Elise Reifschneider
Mari Dennis	Angela Lytle	Pat Medige	Tony Spurlock
Claude d'Estreé		Don Moseley	
Robert Lung		Tammy Schneiderman	
Jo-Ann O'Neil		Raana Simmons	
Steven Ramirez		Dan Steele	
Fikile Ryder			
Cathie Swanson			

Council Vote #21

To consider the enactment of legislation concerning:

B. The creation of other legal protections, including statutory defenses for child victims of commercial sexual exploitation for offenses related to that exploitation and the creation of any necessary changes to Title 19, C.R.S., to implement those legal protections or defenses.

Do you agree with the status as reflected in the DORA report? The status is reflected as complete in the DORA report draft.

The Council voted 19 yes; 3 no; 4 abstentions

Yes	No	Abstain
Tom Acker	Maureen Cain	Janet Drake
Lester Bacani	Patricia Medige	Nhu-Minh Le
Jill Brogdon	Raana Simmons	Elise Reifschneider
Minna Castillo-Cohen		Tony Spurlock
Claude d'Estreé		
Mari Dennis		
Matt Dodson		
Amanda Finger		
Christian Gardner-Wood		

Lynn Johnson Robert Lung Angela Lytle Don Moseley Jo-Ann O'Neil Steven Ramirez Fikile Ryder Tammy Schneiderman Cathie Swanson Dan Steele		
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Council Vote #22

To consider the enactment of legislation concerning:

B. The creation of other legal protections, including statutory defenses for child victims of commercial sexual exploitation for offenses related to that exploitation and the creation of any necessary changes to Title 19, C.R.S., to implement those legal protections or defenses.

Do you want this mandate to continue?

The Council voted 9 yes; 3 yes, if amended; 8 no; 6 abstentions

Yes, as written	Yes, if amended	No	Abstain
Tom Acker	Mari Dennis	Maureen Cain	Janet Drake
Lester Bacani	Robert Lung	Matt Dodson	Pat Medige
Jill Brogdon	Don Moseley	Amanda Finger	Nhu Minh-Le
Minna Castillo-Cohen		Christian Gardner-Wood	Elise Reifschneider
Claude d'Estreé		Lynn Johnson	Tammy Schneiderman
Jo-Ann O'Neil		Angela Lytle	Tony Spurlock
Steven Ramirez		Raana Simmons	
Fikile Ryder		Dan Steele	
Cathie Swanson			

Council Vote #23

To consider the enactment of legislation concerning:

C. Standards, guidelines, or mandates regarding the appropriate assessment, placement, and treatment of child victims of commercial sexual exploitation through Title 19, C.R.S., including but not limited to the use of locked placement..

Do you agree with the status as reflected in the DORA report? The status is reflected as complete in the DORA report draft.

The Council voted 19 yes; 1 no; 6 abstentions

Yes	No	Abstain
Tom Acker	Raana Simmons	Maureen Cain
Lester Bacani		Janet Drake
Jill Brogdon		Patricia Medige
Minna Castillo-Cohen		Nhu-Minh Le
Claude d'Estreé		Elise Reifschneider
Mari Dennis		Tony Spurlock

Matt Dodson Amanda Finger Christian Gardner-Wood Lynn Johnson Robert Lung Angela Lytle Don Moseley Jo-Ann O'Neil Steven Ramirez Fikile Ryder Tammy Schneiderman Cathie Swanson Dan Steele		
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Council Vote #24

To consider the enactment of legislation concerning:

C. Standards, guidelines, or mandates regarding the appropriate assessment, placement, and treatment of child victims of commercial sexual exploitation through Title 19, C.R.S., including but not limited to the use of locked placement.

Do you want this mandate to continue?

The Council voted 8 yes; 4 yes, if amended; 9 no; 5 abstentions

Yes, as written	Yes, if amended	No	Abstain
Tom Acker	Claude d'Estreé	Maureen Cain	Janet Drake
Lester Bacani	Don Moseley	Mari Dennis	Pat Medige
Jill Brogdon	Jo-Ann O'Neil	Matt Dodson	Nhu Minh-Le
Minna Castillo-Cohen	Tammy Schneiderman	Amanda Finger	Elise Reifschneider
Robert Lung		Christian Gardner-Wood	Tony Spurlock
Steven Ramirez		Lynn Johnson	
Fikile Ryder		Angela Lytle	
Cathie Swanson		Raana Simmons	
		Dan Steele	

Following the votes in reference to HB-1019 (votes #19 – 24 in this document), Ms. Drake observed based on the tallies of these votes that while the majority of Council believes that these mandates are completed, it would seem that the Council is divided on whether or not it would like to revisit the issue of safe harbor. In reference to these votes, the Council will discuss revisiting the issue of safe harbor in the future.

As part of the Council's sunset review discussion, various members of the Council were interested in a) whether or not the Council should continue, and b) what stakeholders and representatives should be on the Council and when the Council would be able to discuss such matters.

In reference to this discussion, the Council voted on whether to hold a vote at this meeting on whether or not the Council should sunset.



Council Vote #25

Whether the Council should vote today on whether members believe that the Council should continue.
 Moved by Ms. Medige. Seconded by Ms. O'Neil.

The Council voted 17 yes; 6 no; 3 abstentions

Yes	No	Abstain
Tom Acker	Minna Castillo-Cohen	Maureen Cain
Lester Bacani	Matt Dodson	Janet Drake
Jill Brogdon	Lynn Johnson	Tony Spurlock
Claude d'Estreé	Robert Lung	
Mari Dennis	Angela Lytle	
Amanda Finger	Raana Simmons	
Christian Gardner-Wood		
Patricia Medige		
Nhu-Minh Le		
Don Moseley		
Jo-Ann O'Neil		
Steven Ramirez		
Elise Reifschneider		
Fikile Ryder		
Tammy Schneiderman		
Cathie Swanson		
Dan Steele		

Council Vote #26

Should the Council sunset?

Moved by Ms. Medige. Seconded by Mr. Gardner-Wood.

The Council voted 5 yes; 18 no; 3 abstentions

Yes	No	Abstain
Steven Ramirez	Tom Acker	Janet Drake
Raana Simmons	Jill Brogdon	Don Moseley
Maureen Cain	Minna Castillo-Cohen	Tony Spurlock
Pat Medige	Claude d'Estreé	
Lester Bacani	Mari Dennis	
	Matt Dodson	
	Amanda Finger	
	Christian Gardner-Wood	
	Lynn Johnson	
	Robert Lung	
	Angela Lytle	
	Nhu-Minh Le	
	Jo-Ann O'Neil	
	Elise Reifschneider	
	Fikile Ryder	
	Tammy Schneiderman	



	Dan Steele Cathie Swanson	
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Wrap Up and Announcements

Ms. Bowman, Mr. Davidson and Ms. Drake met with Stan Garnett from Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck to discuss some of the innovative community outreach and protection efforts his office engaged in while he was a District Attorney in Colorado’s 20th Judicial District.

In addition, Mr. d’Estreé hosted a presentation and dialogue with Marcia Eugenio from the Department of Labor’s International Labor Affairs Bureau (ILAB) about some of the tools her agency uses to tackle forced labor and human trafficking issues. Both meetings were informative for the purposes of the Council’s Labor Trafficking Task Force.

Action Item

Prior to voting on the minutes, Mr. Acker wanted to make an amendment to the minutes. “HAP needs a replacement for a Fulltime BIA advisor for issues related to legal presence, DACA, naturalization counseling. Contact Hispanic Affairs Project.”

Motion to Approve the Minutes as amended.

Mr. Acker moved. Seconded by Mr. d’Estreé.

The Council voted 18 yes; 0 no; 8 abstentions

Yes	No	Abstain
Tom Acker		Claude d’Estreé
Lester Bacani		Mari Dennis
Jill Brogdon		Matt Dodson
Minna Castillo-Cohen		Janet Drake
Maureen Cain		Lynn Johnson
Amanda Finger		Don Moseley
Christian Gardner-Wood		Tony Spurlock
Robert Lung		Raana Simmons
Angela Lytle		
Pat Medige		
Nhu-Minh Le		
Jo-Ann O’Neil		
Steven Ramirez		
Elise Reifschneider		
Fikile Ryder		
Tammy Schneiderman		
Dan Steele		
Cathie Swanson		

Council members were asked to submit feedback and comments to DCJ Staff on the DORA report by the close of business Monday, June 25th. The staff committed to send a final version of the DORA report including the financials to the Council by COB on Wednesday, June 27th.

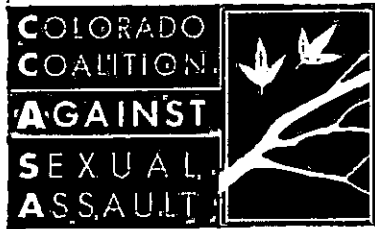


Motion to Adjourn

Ms. Finger moved. Ms. Cain seconded.

Approved unanimously

ADJOURNMENT: 11:43 AM



FREEDOM FROM SEXUAL VIOLENCE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 21, 2018

Contact: Raana Simmons,

Director of Policy
Colorado Coalition Against Sexual Assault (CCASA)
Direct Line: 727.421.7547
Email: raana@ccasa.org
Website: www.ccasa.org

CCASA OPPOSES LEGISLATING CERTIFICATION FOR COMMUNITY-BASED VICTIM ADVOCATES

DENVER, CO – The Colorado Coalition Against Sexual Assault (CCASA) joins Violence Free Colorado (formerly known as the Colorado Coalition Against Domestic Violence) and Rocky Mountain Victim Law Center (RMVLC) in opposing the recommendations drafted by the Colorado Human Trafficking Council that would establish statutory certification for community-based advocacy programs who provide services to victims of domestic and sexual violence. This collective representing hundreds of agency and individual members throughout Colorado urges members of the Council to vote ‘no’ against any recommendation designed to legislate certification standards for community-based advocacy programs.

Within a 24-hour window, CCASA and Violence Free Colorado (VFC) polled a sample of their combined membership to collect feedback from the Executive Directors of domestic violence shelters and rape crisis centers serving communities throughout Colorado to answer the following questions adapted from the Colorado Human Trafficking Council’s (CHTC) recent survey issued on Thursday, June 7th:

1. Should the General Assembly establish standards and a process for the certification of organizations that provide services to victims of human trafficking, including community-based advocates who may already be serving domestic violence and sexual assault victims; and
2. Should the General Assembly establish a grant program to which organizations that provide services to victims of human trafficking may apply for grants, including consideration of how such a grant program may be funded?

At close of business day on Thursday, June 21st, CCASA and VFC collected 60 survey responses where 53 of those surveyed voted ‘no’ to oppose legislating certification for community-based victim advocates (roughly 90% opposition). Many who voted ‘no’ left clarifying comments to explain their position, explanations which are included in this memo for the readers review (see “Membership Insight and Opposition” section for more information). Regarding the second survey question pertaining to grant funding, the reviews from membership were mixed with the most obvious constant being that funding eligibility not be tied to certification standards.

Major Themes of Opposition:

From the survey responses provided, several major themes emerged as repeated and consistent cause for concern voiced by Executive Directors in opposition to the certification of community-based victim advocates. CCASA and VFC members:

1. Believe Certification will create uncertainty and a lack of clarity concerning which programs are and which are not confidential;

2. Believe Certification will obstruct programs ability to recruit and sustain a volunteer base and therefore cause programs to close or the phrase used most often by Executive Directors was "shut our doors;"
3. Believe that the language used in the Council's 2016 Annual Report regarding Certification will cause the General Assembly to amend CRS 13-90-107(k)(I)(II) to establish an additional layer of bureaucracy that many community-based advocates and volunteers will not be able to obtain and therefore remove their status and ability to provide privileged, confidential interactions with victims;
4. Believe Certification is cost prohibitive;
5. Believe Certification will negatively affect rural communities disproportionately;
6. Believe the General Assembly has already legislated sufficient standards for community-based victim advocacy programs and that Certification will only serve to allow systems-based oversight on the nonprofit sector;
7. Believe that an outside certifying agency will not have the same level of jurisdictional specificity and expertise as that which is held by local community-based advocacy programs who are able to customize and tailor trainings to meet the needs of the communities they serve; and
8. Believe that Certification is contradictory to the anti-violence movement which is rooted in grassroots, social change advocacy and therefore is not an appropriate model of training for community-based advocacy programs who often must challenge institutions and systems to best serve survivors.

Membership Insight and Opposition:

The following section of this memo is designed to give the reader greater explanation and clarification regarding the position of the anti-violence field in its opposition to legislating certification for community-based victim advocates. In no particular order, the following quotes were derived from community-based victim advocates who provide direct services to victims of domestic and sexual violence within the state of Colorado and give context to the "major themes of opposition" highlighted above:

1. No. Certification does not equate to confidentiality. For example, if a faith-based Human Trafficking organization completed the CACP training to thereafter become a "Fully Certified Community-based Victim Advocacy" program as outlined in the Councils recommendations, it would still fail to meet the statutory definition of 13-90-107(k)(I)(II) and would not be able to provide confidential services to victims. In this scenario, the faith-based Human Trafficking organization would be certified as a "community-based victim advocacy program" but could NOT provide victims with the confidential services offered by community-based victim advocacy programs. This is an obvious problem. Certification as outlined by the Council will create uncertainty about who holds confidentiality and who doesn't which ultimately harms survivors.
2. No. On behalf of Safe Shelter Board of Directors, Staff, and Volunteers, I am registering adamant opposition to this proposed standard of certification. Domestic Violence Victim Service advocates in the State of Colorado are currently required to meet training standards that assure victim-advocate knowledge of the complexity of domestic and sexual violence and provide the victim-advocate privilege, which allows safe service provision to victim/survivors and protection to the staff and volunteers serving them. The current standards are comprehensive and sufficient. Most DV/SA organizations, like Safe Shelter, offer training above what is required and have established lines in their budgets for continuing staff development. No third party certifying agency would provide training as specific or comprehensive as that provided by our organizations, nor would they be situated to meet the continuing training needs of staff as they arise. Further, to expect a victim service organization to send advocates for a multi-day, unpaid

training is unrealistic. Most organizations have adequate staff to meet the community's needs, but I am not aware of any program that can afford to have staff out of office for extended periods of time. To ask volunteers to attend such a training outside of their community is at best unreasonable.

3. No. I cannot stress enough how adamantly I am opposed to any standard for certification of victim advocates. As advocates, we are already required to meet the training standards in order for our victim-advocate privilege to be exerted. This standard is absolutely sufficient. In speaking for our agency, we go above those standards, providing additional training hours above the standards since our interest is not only in the privilege, but ensuring our advocates are well-prepared and well trained, providing the most effective advocacy services possible. There is no outside certifying agency that would do their due diligence on training what we teach that is particular to our area, our rural community, our community's specific dynamics and diversity. To claim that an advocate would be better equipped receiving education and certification from an outside source is ludicrous at best, and particularly insulting. Beyond individual advocate agencies being well equipped to provide exemplary training for their staff and volunteer advocates, certification would most definitely close our doors in a rural community.

Requiring volunteers to attend a 40-hour certification in an outlying area, most likely 6+ hours away would first and foremost, ensure that no one will volunteer for our agency ever again. No volunteers means no crisis services, no crisis services means we're fairly worthless in providing the first line of advocacy and support victims need. Where's the best practice in that. Secondly, if the very rare volunteer comes along willing to leave their home for one week to attend an unpaid 5-day training, to volunteer in an unpaid position, likely taking vacation time off from their paid job to attend this certification class, if and only if this rare volunteer advocate comes along, the advocacy agency then needs to consider the financial burden it places on the advocacy agency to pay for that volunteers lodging, travel and meals for a full week. If we want more than one volunteer, that would mean providing these costs for the 10+ volunteer we already have. Ultimately certification will close our doors. We cannot function without volunteers and no matter the extent of their passion and support for the cause, we, in good faith, could not ask volunteers to do what certification would require.

4. No. The anti-violence movement is rooted in grassroots, social change advocacy. Advocates are often in the position of not only providing supportive services to the victim, but also challenging system beliefs and biases that are re-victimizing. Community based victim advocacy ensures that programs are able to unconditionally challenge, when necessary, government programs created to respond to crime but that may not prioritize victims' needs and rights. Certification will not necessarily train someone on how to do social or systems change work. Certification may increase barriers to individuals doing advocacy, especially survivors, non-English speakers, volunteer advocates, rural advocates, programs situated in communities where there is a large transitional population (i.e. resort or college), people without formal education, and people living in/near poverty from becoming advocates. Should certification become a requirement, it is very possible that victim service agencies would face a loss in advocates, a loss in future advocates, and a significant increase in the cost of operations. How much will certification cost individual advocates or programs? Will programs apply for victim service funds to pay for training or application fees? Will other victim service funding be used to support the administration of a credentialing process? Who will be responsible for determining the criteria for certification and for overseeing the certification process? Finally, certification or licensure of providers in other fields has not guaranteed quality in services. The true measure of quality in advocacy cannot be determined by a particular course taken or how well a person may have passed a test but, rather, how effectively they serve victims of crime.

5. No. Who certifies and by what standards and how does this interact (pos/neg) with state statute requirements about victim advocates for SA/DV? Seems like it could create a weird dual system that is wholly unmanageable and ultimately harms survivors who are unclear who is and is not confidential.
6. At this time no. It is concerning that the process is not clear and how agencies not attaining certification would be impacted. Would existing VOCA/VALE funding be revoked if certification was not obtained? The certification seems incredibly onerous and potentially costly for small agencies with limited funding. Also, would this mean that agencies would be limited in who can be hired to do advocacy work to those with certification?
7. No. The burden on rural organizations to be certified would be substantial. Any certification program would require immense time and money for smaller organization that are already operating on a tight budget. Training offered by organizations in Denver tend to take place in Denver or in expensive ski towns which are located hours away from the small communities in Colorado. Volunteers and staff would have to be sent to attend classes that would cost organizations money for lodging, mileage and food. Additionally, volunteers who are students or work full-time would be unable to take several days off to attend a training making it impossible for them to volunteer which for many of us receiving government grants volunteers are required. Not all organization have volunteers or staff stay throughout the entire year so there would also be a burden when turnover occurred to get new individuals trained and ready to work in a timely fashion. Even if the certification program was offered online there would still be tremendous disadvantages. Each organization knows its community the best. The advocate training we offer is specific to our communities and allows experienced staff to interact directly with the individuals completing the training. Conversations about specific best practices can take place, questions can be asked/answered and guidance can be given in a way no online program could ever compete with.
8. No. This would be a huge burden on our organization to ensure we have volunteers to run our hotlines. As it is volunteers are hard to come by and they are not going to be able to use their vacation time or take off work from their primary jobs to go to a certification training so that they can volunteer. Our organization and its success is reliant on the volunteers that we have. This certification could result in us not being able to serve our clients and ultimately ending up closing us down and shutting our doors.
9. No. No, the general assembly should not place standards or certification for organizations that provide services to victims of human trafficking. The issue of human trafficking is a convoluted one that interplays with domestic violence and sexual assault. Traffickers use power and control techniques as the foundation for human trafficking. Some circumstances of trafficking occur within intimate relationships and family dynamics, having domestic violence, sexual assault, and family violence be a root of the issue. The council would inherently be putting limitation on organizations providing services to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, AND human trafficking. DV/SA agencies have been providing services to HT victims prior to HT becoming a platform issue for sex assault and human rights violations. I do think education and awareness of HT is beneficial and I believe that acknowledging the interconnectedness of the issue is pivotal along with respecting that agencies have been dealing with HT prior to the current media frenzy surrounding it.

The council must have the foresight to understand the consequences and implications of requiring certification for programs providing HT services and how it would have a detrimental impact on

all organizations providing services to all victims. If the council were to implement certification for human trafficking services, it would be the foothold to begin requiring certification for programs providing all victims services. As I noted above, HT is intertwined with DV and SA, requiring certification from programs will impact programming across the state, particularly rural programs. A certification cannot effectively train the diverse communities, populations and dynamics across the state. The certification will impact services provided to DV and SA victims. The certification will put our advocacy privilege in jeopardy because so often HT is tied to DV and SA which our privilege covers but does not extend to HT. I understand that the council has already outlined 'Best Practice' criteria, but there is a difference in outlining what best practice is for agencies providing services and requiring certification. Also it is unethical that the council name a specific certification agency that service providers will need to use in order to comply with any certification or 'best practice'. Especially if that certifying agency is receiving financial gains from the certification and 'best practice' regulations.

Certification will also impact any service provider with a volunteer base. Expecting programs to have each employee and volunteer who provides direct service to complete specific certification will undercut agencies abilities to maintain and recruit volunteers. It would inherently impact the ability for any program to maintain a volunteer base and provide direct service through volunteers. Which would impact NGO's ability to receive and maintain grant funding.

10. No. Community advocates are equipped with the advocacy tools they need to provide options, validation, and support to those seeking services. There is no need for further certification.
11. No. Many organizations are small nonprofits that rely on a combination of paid staff and volunteers to complete their work. Certification processes would be financially prohibitive and restrictive in recruitment efforts.
12. No. Absolutely NOT! Community-based DV/SA victim advocacy originated in the late 1970s because long-standing systems, including mental health and social services could not, or did not, meet the needs of people experiencing domestic violence and/or sexual assault. Rejecting patriarchal bureaucracy and the limitations of institutionalized response, DV/SA advocacy embraces the feminist principles of empowerment, self-determination, and autonomy, acknowledging that the individual experiencing the violence was the expert in the situation. With confidentiality as the cornerstone, DV/SA advocates work in concert with victims, providing advocacy, on-going support and services that increase safety and well-being. They also work as the agents of change in their communities, challenging systems, institutional response, and societal beliefs. DV/SA advocates have been able to generate changes in systems and society that improve the safety and well-being of DV/SA victims because they work outside the system. Certification infringes on community-based DV/SA advocacy and blatantly disregards its very nature and foundations and places DV/SA advocacy under the control of the system, a mistake that will have countless negative ramifications. It will most certainly bring about the forfeiture of confidentiality and seriously impact the social change advocacy needed to challenge the institutionalized response of systems.
13. No. Establishing these standards could create a real hardship for rural and small and culturally specific organizations. Most, if not all, current Victim Advocates are already required to 30-35 hours of training & education specific to assisting adult & child victims of Intimate Partner Abuse and Sexual Assault. In fact these Advocates are certainly much better versed in victimization issues than any one in the General Assembly.

14. No. This would elevate human trafficking services above other victimizations and give it "state sanctioning" that does not exist for other advocacy. DV and SA advocates are addressed in statute already, with training requirements outlined and confidentiality granted in specific circumstances. Creating this certification is likely to cause great confusion and could force long-time, experienced advocates to become certified, when that is not a requirement of their current positions or beneficial to the survivors they serve.
15. No. Absolutely not. We work very hard to develop a 30-hour training to meet the state mandates that are best practice for sexual assault. The General Assembly has no business directing this as each area is different and should not be regulated by the state. These need to be specialized by the community with best practice offered by the DV and SA coalitions only.
16. No. We already have guidelines from the state statute on the amount of victim advocate training hours (30 minimum), and our agency works with our state coalition as well as all local providers to teach and educate our staff and volunteers with best practice skills and knowledge in SA advocacy, trauma, process, and response. We spend an enormous effort to provide the best care to the victims and survivors who work with us through our 24/hour crisis hotline and walk in services. In addition to those 30 hours, we provide ongoing training throughout the year to maintain and update staff and volunteer skills. This includes specified training covering rural and local items that have not been covered in state level or certified training (that I or my staff have attended).

This model of advocacy was intentionally set up as a grass roots system to make it available to everyone in the community. This includes making it accessible and low cost which for our agency is free. Often our volunteers come from different walks of life and if there was a certification, a charge for the training and/or travel costs, it would prohibit them from being able to attend. Creating a whole new system for human trafficking seems contradictory to this method and model. We need SA/DV advocates to have the skills to filter who needs support and has been trafficked. Why make getting the knowledge and education more challenging. Use current grant funded programs to provide the services. Use avenues like our state SA/DV conference to train advocates (a venue that is LOW cost that many of them are already attending) or provide online education so it is easily accessible statewide. This state has excellent, trained advocates in agencies that have been in existence for up to 40 years. They have a skill base, use that rather than creating another wheel. If you are truly interested in education around human trafficking, use these suggestions, do not silo and isolate it. We have been working to break down the barriers and collaborate with other agencies to provide better services. Collaborate and use that as your model.

17. No. While I feel some oversight is good, getting government involved could lead to conflicts with the role of community based, confidential advocates. Holding confidentiality of victims is of utmost importance and should not be hampered by government involvement.
18. No. I cannot convey strongly enough my opposition to any standard for certification of victim advocates. As an agency we go above and beyond the required training standards to ensure that our advocates are able to provide the absolute most helpful, effective advocacy services to each victim.

A requirement to certify volunteer advocates would create such a hardship for our agency and the volunteers that we would not be able to recruit or retain the essential help of volunteers in our agency.

19. No. DV/SA organizations are already providing training for advocates that meet or exceed state statute requirements. The training provides information necessary to meet the needs of those they are serving in their communities. While some information provided by organizations regarding DV/SA may be similar to that provided in other organizations, the fact that each organization provides this training allows for flexibility, and customization for the needs of the communities they are serving. It is also very likely the expense and time that this proposed certification would require may make it more difficult for organizations to find volunteers who could make that type of financial and time investment. It would also require the same investment for new staff and add a burden to programs that are already underfunded.
20. No. Community based DV and SA Advocacy agencies already fully train their advocates to provide best-practice, trauma-informed care to survivors. To expect that all community-based DV and SA agencies in Colorado, many of which are in rural communities, cover the costs for all Advocates to become "certified" is unnecessary and burdensome. All DV and SA agencies in Colorado that I know of (have been in the field of work for 20+ years) do an excellent job of training their advocates. How would a "certifying agency" know the nuances, culture, and dynamics of all communities in the entire state?
21. No. I strongly disagree with standardizing a certification of victim advocates. There is already training standards in place for our privilege to be upheld. Our agency and I believe, many agencies already go above and beyond in their training requirement + training that is specific to our advocates responding to our specific, rural community. We have a very small staff and rely on our volunteers that have been with our organization for over 10 years to be able to provide the exemplary service we currently do to our clients. Requiring them to obtain a certificate that doesn't even equate to the training they currently have may push them away from volunteering for our organization. We cannot run a crisis response without our volunteers. Our organization currently requires more training than an outside certification agency would require and monitors our volunteers and staff better than an outside agency would.
22. No. Individual agencies serving victims of domestic violence and sexual assault are providing invaluable training to staff and volunteer advocates in order to meet the requirements for privilege as outlined in the statute. Additionally, each community is unique, which cannot be addressed in a "certification process," established by an outside governing authority.
23. No. We already are governed by C.R.S. in hours needed and all agencies that we work with provide many hours of additional training to provide the best services possible. If we have to certify staff and advocates working with the agency, we would lose valuable services to our survivors to pay another agency to keep its doors open. This is NOT necessary, or WANTED. When asked if they would travel for 7 or more hours, one direction, for a 40-hour training and certification, having to stay in a motel and provide food and transportation, and complete recurring re-certifications, every single one said NO. We would lose our very core of advocacy in crisis response, community support in the courts and safehouse, volunteer support in providing transportation, assistance in filling out and filing civil forms. If system advocates wish to have a piece of paper showing they know how to do their work, then let them. This would signal an end to community-based organizations, the very ones that actually hold total privilege.
24. No. This is a very bad idea. Requiring this type of certification goes against our mission because it is patriarchal. It is unnecessary because community-based advocates already provide a high standard of service to victims and any type of certification would not serve to enhance that in anyway. Furthermore, the cost to receive certification would likely mean that rural community advocacy centers would have to shut down. Please vote no on this.

Concerning the second question, "Should the General Assembly establish a grant program to which organizations that provide services to victims of human trafficking may apply for grants, including consideration of how such a grant program may be funded?" answers varied with 56% of survey respondents casting a 'no' vote in opposition of the recommendation. Of additional importance, many members selected not to answer this question and left comment instead voicing confusion about the proposed grant program and/or answered 'yes' with the caveat that grant funding not be tied to certification and or reduce funding for current or other victim service provision. In no particular order, the following quotes were derived from community-based victim advocates who provide direct services to victims of domestic and sexual violence within the state of Colorado:

1. Should the General Assembly establish a grant program to which organizations that provide services to victims of human trafficking may apply for grants, including consideration of how such a grant program may be funded?
2. No. Not if it's tied to certification, then absolutely not. If there are no ties to certification, any grants for all victim agencies to apply for to serve human trafficking victims is always necessary and appreciated.
3. No. Colorado does not have state, general fund, funding for victim services. If we are going to start, it should be for all types of victimizations, or at least include domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking.
4. No. The concern with establishing a grant program include issues such as whether or not the funding for other victim services would be reduced, the capacity of small agencies to fulfill grant expectations, and what additional governmental red tape would have to be dealt with.
5. No, grant funding should not be connected to certification or organizations that provide services to victims of human trafficking. This could potentially exclude any funding provided to rural communities, not because we don't serve this population but in comparison to specialized programming in urban areas we cannot substantiate receiving that type of funding. Excluding a disproportionate amount of agencies from the opportunity of receiving funding because the council is attempting to 'pigeon hole' a complicated and convoluted issue that includes DV and SA into a hot button topic of HT.
6. No. Funding should be accessed through current established SA/DV victim service funding programs. The funding should be included in the pots of money that fund victim service programs. Put more funding into SA, DV, Stalking, Dating Violence, and Human Trafficking funding programs that already do the work.
7. No. There are grant funds available to provide services to victims - including victims of human trafficking. Existing funds through VOCA, VAWA, and other state and federal funds should be utilized first.
8. No. I am not sure why we would create new funding for victims when we have multiple funding streams for victims of SA/DV established. Wouldn't it make more sense to use the current funding streams and expand them, again, rather than recreate the wheel? Every time there is a new subject or topic, this becomes the question and it ends up taking away from the current, established processes. Depending on the need, establish what funds need to be designated and appropriate to our current funding pots- such as VOCA, VALE, OVW Rural, etc., yet do not

make this take away funding from current programming. These funding resources, with all the grant administration and oversight are already in play. As agencies, we are told to collaborate, work together and use our resources wisely, and I would ask the same of our General Assembly. If there is funding needed, make sure to also create review to gather data and information on need so that funds can be appropriately administered. Our current victim services agencies have a great deal of base knowledge that they are using everyday already to supplement the work of human trafficking and supports.

9. Yes. As long as there are no restrictions tied to certification
10. This really isn't a yes or no question as there are many variables to be considered before choosing the appropriate response. DV/SA advocates are already serving victims of trafficking. Housing advocates are already serving victims of trafficking. The General Assembly can consider a grant program for trafficking and then regulate how the people already providing the services can provide the services???. This is backwards. Provide general funds for the programs already serving victims of trafficking and actually ask them to participate in a committee or work group to figure out what that looks like. It seems to me that the people making the decisions about how victims of trafficking can or will receive services are using the process to set themselves up to make money through certification and/or regulation of how services should be provided. Huge conflict of interest issues seem to be overlooked completely. Keeping it simple and broad seems the better choice. Just FYI, if someone on the committee profits from a decision of the committee, it is a conflict of interest!
11. I would not be opposed to a grant program for organizations that provide services to human trafficking victims, however if the program required the certification listed above in question 1 then my answer would be "no".

Reasons for Continuation

Human trafficking continues to pose unique challenges in Colorado, and the Human Trafficking Council has addressed many complex issues through its work and recommendations. The Human Trafficking Council has the unique opportunity to provide a forum for coordination between state agencies, statewide service organizations, and regional task forces. The Human Trafficking Council strives to increase the accessibility of data and resources to make access to services for victims of human trafficking more available and to offer more efficient tools for the prosecution of those who engage in human trafficking within the state.

Analysis and Recommendation

There are various perspectives regarding the work of the Human Trafficking Council, but the majority of stakeholders who provided feedback throughout the course of this review supported its continuance.

Some of the feedback provided suggested that several of the Human Trafficking Council's internal processes and appointment types may warrant further examination. For example, some feedback received contained common themes regarding issues related to communication, transparency, clarity regarding the goals of the Human Trafficking Council, and stakeholder participation. Additionally, some feedback offered suggestions for improvements to the effectiveness of the Human Trafficking Council by revising the appointed seat types mandated in statute to include more victims, victim advocates, and labor trafficking specialists in order to bring a balance to the perspective and goals of the Human Trafficking Council in what is currently perceived by some to hold a heavy government agency/law enforcement presence.

Overall, stakeholder feedback supported the notion that the collaborative work of the Human Trafficking Council has provided a valuable tool by engaging in related research, trainings, victims' access to services, and campaigns to increase public awareness in order to expand the effectiveness of human trafficking reduction efforts in Colorado. For these reasons, the General Assembly should continue the Human Trafficking Council.