

**AAUW WISCONSIN
EQUITY INITIATIVE PROJECT AWARD APPLICATION**


Project Name: Human Trafficking Conference *Sexual Exploitation: Who Pays the Toll?*

Project Coordinators: Lucy Harvey, AAUW-Wausau and

Judy Brodjeski The Women's Community–Wausau

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Judy Brodjeski - (715) 842-5663 or judy@womenscommunity.org

Nominator Name: Ruth Hawks 

Nominator Contact Information: (715) 842-5291 or edie2@charter.net

Narrative Summary of Project - Victims of human trafficking for sexual exploitation in Wisconsin, primarily women and children are often hidden in plain sight, “As many as 200 victims of sex and labor trafficking have come in contact with service providers and/or justice system agencies.”(ftp://doaftr04.doa.state.wi.us/doadocs/Human_Trafficking_Report_Final.pdf). If 200 have come in contact, how many more are there that are still hidden away needing our help?

Previously, limited training had been available to the 16 counties of north central Wisconsin. Beginning in June of 2008 AAUW-Wausau worked on the Task Force and with a collaborative group representing the following agencies:

The Women's Community, Milwaukee Police Department, Marathon County Sheriff's Department, Marathon County District Attorney's Office, Wausau Police Department, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Wisconsin State Patrol, UW-Marathon County, and the Wisconsin/Nicaragua Partners of the Americas

This project fit perfectly with the components of AAUW's Mission to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education and research.

1. Impact – Agencies from 16 north central Wisconsin were trained in how to recognize and deal with human trafficking. These agencies include:

- Chiefs of Police and Tribal Law Enforcement
- District Attorneys
- Domestic Abuse Shelters
- Victim/Witness Agencies
- Sheriffs' Departments
- American Association of University Women Branches

In addition, invitations to the conference were requested by a Human Trafficking lawyer in Milwaukee, a university department in Milwaukee, Latinos Unidos in Wausau, and a criminal investigators organization.

2. Creativity- Little had been known in northern Wisconsin about the human trafficking issue, and AAUW played a major role in planning, funding, and running this important conference. Interestingly, when the conference program was prepared, we found that most presenters were women, and we wanted to have men represented among the presenters also because we sought gender equity. In addition, the task force was comprised of women who were speaking out for those who couldn't speak. We had four identified goals for the project:

- 1) Support law enforcement's efforts to eliminate human trafficking
- 2) Build community awareness and prevent human trafficking
- 3) Foster interagency collaboration
- 4) Pass WI laws against human trafficking

3. Continuity – By bringing together the many agencies that work within a county as well as across an area, AAUW will help victims be found, traffickers be prosecuted, and victims gain their freedom and receive better treatment. Future training can be offered again using the extensive mailing list that AAUW developed for this conference.

Attachments:

Cover letter


Brochure

Executive Summary of Wisconsin Office of Justice Assistance Report – *Hidden in Plain Sight*

**Send 5 copies of the nomination by March 30, 2009 to: Elma Anderson
4014 Maplewood Road
Two Rivers WI 54241**



2801 N. 7th Street, Suite 300, Wausau, WI 54403-3281
Telephone 715/842-5663 . Fax 715/842-7051
www.womenscommunity.org



AMERICAN
ASSOCIATION OF
UNIVERSITY
WOMEN

February 18, 2009

Dear Friends,

The Human Trafficking Task Force has been meeting in Wausau since June 2008 to plan the ***Human Trafficking: Who Pays the Toll? Conference***. The purpose of this conference is to help north central Wisconsin agencies and departments prepare to deal with the rising incidence of human trafficking for sexual purposes in Wisconsin. According to the 2008 Wisconsin Office of Justice Assistance report, *Hidden in Plain Sight: A Baseline Survey of Human Trafficking in WI*, there are over 200 victims forced into sex acts or labor services in Wisconsin.

We want this conference to be affordable for all, so **registration is only \$40 including lunch**, and parking is free. Our goal is to involve as many law enforcement agencies, domestic abuse center representatives, and victim/witness staff as possible. We want to create a net in North Central Wisconsin that allows no human trafficking.

The conference content will deal with human trafficking for sexual purposes and focus on three areas:

- o Legal Issues - Investigation and prosecution
- o Social Services - Issues related to treatment and support of victims of human trafficking
- o Citizen Awareness - Involvement of those who serve as the community's eyes and ears


In addition, there will be networking opportunities, enactments to prepare for intervention, and handouts to share within your agencies and communities after the conference.


The following organizations are collaborating on this conference: American Association of University Women, The Women's Community in Wausau, Milwaukee Police Department, Marathon County District Attorney's Office, Wausau Police Department, University of Wisconsin-Marathon County, FBI, Wisconsin State Patrol, North Central WI Police Chief's Association, and Marathon County Sheriff's Department

Please extend an invitation to anyone else that may benefit from attending the ***Human Trafficking: Who Pays the Toll? Conference*** on Tuesday, April 28 from 8:30 – 3:30 in Wausau, Wisconsin at the Best Western Midway Hotel. Registration: \$40. **Registration deadline is April 3**

We hope you will be able to attend or send someone else from your agency or department

Sincerely,


Judy Brodjeski


Lucy Harvey



Conference site

Best Western Midway Hotel

Directions from I-39/Hwy 51:

Take exit #190 to Hwy NN.

Go West on Hwy NN to Hwy R.

Turn South on Hwy R to Robin Lane

8:30 - 9:00 a.m. Registration

9:00 a.m. Program

Welcome: Jane Graham Jennings.

Identifying Human Trafficking &

Victim Assistance Program During

the Investigation:

-Detective Dawn Jones

-Detective Lynda Stott

-Monica Rowsey

Regaining One's Self: The Victim's

Challenge

-Carmen Petri

-Lina Juarbe

Interdiction Via the Highway:

Sgt. Jay Sampson

Enactments:

Sara Rudolph

4:30 - Wrap-up



Presenters:

Jane Graham Jennings: Executive Director
The Women's Community, Inc.

Lena Juarbe: WI Coalition Against Sexual Assault

Carmen Petri: Task Force on Family Violence

Det. Dawn Jones: Milwaukee Police Dept

Det. Lynda Stott: Milwaukee Police Dept

Monica Rowsey: Victim Specialist, FBI

Sgt. Jay Sampson: WI State Patrol Highway
Criminal Interdiction

Professor Sara Rudolph:
UWMC Drama Department

Human Trafficking

Conference

Sexual Exploitation:

Who Pays the Toll?



Tuesday, April 28, 2009

at

Best Western

Midway Hotel

Wausau, Wisconsin

An emerging crime we must
prepare to address

Human Trafficking

...(Human) trafficking specifically targets
the trafficked person as an object of
criminal exploitation...(and) the trafficked
person is not allowed their freedom.
...human trafficking does not always involve
the crossing of international borders - it
does not even require the transportation
of victims from one locale to another.
www.dqs.state.wi.us/cvs/trafficking.asp#ReportStat



Sponsored by:



The Women's Community, Inc.



WOMEN'S
COMMUNITY, INC.
A Division of National
Women's Business
Center

Agenda

The Conference content will focus on:

- ◆ **Legal Issues**
Investigation & Prosecution
- ◆ **Social Services**
Issues related to treatment & support
of victims of Human Trafficking
- ◆ **Citizen Awareness**
Community Education

Collaborative Sponsors

- *The Women's Community, Inc.
- *American Association of University
Women
- *Milwaukee Police Department
- *Marathon Co. Sheriff's Department
- *Marathon Co. DA's Office
- *Wausau Police Department
- *Federal Bureau of Investigation
- *Wisconsin State Patrol
- *UW Marathon County
- *Wisconsin/Nicaragua Partners
of the Americas

Registration Form

Name (s) _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Agency/Department _____

Email for Registration _____

Confirmation _____

Fee - \$40 per person

Includes Lunch

Vegetarian : Yes No

**Registration Deadline is
April 3, 2009**

Make checks payable and mail to:

**Human Trafficking
Conference**

**The Women's Community
2801 N 7th St
Wausau, WI 54403
(715) 842-5663**

Executive Summary

The Wisconsin Office of Justice Assistance (OJA) Human Trafficking Baseline Survey was the effort of the VAWA Human Trafficking Committee under the guidance of the statewide VAWA Advisory Committee. The survey was conducted from March to August 2007. The goal of the survey was to collect baseline data to inform OJA's efforts to:

- Increase community awareness of the issue of human trafficking
- Identify the need for training on human trafficking
- Promote inter-agency collaboration

The survey consisted of three phases:

1. Initial survey
2. Follow Up Survey
3. Phone Interviews

The survey targeted justice system agencies and service providers in the state of Wisconsin. The initial survey was completed by 261 justice system agencies and 136 service providers. The follow up survey was then sent to 48 respondents from the initial survey who reported encounters with human trafficking victims. Phone interviews were subsequently conducted with seven respondents identified in the follow up survey.

Key Findings

- Human trafficking exists in Wisconsin; as many as 200 victims of sex and labor trafficking have come in contact with service providers and/or justice system agencies
- Wisconsin is home to both international trafficking, with victims coming from all over the world, and domestic human trafficking
- Service Providers and justice system agencies have limited knowledge about human trafficking; most of them are eager to learn more about it
- Although human trafficking is not perceived as a problem by the majority of respondents, trafficking exists in both urban and rural areas of the state
- Most human trafficking cases reported in the survey are perpetrated by the victim's family members or prostitute clients and pimps.

Recommendations

1. Promote awareness of human trafficking among service providers, justice system agencies and the general public. One of the most alarming findings of this baseline survey is that while identifying dozens of victims, the respondents still consider human trafficking a "non-issue" and in many cases do not provide or plan to provide services to trafficking victims. Because human trafficking is below the radar for most organizations, they do not devote time and resources to addressing this issue.

Executive Summary

2. Provide training on human trafficking to justice system agencies and service providers. The agencies that are most likely to come in contact with trafficking victims need to be aware of the provisions of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act, and need to know how to best serve trafficking victims. The surveyed individuals indicate that the existent level of training on human trafficking is limited and leads/may lead to less comprehensive services.
3. Develop a statewide protocol for assisting trafficking victims and for inter-agency collaboration on trafficking cases. For the benefit of the victims, it is essential to have clear policies and procedures that agencies follow should they encounter a trafficking case. Many respondents indicated their frustration when dealing with trafficking cases due to the lack of knowledge of the resources and the inability to receive support from various involved agencies.
4. Encourage the state legislature to pass the human trafficking law. More than half of the states have passed similar laws. Wisconsin legislators have introduced human trafficking bills both in the Senate and in the Assembly. It is an important step towards better awareness and service provision, and should be facilitated.
5. Develop a nexus of information and referral. The established VAWA Human Trafficking Committee, along with its partners WCASA, WCADV, Project Respect, and Department of Justice, can serve as the natural leader of statewide human trafficking efforts. The OJA Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Unit has already voluntarily assumed the role of the research engine on the human trafficking issue. The proposed state legislation mandates OJA Statistical Analysis Center to gather data on human trafficking. OJA is also well-positioned to deliver training on human trafficking to law enforcement and prosecutors. OJA is well-known among service providers and has a reputation of a reliable agency and a good source of information.