



BLUE CAMPAIGN STAKEHOLDER EVENT SUMMARY – FEBRUARY 10, 2014

On February 10, 2014, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) held an event to update stakeholders on the DHS Blue Campaign and the Department's plans as a result of the Federal Strategic Action Plan on Services for Victims of Human Trafficking in the United States (Strategic Action Plan). The event also provided a forum for stakeholders to offer feedback regarding the Department's effort to combat human trafficking. Approximately 200 stakeholders representing academia, healthcare organizations, first responders, faith-based organizations, state and local government, federal government, law enforcement, and members of the public and private sectors were in attendance. Event participants discussed efforts to support victims, raise awareness of human trafficking, and increase collaboration.

OPENING REMARKS

- ❖ **Alejandro Mayorkas**, Deputy Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security, reiterated the Department's commitment to the steps outlined in the Strategic Action Plan and combating human trafficking. He referred to the Strategic Action Plan as an opportunity for the Department to make a more meaningful difference in the lives of victims in need. He went on to remind participants that the issue of human trafficking is a deeply personal one that can impact any community, and he highlighted the importance of outreach and partnership in identifying and rescuing those that fall victim to this crime.
- ❖ **Daniel Ragsdale**, Deputy Director of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), welcomed participants to ICE's National Intellectual Property Rights Coordination Center and reaffirmed ICE's commitment to the Department's Blue Campaign and the fight against human trafficking. He highlighted ICE Homeland Security Investigations' (HSI) role in investigating the crime of human trafficking while maintaining a victim-center approach. In addition, he reiterated ICE's commitment to victims in light of the Strategic Action Plan.
- ❖ **Maria Odom**, Chair of the DHS Blue Campaign and CIS Ombudsman, presented the Blue Campaign's recent projects and accomplishments.
 - To date, DHS has trained over 100,000 individuals to detect human trafficking.
 - The Blue Campaign, in collaboration with other federal agencies, is currently producing several new training videos and a new web-based course focusing on both labor trafficking and sex trafficking for release in fiscal year 2014.
 - Three new partnerships were announced in the past several months:
 - Western Union
 - National Association of Counties
 - DHS' Federal Protective Service and the General Services Administration

- DHS is collaborating with the Department of Education to develop a Human Trafficking 101 course to educate school administrators and staff.
- The Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties is currently in the process of translating our public awareness materials into 20 languages.
- Based on stakeholder feedback, we have updated some of our awareness materials to include the ICE tip line as well as the Polaris Project hotline.
- Our Victim Assistance Program served over 3,000 victims in 2013.

STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN PANEL

The Strategic Action Plan came about from a commitment the President made in a speech given in 2012 at the Clinton Global Initiative. The purpose of the plan is to describe the steps that federal agencies will take over the next five years to ensure that all victims of human trafficking in the United States are identified and have access to the services they need to recover and build their lives. The Plan focuses on providing a coordinated support system for victims and it aligns with all other efforts of the federal government. In partnership with the members of the President's Interagency Task Force, federal representatives met weekly this past summer to direct the focus of the Plan. In an effort to further focus the plan, the Department of Health and Human Services released the Plan for a 45 day public comment period in which several themes emerged:

The federal government needs to include survivors where it can;
 The federal government needs to better focus on addressing the needs of the LGBTQ population; and,
 The federal government should be concerned about men and boys, as well as the American Indian and Alaska Native populations.

The Plan was released to the public on January 14, 2014 in conjunction with the DOJ Office for Victims of Crime's Human Trafficking Survivor Forum and Listening Session.

Panelists' Remarks:

❖ **Corey Walz, Program Analyst for FEMA, Blue Campaign staff**

The Department of Homeland Security is honored to have co-chaired the creation of the Strategic Action Plan. The Blue Campaign, on behalf of DHS, was an active participant in the working group that developed the Plan. While the Plan is being implemented by DHS components and the federal government at large, the Blue Campaign will continue to support the work of the components and its partners in the fight against human trafficking.

FEMA will continue its mission by training its employees to recognize the signs of human trafficking and how to report any tips to law enforcement as FEMA employees encounter disaster survivors in the field.

❖ **Rosemary Hartmann, Adjudication Officer for the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS)**

USCIS continues to see increased filing and approval numbers for T nonimmigrant visas for victims of human trafficking. USCIS is working to publish a T-visa regulation that will update the regulations and related forms for several statutory changes and interpret the law in a victim-friendly way. While USCIS

has approved the statutory maximum 10,000 petition for U-1 nonimmigrant status for fiscal year 2014, it continues to review pending requests and will place eligible petitioners on a waiting list and inform them of their interim options, such as deferred action and work authorization. USCIS conducts numerous in-person and web-based trainings and presentations on combating human trafficking and on immigration relief options for victims, often in coordination with ICE HSI. USCIS also continues vigorous outreach activities with stakeholders.

- ❖ **Nicole Wood, Program Specialist for the DHS Center for Faith-Based & Neighborhood Partnerships**
DHS' Center for Faith-Based & Neighborhood Partnerships provides faith-based and non-profit communities guidance in expanding resources and strategic partnerships to prevent and counter human trafficking. The Center is developing training curriculum for ethnic and culturally diverse faith and community leaders to increase involvement in responding to the needs of victims of trafficking. As laid out in the Strategic Action Plan, the Center's training will focus on diverse faith communities, in areas where there are disproportionate number of ethnic and culturally diverse populations with high incidents of human trafficking. The training curriculum will seek to introduce clergy and their lay leadership to the complexities of human trafficking using sacred text, contemporary stories, trauma-informed care approaches, and through sustaining programs within social service organizations and effective partnerships with law enforcement.
- ❖ **Stephen Adaway, Human Smuggling and Trafficking Unit Chief, ICE HSI**
Victim-centric human trafficking investigations are one of ICE HSI's top mission priorities. ICE HSI's dedicated Victim Assistance Officers work alongside case agents at every step of the investigation. Throughout the process, the victim is provided access to services and is made aware of the rights and benefits available to them. Recognizing that they cannot combat human trafficking alone, ICE HSI conducts an enormous amount of outreach, training, and capacity building with this same victim-centered approach, engaging with state and local law enforcement, government employees, non-governmental organizations, schools, faith-based groups, and the public both at home and around the world.
- ❖ **Donna Hatfield, National Program Manager, ICE HSI Victim Assistance Program**
ICE HSI's Victim Assistance Program has 26 full time Victim Assistance Specialists (VAS) and over 250 victim trained Special Agents in its offices nationwide. VAS' conduct regional outreach and participate in human trafficking task forces to ensure a victim-centered approach. They also conduct regular training of federal, state, and local law enforcement, faith-based organizations, social service providers, victim advocates and other allied professionals in conjunction with ICE HSI and USCIS. Four full time forensic interview specialists respond to requests domestically and internationally to support children and adult victims of human trafficking.
- ❖ **Ray Mollers, External EMS Program Manager, DHS Office of Health Affairs (OHA)**
OHA takes the issue of human trafficking very seriously and is engaged with addressing the issue in different ways. They represent the Department on the President's Working Group on the intersection of HIV/AIDS, Violence Against Women, and Gender-Related Health Disparities. Working with the Blue Campaign, they target outreach and training to first responders and EMS personnel. The Strategic Action Plan incorporated information from OHA about ongoing efforts to target these groups to expand the availability of services.

STAKEHOLDER FEEDBACK

Thank you to all the stakeholders who asked such important questions and presented informed feedback. The following is a short summary of the feedback provided:

- ❖ Inform stakeholders on the details of the Blue Campaign's 2014 media campaign;
- ❖ Increase training on Continued Presence and publish statistics;
- ❖ Increase access to DHS' state and local law enforcement training on human trafficking;
- ❖ Increase resources available to law enforcement to house victims, especially by connecting them with their local ICE HSI Victim Assistance Coordinator;
- ❖ Incorporate survivor input into DHS initiatives and the implementation of the Strategic Action Plan;
- ❖ Build partnerships with the business community to give companies the ability to support DHS' efforts;
- ❖ Educate and provide outreach to the hospitality and real estate industries;
- ❖ Increase communication and collaboration with the media;
- ❖ Organize further training of state and local law enforcement and faith-based communities;
- ❖ Connect with the Department of Justice's Office of Victims of Crime to access a list of local legal resources for victims;
- ❖ Develop an evaluation and long-term assessment strategy for DHS anti-human trafficking initiatives;
- ❖ Increase resources for law enforcement to transport domestic victims back to their home states;
- ❖ Address the demand side of human trafficking.

AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES

- ❖ **Citizenship and Immigration Services
Ombudsman (CIS OMB)**

Maria Odom
Rená Cutlip-Mason

- ❖ **DHS Center for Faith-Based and
Neighborhood Partnerships (DHS
CFBNP)**

Nicole Wood

- ❖ **Federal Emergency Management
Agency (FEMA)**

Jacques Singleton
Corey Walz

- ❖ **Federal Law Enforcement Training
Center (FLETC)**

Scott Santoro

- ❖ **Human Smuggling and Trafficking
Center (Interagency)**

Karl Flusche

- ❖ **Immigration and Customs
Enforcement (ICE)**

Homeland Security Investigations (HSI):
Stephen Adaway
Dennis Davidson
HSI Victim Assistance Program (VAP):
Donna Hatfield

- ❖ **Office for Civil Rights and Civil
Liberties (CRCL)**

Ellen Gallagher

- ❖ **Office of Health Affairs (OHA)**

Ray Mollers
Richell Slepetz

❖ **Transportation Security
Administration (TSA)**

Michael Novak
Thomas Kost
Melissa Cusack

❖ **US Customs and Border Protection
(CBP)**

Laurel Smith
Tracie Parker

❖ **US Citizenship and Immigration
Services (USCIS)**

Rosemary Hartmann
Scott Whelan

RESOURCES

The following resources are intended to supplement the discussion of current Blue Campaign activities:

- ❖ To request awareness materials or additional information about the Blue Campaign and to sign up for updates and invitations to stakeholder meetings: BlueCampaign@hq.dhs.gov.
- ❖ Visit the [Blue Campaign website](#) to access:
 - [Law enforcement sensitive human trafficking](#) training for state and local law enforcement. To request the training on CD, contact scott.santoro@hq.dhs.gov.
 - [Training for first responders](#).
 - [Resources for U.S. citizen and non-U.S. citizen victims](#).
 - [I Speak Language Identification Guide](#).
 - [Human trafficking awareness training](#).
 - Other training materials, resources, and general information on DHS anti-human trafficking efforts.
- ❖ To access the Federal Strategic Action Plan on Services for Victims of Human Trafficking in the United States: <http://www.ovc.gov/pubs/FederalHumanTraffickingStrategicPlan.pdf>.
- ❖ To receive Blue Campaign updates, visit us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/bluecampaign and on Twitter: www.twitter.com/dhsgov.
- ❖ To request training on T and U visas and immigration benefits under the Violence Against Women Act, email: T-U-VAWATraining@uscis.dhs.gov.
- ❖ For information and resources on immigration benefits for human trafficking and other victims of crime: www.uscis.gov/humantrafficking.
- ❖ To ask questions of DHS law enforcement experts: ICEHumanTrafficking.HelpDesk@ice.dhs.gov.
- ❖ To contact the DHS ICE Victim Assistance Program: victimassistance.ice@dhs.gov.