

During the 2014 legislative session, the General Assembly passed and the Governor signed HB14-1273. This bill establishes a 30 person Human Trafficking Council (Council) that represents a wide-range of agencies including state agencies, law enforcement, prosecutors, NGOs, regional coalitions and task forces, legal services, victim service providers, academia, faith-based organizations, etc. The Council is located at the Colorado Department of Public Safety, Division of Criminal Justice, Office for Victims Programs and is designed to:

- 1. Bring together leadership from community-based and statewide anti-trafficking efforts;
- 2. Build and enhance collaboration among communities and counties within the state;
- 3. Establish and improve comprehensive services for victims and survivors of human trafficking;
- 4. Assist in the successful prosecution of human traffickers; and
- 5. Help prevent human trafficking in Colorado.

Tasks of the Council

The Council will be focusing on the requirements listed in the statute which include making recommendations to the Judiciary Committees of the House of Representatives and Senate on the following:

- 1. By January 1, 2016, make recommendations to the Judiciary Committees of the House and Senate concerning whether the General Assembly should:
- a. Establish standards and a process for the certification of organizations that provide services to victims of human trafficking; and
- b. 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. By January 1, 2017, (and each year thereafter), submit a report to the Judiciary Committees summarizing the activities of the council during the preceding year.
- 3. Recommendations 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.
- 4. 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.
- 5. 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.
- 6. Identify best practices for the prevention of human trafficking, particularly for the prevention of child sex trafficking.
- 7. 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.
- 8. Research and pursue funding opportunities for the council.

CHTC Website: https://sites.google.com/a/state.co.us/cdps-prod/home/human-trafficking-council