



NHTDWG Steering Committee Meeting Notes

11/9/2021

Time: 12 p.m. – 1 p.m. CT

Attendants: Sari Latomaa, Sandra Harrell, Susan Kahan, Kristy Cho, Lindsay Bridegum, Justice Shorter, Monica Arenas, Melanie Cross, Arunima Bhattacharjee, Jody Haskin

Highlight: On November 3rd, Vera was notified that they received an OVC grant to improve law enforcement response to people with disabilities who have been trafficked. The grant is for \$500,000 over three years. IOFA and the NHTDWG steering committee are the main partners on it.

Updates:

- 1) 2nd round of hotline training Nov 9th and 10th, Ali and Ericka will be conducting those trainings. Goals of the hotline training is to be interactive, present different scenarios and work on how to improve responding to the calls
- 2) 3rd training session is in December. That training will discuss law enforcement and the dangers of involving them and stating NHTDWG's position about that subject. This training is still a work in progress.
- 3) If anyone is interested to do the training in December please reach out to Sari

Agenda:

- Strategic plan from last year, what is going on and how to move forward.
- Making sure everyone's voices are heard
- Create a realistic plan of people's commitment to the working group

Strategic Plan

- Powerpoint of the NHTDWG Strategic Planning Overview
- Values
- Mission Statement



- Achieving our Mission
- Contributions and Benefits
- Complete Orientation
- Attending at least 3 general meetings
- Career development, networking opportunity for leadership

Structure

- Roles and responsibilities need to be articulated for the overall structure.
- Getting everyone together for a roundtable discussion
- Determine and overcome barriers
- Subcommittees struggling with direction and could use more structure
- Having concrete tasks and a general outline to the subcommittee members so they know what to expect will help with advancing work
- Filtering out the main issues so the whole group can focus on what to do for the following year.
- Research subcommittee doesn't currently have a lead, so Melanie set up a Doodle Poll for their next meeting
- The strategic advisor should be responsible for dividing up tasks
- Having brainstorming session with the subcommittee on their expectation and vision for the committee
- The steering committee will meet on January 18th to discuss goals and objectives for 2022. After this meeting, subcommittees will be given clear guidelines to create their annual project plans.
- Focusing on short term goals for every meeting. Splitting up projects into smaller tasks will give subcommittees a sense of accomplishment and a clear direction for their work.
- Using google drive so each sub committee can share their agendas and files with the team where the members can comment and provide feedback. This way all subcommittees will know what others are working on, increase collaboration and decrease overlaps.
 - Sari and Lindsay will look into setting up a shared Google drive subcommittees can use to share their progress as well as to access resources and instructions.



- The subcommittee leader should report on their plans and determine in the meeting what kind of resources they would need, like funding, person power, short term and long term goals.
- Sending out a guideline, list of tasks and expectations to the members before each meeting so the members know what to expect from them.

Awareness month

- The December meeting will be focused on the human trafficking awareness month.
- December 3rd is international day of persons with disabilities. NHTDWG will do a social media campaign. If anyone has any ideas please reach out to Sari.
- In March is the Developmental disabilities awareness month
- April is the child abuse awareness month, sexual assault awareness month and autism awareness month.
- A calender should be created with all the dates for the awareness month and shared with the member
- Sandra noted that Vera already has a list of all the awareness days/months. She will share with the group.

Freedom Networks Conference

- The conference will start on March 16th. It will be virtual and in person in Miami, Florida.
- Some organizations have included Freedom Network tickets in their grant budgets. For those who just received their funding from OVC, there is a concern of whether the funds will be released on time.
- Justice Shorter and her colleague, Valerie Novac will present on race and disability justice.
- Kristy Cho will be going in person and presenting
- Jody Haskin will be attending virtually
- Setting up a lunch option for anyone interested in talking about human trafficking of people with disabilities and/or disability justice
- The Freedom Network uses the “Whova” app to create groups and organize talks. Whova should have accessibility options



Note taker: Arunima Bhattacharjee

