



November 10, 2014

TO: Nebraska State Senators and Clerk of the Legislature

FROM: Governor Task Force on Human Trafficking, Subcommittee on Research

Co-chair: Anna Shavers; Cline Williams Professor of Citizenship Law, University of Nebraska
Al Riskowski; Executive Director, Nebraska Family Alliance

Committee: Lee Kline; County Commissioner, Madison County

Jim Peschong; Chief of Police, Lincoln

Rachel Davis; Movement Liaison, Free The People Movement

Weysan Dun, Retired FBI Special Agent

John Freudenberg, Nebraska Attorney General Office

Jasel Cantu,

On July 19th, 2012 a task force was appointed. A report is to be submitted not later than one year after July 19, 2012, and every July 1 and December 1 thereafter, the task force shall report to the Clerk of the Legislature the results of its investigation and study and its recommendations, if any, together with drafts of legislation necessary to carry its recommendations into effect by filing the report with the clerk.

The task force shall examine the extent to which human trafficking is prevalent in this state, the scope of efforts being taken to prevent human trafficking from occurring, and the services available to victims of human trafficking in this state. The task force shall also investigate the limitations upon victims who wish to come forward and seek medical attention; investigate the potential to stop human trafficking; and investigate the potential to promote recovery, to protect families and children who may be profoundly impacted by such abuse, and to save lives.

Attached is a copy of the subcommittee July 1, 2014 human trafficking research report.

I. A Research Feasibility Study has been approved by the Task Force and authorization to begin the research project has been approved by the University of Nebraska.

Dr. Dwayne Ball and Dr. Ron Hampton from UNL are conducting the study.

Project #14289 titled “Estimation of Sex Trafficking in Nebraska-Phase I” has now been approved by UNL. An individual will now be hired to help address and stuff envelopes and obtaining a mailing list.

Over 50 research studies have been conducted by Dwayne and Ron with 11 of them specifically focused on human trafficking.

The purpose of this subcontract project is to provide research/statistical assistance in identifying 1) the scope of the research question: what are the numbers of prostituted underage women in Nebraska, who are therefore victims of sex trafficking? 2) The potential sources of data/information and 3) developing a statistical methodology and indicators (estimation approach) to estimate the numbers of victims of sex trafficking at one point in time.

In short, they wish to determine the feasibility of developing a valid estimation procedure.

Upon successful completion of this phase, it will then be possible to move to Phase II providing the legislature with information that would allow for the appropriation of funds for estimation statewide.

Time Frame

The approximate time for each aspect of Phase I is as follows:

Development of the questionnaire	2 months
Obtaining of Institutional Review Board Approval	4-6 months
Implementation of the survey	3 months

Total 9-11 months

Phase I - Feasibility Budget Honoraria/salaries Nebraska

Principal/Co Investigator’s Honoraria	\$12,000	Benefits (@ 28%
Graduate Assistant	4,000	
Travel	1,000	
Purchase of Mailing List(s) and Cost of Survey	10,000	
Analysis of Data	2,000	
Report Preparation / Printing	1,000	

TOTAL \$30,000

II. Research on Labor Trafficking in Nebraska.

The Research Committee has recently been tasked by the Governor Task Force to begin estimating the amount of Labor Trafficking in Nebraska.

Our goal is to present an estimated amount of Labor Trafficking in Nebraska to the Task Force before the next report on July of 2015.

The Research Committee will contact various agencies and interested persons to determine the extent that data is collected regarding labor trafficking. In addition, the Research Committee is reviewing the work of task forces in other states to determine how they have measured labor trafficking.

III. Human Trafficking Legislation.

The Research Committee is considering Legislation to be introduced in the 2015 Legislative Session to fight Human Trafficking. A report on the legislation being considered was presented to the Task Force at the September meeting.

IV. The Task Force Approved Sending the NIJ Tool to Various Agencies.

There is now a validation tool and methodology for identifying victims of human trafficking. The Institute of Justice Trafficking Victim Identification Tool has been tested with a diverse sample of potential victims of trafficking and found reliable in predicting labor and sex trafficking. When properly used, the NIJ tool could give law enforcement and victim service providers with a standard means of identifying victims. The Research sub-committee will develop a list of various agencies that could use the NIJ tool and report back to the Task Force.