



**CABINET FOR HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY**

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Audrey Tayse Haynes
Secretary

November 1, 2013

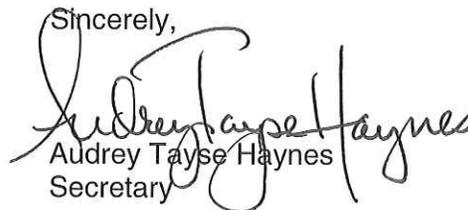
Marcia Seiler, Acting Director
Legislative Research Commission
Capitol Building, Room 300
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

Dear Ms. Seiler:

The Cabinet for Health and Family Services presents the first report regarding child victims of human trafficking. This report has been prepared in accordance with KRS 620.029(2)(b), which is a newer statute created by the Human Trafficking Victims Rights Act of the 2013 Regular Session. It reflects activities and services since enactment of the law in late June.

If you have any questions, or if further clarification is needed, please contact Tina Webb, Assistant Director of the Department for Community Based Services' Division of Protection and Permanency, at (502) 564-6852.

Sincerely,


Audrey Tayse Haynes
Secretary

cc: Governor's Office

Human Trafficking

Report to Legislative Research Commission

November 1, 2013

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Section I: Introduction

In accordance with KRS 620.029(2)(b), the Cabinet for Health and Family Services (Cabinet) submits the first annual report outlining the Cabinet's response for child victims of human trafficking following the enactment of the Human Trafficking Victims Rights Act (Act) during the 2013 Regular Session. This report details the Cabinet's efforts to implement requirements of the Act to ensure the safety of child victims, collaboration among multiple agencies during the course of investigations and response, and continuing efforts to increase staff skill level to better serve victims. The report gives statistics and data available to date regarding the number of reports received involving an alleged child victim of human trafficking, investigative determinations, and services provided.

Section II: Implementation

The Cabinet's Department for Community Based Services (DCBS) has been working closely with human trafficking experts, including the Catholic Charities' Human Trafficking Program and the Kentucky Association of Sexual Assault Programs (KASAP).

Statewide and Local Task Forces on Human Trafficking

DCBS Commissioner Teresa James presented at the first meeting of the Statewide Human Trafficking Task Force at KASAP office on July 1, 2013, reaffirming the Cabinet's commitment to addressing the human trafficking of children and discussing the trauma needs of these victims. Staffs from DCBS Child Safety Branch, Training Branch, and those responsible for drafting administrative regulations were also all present at this task force. DCBS plans to host the next statewide task force meeting near the submission date of this report.

Staff from the Child Safety Branch attended the Louisville and Lexington Human Trafficking Task Force meetings and networked with local law enforcement, victim services, and other professionals to build stronger community-based response to human trafficking cases. DCBS staff from the Crimes Against Children Unit (CACU) in Louisville also began attending the Louisville Human Trafficking Task Force meeting.

Collaborative Efforts in Building Knowledge and Expertise within DCBS

Since the enactment of the Human Trafficking Victims Rights Act, the following efforts have been conducted:

- DCBS Child Safety Branch staff and CACU staff attended a half-day symposium on the development of a human trafficking protocol sponsored by the University of Louisville Hospital.
- Child Safety Branch staff participated in training about human trafficking conducted by Catholic Charities.
- KASAP and Catholic Charities provided training for the entire CACU team on human trafficking and House Bill 3.
- The DCBS Deputy Commissioner attended a Northern Kentucky University presentation by Rachel Lloyd, an international expert on human trafficking and the founder of Girls Educational and Mentoring Services (GEMS), the preeminent organization serving domestic minor victims of commercial sexual exploitation in the U.S.
- DCBS participated in various sessions concerning child victims of human trafficking during the 2013 Kids Are Worth It! Conference sponsored by Prevent Child Abuse Kentucky, Inc.
- DCBS collaborated with KASAP and Catholic Charities to conduct training on the statewide level for other professionals:

- Commissioner James presented with Gretchen Hunt of KASAP and Representative Sannie Overly at the Legislative Research Commission Continuing Legal Education Seminar in July of 2013.
- Commissioner James also co-presented at Asbury College with Senator Tom Buford and Gretchen Hunt of KASAP on Kentucky's new human trafficking laws.
- Commissioner James also collaborated with Catholic Charities and KASAP to help film a segment of a Department of Criminal Justice Training video for law enforcement on human trafficking.
- DCBS, KASAP, and Catholic Charities continue to partner to support the evolution of policy and practice expectations for DCBS staff serving child victims of human trafficking. Specific accomplishments of this partnership to date include the development of the Standards of Practice pertaining to Human Trafficking and related guide for frontline child protective services workers and their management. DCBS also utilized this partnership to inform forthcoming administrative regulations and assessment questions to be integrated into child protective services cases.

Planned future efforts include:

- The DCBS Child Safety Branch and representatives of the DCBS Division of Service Regions, direct service staffs, will attend the *My Life My Choice* train-the-trainer preconference institute on conducting a support group for children exploited in commercial sex on December 9, 2013.
- DCBS staff will attend the preconference session regarding the development of a child welfare response to human trafficking to be presented by the Connecticut Department of Children and Families, a national leader, on December 10, 2013.
- DCBS staff will attend the 15th Annual Ending Sexual and Domestic Violence Conference, which is sponsored by KASAP and the Kentucky Domestic Violence Association in Lexington from December 11-13, 2013. This year's conference offers a human trafficking track of workshops.
- The DCBS Training Branch has been in constant communication with Catholic Charities and KASAP about developing an online training curriculum for all staff on human trafficking. The online training for all staff is scheduled to go live in late fall or early winter of 2014, and will be a model for other agencies, including Department of Juvenile Justice and the Administrative Office of the Courts, to help guide them in training their workers.
- The DCBS Training Branch solicited input from KASAP and Catholic Charities about embedding human trafficking content in existing trainings on assessment, intake criteria, and child sexual abuse to ensure new DCBS frontline staff receive training on human trafficking in a variety of ways.
- DCBS analysts plan to expand their participation to human trafficking task forces held in Bardstown and Shelby County.

Case Consultation/Quality Review

The DCBS Child Safety Branch, Out of Home Care Branch, Training Branch, and Policy Analysts have begun monthly meetings with Catholic Charities and KASAP to ensure that trafficking victims are receiving trauma-informed care, and that DCBS is coordinating with Catholic Charities to address the multiple needs of specific victims, including foreign-born children who are victims of trafficking.

Section III: Kentucky Human Trafficking Child Victim Investigations

As of October 18, 2013, DCBS has received 20 reports concerning 25 child victims of suspected human trafficking since the enactment of the Human Trafficking Victims Rights Act on June 26, 2013.

Report demographics

- *Geographic area:* Ten reports are from the DCBS Jefferson Service Region, nine reports are from the Salt River Region, and one report is from the Southern Bluegrass Region. [Additional information about the Service Regions can be located (retrieved Oct. 22, 2013): <http://chfs.ky.gov/dcbs/serviceregions.htm>]
- *Victim ages:* The alleged victims range in age from one to 17 years. The most recurring age is 17 with seven alleged victims of that age. Age distribution is as follows:

Age of the victim	Number of victims
1 year of age	1 child victim
4 years of age	1 child victim
5 years of age	2 child victims
8 years of age	1 child victim
9 years of age	1 child victim
12 years of age	1 child victim
13 years of age	1 child victim
14 years of age	4 child victims
15 years of age	4 child victims
16 years of age	2 child victims
17 years of age	7 child victims
Statewide number of victims	25 child victims

- *Perpetrator information:* While several investigations have more than one alleged perpetrator, the following is the distribution of perpetrators:
 - A known perpetrator that was not in a caretaker role of the child is alleged in 14 reports.
 - An unknown perpetrator is alleged in six reports. Although the alleged perpetrators' identities or roles are not known at this time, the perpetrators could be named during the course of the investigation. The investigations are still ongoing at this time.
 - A caretaker is named as the alleged perpetrator in five reports.
- *Allegations include the following scenarios:*
 - Victims prostituting themselves in exchange for drugs,
 - Victim identified as having a pimp,
 - A guardian offering to sell the victim for money or into a prostitution ring,
 - Victims advertising on "back-page" for prostitution,
 - Victims working as prostitutes in a massage parlor,
 - Victim stripping for money, and
 - One victim from another state running away.

- *Other case information:*
 - Child Advocacy Centers have been involved in more than half of the investigations.
 - Law Enforcement has been involved in all investigations.
 - In 17 cases, the child or family had some prior history with DCBS protection and permanency.
 - There is one known foreign-born victim.

Status of Cabinet findings

Three cases have been closed with unsubstantiated findings. In those cases, there was no evidence found that the children met the legal definition of a human trafficking victim. Although still pending at the time of this report, there appears to be enough evidence to support substantiation against a caretaker in two cases. Six cases involve allegations against a non-caretaker. The remaining 14 cases are still in the early stages of investigation.

Service Provision

All cases have received child protective services. Other services provided to the children who are the victims in these cases include:

- Mental health and trauma counseling,
- Referrals to Catholic Charities and the Federal Bureau of Investigation for victims advocacy,
- Children's Advocacy Center services,
- Residential placement (for one victim), and
- Placement and custody with a non-relative (for one victim).

Kentucky has some of the strongest, most comprehensive "safe harbor" laws to protect child victims of human trafficking in the nation. Kentucky is the only state to ensure that all child victims of human trafficking are not charged with prostitution or status offenses committed in connection to being trafficked. Due to the newness of the laws, the service infrastructure is still undergoing development and is subject to ongoing enhancements to specifically address the unique needs of child victims of human trafficking. Further details about services are anticipated in upcoming annual reports.