



Nevada Policy Council on Human Trafficking

Overview, Mission, & Vision

The Nevada Policy Council on Human Trafficking is made up of a diverse cross-section of community leaders coming together to pursue collaborative, long-term, systemic strategies to decrease sex trafficking in our state. Further, it is a forum to develop and identify state policy changes, as well as advocate for implementation of those policies, that would ensure all Nevadans have the opportunity to live a healthy and fulfilling life by acting as Nevada's voice (representing the public, private, NGO, and academic sectors along with community leaders, and survivors) to combat sex trafficking in the Silver State.

Mission

To advocate for just and equitable policy solutions through education, collaboration, and coalition building that improve the state and federal anti-trafficking systems; better support victims, survivors, and providers, decrease demand, and ultimately contribute to the elimination of human trafficking in Nevada.

Vision

NPCHT envisions a world that values every human life and develops and advocates for policies that afford every Nevadan a life free from violence, exploitation, or slavery.

Purpose of the Policy Council

The purpose of NPCHT is to convene community stakeholders to develop, imagine, and identify policy solutions to sex trafficking in the Silver State that can be implemented through legislative action and business investments. The Policy Council will:

- Strengthen the statewide counter-trafficking system by connecting all stakeholders working in the space
- Encourage networks and collaboration on projects between counter-trafficking sectors
- Tackle critical issues in the community regarding victim services, demand reduction, education & awareness, and service provider capacity building
- Leverage resources and gain audience of local policy makers
- Improve the quality of life for survivors and at risk victims of sex trafficking

Membership

The Nevada Policy Council on Human Trafficking is made up of a diverse, state-wide group of experienced, knowledgeable, and passionate stakeholders who sit on the council as voting members or advisory members.

Steering Committee

Lauren Boitel, ImpactNV
Daniele Staple, The Rape Crisis Center
Jessica Halling, Survivor Advocate and St. Jude's Ranch for Children
Kim Harvey
Katie Ryan, Dignity Health
Denise Tanata, United Way of Southern Nevada

Advisory Council & Voting Members

Amy Ayoub, Survivor & Advocate
Alisha Balee, Wynn Resorts
Dawn Christensen, Nevada Resorts Association
Jessica Cisneros, Safe Embrace
Bernadette Francis, Hutchison & Steffen PLLC
Holly Gibbs, Dignity Health
Elynne Green, Southern Nevada Human Trafficking Taskforce
Melissa Holland, Awaken
Christine Miller, Legal Aid of Southern Nevada
Magaly Munoz-Mejorado, MGM Resorts International
Lora Picini, formerly Caesars Entertainment
Nicole Reilley, Nevada Attorney General's office
Brenda Sandquist, Xquisite
Jeffrey Stilson, Office of US Attorney Nick Trutanich
Assemblywoman Jill Tolles
Christina Vela, St. Jude's Ranch for Children
Jeff Walker, Boyd Gaming
Charletta Zamora Cruz, DHS Homeland Security Investigations



NEVADA POLICY COUNCIL ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING 2021 POLICY AGENDA

The policy agenda is made up of 2 main goal areas that, if achieved, will lead to better support of victims, survivors, and providers; decreased demand; and ultimately contribute to affording every Nevadan a life free from violence, exploitation, or slavery. Further, the Policy Council supports the policy agenda of the Southern Nevada Human Trafficking Task Force and the Recommendations of the state CSEC Coalition towards this same end.

BUYER CONDUCT & PENALTIES

Strengthen the language of NRS 201.300, the definition of pandering, to explicitly apply to buyer conduct with words such as “solicits” or “patronizes” and to clarify that buyer conduct is included as a violation.

Amend NRS 201.354 to prevent a buyer from exercising a mistake of age defense and to make the law consistent with that for engaging in prostitution or solicitation for prostitution. Further amend this law to broaden the language around what is considered solicitation of a child, increase penalties for offenders, and direct those funds to child welfare agencies.

Significantly increase penalties for buyers to support funding of demand reduction activities by state agencies and to support creation and execution of a John School.

Also increase penalties for possession of child sexual abuse material to reflect the seriousness of the offense. Increase recovery of victim damages to \$250,000 and imprisonment for 5-20 years to be more consistent with federal law and consider adding an additional fine to support victim restoration through service providers.

VICTIM SUPPORT

Amend NRS 171.083 to allow prosecutions for CSEC and sex trafficking offenses to be commenced at any time, regardless of whether the victim filed a report with law enforcement during the statute of limitations period.

Allow for an exception to be made to the prohibition of compensation for certain circumstances to extend to victims of minor sex trafficking, through amending NRS 217.220(1)(e) and NRS 217.100(1). These exceptions would include: certain age limits for applying for compensation, 24 months of date of medical records, when a victim is considered a coconspirator, codefendant, etc.; or does not cooperate with law enforcement.

Strengthen the language around child sex trafficking in Nevada to expressly identify it as a type of abuse and neglect within Nevada's child protection statutes through amending NRS 432B.110 and 432B.100 to expressly include victims of NRS 201.300(2) pursuant to NRS 432B.020(1)(b).

Allow for wiretapping to be authorized to investigate cases of domestic minor sex trafficking through expanding the definition of "sexual offense of a child" in NRS 179.460(3) to be consistent with NRS 179.460(1) and Nevada's CSEC laws. Also ensure that wiretapping evidence cannot be used against victims.

SUPPORT OF THE SOUTHERN NEVADA HUMAN TRAFFICKING TASK FORCE POLICY AGENDA

Amend NRS 201.300 to make pandering and sex trafficking a crime against society, which would make it easier to prosecute these cases without the victim.

Amend NRS 201.395 to address that when a property owner/manager is aware of prostitution occurring on the property they will be guilty of advancing prostitution, which is a Category C Felony, excluding properties with a Gaming Licensee as they already have Gaming Board oversight.

Amend NRS 201.430 to update the language to include new forms of disseminating advertisement information by traffickers to buyers, excluding victims who are forced to advertise on behalf of their traffickers, via channels of modern technology. This would include electronic and print media and would also increase the penalties.

Amend NRS 199.230 and NRS 199.305 language and add a section which increases the penalties and makes a higher felony category for intimidating or dissuading a victim from testifying.

SUPPORT OF THE STATE CSEC COALITION LEGAL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SB 293

To implement CSEC Receiving Centers in Nevada, NRS 432C would need to be revised with the following recommendations:

- A model that mirrors NRS 433A, emergency admissions (commonly known as legal 2000) and involuntary court admissions. Ensures appropriate assessments including least restrictive alternative analysis conducted by licensed professionals.

- Admissions may be done by law enforcement or a child welfare agency. Emergency admissions must be based on reasonable cause that a child is CSEC and in imminent danger. Or the child consents or the parent/guardian consents. Absent consent or imminent danger the law enforcement or child welfare agency will need to obtain a warrant for admission.
- Admission forms for the CSEC Receiving Center shall be created that require the facts and circumstances that brought the child to the attention of law enforcement or child welfare as why there is a belief that a secured residential facility is needed. This report shall be distributed to the District Attorney Juvenile Division or the Attorney General's office for the filing of a petition.
- The CSEC Receiving Center must not be a juvenile detention facility or a mental health hospital. It shall resemble a residence as much as possible and have a mental health/services approach.
- Transportation to the CSEC Receiving Center may be done by the law enforcement or child welfare agency, there shall be an emphasis on not using restraints as well as the potential to have the child transported by an advocate for admission into the facility.
- Provide for Judicial review within 24 hours, or next judicial day. An attorney shall be appointed for the child, the child welfare agency and District Attorney or Deputy Attorney General will be appointed to address the best interest of the child. This review will focus on the due process rights of the child-ensuring notice of why he or she is in a secured facility and an opportunity to be heard. Parental/guardian notice shall also be addressed.
- If the court finds that it is "contrary to the welfare" of the child to remain in the community the court shall make that finding and extend the placement at the CSEC Receiving Center no longer than five days. The District Attorney or Deputy Attorney General shall file a petition entitled: "Child in need of services".
- Extension past 5 days under certain circumstances including a finding of continued threat to the child's safety and unsuccessful efforts to identify a lesser restrictive setting. Judicial reviews shall continue weekly for each individual child admitted with opportunity for the child to participate in all proceedings.
- All parties involved in the process will ensure the confidentiality of the case.
- Hearings are held in the CSEC Receiving Center under circumstances that demonstrate a team approach with a panel of individuals to discuss the treatment needs and review the services to be provided.
- The CSEC Receiving Center will be licensed by Health Care Quality and Compliance.