



GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL TO COMBAT HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN ARIZONA
APRIL 23, 2025 | 9:00 AM
2ND FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM (SUITE 200)
1700 WEST WASHINGTON STREET PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85007

A general meeting of the Governor's Council to Combat Human Trafficking in Arizona was convened on April 23, 2025, notice duly given.

MEMBERS PRESENT (15)	MEMBERS ABSENT (06)
Maria Cristina Fuentes , Chair	Lt. Nick Alamshaw
Meaghan Connolly (proxy for Dr. Sarah Beaumont)	Nathaniel Brown
Heidi Chance	Col. Jeff Glover
Sarah Chung	Lois Lucas
Doug Coleman	Maj. Andrew Orozco
Erin Garcia	Jim Waring
Conrad Lindo (proxy for Tonya Hamilton)	
Dr. Roger Willcox (proxy for Carmen Heredia)	
Joseph Kelroy	
Rachel Mitchell	
Sophia Philis-Ortiz	
Jill Rable	
Dr. Dominique Roe-Sepowitz	
Irene Orr (proxy for Brian Steele)	
Sarah Way	
STAFF AND GUESTS PRESENT (07)	
Amy Peep, GOYFF	Nicole Roskens, Presenter
Chantel Hutchinson, GOYFF	Cameran Fields, Presenter
Dillon Richhart, Presenter	Colleen McDonald, Presenter
Emily Snay, Presenter	

**Indicates Virtual Attendance*

CALL TO ORDER

- **Maria Cristina Fuentes**, Chair, called the Governor's Council to Combat Human Trafficking in Arizona (HTC) meeting to order at **9:07 AM** with **15** members and **seven** staff/guests present. She reviewed meeting procedures, welcomed all those joining via Zoom, and thanked them for their flexibility.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- With the quorum met, **Maria Cristina Fuentes**, Chair, requested a review of the **February 20, 2025**, meeting minutes before requesting a motion to approve them as drafted.
 - **Dr. Dominique Roe-Sepowitz** moved to approve the meeting minutes as drafted.
 - **Dr. Roger Willcox** seconded the motion.
- **Maria Cristina Fuentes**, Chair, asked for a discussion of the minutes, and no members requested amendments.
- **Maria Cristina Fuentes**, Chair, called a vote, and at **9:12 AM**, the motion to approve the meeting minutes as drafted passed with no dissenting votes.

ARIZONA PROP 313 | CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING SENTENCING GUIDELINES UPDATE

- **Maria Cristina Fuentes**, Chair, introduced Maricopa County Attorney **Rachel Mitchell** to provide an update about Arizona Prop 313, passed in November 2024 during the presidential election.
 - **Rachel Mitchell** is a dedicated career prosecutor committed to securing justice for those whose safety and well-being have been violated. She leads one of the largest prosecutorial agencies in the country and has worked tirelessly since taking office in 2022 to restore trust within law

enforcement agencies and the broader community. With over 30 years of experience at the Maricopa County Attorney's Office (MCAO), Mitchell has prosecuted severe cases, including child and sex crimes. She also managed the Prosecution Integrity Unit, which addresses ethical concerns. In April 2022, she was appointed County Attorney and was later elected to the position that same year.

- Throughout her career, Mitchell has advocated for strengthening state laws involving crimes against children and sexual assault. She has pushed for changes in the courtroom that will help comfort victims testifying in abuse cases. She regularly teaches on a variety of criminal justice topics and is a nationally recognized speaker on sex assault and child abuse prosecution.
- As Maricopa County's chief law enforcement officer, Rachel strongly advocates for public safety. She tackles emerging challenges such as Organized Retail Crime, guns in the hands of children, and the fentanyl crisis. She consistently works to uphold the law and prosecute those who threaten the safety and security of Maricopa County's people.
- **Rachel Mitchell** began her presentation by explaining that the [Maricopa County Attorney's Office](#) (MCAO) has received many calls from victim advocacy groups expressing two real concerns about Prop 313: its expansiveness and disproportionality with other crime cases. She mentioned that the most challenging part of writing legislation is ensuring it includes everything wanted and nothing not wanted.
- **Rachel Mitchell** explained that there has been a slight improvement. The new law will increase the penalties for adults over the age of 21 who engage in sexual conduct with minors aged 15 to 17 years old (not related to sex trafficking). The offense, previously classified as a Class 6 felony, will now be classified as a Class 4, which mandates a minimum jail sentence of one year. This change will take effect 90 days after the legislative session adjourns (sine die).
- **Rachel Mitchell** defined prostitution. According to Arizona law, prostitution involves sexual conduct for a fee arrangement with any person in exchange for money or any other valuable consideration. The law interprets "valuable consideration" very broadly.
 - Engaging in or agreeing to or offering to engage in a sex act. It does not need to be the actual sex act, only needing a deal made.
- **Rachel Mitchell** provided an overview of Prop 313. Per the legislation, "Notwithstanding any other law, if a person is convicted of a Class 1 felony for child sex trafficking under section 13-3212, the person shall be sentenced to imprisonment in the custody of the [Arizona Department of Corrections, Rehabilitation and Reentry](#) (DOCRR) for natural life. A person sentenced to natural life is not eligible for release."
- **Rachel Mitchell** provided examples of sentencing based on the details of the crime, stating that ages 15, 16, and 17 can be used interchangeably.
 - If a 50-year-old has sex with a 15-year-old (no position of trust) = Class 4 Felony (1-3.75 years in DOCRR or probation eligible plus 1 year flat).
 - If a 50-year-old has sex with a 15-year-old (position of trust) = Class 2 felony (3-12.5 years in DOCRR flat).
 - Teachers and family members are examples of positions of trust.
 - If a 50-year-old rapes a 15 year old = 5.25-14 years in DOCRR flat.
 - (Prop 313) If a 50-year-old offers money for sex to an undercover officer (playing 15 years old), it means = natural life in prison.
 - Arizona now has a statutory scheme where it is less severe to rape a child than it is to pay a child for sex.
 - If a 17-year-old has sex with a 17-year-old = it is not prosecutable.
 - If a 17-year-old offers money for sex to a 17-year-old = natural life in prison.
 - If a father has sex with a 14-year-old biological child = 12-27 years in DOCRR flat.
 - If a father has sex with a 15-year-old biological child = Class 2 Felony (3-12.5 years in DOCRR flat)
 - (Prop 313) If a father offers money for sex for any minor = natural life in prison.
- **Rachel Mitchell** explained that the term "Natural Life" under Proposition 313 applies to individuals who were juveniles at the time of their offense, even if tried as adults. This term also encompasses sting operations, meaning it is not limited to actual sexual conduct with a minor. Importantly, it carries a penalty that is harsher than that for second-degree murder.
 - There are concerns that this law may encourage offenders to eliminate witnesses. Amending this law would be challenging, as it falls under the Voter Protection Act. However, a new voter initiative could address and rectify these issues.
- **Maria Cristina Fuentes, Chair**, commented that she has received similar concerns and asked if there have been conversations about possible solutions.
 - **Rachel Mitchell** mentioned that she recently presented to the [Arizona Prosecuting Attorneys' Advisory Council](#) (APAAC). During the meeting, they suggested considering making these offenses Class 2 felonies. However, this may be challenged under the Voter Protection Act.

- **Rachel Mitchell** also explained that lawmakers must be cautious when writing legislation. They need to ensure that it encompasses everything intended while avoiding the inclusion of unwanted elements, which could lead to disproportionate situations that might be challenged constitutionally.
- **Sarah Way** inquired about the implications of a natural life sentence and whether it might affect law enforcement's willingness to engage in sting operations or lead to prosecutors declining to take certain cases.
 - **Rachel Mitchell** responded that she does not see any indication that law enforcement avoids participating in sting operations or that prosecutors are unwilling to take cases. However, she expressed concern about the disproportionate nature of sentences when charging a defendant with a crime. As a result, the prosecutor may opt to offer a plea deal to make the sentence more proportionate, making the defendant feel coerced into accepting the plea, especially given the alternative of facing a natural life sentence with no chance of parole.
- **Dr. Dominique Roe-Sepowitz** noted that, from a research perspective, this issue will impact the data collected.
 - **Rachel Mitchell** further mentioned, on a political note, that it is challenging to explain to voters why prosecutors are making these decisions and to convey the situation's complexities regarding the proposition.
- To view **Rachel Mitchell's** presentation, [click here](#).

REACH 4 RESILIENCE PROGRAM UPDATE

- **Maria Cristina Fuentes, Chair**, introduced **Nicole Roskens** and **Cameran Fields** from the [Superior Court of Arizona in Maricopa County, Juvenile Department](#), to provide an update about the [Reach For Resilience \(R4R\) Program](#) and the [Succeed Through Resilience, Empower New Growth Through Hope \(STRENGTH\) Court](#).
- **Nicole Roskens** is a Licensed Professional Counselor in the State of Arizona who specializes in child welfare, focusing on trauma, attachment, and infant-toddler mental health. Her work explores how trauma impacts parents, adolescents, and children involved in the child welfare system.
 - Throughout her career, Ms. Roskens has served in various roles, including program manager, clinical director, and clinician, providing mental health services to children and families within the child welfare system. She has been trained in and employs multiple evidence-based interventions to address trauma, attachment issues, and infant mental health.
 - Ms. Roskens is the Clinical Director of the Cradle to Crayons program within the Superior Court of Arizona's Juvenile Department. This program is Maricopa County's implementation of the Zero to Three Safe Babies Approach. Since 2012, she has led the implementation of the Safe Babies initiative in Maricopa County, overseeing clinical services for families involved in dependency cases and several grant programs, including Reach for Resilience.
 - Additionally, Ms. Roskens has trained the community, courts, judicial officers, and the Arizona Department of Child Safety (DCS) on various topics related to working with families in the child welfare system.
- **Cameran Fields** is a dedicated professional with extensive experience in social work, management, and administrative roles. She holds a bachelor's degree in Sociology from the University of California, Riverside, and has devoted her career to advocating for and supporting vulnerable populations. These include youth involved with the child welfare and justice systems, survivors of domestic violence, individuals with behavioral health needs, and adults with disabilities.
 - Cameran works as a Social Work Supervisor with the Superior Court of Arizona in Maricopa County's Juvenile Department. In this role, she manages a grant-funded court program that assists court-involved youth affected by sex trafficking and adult survivors of domestic violence who are navigating the child welfare system. She supervises a dedicated team of social workers and collaborates with various stakeholders to drive systemic changes and enhance services for survivors.
- **Nicole Roskens** explained that STRENGTH stands for Succeed Through Resilience, Empower New Growth Through Hope. This specialty court provides a coordinated, multidisciplinary, person-centered, therapeutic approach to meet the needs of youth who are victims of sex trafficking and are involved with the court system.
 - The court works to help survivors of sex trafficking access necessary services and support their recovery. Collaboration is essential during STRENGTH Court hearings, where various youth team members are present at every session. This team may include attorneys, survivor mentors, parents or guardians, Arizona Department of Child Safety (DCS) representatives, probation officers, and a High-Needs Case Manager (HNCM).
- **Nicole Roskens** further explained that STRENGTH Youth are survivors of sex trafficking who have

experienced numerous traumas, including relational trauma. As a result, they exhibit observable responses such as:

- Difficulty in building and maintaining relationships and establishing natural support systems
- Challenges in trusting professionals and forming meaningful relationships
- Struggles to reengage in age-appropriate activities and develop health-oriented peer relationships
- Issues with utilizing strategies for problem-solving, planning, and setting realistic goals
- Difficulty regulating emotional responses
- Challenges in advocating for their own needs
- Obstacles in completing educational goals
- Hardships in finding safe employment
- **Cameran Fields** explained that the R4R Program is a court initiative designed to reduce barriers and promote positive outcomes for youth.
 - Young individuals who are victims of sex trafficking face increased systemic and personal obstacles that can hinder their ability to fully utilize the tools, services, and support available to them within the delinquency and dependency systems.
 - The R4R Program provides a dedicated Program Specialist who supports youth by attending every STRENGTH Court hearing. This specialist connects with the youth's established support team, researches additional services, meets with them individually, and advocates on their behalf.
- **Cameran Fields** emphasized that the team supports youth in the following ways:
 - Assist them in achieving their goals, whether big or small, and collaborate with them to progress toward them.
 - Connecting youth to their community.
 - Helping them identify, maintain, and increase their natural support systems.
 - Supporting their creative expressions by providing art supplies tailored to their preferences.
 - Ensure that young people's voices are heard at every process step.
- **Cameran Fields** explained that when a Program Specialist is assigned to work with a youth, they will support the team by:
 - Encouraging communication and inclusion among team members to reduce silos, which includes:
 - Creating and using team email chains
 - Facilitating team meetings and professional staffings
 - Ensuring that the right people are present at the table
 - Providing resources and support to system partners, informing them of services in the community.
 - Problem-solving systemic issues with the team based on experiences with other youth and their teams.
 - Identifying gaps within the team, researching solutions, and connecting the team with the appropriate service or support person.
- **Maria Cristina Fuentes, Chair**, asked how long the program has been active and approximately how many youth they have served.
 - **Nicole Roskens** answered that the program launched in 2018 and explained that they serve approximately 25-27 youth per quarter. However, some youth might roll over into the subsequent quarter.
- **Dr. Dominique Roe-Sepowitz** mentioned that the [Arizona State University Office of Sex Trafficking Intervention Research](#) (ASU STIR) currently has the CARE Fund that could be used to purchase various items the youth may need or want.
- To view **Nicole Roskens** and **Cameran Fields**' presentation, [click here](#).

MOHAVE COUNTY SEX TRAFFICKING ADVOCACY AND AWARENESS TEAM

- **Maria Cristina Fuentes, Chair**, introduced **Dillon Richhart** and **Emily Snay** from the [Mohave County Sex Trafficking Advocacy and Awareness Team](#) (MCSTAAT) to provide an overview of the program and efforts to combat human trafficking in Mohave County.
- **Dillon Richhart** has been a probation officer for nearly ten years, working with juvenile and adult populations. Before this, he gained valuable experience in the ADCRR, where he developed critical insights into security threat groups. Additionally, he taught law classes for the [Arizona Department of Public Safety](#) (DPS) at the [Kingman Unified School District](#) (KUSD). Dillon holds a Master of Public Administration with an emphasis in Government and Policy from Grand Canyon University (GCU).
- **Emily Snay** has been with the probation department's juvenile division since 2012. She has managed intensive, standard, and specialty probation and court caseloads. Formerly a field unit supervisor, she is now the Treatment Coordinator. Emily holds a Master of Public Administration from GCU and serves as the department's Minor Victim of Sex Trafficking (MVST) Liaison to the [Administrative Office of the Courts](#)

(AOC).

- **Emily Snay** began their presentation by explaining that previously, the [Arizona Youth Partnership](#) (AZYP), in conjunction with law enforcement agencies, spearheaded a county coalition to combat human trafficking and domestic violence in Mohave County.
 - The group included representatives from various local police agencies, the DPS, the [Mohave County Probation Department](#), school personnel, local domestic violence shelters, nonprofit organizations, and concerned community members.
 - The coalition offered training opportunities to its members, hospitals, the hospitality industry, schools, and law enforcement agencies. It sought to establish a program similar to the Maricopa Collaborative in Northern Arizona. The coalition met monthly, with subcommittees focusing on specific areas such as youth, victims, law enforcement, and community advocacy.
- **Emily Snay** explained that the Mohave County Probation Department noticed an increase in youth cases with various risk factors and adult cases showing predatory indicators. In response to this trend, they formed a specialized team to address the needs of this new population.
 - The current team consists of two adult probation officers, every juvenile supervisor, two line officers, the juvenile detention administrator, a juvenile detention officer, the deputy director of juvenile court services, a youth care worker, a representative from the [Kingman Police Department](#), and a member of the court IT team. They also have the support of AZYP, which participates, provides input, and helps with tabling events.
 - These efforts allow participation from every probation office in Mohave County and the juvenile detention facility. They are also able to work closely with the adult division to ensure victims are being identified and referred to the appropriate level of services, or, conversely, predators/traffickers are being identified and reported to law enforcement.
- **Dillon Richhart** clarified that they collaborate closely with law enforcement. They have progressed on several cases through Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) meetings and discovered other investigations involving previously unidentified families that the Probation Department is assisting.
- **Dillon Richhart** explained that the Probation Department's policy requires every youth referred to the department and juvenile detention center to undergo an assessment aimed at identifying potential indicators of sex trafficking. The evaluation is forwarded as a referral for further review if any indicators are observed. The case file is then examined, and all relevant collateral information is collected to determine whether a screening is necessary. If it is deemed necessary, the team will conduct the screening. Both the assessment and the screening utilize standardized forms.
 - The DCS and Law Enforcement are involved if information is revealed during the screening process.
- **Dillon Richhart** emphasized that the Probation Department requires all staff, including support personnel, to undergo training in human trafficking. They are continually seeking opportunities to obtain the latest information about sex trafficking, particularly in rural areas.
 - Additionally, they organize sex trafficking training sessions twice yearly, during the winter and summer judicial education training conferences in Mohave County, to ensure that courtroom clerks, front desk clerks, and all court employees who cannot attend training sessions at other times can participate.
- **Emily Snay** outlined the outreach and educational activities undertaken by the MCSTAAT team. The team's plan includes training for students, educators, and school administrators. They also conduct training sessions for various groups, such as religious organizations, tribal associations, the Mohave County Health Department, court employees, DCS staff, emergency department personnel, fire and EMS responders, hospital workers, and utility employees.
 - Additionally, they partnered with AZYP to provide human trafficking training during social media awareness events.
- **Emily Snay** discussed the impact of MCSTAAT on the community. Below is a list of events in which they have participated. Through a partnership between ASU STIR and DPS, they have provided promotional items and informational handouts to attendees at these events:
 - Annual Lake Havasu City Spring Break Takeover
 - Annual Awareness Walk
 - Community tabling events
 - Movies in the Park and "Walk Away from Drugs" events, as well as a presence on Tribal Land
 - Career and Technical Education (CTE) classes
 - Court education and training conferences
 - [Red Light Rebellion](#) events featuring Opal Singleton-Hendershot
 - Sponsored teen pool parties
 - Centennial Park Carnival

- **Emily Snay** and **Dillon Richhart** explained a recent case study, providing an example of MCSTAAT's policies and procedures.
- **Dr. Dominique Roe-Sepowitz** and **Jill Rable** commended them for their work.
- To view **Dillon Richhart** and **Emily Snay's** presentation, [click here](#).

2024 YOUTH EXPERIENCES SURVEY

- **Maria Cristina Fuentes, Chair**, introduced **Dr. Dominique Roe-Sepowitz** to present the 2024 Youth Experiences Survey (YES) results, and **Colleen McDonald** to discuss the study's impact on [Our Family Services'](#) work in Pima County.
- **Dr. Dominique Roe-Sepowitz** is a professor at the School of Social Work at ASU and the director of the ASU STIR. She holds a master's and a doctorate in social work and is a researcher, professor, and forensic social work practitioner.
 - Dr. Roe-Sepowitz teaches in the clinical track of the Master's of social work program, and provides clinical intervention groups focused on abuse and trauma in the community to women and men exiting prostitution. Dr. Roe-Sepowitz's research focus is on women and violence, with an emphasis on prostitution and the therapeutic needs for exiting.
 - Her expertise includes sex trafficker profiles, establishing a prevalence of sex buyers, and sex trafficking victim prevention and intervention design. Dominique works closely with community groups, including the Phoenix Police Department, the Phoenix Prosecutor's Office, and Catholic Charities DIGNITY programs. Her research work spans the prevention, detection, identification, and trauma-focused treatment of sex trafficking victims.
- **Colleen McDonald** is the Chief Program Officer at [Our Family Services](#). She is an experienced non-profit professional with over 20 years of experience in operations and program management. Colleen is passionate about social justice and dedicated to working with families and youth.
 - She has served on the boards of several behavioral health and housing agencies in Tucson and has significant experience managing group homes in Boston. Throughout her career, Colleen has prioritized team building and collaboration.
 - Growing up on the East Coast, Colleen graduated from Goddard College in Vermont with a degree in grassroots organizing, focusing on peace and conflict studies. She is a proud mother of three and enjoys road trips and camping in her free time.
- **Dr. Dominique Roe-Sepowitz** explained that the Youth Experiences Survey (YES) examines the lived experiences of unsheltered young adults in Arizona, focusing specifically on issues related to sex trafficking and labor exploitation. This study is now in its 11th consecutive year, with funding for 2024 provided by the [Arizona Department of Housing](#) (ADOH) and the Kaimas Foundation.
 - The eight-page paper-and-pencil survey was distributed by staff at eight agencies in Arizona to young adults aged 18 to 25 over two weeks in August 2024. The 2024 YES study received a significant response, with 227 participants sharing their complex and essential life experiences.
- **Dr. Dominique Roe-Sepowitz** explained that participants completed surveys from eight agencies across the state. The YES study participants received services from the [Phoenix Dream Center](#), [Our Family Services](#), [Native American Connections](#), [Homeless Youth Connection](#), PHX360, AZYP, [one-n-ten](#), and [UMOM New Day Centers](#).
- **Dr. Dominique Roe-Sepowitz** provided the 2024 YES findings and participant demographics. The information is below.
 - Study Participant Demographics:
 - Female: 48.8% | Male: 41%
 - Participants' ages range from 18 to 25; the average age is 20.6.
 - Heterosexual: 53.3% | Bisexual: 19.4%
 - Homelessness and Housing:
 - Age of first homeless experience ranged from 2 to 15; the average age being 16.9.
 - Participants reported currently (at the time of the survey) living in shelters, couch-surfing, transitional housing, on the street, in a hotel, in their place, etc.
 - Education:
 - Graduated from high school: 54.6%
 - Dropped out of school at one point in time during their educational journey: 42.3%
 - Reasons: homeless, moved around a lot, academic difficulty, bullying, etc.
 - Substance Use:
 - Reported substance use: 53.3%
 - Age of first drug use ranged from 5 to 22; the average age being 14.8.
 - Types of substances used: Fentanyl, Marijuana, Methamphetamine, etc.

- Self-Harm:
 - Reported engaging in some form of self-harming behavior: 48%
 - Self-harming behavior: not eating, cutting, risk-taking, drug use, sex with strangers, etc.
- Mental Health Challenges:
 - Reported having a current mental health diagnosis: 52.4%
- Physical Health Challenges:
 - Reported having a current medical issue: 49.3%
 - The most common medical issues were poor vision, asthma, dental problems, and chronic pain.
 - **Rachel Mitchell** asked what if there were common types of chronic pain and if it could be psychosomatic.
 - **Dr. Dominique Roe-Sepowitz** explained that she does not view the condition as psychosomatic. The chronic pain is physical and primarily related to dental issues. It may be linked to a lack of access to medical care, living in unsafe conditions, and prolonged exposure to trauma, which can all lead to physical manifestations of stress.
- Pregnancy and Children:
 - Pregnant at the time of being surveyed: 6.2%
 - Reported having children: 25.1%
- Kicked out of the Home:
 - Kicked out of the home: 69.6%
 - The age range of first-time being kicked out was 9 to 25; the average age is 16.5.
- Violent Relationships:
 - Witnessed domestic violence in their household as a child: 45.4%
- Methods of Making Money:
 - They reported having steady jobs, doing day labor, selling their things, doing side jobs for cash, panhandling, etc.
- Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs):
 - Participants reported experiencing between 0 and 10 ACEs, averaging 4.9.
 - Reported experiencing emotional abuse, emotional neglect, parents separated/divorced, substance use in household, physical abuse, etc.
- Negative Life Experiences:
 - Reported impermanent/unstable living conditions, justice system involvement, or academic and peer difficulties
- Positive Life Experiences:
 - Supportive, loving family/group of friends, steady employment, practiced safe sex, aware of community resources, etc.
- **Dr. Dominique Roe-Sepowitz** provided the 2024 YES Study findings specific to human trafficking (sex and labor trafficking).
 - Reported experiencing at least one form of human trafficking: 33%
 - Reported experiencing both sex and labor trafficking: 12.3%
 - Sex Trafficking:
 - Reported experiencing sex trafficking: 30.8%
 - The age of first sex trafficking experience ranged from 4 to 25; the average age is 15.6.
 - Of those who reported having a sex trafficking experience, 48.6% identified as LGBTQIA+.
 - Exchanged sex for money, a place to stay, food, protection, drugs, and clothing.
 - Identified as having a sex trafficker: 70%
 - The most frequent relationship with their trafficker was with a stranger, then (descending in frequency) boyfriend, friend, family member, girlfriend, and gang.
 - Reported technology was used to facilitate their exploitation: 52.9%
 - Labor Trafficking:
 - Reported experiencing labor exploitation: 14.5%
 - The age of first labor exploitation experience ranged from 8 to 22; the average age being 15.
 - Of those who reported having a labor exploitation experience, 48.4% identified as LGBTQIA+.
 - Exchanged labor for money, a place to stay, food, protection, clothing, and drugs.

- Promised work where the work or payment ended up being different than what they expected: 81.8%
- Reported having someone they worked for control the money they earned or keep it: 48.5%
- The most frequent relationship with their trafficker was with a family member, then (descending in frequency) stranger, gang, friend, employer, boyfriend, girlfriend.
- **Colleen McDonald** explained that Our Family Services offers stability during times of crisis, connects individuals to support and resources, promotes social connectedness, collaborates with neighbors to address challenging community issues, and advocates for policies to combat systemic inequities. Their goal is to eliminate homelessness and strengthen the community in Southern Arizona.
- **Colleen McDonald** emphasized that Our Family Services focuses on prevention efforts, highlighting the need for communities to prioritize housing and ongoing education, enabling them to work with youth earlier and provide a safe environment.
 - In Pima County, with braided funding from ASU STIR and the [Tucson Police Department](#), they hired a new specialized victim advocate.
- **Maria Cristina Fuentes, Chair**, inquired about the trend of the study's participant numbers.
 - **Dr. Dominique Roe-Sepowitz** responded that the number of participants decreased during the pandemic but has steadily increased.
- **Erin Garcia** praised ASU STIR and Our Family Services for their efforts. She noted that seeing food as a common denominator in the community's struggles is heartbreaking. [Chicanos Por La Causa](#) (CPLC) is observing a similar trend and has been working to establish food pantries where they are most needed.
- To view **Dr. Dominique Roe-Sepowitz** and **Colleen McDonald's** presentation, [click here](#). To view the infographic, [click here](#).

COUNCIL MEMBER UPDATES

- **Maria Cristina Fuentes, Chair**, asked if members wanted to share any updates with the Council.
 - **Dr. Dominique Roe-Sepowitz** shared the following activities related to ASU STIR:
 - Continues to work closely with the [Arizona Department of Emergency and Military Affairs](#) (DEMA). They are currently developing a curriculum for Maricopa County schools.
 - Working with the inmates in [Estrella Jail](#).
 - Tablets are made available to inmates. The tablets include human trafficking awareness materials and the opportunity to self-report.
 - From January to March, 44 people identified themselves as possible victims, and the jail staff identified six as potential victims.
 - The [Arizona Human Trafficking Tipline](#) (1-877-4AZ-TIPS) has been active for two years since its launch in February 2021.
 - The tipline has received calls from 391 individual callers.
 - They've placed hundreds into housing.
 - Last quarter, the tipline received 143 calls.
 - The [2025 Arizona Human Trafficking Summit](#) will occur at the Mesa Convention Center from September 28 to October 1, 2025. Register [here](#).
 - The [STOP Project](#) includes training for the Maricopa County Adult Probation Department.
 - The non-profit incubator assists new organizations through an eight-session program that teaches grant writing. This program is open to any organization focused on human trafficking in any capacity.
 - Hosting the 17th Phoenix 1st Step Pop Up Drop-in Center featuring a clothing drive for adults impacted by prostitution and sex trafficking on May 3, 2025.
 - Information about available shoe cards, including resources for each county, is provided for both sex trafficking and labor trafficking.
 - **Amy Peep** explained that the Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family (GOYFF) oversees the [Arizona Child Abuse Prevention and Advocacy License Grant Program](#), which supports primary prevention efforts for child abuse and neglect and Child/Family Advocacy Centers across Arizona. Funding for the program comes from the sales of the Child Abuse Prevention Specialty License Plate. She encouraged Council members to share this information within their networks and to support the grant program.
 - To learn more or to purchase the plate, visit bit.ly/CAPLicensePlate.

UPCOMING MEETING

- **Maria Cristina Fuentes, Chair**, reminded members that the next meeting will be on **June 18, 2025, at 9:00 AM**. It will be in a hybrid format, with members able to attend in person or virtually.

ADJOURNMENT

- **Maria Cristina Fuentes, Chair**, thanked everyone for being part of the meeting and asked for a motion to adjourn.
 - **Dr. Dominique Roe-Sepowitz** moved to adjourn.
 - **Dr. Roger Willcox** seconded the motion.
- **Maria Cristina Fuentes, Chair**, asked if any further discussion was needed.
- With no other discussion needed, **Maria Cristina Fuentes, Chair**, called for a vote. At **10:50 AM**, the motion to adjourn the meeting passed with no dissenting votes.

Dated 24 of Month 2025
Governor's Council to Combat Human Trafficking in Arizona
Respectfully Submitted By:
Amy Peep
GOYFF

DRAFT