

Attendees: Jon Spira-Savett, Pam Wellman, Kristy Besada, Michael Greene, Bethany Cottrell (Brigid's House of Hope), Bobbie Knickerbocker, Kelly Turney, Meta Vornehm, Jim Jensen, Hannah Essa (Brigid's House of Hope), Pam Deres, Allison Palm, Greg Baker, Sally Newhall, Nonny Egbuonu, Rebecca Green, Tanya Stormo-Rasmussen, Carlos Jauhola-Straight

Reflection: Gratitude.

Business:

Presentation by Brigid's House of Hope (Bethany Cottrell-director and Hannah Essa-program manager)

Located in Hudson, NH.

- What is Human Trafficking: a crime that involves the exploitation of a person for labor, services, or commercial sex through force, fraud, or coercion. Common types: Forced labor, sexual exploitation, debt bondage. (Christmas tree farm, drug trafficking, working off debt as a nanny with an unresolvable debt, etc.)
- Human trafficking can happen to anyone; it's not always physically violent, but often involves psychological tactics; it doesn't always involve travel or transportation across borders (here it's often NH or New England residents); it happens everywhere (local & global).
- Approximately 40.3 million victims worldwide in 2016. 62% forced labor; 37% forced marriage. 1 in 4 are children... (get slide)
- NH Taskforce receives between 50-90 Human Trafficking referrals annually across 10 counties.
- Investigations increased by 53% between 2019 and 2020
- From July-Sept 2021, 56 potential victims were identified from all 10 counties.
- Gaps in service: long term safe housing is the greatest gap in services. NH has no specialized safe housing for Human Trafficking victims. Short term emergency housing is not best suited for victims (due to trauma histories, they need all-inclusive, holistic services). Without a safe place to go, 80% of survivors end up being re-trafficked.
- Brigid's House of Hope: to provide safe housing for victims of Humans Trafficking and Exploitation, which encourages hope, healing... (get slide)
- Timeline: funding started in 2016...2019 became a 501c3...hope to open in 2021
- Fundraising: Goal is \$75,000 founder's campaign. Currently at \$61,000. Working with community partners and agencies, faith groups. Building owner will match all building costs up to 50%.
- Slide show: Undisclosed location. Newly renovated- 4 x 2br apartments. 8 beds...2 house monitors will provide 24 hour supervision. Intensive case management
- Program length of 12-18 months. Holistic care goals in partnership with other agencies.
- Named after patron saint of anti
- They provide intensive case management, based on Maslowe's hierarchy, will get basic needs, then medical/recovery/mental health through Lamprey, working with crisis

centers for human trafficking. Hoping to partner with faith communities to network for transition into independent living.

- What network of supportive housing groups are you part of? NH Trafficking Taskforce and Faith Based Trafficking Taskforce, BHS for funding. Hannah has been to Family Promise. Pam Wellman is looking forward to the partnership.
- What is most successful in preventing the return of people to trafficked conditions? Evidence shows that accompanying the client and being patient. Be ready to accept them back when they're ready to return. "No recipe book."
- What are trafficking trends? Substance misuse and trauma histories lead to trafficking. Bethany claims that there's not currently good data. Maine program THRIVE with HS and Middle School students for prevention is successful.
- <https://www.brigidshouseofhope.org/>

CROP Walk:

- Outdoors, safe, sunny, and 26 teams!
- Leadership team is wonderful at getting these things done.
- It was wonderful to sing as the Interfaith Choir.
- Raised \$55,837. This is the highest in 10 years or more!
- So much spirit and cooperation. 16 volunteers in kitchen for a cafeteria line, safer than buffet.
- 20 people stayed to put things away, making the building manager's work easy the next day.
- Awards: (get slide) Corpus Christi and SHARE, Inc. are recipient agencies. Will give Shoe awards at Thanksgiving Service.

Treasurer: Account balances: Main - \$2,838.87, Crop Walk - \$5,019.39, Choir - \$831.75

Thanksgiving Service: Tuesday before Thanksgiving, Nov 23 at 7:00 p.m.

- Hybrid service: Temple Beth Abraham. Participants can be in person or virtual
- Information about COVID precautions will be sent out. Masks, social distancing is required. Vaccinations not required. All live items will not be sung. Singing will be pre-recorded. Building capacity is about 100. Pre-registration will be done.
- Collection/donations will be on-site and online.
- Program will be compact, like last year
- Zoom host will be needed. (Temple Beth Abraham is paying to hire a Saturday am zoom host!)

Expanding the reach of the NAIC:

- If you're willing to reach out 1-to-1, please do so and let us know (someone you know).
- If you know a community who is ripe for inviting, let Jon know.
- If you know of barriers, we can learn that and review our model.

COVID operations research: is there interest in continued conversation at 1:15 after the meetings? If so, please reach out to Jon.

Announcements:

Housing Justice group: Inclusionary zoning comes up for a vote on November 9th. An announcement with talking points will come out. Please attend

Allison Palm is President of Board of Nashua Council of Churches: Vigil for those in NH who have died of COVID. November 9th at 6:00 pm at Statehouse in Concord. All are welcome
<https://www.facebook.com/events/1211130682732568/?ref=newsfeed>

Human Trafficking zoom by NPL Nov. 4 @ 7pm, presentation by a survivor (register for the zoom)

<http://tinyurl.com/npllectures>

Cultural Connections Committee is no longer functioning, due to no quorum? Or some legislation that prohibits?

Free to public.SymphonyNH String Ensemble Concert 11/7 - 4:00 PM Church of the Good Shepherd

