

CYPRESS LAKE HIGH SCHOOL
SAC Meeting 02/03/2020

Mrs. Roles opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m. Mrs. Roles greeted all in attendance. Mrs. Roles then introduced our presenter, Lauren McCraney from Human Trafficking Awareness.

Ms. McCraney told the group that the Human Trafficking Awareness Organization was founded in 2006. She expressed many facts including:

1. It is established that 40.3 million people are trafficked.
2. Traffickers look like everyone else.
3. Anyone can be a victim.
4. Trafficking happens worldwide.
5. Most people are moved across borders.
6. Males and females, both, are taken.
7. Traffickers can be male or female.
8. There are multiple types of trafficking.
9. Social media is a popular location for victims to be tricked.
10. Human trafficking and Human smuggling are different.

Human trafficking is a modern form of slavery for monetary gain, made up of:

1. Force - Making someone do something against their will
2. Fraud - Being intentionally deceived
3. Coercion - Manipulating someone to do something by force or threats (psychological warfare)

5 Signs of Human Trafficking:

1. Lack of control - restricted contact with others by a handler
2. Poor mental health - fearful, nervous, depressed, avoids eye contact
3. Poor physical health - appears malnourished, signs of physical/sexual abuse
4. Lacks basic knowledge - doesn't know address or city where residing, no sense of time
5. Unique physical traits - branding tattoos by pimp or other person in charge, lies about age

It is to be noted that 11% of victims are kidnapped by family members. Parents, many times, sell their children to get money for drugs or other wants. Drug dealers traffic and sell people only for the money. Pimps are also in this for the money so they tattoo their victims in order to show possession. They rape females to get them into submission, then put them to work in strip clubs, engage them in prostitution, and to earn money for extra favors. Intimate partners and

close friends can also take over someone's life. One example related by Ms. McCraney is as follows:

A young girl who was being abused by her parents, got a boyfriend in high school. After being together for a short time, he took her to get a tattoo. At school, she then saw two other girls with the same tattoo. Then she found out that the tattoo was a branding tattoo created by her boyfriend, marking her as his possession, like the other girls. She got out of the relationship.

Ms. McCraney then said that authorities are pleased at the fact that, as of January 2020, there are 88% of identified victims that are interacting with healthcare professionals. During these visits, pimps do not leave their side. Doctor's offices have begun putting stickers in the restroom so that when the victim gives a urine sample, they can put the sticker on their specimen cup which requests to speak to the doctor privately.

The states, in appropriate order of most trafficking are, Texas, California, and Florida. Miami is the #1 city for trafficking volume in the United States. A "Dark Web" has been identified here in Fort Myers. On the Dark Web, women are sold to men in other countries, becoming their possessions. This situation then becomes Human Smuggling.

In the past, any child no matter what their age, was incarcerated when found in a prostitution ring. The Protection Act was written to change this. Now, any child arrested for prostitution is automatically marked as a victim of trafficking and put into a rehabilitation program. Life expectancy for a child, inside a prostitution ring is only 7 years from time of entering this situation. So the sooner they are rescued, the better.

Ms. McCraney finished up by displaying Artwork created by victims of trafficking who use this program as therapy. The program is called ARTREACH. This program was created by Nola Rice, the Mayor of Sanibel. The artwork was very expressive and moving by the artists, showing great emotion.

Mrs. Roles then asked everyone to review the minutes from the last meeting. No corrections needed to be made.

First motion to accept as read - Carol McCarley
Second motion given by - Candace Bond
All in attendance voted unanimously in agreement.

DAC Meeting Report was a summary of the last 2 DAC meetings. There are no longer any D or F schools in Lee County Schools. The problems in transportation will be presented to the Community Board. Superintendent wants to add 30 minutes to the school day. High school parents and SAC committees are concerned about the Mental Health of our children and students. And the concern over Capital funds going from \$300 million in 2007 to \$150 million in

2020. However, the half-penny sales tax is providing for many needed improvements to be made to schools in the district.

Mr. Hendrick then presented accolades:

1. 15th annual Special Olympics was a fantastic event at CLHS. Everyone had a great time.
2. Robotics won a Prestigious Award over the past weekend

Mrs. Roles called the meeting to a close at 7:40 p.m.