



NORTH CAROLINA HUMAN TRAFFICKING COMMISSION

MARCH 2024 REPORT ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING GRANTS

Section 16.21 Competitive Grants For Nonprofit Organizations Providing Services
To Victims Of Human Trafficking

Citation of Law or Resolution: S.L.2021-180

Section Number: Section 16.21

Due Date: March 1, 2024

Submission Date: February 29, 2024

Receiving Entities: Senate Appropriations Committee on Justice and Public Safety
House of Representatives Appropriations Committee on Justice and Public Safety Joint Legislative
Oversight Committee on Justice and Public Safety Fiscal Research Division

Submitting Entity: The North Carolina Human Trafficking Commission

16.21 – GRANTS FOR NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS PROVIDING SERVICES TO VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

The North Carolina Human Trafficking Commission (HTC) is housed within the North Carolina Administrative Office of the Courts (NCAOC). Both entities have been in regular communication with the Office of State Budget and Management and the N.C. Pandemic Relief Office regarding transfer of monies within the State Fiscal Recovery Fund. The following are updates on progress since our last report:

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES:

16.21 Grant manager began employment August 28, 2023.

16.21 Round 1 Request for Proposal was released on August 11, 2023 and closed September 11, 2023.

A total of 24 applications were received. Of those applications, four applicants did not move on to competitive scoring due to not satisfying all of the listed requirements within the request for proposal.

The remaining 20 applications were scored by eight reviewers. The reviewers mainly consisted of committee members, but also included a couple of non-biased reviewers recruited to ensure multiple assessors gave feedback. A tool was created by the grant staff and was applied to each review in order to ensure consistent scoring. The committee voted to award 11 agencies contracts for funding. All agencies denied funding in this process were offered a one-on-one meeting to share feedback targeted at improving their next application, as well as methods they can consider to decrease their agency risk level.

\$1,981,587.37 was awarded in round 1 leaving \$1,818,412.63 available for round 2.

All Round 1 contracts have been fully executed. The period of performance began January 1, 2024 and 10 of 11 agencies have received their first disbursement.

16.21 Round 2 Request for Proposal was released on January 8, 2024 and is set to close out March 8, 2024.





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Grants to Nonprofit Organizations Providing Services to Victims of Human Trafficking

(1) The number of applications received.	24
(2) The number of grants awarded.	11
(3) The names and locations of the grant recipients.	* Reference table
(4) The Amount of each grant awarded.	* Reference table
(5) A description of the human trafficking program initiatives that were funded by the grant awarded, including the geographic area in which services were provided.	* Reference table
(6) The total number of victims of human trafficking that were served, to date, by each grant recipient.	* Reference table





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AGENCY: JusticeMatters, Inc.	
Location:	1006 Lamond Ave, Suite B, Durham NC 27701. JusticeMatters (JM) serves victim-survivors of sex and/or labor trafficking across North Carolina. Since our founding in 2009, JM has served individuals residing in 77 counties across our state. The top counties wherein our clients reside are Durham, Wake, Orange, Person, and Granville/Guilford/Johnston.
Award Amount:	\$200,000
Description or program initiatives:	JusticeMatters will continue to provide trauma-informed direct legal services and related victim support services to victim-survivors of human trafficking across North Carolina.
Total victims served year to date	45
AGENCY: Legal Aid of North Carolina	
Location:	319 Chapanoke Road, Suite 104 Raleigh, NC 27603. Legal Aid of NC serves residents across the state of North Carolina in all 100 counties.
Award Amount:	\$200,000
Description or program initiatives:	Legal Aid of North Carolina's Immigration Pathways for Victims (IMMPAV) seeks to assist immigrant victims through direct legal advocacy, community education, and collaboration with other service providers. These initiatives will help victims remove legal barriers to achieve stability in their lives, reunite with their families, and prevent future victimization.
Total victims served year to date	140
AGENCY: A Safe Place	
Location:	821 Princess St. Suite 100 Wilmington, NC 28401. A Safe Place supports victims of trafficking in Southeastern North Carolina, the state of North Carolina, and throughout the United States. Direct Services and Outreach efforts are focused within the Southeastern North Carolina region also known as the Cape Fear Region.
Award Amount:	\$199,900
Description or program initiatives:	A Safe Place is seeking funding to support two initiatives, a residential program that provides comprehensive support services and its outreach efforts to increase victim identification and community awareness.
Total victims served year to date	93



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AGENCY: Pisgah Legal Services	
Location:	62A Charlotte Street, Asheville, NC 28801. Pisgah Legal Services serves 18 counties in Western North Carolina.
Award Amount:	\$91,931.73
Description or program initiatives:	Pisgah Legal Services helps survivors of human trafficking address their civil legal needs, including immigration status, domestic violence protection orders, child custody, housing, public benefits, name changes, expungements, and tax assistance.
Total victims served year to date	16
AGENCY: Present Age Ministries, Inc	
Location:	5701 Executive Center Drive; Suite 108 Charlotte, NC 28262. Present Age serves the Charlotte Metro Area.
Award Amount:	\$208,686.98
Description or program initiatives:	Present Age's initiatives are to include trauma-informed therapy to treat PTSD and other mental health disorders, educational support and advocacy, a safe place to live, medical intervention, pregnancy care and support, relational support and education, court advocacy and mentoring. Their most pressing need is to hire 2 additional Case Managers.
Total victims served year to date	74
AGENCY: On Eagles Wings	
Location:	300 McGill Avenue NW, Ste 100, Concord, NC 28027-6150. On Eagles Wings support sexually exploited and trafficked children/youth/young adults from all 100 counties through our residential restoration program and community-based services.
Award Amount:	\$200,000
Description or program initiatives:	This grant will support two new homes for young, trafficked mothers by providing case management, peer support and professional survivor advocacy services. In addition, it will provide continuation funding to help ensure sustainability of the existing OEW Hope House® safe, stable housing, transportation, and trauma-informed therapeutic interventions for girls ages 18-25 and community-based services for sexually exploited and trafficked children and youth ages 6-25.
Total victims served year to date	50



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AGENCY: True Justice, Inc.	
Location:	409 Metcalf Street New Bern, NC 28560. True Justice serves survivors across eastern North Carolina. Their main focus is in Craven, Onslow, Carteret, Pamlico, Jones, Lenior, Pender, and Duplin. However, they take referrals from all over the state.
Award Amount:	\$175,090.84
Description or program initiatives:	True Justice goal is to increase the number of survivors receiving services through our restoration home and outreach programs by 25%. Through collaboration with Onslow County, the Rapid Response team, and strategic local and statewide partnerships, survivors will receive comprehensive, holistic support.
Total victims served year to date	104
AGENCY: The Hundred Movement, Inc	
Location:	9 Sheppard Branch Rd. Weaverville, NC 28787. The Hundred Movement serves survivors of sex trafficking across the state of North Carolina. While they are based out of the Ashville area, our telehealth platform allows mental health and case management services to be delivered to anyone in the state.
Award Amount:	\$189,932
Description or program initiatives:	Funding will help the Hundred Movement continue to provide free individual and group counseling services to primary and secondary survivors of trafficking.
Total victims served year to date	22
AGENCY: Designed For Joy	
Location:	517 West Cabarrus St Suite A, Raleigh, NC 27603. Designed For Joy serves women located in Raleigh, NC, and surrounding areas. Counties served include Wake, Johnston, and Durham counties.
Award Amount:	\$200,000
Description or program initiatives:	Designed For Joy' goal is to expand their audience reach by 20% through 2024 with outreach and awareness efforts to educate the community on the ongoing need for safe, living wage work for vulnerable women.
Total victims served year to date	23



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AGENCY: Wayne Pregnancy Care Center, Inc	
Location:	3501 E. Ash Street, Goldsboro, NC 27533. Wayne Pregnancy Center serves the entire state of North Carolina as well as address the needs throughout the entire United States.
Award Amount:	\$200,000
Description or program initiatives:	Wayne Pregnancy Center goal is to find safe housing/ placement for survivors and implement a care plan that can restore their life. Also, to assist survivors in their healing allowing them to become self-sufficient once they have graduated from the program or leave to acquire life on their own.
Total victims served year to date	85

AGENCY: Florence Crittenton Service, Inc.	
Location:	3350 Holabird Ln. Charlotte, NC 28208. Crittenton serves young women from across North Carolina, however, most of the clients we serve are from Mecklenburg and surrounding counties.
Award Amount:	\$150,000
Description or program initiatives:	Florence Crittenton initiatives are to expand human trafficking education and prevention training for clients, staff, and community members. Another initiative is to improve case management services for clients who have experienced human trafficking and those at risk of becoming trafficking victims to ensure they have the documentation, education, employment, housing, and social services they need to be independent and safe once they leave the program.
Total victims served year to date	27





CONCLUSION

The Appropriations Committee has played a pivotal role in effectively facilitating the disbursement of section 16.21 funds within the parameters established. Both in-person and virtual scoring options were made available to the reviewers. The scoring process spanned from October 23, 2023 to November 7, 2023.

The Appropriations Committee convened meetings on August 28, 2023, October 9, 2023, and November 20, 2023 for planning, training, and reviewing the competitive grant process. All Committee meetings follow public meeting law and members of the public are encouraged to listen in or watch virtually.

As we transition into Round 2, the purpose of the funding is directed towards developing, strengthening, or expanding human trafficking victim service programs to mitigate the increased risk of human trafficking. As part of the Request for Proposal (RFP) process, an informational webinar was conducted on January 30, 2024 elucidated the application and risk assessment process, ensuring prospective applicants are well-prepared in Round 2. The webinar attracted 50 attendees from 35 agencies. The Round 2 application time period was extended by the Appropriations Committee from 30 days to 60 days in order to encourage more agencies to apply, and to allow ample time for the preparation of stronger applications.

The next Appropriations Committee meeting is scheduled for March 4, 2024 and will address preparations for Round 2 application scoring and other Human Trafficking Commission grant topics thereby advancing the ongoing efforts against human trafficking.

The total reported amount of victims served were reported in grantees original application, first quarter reports showing reported victims served with this grant is due April 10, 2024.

Report Prepared By:
Kathy Estrada, Grants Administrator
NC Human Trafficking Commission
Kathy.I.Estrada@nccourts.org