



September 12th – *Human Trafficking in Minnesota: The Role of Local Leaders*

NOTES

- A. 8:00 – 8:05 am: Welcome & Opening Remarks, Marylee Abrams, RCLLG President and Mayor of Maplewood, Minnesota
- B. 8:05 am – 8:45 am Presentation – *Human Trafficking in Minnesota: The Role of Local Leaders*, Ashley N. Moore, Executive Director of C.A.S.T. - Citizens Against Sex Trafficking
 - a. So often exploitation starts with “I didn’t know” – didn’t know how to leave a relationship, how to ask for help, what a healthy relationship looks like, etc.
 - b. Sexual exploitation is causing harm sexually (for gain, such as power, popularity, or acceptance). Seeing an increase due to internet safety issues.
 - c. The Twin Cities is 1 of 13 of the largest cases in US history of 11-14 years old trafficking – over 4,600 students.
 - d. The Anti-Trafficking Movement includes 1. Prevention, 2. Intervention, and 3. Restoration. C.A.S.T. specializes in prevention. C.A.S.T. does not work with victims.
 - e. C.A.S.T. educates the public. They present their program “Power Over Predators” at schools. They provide an online training custom tailored to sexual exploitation awareness and response training.
 - f. In 2024-2025, 154 “Power Over Predator” presentations were given, reaching almost 5,000 students.
 - g. **How can RCLLG members help?**
 - i. Invite C.A.S.T. to give this presentation to your schools, board members, or parent focus groups.
 - ii. Attend the [October 2 free expert panel](#) during the C.A.S.T. Community Awareness Event at NorthRidge Fellowship.
 - iii. If you have kids, bring up internet safety in conversations. Understand which platforms they use – identify the focus areas.
 - h. **Q & A**
 - i. What should cities be looking for when processing business licenses and what can we be doing as part of our processes to help prevent issuing a license to someone who is using it for trafficking? (Massage Licenses and Personal Services Licenses specifically but also in general)
 - 1. Begin identifying any red flags in networks or systems. Has someone opened or shut down multiple businesses in a 3-6 month window?
 - ii. Does C.A.S.T. advocate at the legislative level?

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<https://fusionlp.org/rcllg/>

1. C.A.S.T. does not currently advocate at the legislative level. Ashley, personally, wrote her thesis on laws regarding prostitution legislation passed in Europe that could benefit the U.S.
 - iii. Has CAST worked with media to provide training about language used in coverage?
 1. C.A.S.T hasn't historically worked with media. It gets tricky when creating language to discuss the issue.
 - iv. Does this apply to all ages?
 1. Yes. There is not an age limit, gender limit, population limit, etc. The LGBTQ community is disproportionately impacted. Slightly higher issue in urban areas.
 2. It's important to not think of this issue as 'good kid, bad kid' but recognize this is about the culture we live in. Our communities vary in cultures and C.A.S.T. works to break down barriers to make education meaningful to all groups.
- C. 8:45 am – 9:00 am, Closing Remarks & Attendee Poll