

THE WASHINGTON ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON TRAFFICKING

WHAT IS WASHACT?

WashACT is a multidisciplinary task force convened in 2004 by the United States Attorney's Office for the Western District of Washington (USAO). It is co-chaired by the International Rescue Committee in Seattle (IRC in Seattle), the Seattle Police Department (SPD), and USAO. In addition to these co-chairing agencies, WashACT is made up of around 33 member entities that represent nonprofit organizations, local, state, and federal agencies, and city- and federal-level law enforcement. IRC in Seattle and SPD have received joint Enhanced Collaborative Model grants from the Department of Justice (DOJ) since 2011 to support WashACT's work.

All members come together to work towards WashACT's mission: to ensure that victims of trafficking receive all resources available to them and that human traffickers are identified, investigated, and prosecuted to the utmost extent of the law.

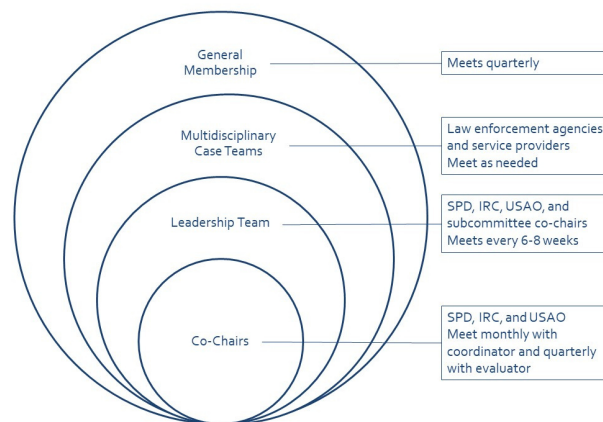
WHAT DOES WASHACT DO?

WashACT members collaborate regularly with one another to:

- Share information on the issue of human trafficking, discuss developments in the field, and increase awareness of resources for survivors.
- Identify and remedy gaps in services for survivors.
- Coordinate the investigation and prosecution of trafficking cases.

WashACT members tackle the issues above through scheduled WashACT general and subcommittee meetings as well as outside of the formal task force setting thanks to relationships forged by participating in WashACT activities.

HOW IS WASHACT STRUCTURED?



WASHACT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Nine successive years of Enhanced Collaborative Model grant funding from DOJ to support the progress being made in Washington to meet the needs of human trafficking survivors.
- Collaboration among partners to investigate 175 potential cases of trafficking since 2004.
- Identifying and providing services to over 650 survivors of trafficking since 2004 through the Washington Anti-Trafficking Response Network.
- A 100 percent conviction rate in 19 trafficking-related cases handled by USAO in 2015-2017. The cases involved 57 victims of trafficking.
- SPD opening over 200 new trafficking cases since 2015.
- Regular technical assistance to task forces and agencies across the country on how to successfully collaborate and serve trafficking survivors.

CONTACT INFORMATION

- For WashACT information, contact the task force coordinator at Vanessa.Hunsberger@rescue.org.
- For information about SPD's response to labor trafficking, call the Criminal Intelligence & Analysis Section at (206) 684-8770.
- For information about SPD's response to sex trafficking, call the High Risk Victims Section at (206) 684-8660.
- Contact Assistant US Attorney for the Western District of Washington Kate Crisham at (206) 553-8451.
- Contact the Washington Anti-Trafficking Response Network's victim assistance line at (206) 245-0782.

This handout was produced by WashACT under grant no. 2018-VT-BX-K050, awarded by the Office for Victims of Crime, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this handout are those of the contributors and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice.



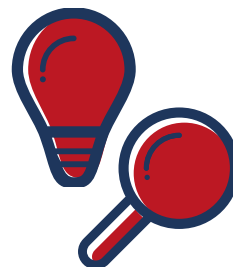


HOW TO JOIN THE WASHINGTON ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON TRAFFICKING

Info Session

Attend to learn more about WashACT members' collaborative work and trauma-informed approach.

STEP
01



STEP
02

Apply

Fill out a brief application explaining your professional interest in joining WashACT.

Approval

WashACT Co-Chairs review and approve your request to join the task force .

STEP
03



STEP
04

MOU

Sign an MOU that sets out participation expectations.

Participate!

Collaborate with WashACT to address trafficking.

STEP
05

