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Contact: Jerica Stewart
614-620-2127
Jerica.stewart@med.ohio.gov

State Medical Board of Ohio Joins Ohio's Human Trafficking Task Force

The State Medical Board of Ohio is honored to have been included in Governor DeWine's expansion of Ohio's [Human Trafficking Task Force](#).

On January 29, 2021, Governor DeWine signed [Executive Order 2021-02D](#), which increases the number of collaborating agencies in the task force and seeks to pursue fresh strategies to combat human trafficking in Ohio. The task force was established in 2012 and is a division of the Ohio Department of Public Safety's Office of Criminal Justice Services.

In addition to the Medical Board, four other agencies were added to the task force:

- Ohio Department of Commerce
- Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities
- Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction
- Ohio Department of Transportation

The Medical Board is invested in the fight against human trafficking in Ohio. The board's investigators partner with state and federal agencies, including the Ohio Department of Public Safety, law enforcement, city attorneys, code enforcement, fire departments, and prosecutors to provide education and assist in investigations of human trafficking. Additionally, the board provides education to our more than 90,000 licensees so they can be equipped to recognize the signs of human trafficking during their patient encounters and then take action. It is important for licensees to understand trafficking indicators and know how to manage these interactions in a clinical setting.

"The Medical Board plays an important role in our state's fight against both sex trafficking and labor trafficking" said Stephanie Loucka, Executive Director. "We are excited to join this important initiative, to share our experiences in education of our licensees and to continue our partnership with fellow state agencies and law enforcement, as well as learn from taskforce partners how we can be even more engaged in the fight."

Click [here](#) to view the board's human trafficking awareness videos.

If you or someone you know is a victim of human trafficking, help is available by calling 888-373-7888 or by texting INFO or HELP to 233733.

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