



# NEW MEXICO WOMEN'S AGENDA

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## Background:

- 2008: SB71 created the offense of trafficking and provided for victims' services--passed unanimously and signed into law.
- 2013: HB 304 pushed for more State services and victims' protections, added human trafficking to list of enumerated crimes covered by Crime Victims Reparation--passed and was signed.
- 2013: HB 556 Coercion for Prostitution Under 18, would have provided that minors engaged in prostitution be considered victims and be provided a victim advocate(Safe Harbor)--did not pass. Concern about how that legislation would affect minors getting services
- 2014: Task Force authorized to consider the question of safe harbor and services
- 2015: Task Force reauthorized
- \$125,000 funding for services for victims of human trafficking was appropriated to Crime Victims Reparation Commission in this year's budget

Needs identified by the task force:

### Victim Needs: Short term

Emergency housing not in DV shelters  
Crisis intervention 30-90 days  
Emergency cell phone  
Statewide shelters  
Drop-in shelters for youth  
Culturally appropriate services

### Long Term

transitional housing  
education, GED  
clothing  
Medical, prescription meds  
Change in environment

Infrastructure needs: training for counselors to recognize HT victims and make referrals

Behavioral Health, transition to different environment after treatment

Training for other service providers to recognize victims and know resources available

Legal resources separate from prosecutor or law enforcement, esp for undocumented

### Issues:

- Ability for counselors to make referrals, not just law enforcement. Involves law for CVRC and training and education for counselors.
- Services for victims even if they don't cooperate with law enforcement
- Can give letter of support to health care and BH providers that they will be paid for providing emergency services. MOU with hotels to support temporary housing
- Emergency fund that does not rely on state procedures
- Reporting of numbers of victims