NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE SEX TRAFFICKING OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH IN THE UNITED STATES

March 23, 2021

TO: Members of the National Governors Association

Members of the National Association of Public Child Welfare Administrators

Members of the National Indian Child Welfare Association

CC: JooYeun Chang, Acting Assistant Secretary for Children and Families (HHS)

Debra Johnson, Deputy Assistant Secretary for External Affairs (HHS)

Aysha E. Schomburg, Associate Commissioner of the Children's Bureau (HHS)

Michelle Sauve, Acting Commissioner, Administration for Native Americans (HHS)

Katherine Chon, Director, Office on Trafficking in Persons (HHS); Designated Federal Officer

Stacie B. Harris, Associate Deputy Attorney General & National Coordinator for Child

Exploitation & Human Trafficking (DOJ)

Katherine Darke Schmitt, Acting Director, Office for Victims of Crime (DOJ)

Dear Colleagues:

The <u>National Advisory Committee on the Sex Trafficking of Children and Youth in the United States</u> was established on January 18, 2017, through the Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act of 2014 (P.L. 113-183). The Committee advises the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the Attorney General on policies to improve the Nation's response to the sex trafficking of children and youth in the United States.

Following the release of the Committee's interim report, <u>Best Practices and Recommendations to States</u>, the Committee requests that each state assess the extent to which they have worked to address the sex trafficking of children and youth by completing the <u>NAC Recommendations and State Self-Assessment Survey</u>.

To inform their assessment and complete the survey, each state should identify one point of contact who will coordinate with their state's human trafficking task forces and coalitions, child welfare, law enforcement, service providers, tribal leaders, and other relevant groups. After states provide their survey responses, the Committee will publish a final report describing the efforts of each state to implement their recommendations.

State Self-Assessment Survey responses are due to the Committee three months from the date of this notice. Should a state need additional time to complete the survey, contact the Committee at NAC@nhttac.org.

While completion of the survey is voluntary, the Committee encourages states to take this opportunity to showcase their innovative and successful work and to identify areas where additional resources are needed to address the sex trafficking of children and youth. The Committee recognizes the challenges of the last year due to the COVID-19 pandemic and encourages states to request technical assistance,

NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE SEX TRAFFICKING OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH IN THE UNITED STATES

resources, and support as they complete the survey.

For questions about the survey, technical assistance requests, or extension requests, email NAC@nhttac.org or Lauren.Devine@acf.hhs.gov. Survey instructions and answers to frequently asked questions are available on the Committee's website. If your state has not provided the Committee with the point of contact who will complete the survey, email NAC@nhttac.org.

On behalf of all of the members of the National Advisory Committee, we are grateful for your ongoing partnership in our collective work to improve the Nation's response to the sex trafficking of children and youth.

Sincerely,

Glen (JR) Ujifusa

Chairperson