

TAT COALITION BUILDS CLOSING LOOPHOLES TO TRAFFICKERS



www.TruckersAgainstTrafficking.org

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Mission

A coalition strives to bring together critical stakeholders to accomplish a single mission. TAT's coalition builds do just that, by gathering law enforcement and members of the truck and bus industries to work together to close loopholes to traffickers, who exploit victims and legitimate businesses for criminal gain. The primary goal of a TAT coalition build is to establish an effective and sustainable working relationship between the trucking and busing industries and law enforcement statewide, in order to combat the crime of human trafficking. This is done through our short-term and long-term goals. Much of the short-term impact is seen immediately following the meeting, evidenced through the results of the survey and shown below under "same-day impact." The long-term impact is the result of follow up done two months after the meeting. TAT firmly believes that these meetings have far-reaching impact, not only in building strong coalitions between trucking and law enforcement agencies across the United States, but in ultimately saving lives.



Short-term goals:

1. Gather leaders from various law enforcement departments, including representatives from the Department of Public Safety and the Department of Transportation, as well as county sheriff's offices, in the same room with representatives/executives of local trucking companies, busing companies and truck stop or bus terminal owners and managers.
2. Offer an initial training on human trafficking to all participants at the meeting, as well as offer concrete pathways and strategies for law enforcement and members of the trucking and busing industries to work together to combat it.
3. Introduce truck stop and bus terminal owners and general managers to their local law enforcement officers in order to establish a local contact protocol through the contact list.
4. Motivate more trucking and busing companies to train drivers as a result of the build.
5. Motivate truck stops and busing terminals to train employees and become points of distribution for TAT and BOTL materials.
6. Provide victim-centered law enforcement training on human trafficking by local law enforcement leaders and a survivor-leader sharing her story.
7. Promote a change in verbiage and mentality in both industries from "prostitute" to victim.

Long-term goals:

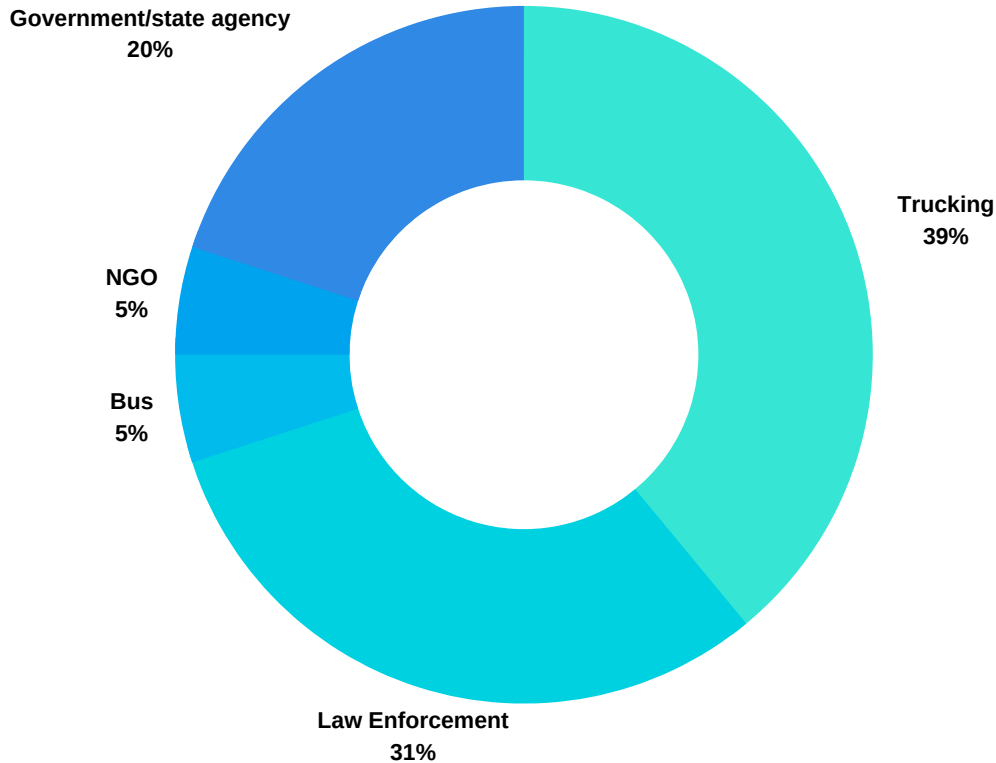
1. Utilize TAT and BOTL materials in ongoing, in-state trainings for both law enforcement agencies and industry members.
2. Chart increase in calls/reports into the hotline.
3. Equip local or statewide anti-trafficking task forces with industry stakeholders.
4. Assist in undercover investigations conducted between law enforcement agencies and industry stakeholders.
5. Aid in the adoption of the Iowa MVE model statewide.
6. Mandate TAT and BOTL training at the CDL entry-level.





Goal #1

Gather leaders from trucking, busing and truck stop industries with law enforcement agencies for a half-day training.



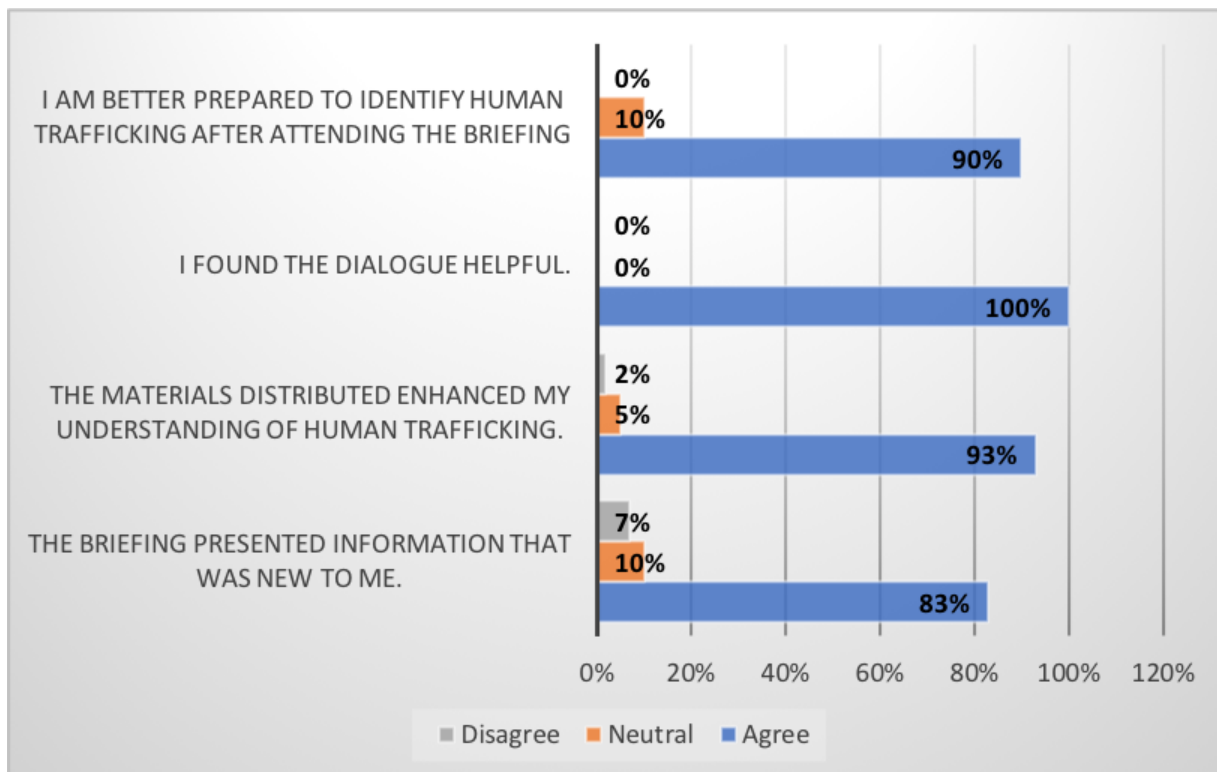
There were 65 participants at the meeting, and the following results are based off the survey gathered, which **65%** of participants completed.





Goal #2

Offer human trafficking training to all participants, as well as offer concrete pathways and strategies for law enforcement and members of the trucking and busing industries to work together to combat it.



93% of respondents said they know what next steps to take in order to combat human trafficking.

98% of respondents said presenters were knowledgeable and approachable.

100% of respondents said the briefing was a good use of their time.



Goal #3

Motivate more trucking and busing companies to train drivers as a result of the build.

- May Trucking Company has now registered and trained drivers at six terminals across the country.
- Western Transport Logistics had already been training their drivers but became registered as a TAT Trained company.
- Salt River Materials Group is now TAT Trained and registered.
- TU Simple purchased 15 large TAT stickers to place on their trucks, have trained their drivers with TAT materials and have made it clear that they will continue to share the TAT message with others in the industry and make introductions for TAT, where available.
- The Arizona Rock Products Association has raised awareness about Truckers Against Trafficking and hosted a holiday luncheon fundraiser on behalf of Truckers Against Trafficking's "Everyday Heroes Truck" presented by Inland Kenworth.
- Empire Southwest plans to train employees with TAT training materials in February.

Goal #4

Motivate truck stops and busing terminals to train employees and become points of distribution for TAT and BOTL materials.

- A general manager who attended the coalition build has passed the information on to her staff as well as other folks in her network.



During her welcoming remarks, Cindy McCain shared her own personal story of seeing TAT in action for the first time. While gassing up at a truck stop, she saw two young girls and their pimp. As she put back the gas pump in order to go in and inform the manager (and call the police), she heard a big voice behind her say, "I got this. I'm a Trucker Against Trafficking!"



Goal #5 & 6:

Provide victim-centered law enforcement training on human trafficking by local law enforcement leaders and a survivor-leader sharing her story. Promote a change in verbiage and mentality in both industries from “prostitute” to victim.

Here is what respondents said about the presentation by TAT field trainers:

“The survivor’s presentation was informative, and she made it clear that anyone can be a victim of human trafficking, and there is no stereotype.”



100%

100%

100% of respondents agreed that hearing the survivor speak was powerful.

“Her story is powerful on many levels. It could have been my story. Troubled youth, traveling by bus ... I had all the signs a trafficker is looking for in a victim. I was approached and being ushered out of the door before my inner alarm to retreat kicked in. I saved myself, but I know so many are not lucky. Thank you for sharing your story!”

“I always looked at these people as wanting to be there and not wanting anything more. Now I realize that is not the real situation. I see things so much more clearly now. Thank you for being brave enough to continue to do this.”

“I like when she said, ‘Help the victim. Do not arrest them.’ It’s important to inform children about trafficking, so it doesn’t happen to them.”

“It truly was an eye opener. Thank you for allowing her to share her story.”

“The survivor’s talk was very powerful and struck a cord with me and my agency head that we really need to ramp up our investigations and training.”





Here are just a few things that attendees had to say about the training:

"I am impressed by the collaborative cooperation between departments to continue battling the scourge that is trafficking."

"Thank you, Esther. It was really a wonderful training, and I commend you for all of your hard, dedicated work in this area. Much thanks to all you do and to TAT!"

"Lots of knowledge and such good information."

"Everyone was interesting and they were all strong contributors to the program."

"Case study discussion was excellent."

"I am committed to changing the culture within my office and beyond to educate everyone on how others can be part of the solution."

"These meetings should be held at all truck stops and all employees trained in this field."

"Good information and practical application steps."

"Great presentation with all the right stakeholders."

"May all your efforts continue to grow and be super successful. I was glad to attend today!"

"Glad our industry is attacking this evil."

100%

of respondents said they would recommend attending a briefing like this to others in their field.



Long-term impact in Arizona

Utilize TAT and BOTL materials in ongoing, in-state trainings for both law enforcement agencies and industry members.

- The Arizona Department of Public Safety's Special Enforcement Bureau for Student Transportation and Commercial Vehicle Enforcement distributed BOTL materials at the National School Bus Safety Week events in mid-October, with the three largest school districts (Phoenix, Tucson and Flagstaff) present. As a result, transportation directors in 3 Arizona schools have reached out to BOTL about incorporating the training.
- The Arizona Transit Association is incorporating elements of the coalition build into their annual conference. The BOTL Program Director will be the keynote speaker, followed by a survivor testimony and a law enforcement panel. Panelists will include the Arizona Department of Transportation and the Phoenix Police Department, who presented at the Phoenix coalition build.

Aid in the adoption of the Iowa MVE model statewide.

- The Arizona Department of Transportation will be showing TAT's law enforcement training video to all DOT employees, including all port-of-entry officers.
- The Arizona Department of Transportation is now stocking all 14 ports of entry across the state with TAT training materials.





Final summary

The coalition build in Arizona was an exciting event, with stakeholders from around the state coming to learn how to work together to combat human trafficking. Leaders from trucking, busing, truck stop, law enforcement and state agencies gathered for a half-day training and networking. Cindy McCain honored attendees with her welcoming remarks and heartfelt thanks to all the folks out on the front lines making calls and saving lives. At the event, TAT was able to begin a partnership with the Arizona Department of Transportation, which will adopt the Iowa MVE model, partner with BOTL for future industry training events and use TAT's law enforcement video to train all DOT employees and officers in the state of Arizona. Key members from the Arizona Transit Association were extremely impressed with TAT and BOTL and are making strides to use their influence to reach more in the transit industry, both in the state of Arizona and across the nation. Additionally, TAT board members were able to attend the meeting, see the coalition build in action and become re-energized for promoting TAT's mission.

