

TAT COALITION BUILDS CLOSING LOOPHOLES TO TRAFFICKERS



www.TruckersAgainstTrafficking.org

Truckers Against Trafficking Coalition Build Report: Casper, WY June 27, 2017

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 trucking industry 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 industry 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 one month, three months and six 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 and truck stop 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 industry to work together to combat it.
3. Introduce truck stop 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 companies to train drivers as a result of the build.
5. Motivate truck stops to train employees and become points of distribution for TAT 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.

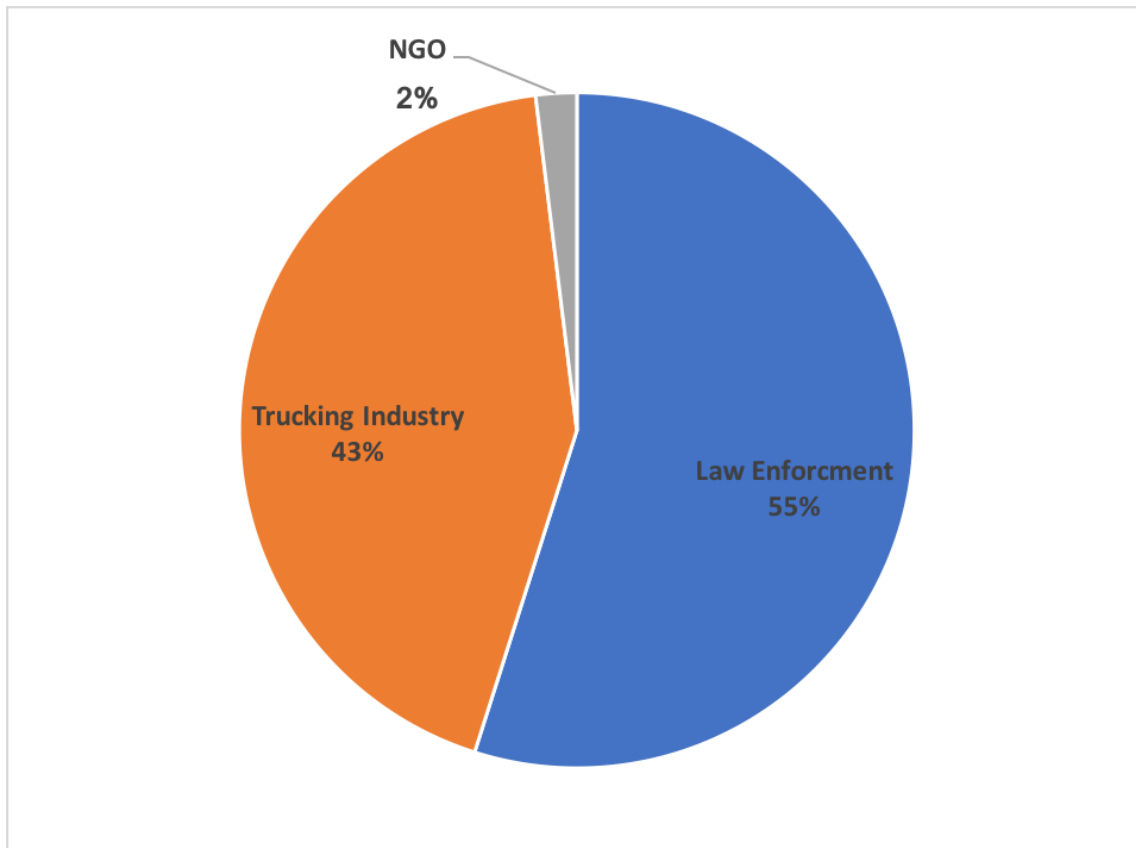
Long-term goals:

1. Utilize TAT 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 training at the CDL entry-level.

Same-day impact:

Goal #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 and truck stop owners and managers.

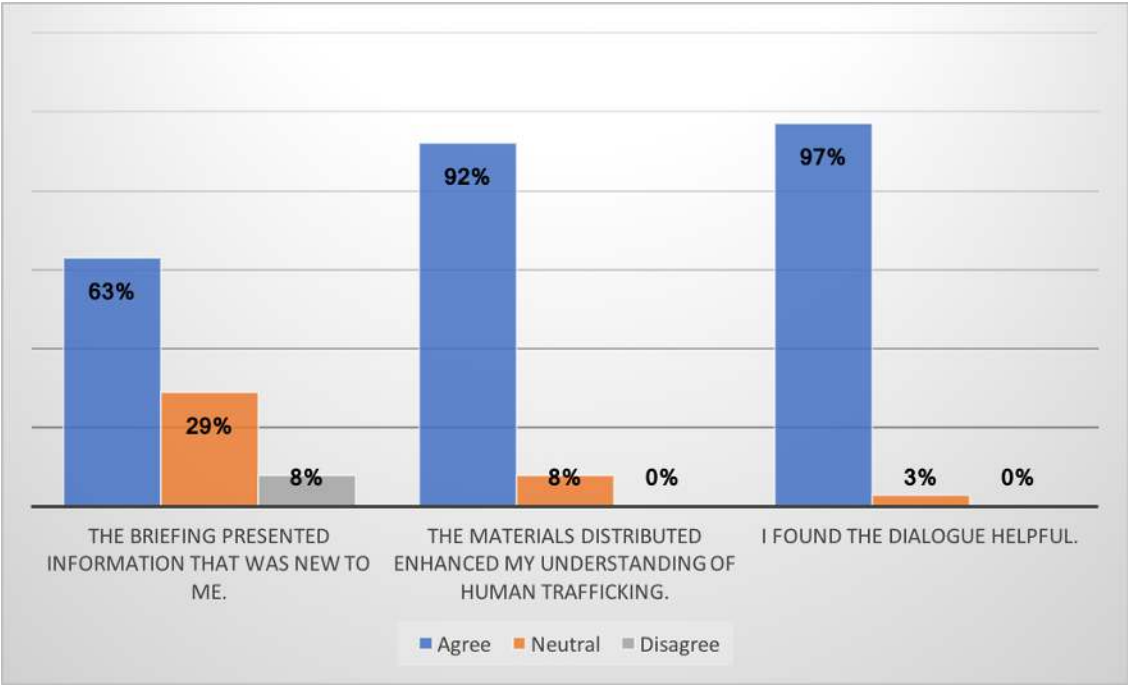
TAT co-hosted this coalition build with the Wyoming Trucking Association, Homeland Security Investigations and the Wyoming Attorney General's Office. There were sixteen representatives from local truck stops, six trucking industry stakeholders, five police departments, two sheriff's offices. The following results are based off the survey gathered the day of the meeting, which 75% of participants completed.



66% of respondents said they were able to connect with pertinent members of the trucking industry.

82% said they were able to connect with pertinent law enforcement in the room.

Goal #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 industry to work together to combat it.



100% of respondents said they know what next steps to take in order to combat human trafficking.

100% of respondents said presenters were knowledgeable and approachable.

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

100% of respondents said they would recommend attending a briefing like this to others in their field.

92% of respondents said they are better prepared to identify human trafficking after attending this briefing.

Here is what attendees had to say about the meeting:

"This was a very good motivation and reminder to be more involved. Thanks!"

"Great information."

"Good presentations."

"Great job! Keeping going."

"I believe we need to educate the people working at travel plazas. I had no idea how big this was, and a lot of the signs I never knew were signs."

"Keep up the great work you are doing!"

Goal #3 Motivate more trucking companies to train drivers as a result of the build.

- Wyoming Food Bank of the Rockies has trained all 14 drivers and is now registered as TAT trained. They have also added TAT window decals to all their tractors. The operation's director from the Wyoming Food Bank of the Rockies said:

"My team fully supports TAT and has watched the training video several times."

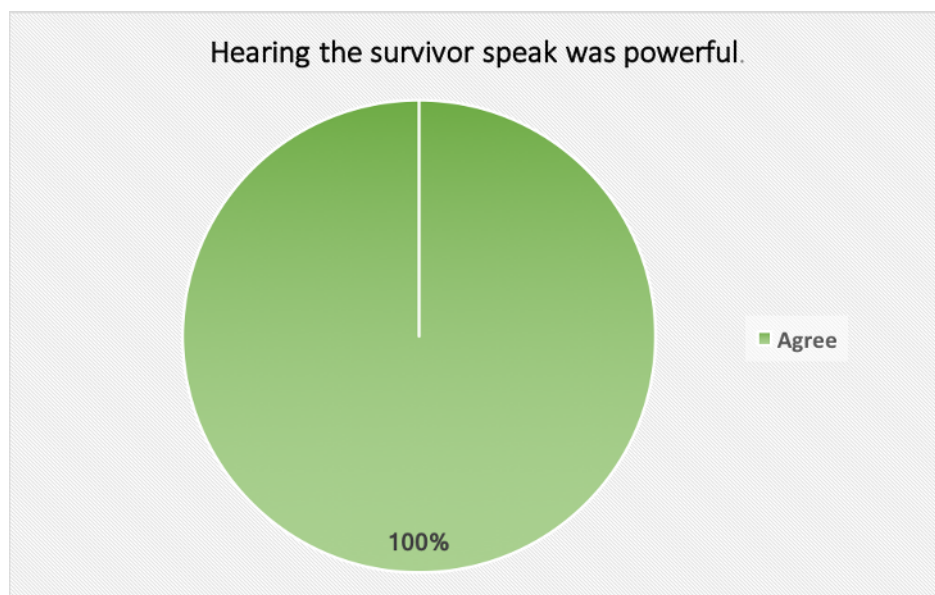
- The Wyoming Trucking Association discussed TAT at their next board meeting in July, and there was interest for additional training. They have received positive feedback from those who attended.

Goal #4: Motivate truck stops to train employees and become points of distribution for TAT materials.

- Hat Six Travel Center attended the coalition build and has now trained all 27 employees with TAT materials. They have also become points of distribution for TAT materials.
- A Travel Centers of America general manager had an employee meeting after the coalition build, presenting the TAT information to all her employees.
- One general manager trained his 11 employees after the coalition build. That location saw a young woman come in with a man who was in possession of her ID. The woman was quiet, which alerted employees to this situation. The general manager called the National Hotline to report this potential trafficking case.

Goals #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.

While a cultural shift in how prostituted people are viewed is not easily quantified, it is a critical piece of these meetings. From the HT 101 training to the presentation from a survivor's perspective to the law enforcement training, all aspects of the day are geared towards promoting a victim-centered approach and the belief that every person has a part to play in ensuring that more lives are saved.



Here is what respondents had to say about the presentation by Beth Jacobs:

"Having a survivor speak made the presentation more meaningful! Beth is an amazing person!"

"Beth did a remarkable job. Thank you for opening my eyes to how simply this can happen to anyone. I admire your strength and courage. Thank you for making a difference."

"She was amazing!"

"Puts a face and a voice to the issue. We all have loved ones that this could happen to and real descriptions make you angry but really make you want to be part of the solution."

“This was powerful and helps us get perspective from first-hand knowledge.”

“Thank you for sharing your story, it is very helpful to hear a survivor perspective.”

“Understanding from the perspective of a victim, the way it affects them and how they are not in control, was very helpful.”

“Very insightful and informative. Thanks for sharing.”

Long-term impact and assessment:

The following results are based on follow-up conducted one month after the meeting. Another follow-up will be done in three months and six months, and the report will be periodically updated.

Goal #1. Utilize TAT materials in ongoing, in-state trainings for both law enforcement agencies and industry members.

- A sergeant from Sheridan Police Department is planning a training conference for the whole police department. He will be inviting truck stop and gas stations employees in his area to educate them about human trafficking and encourage them to call law enforcement if they see anything. He will be utilizing TAT training materials for this conference.
- A lieutenant from Sheridan Police Department has visited five truck stops in his jurisdiction with TAT materials.
- Another lieutenant with the Sheridan Police Department has trained twenty-five other law enforcement officers with TAT’s training DVD and visited five truck stops with TAT materials.
- A senior criminal investigator with the Wyoming Livestock Board law enforcement unit has shared TAT’s law enforcement video with others on the board as well as with a neighboring chief of police.
- The entire office of the Wyoming Department of Corrections was shown the TAT training videos and provided wallet cards and other TAT training materials. This prompted an office discussion about signs that someone may be trafficked and how to recognize those signs.
- A DOC agent that attended the coalition build hosted a large craft fair during the eclipse and put TAT posters up inside the port-a-pottys in the hopes of reaching potential victims.

- A lieutenant with Mills Police Department has shared the TAT law enforcement training video with seven other officers in his department as well as visited truck stops in his jurisdiction with TAT materials.

Goal #5: Aid in the adoption of the Iowa MVE model statewide.

- The Wyoming Highway Patrol has stocked all weigh stations, ports of entry, and rest areas with TAT materials. In addition, they have trained 195 troopers and 85 port-of-entry officers with TAT's law enforcement video.

Assessment:

The Casper coalition build was well attended, with good representation from both law enforcement and the trucking industry. Many law enforcement attendees were very energized and activated by TAT's message and materials, including highway patrol. As a result, we are seeing major portions of the Iowa MVE model adopted in Wyoming. One law enforcement officer said at the meeting that he decided to clear his schedule for the day and stay for the remainder of the meeting, because he was so impressed with the caliber of training. He asked about having TAT out to train the rest of his officers. In addition to law enforcement visiting truck stops in their area, hosting trainings and passing on TAT's law enforcement training video to other nearby departments, we have also gained a valuable local truck stop partner. As follow-ups continue, we hope to collect data on more calls being made to report human trafficking.

Follow-Up Goals:

1. More trucking companies in Wyoming to become TAT trained through direct follow-up and by working with the Wyoming Trucking Association.
2. An uptick in calls to the National Hotline by truck stops who attended the meeting.
3. Working with WHP as they collect data on human trafficking cases that come through weigh stations, ports of entry and interdiction stops.