



Human Trafficking
in **AMERICA'S SCHOOLS**



Human Trafficking Webinar Series - Effective Engagement of Individuals with Lived Experience

Wednesday, January 26, 2022 | 3:00 – 4:15 PM ET
SPEAKER BIOS

Ruth Ryder

Deputy Assistant Secretary, Office of Policy and Programs, U.S. Department of Education
Ms. Ruth Ryder is the Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Office of Policy and Programs – Formula Grants in the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education (OESE) at the U.S. Department of Education. In this role, Ms. Ryder oversees a broad range of management, policy, and program functions related to formula and discretionary grant programs under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESEA). Ms. Ryder was previously the deputy director of the Office of Special Education Programs in the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, which she joined in 1988. Prior to joining the Department, Ms. Ryder was a program administrator in a Washington state school district. There she had responsibility for the Elementary and Secondary Education Act Title 1 and Title II programs, state-remediation, gifted education, outcome-based education, and state- and district-wide testing programs. Ms. Ryder has a Bachelor's degree in Psychology and Elementary Education and a Master's degree in Special Education.

Kimberly Casey

Prevention and Communications Specialist, Office on Trafficking in Persons, U.S.
Department of Health and Human Services

Ms. Kimberly Casey is the Communications and Prevention Specialist at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office on Trafficking in Persons. Ms. Casey has over 14 years of experience in program leadership with specific expertise in child sexual exploitation, human trafficking, and violence prevention and protection within marginalized populations. Through her work, Ms. Casey has advised schools, federal and state agencies, and nonprofit organizations on the implementation of effective prevention and identification strategies. She has a Master's of Public Policy from George Mason University and studied international organizations and human rights at the University of Fribourg in Switzerland.

Bella Hounakey

Former Member, U.S. Advisory Council on Human Trafficking

Ms. Bella Hounakey is an advocate of anti-trafficking initiatives. Ms. Hounakey served as a member of the White House Advisory Council on human trafficking where she provided recommendations to the federal government on improving trafficking initiatives. Ms. Hounakey received her Bachelor and Master's degrees from Western Michigan University.

Judge Robert Lung

Former Council Chair, U.S. Advisory Council on Human Trafficking

Judge Robert Lung currently serves as a District Court Judge in Colorado. He also provides presentations nationally and internationally on issues such as human trafficking, childhood trauma, and resiliency. Judge Lung lectured at St. Thomas University College of Law in 2021 on Human Rights Lawyering and he previously served as the Chair of the U.S. Advisory Council on Human Trafficking. He also currently serves on the National Advisory Committee on the Sex Trafficking of Children and Youth in the United States and provides consultation to several different Federal agencies, Shared Hope International, and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. In his "free time" Judge Lung works on writing his first book, a biography about hope and resiliency, and he endeavors to keep up with his two adopted sons in hiking and downhill mountain biking.

Suamhirs Piraino-Guzman

Former Member, U.S. Advisory Council on Human Trafficking

Mr. Suamhirs Piraino-Guzman oversees King County's largest publicly funded behavioral health initiative, the Mental Illness and Drug Dependency Tax Fund at the King County Department of Community and Human Services. Mr. Piraino-Guzman graduated from the University of California San Diego with a Master's Degree in Psychology. As a male survivor and an expert in behavioral psychology, Mr. Piraino-Guzman has been an active consultant for the Department of Justice Office for Victims of Crime, a subject matter expert Consultant for the Department of Health and Human Services National Human Trafficking Training and Technical Assistant Center, and the International Association of Human Trafficking Investigators, and is a member of the National Council for Community Behavioral Health.

Suleman Masood

Council Chair, U.S. Advisory Council on Human Trafficking

Mr. Suleman Masood is a subject matter expert on domestic labor trafficking and male victimization. Since 2013, his advocacy experience allowed him to work extensively with state and federal government agencies and non-profit organizations. Mr. Masood's expertise includes collaborating with victim service providers and task forces on advocating for ways to improve the quality of services for trafficking survivors. Mr. Masood currently serves as Council Chair for the United States Advisory Council on Human Trafficking. Through Mr. Masood's leadership, the Advisory Council provides recommendations on federal anti-trafficking policies to the President's Interagency Task Force to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons (PITF).

Mr. Masood graduated magna cum laude with a degree in Criminology/Victimology from Fresno State University and currently attends the University of the District of Columbia – David A. Clarke School of Law, where he aspires to create meaningful change within the criminal justice system.