

Timeline of evolution of HAC-HT and special advisor position

August 2012

Mayor Annise Parker creates **Human Trafficking Task Force** to develop community-based strategies to raise awareness. Chair serves in a volunteer capacity.

September 2013

Task Force, City, and partners launch “**Shine a Light on Human Trafficking Campaign**” to raise awareness through a one-day event that included city-wide gatherings and a live broadcast program at City Hall.

June 2014

Mayor Parker, Governor Rick Perry, and partners launch the “**Texans United Against Human Trafficking**” media campaign to increase tips to the National Human Trafficking Resource Center.

March 2015

Official reorganization of Task Force into **Houston Area Council on Human Trafficking (HAC-HT)**.

June 2015

Appointment of **Special Advisor to the Mayor on Human Trafficking** to address trafficking at the municipal-level from a policy perspective. Special Advisor also serves as Chair of HAC-HT.

December 2015

City Council unanimously passes **revised massage establishment** ordinance, expanding the definition of a massage establishment to include those that advertise massage services and making it easier for the Houston Police Department to obtain a warrant.

2012 - 2013

Task Force creates **Project Management Plan** to 1) increase awareness, 2) enable City to effectively prevent and respond to human trafficking, and 3) increase inter-agency collaboration.

November 2013

City of Houston creates **Human Trafficking Unit** within the Vice Division of the Houston Police Department to investigate sex trafficking.

January 2015

Approval received from Mayor to reorganize the Task Force in order to strategically double its membership and align itself with the 4Ps outlined in the United Nations’ Palermo Protocol: Prevention, Protection, Prosecution, and Partnerships.

May 2015

Creation of www.humantraffickinghouston.org to connect victims and interested residents to community resources and services.

October 2015

City of Houston holds “**Up the Ante Human Trafficking Symposium**,” bringing together internationally recognized experts and advocates to discuss the state of human trafficking from an international, national, local, and survivor perspective and reflect on lessons learned to help formulate policy.

May 2016

Mayor Sylvester Turner and partners unveil **first phase of the City of Houston’s Anti-Human Trafficking Strategic Plan**, dubbed by the Polaris Project as the nation’s first comprehensive municipal-level response to human trafficking.