

The Conference Report for the Coordination on Anti-Human Trafficking of New Taipei City Government for the First Half Year of 2021

I. Preventive Promotion Campaign

1. Police Department

To enhance the awareness of the danger of human trafficking for potential victims such as foreign workers or minors, the department collaborated with Thailand Trade and Economic Office to held a labor exploitation prevention promotion campaign for foreign workers in Shulin District on April 9 in 2021.

2. Labor Affairs Department

(1) Promoting by combining foreign workers culture with leisure activity

The department distributes the pamphlet about prevention of human trafficking for inbound and outbound passengers (foreign workers) at the airports.

(2) Promoting the rule of law for construction companies employing foreign labors

The labor inspectors hold campaign to promote the rule of law for construction companies and other related contractors. In addition, they also distribute pamphlets about how to inspect ID of foreigners and remind those companies of access control in prevention of the presence of undocumented foreign labors at construction sites. 5 campaigns were held from January to June in 2021.

3. Social Welfare Department

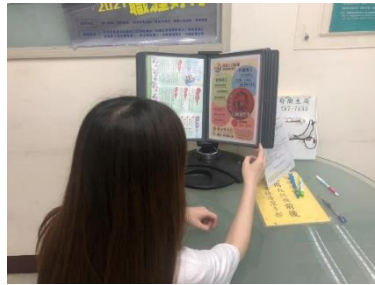
The department promoted issues on anti-human trafficking with flyers or items in meetings and events.

4. Department of Health

(1) Print promotion

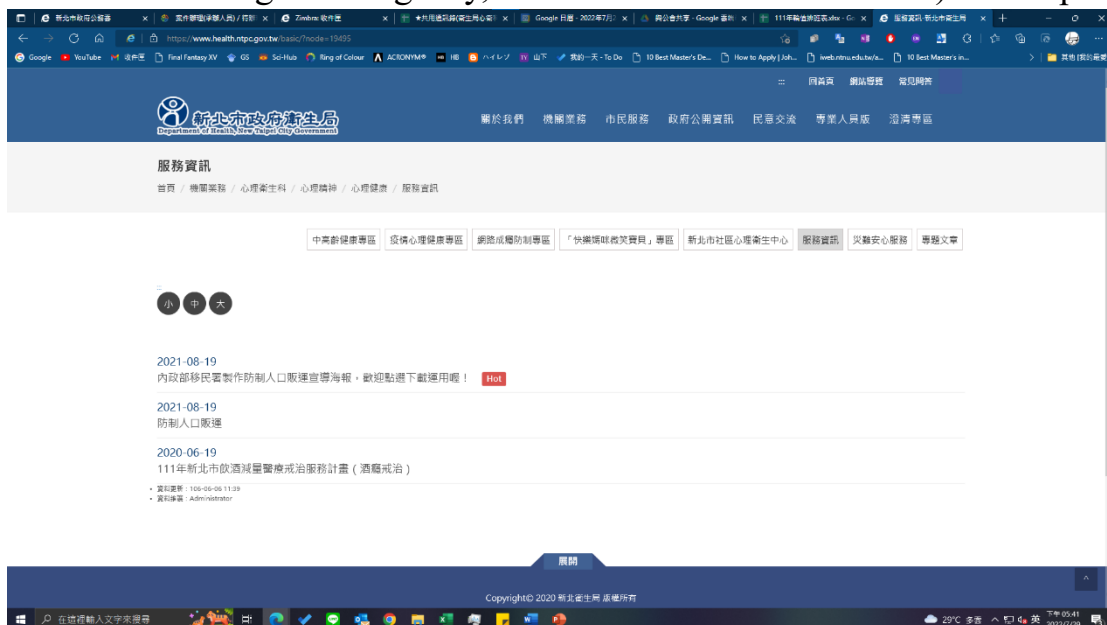
Putting up posters and placing pamphlets at the service counter and tables

for the public.



(2) On-line promotion

Putting up e-posters, videos, and the link of same issue (provided by National Immigration Agency, hereinafter referred to as NIA) for the public.



(3) Providing the advertisement materials of “Let’s work together to combat human trafficking” for 53 hospitals and 29 district health stations.



II. Resettlement and Providing Shelters

1. Labor Affairs Department

(1) Resettlement mechanism

The department arranges resettlement service for the victims and suspected victims referred by the judicial and police agencies; the department also

reports to the Ministry of Labor to activate resettlement project.

(2) Establishment of Service Center and Shelter for Foreign workers for resettlement

Since the establishment of the shelter center in 2009, it has been handled through labor affairs entrustment. The center is equipped with Vietnamese, Indonesian, and English-speaking life counselors to provide resettlement services for victims and suspected victims of human trafficking. In addition, in order to maintain the quality of service, some inspectors visit the center on a monthly basis to inspect and record. In 2021, 14 victims had been resettled by the end of June.

(3) Collaboration with other organizations to assist in resettlement

In addition to the shelter center, we also collaborate with other NGOs to provide resettlement services and subsidizes resettlement organizations to resettle foreigners for accommodation, economic, interpretation, and medical expenses. 4 victims had been resettled from January of June in 2021.

(4) Providing victim-related services

In addition to providing accommodation for victims, we also assist them in being present with victims during police questioning, applying for temporary stay permits, work permits, escorting them to medical treatment, changing employers, psychological counseling, returning services, and legal assistance. In addition, in order to make good use of the resettlement period and enhance the victim's ability to adapt and work in Taiwan, we arrange life-learning courses for victims, such as language courses (Mandarin Chinese and Taiwanese Hokkien), culinary courses, and tailoring courses.

(5) Victims follow-up mechanism

Since most cases will not appear in investigative court during the resettlement period, when the resettlement ends, those cases will be included in the follow-up mechanism and be provided with services, such as being present with victims to appear in court, interpretation services,

extension of residence permits, and return services.

2. Social Welfare Department

(1) Minor victims with citizenship

A. The social workers of the Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Prevention Center are on duty all days to be summoned and present with victims during police questioning. The center is also equipped with an independent resettlement emergency and short-term shelter unit to provide at least one year follow-up and counseling services for returning home cases to protect the rights of minor victims of sexual exploitation.

B. From January to June in 2021, we had resettled 12 cases in emergency, assisting in being present with 50 cases during police questioning, and following up 135 cases.

(2) Adult victims with citizenship

In response to public requests for help or notifications from judicial and police agencies, we have our staffs present with victims during police questioning, ensure their personal safety, and provide them with medical treatment, interpretation, legal, psychological counseling, economic or other necessary assistance based on their conditions.

3. Department of Health

The department has relevant procedures for taking care of victims of human trafficking, including injury assessment, screening and psychological counseling services, etc.

III. Cases Investigating and Solving

1. Cases solved in 2021

The department had solved 2 cases of sexual exploitation and 5 cases of labor exploitation, including 9 suspects transferred for prosecution and 11 victims rescued from January to June in 2021.

2. Case study - Labor exploitation of Indonesian foreign workers was cracked by

the Xinzhuang Police Precinct.

- (1) The suspects, Tsai and other two, had recruited undocumented foreign workers through his Indonesian girlfriend and controlled them, forced them to work, and deducted their payment for “agent fee” since June, 2020, committing the crime of labor exploitation.
- (2) The Xinzhuang Police Precinct worked with the NIA New Taipei City Specialized Operation Brigades and requested the prosecutor Qiu of the New Taipei District Prosecutors Office to oversee the investigation. They raided the suspect's residence to search and seize relevant criminal evidence on March 30, 2021. The entire case was transferred to the New Taipei District Prosecutor's Office afterwards on May 10, 2021.

IV. Partnership

1. Labor Affairs Department

(1) Interpretation service and presence during police questioning

The department has set up the interpreter database with 82 interpreters in four languages. This database is accessible to police agencies to request interpreters be present with victims in making statements during police questioning and in appearing in court for interpretation. In addition, to assist victims in fully making statements and exercising their rights, if necessary, the labor department will contact social workers from NGOs to be present with victims during police questioning.

(2) Resettlement

In addition to resettlement services provided by Service Center and Shelter for Foreign workers, the labor department also collaborates with other non-governmental organizations to provide resettlement and protection measures for victims, including the Taiwan International Workers Association, Serve the People Association, Hsinchu Migrants and Immigrants Service Center, Hope Workers' Center, Indonesian Economic and Trade Office to Taipei, and Vietnamese Migrant and Immigrant Office.

(3) Coordination meeting about management of foreign workers

The department holds this coordination meeting and have relevant governmental agencies and non-governmental organizations present to discuss about foreign workers' affairs and problems of human trafficking victims. These governmental agencies include Social Welfare Department, Department of Health, and Police Department of New Taipei City as well as NIA field brigade, and non-governmental organizations include Vietnamese Migrant and Immigrant Office, Garden of Hope Foundation, Hsinchu Migrants and Immigrants Service Center, Taiwan International Workers Association, Hope Workers' Center, and Serve the People Association. In 2021, the meetings were canceled due to the impact of COVID-19 pandemic.

2. Department of Health

The department coordinated with hospitals within New Taipei City to organize continuing trainings for professionals in domestic violence and sexual assault to have them familiarize themselves with various handling procedures, reporting obligation and regulations and to effectively use the limited time to provide complete and professional diagnosis and treatment services. Due to the impact of COVID-19 pandemic this year, the department planned to hold 12 sessions in October and November in 2021.

3. Education Department

- (1) The department continues to collaborate with the New Taipei Branch of the Legal Aid Foundation to organize law lecture of human rights and rule of law, and issues on human trafficking are also included in the criminal law section of the lecture. In the first half of 2021, 79 law lecture sessions and 3 relevant topic sessions have been held, with the attendance of 269 teachers and students in total; however, some sessions were canceled due to the impact of COVID-19 pandemic.
- (2) The department requires all teachers and staff in schools at all levels within New Taipei City to participate in educational training related to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) at least once a year, especially

to focus on the general principles of the Convention, including the prohibition of discrimination, prioritization of children's best interests, rights to life, survival and development rights, etc.

4. Tourism and Travel Department

- (1) The department put up e-posters of anti-human trafficking in the section of announcement and administrative promotion on the official website for the public and hotel entrepreneurs.
- (2) The department put up promoting materials of anti-human trafficking (provided by NIA, Tourism Bureau of Ministry of Transportation and Communication, and New Taipei City Police Department) in the section of hotel safety promotion on the official website for the public and hotel entrepreneurs.

V. Other Improvements or Innovative Measures

1. Police Department

- (1) To manage inspections on hot spots where foreigners are likely to gather and loiter

The foreign affairs division of the department required police precincts to manage inspections on hot spots where foreigners are likely to gather and loiter periodically, such as spa and massage places, Southeast Asian food restaurants, as well as factories. The department also distributes pamphlets of anti-human trafficking to foreign workers, new residents, and employers of foreign workers.

- (2) To increase prosecution rate by requesting prosecutors to direct investigation
- The department invites prosecutors to address precinct police officers (including foreign affairs, criminal investigation, and frontline officers) and share their practical experience in human trafficking investigation. All police precincts are encouraged to request prosecutors to direct investigation when detecting human trafficking cases so that they can clarify all details and secure evidence initially to increase the prosecution

rate.

2. Labor Affairs Department

(1) High-risk workplace care action plan for foreign workers

In order to protect the rights and interests of foreign workers, the department continues to follow up and counsel through telephone and receives complaints from foreign workers who used to suffer from sexual harassment, sexual assault, personal injury in the workplace and those who had been forced to receive assignments not authorized within their work permit.

(2) Training Program for Bilingual Interpreters in Psychological Counseling

The department also requested professional team in psychological counseling to conduct training programs for bilingual interpreters to master counseling, which can help the interpreters to notice the needs of human trafficking victims if they have suffered physically and mentally and to report to other relevant agencies or organization to intervene in time.

3. Department of Health

(1) Work Shop of Study on Juvenile's Internet Addiction and Convention on the Rights of the Child

The department collaborated with Bali Psychiatric Center, Ministry of Health and Welfare to hold "Work Shop of Study on Juvenile's Internet Addiction and Convention on the Rights of the Child" to train teachers in junior and elementary schools and medical personnel in the front line with anti-human trafficking ideas. This workshop aimed to improve the caring work both of physical and mental health of children and juvenile in New Taipei City. In 2021, the workshop was held in November.

(2) The department has collaborated with the education department to hold an esports competition (New Taipei E-sports Overlord in Health Star Alliance Online) in 2021. The questions of the competition included health care concepts. All participants may could the correct knowledge of health and medical care during the competition. Among them, mental health (including

issues on anti-human trafficking) questions were answered for a total of 64,753 times, and up to 84.32% of answers to those questions were correct.