DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

Meeting of the National Advisory Council for Healthcare Research and Quality

AGENCY: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), HHS.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: In accordance with its statutory mandate, the Council is to advise the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services and the Director of AHRQ on matters related to AHRQ’s conduct of its mission including providing guidance on (A) priorities for health care research, (B) the field of health care research including training needs and information dissemination on health care quality and (C) the role of the Agency in light of private sector activity and opportunities for public-private partnerships.

DATES: The meeting will be held on Thursday, November 15, 2018, from 8:30 a.m. to 2:45 p.m.

ADDRESS: The meeting will be held at AHRQ, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, Maryland, 20857.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jaime Zimmerman, Designated Management Official, at the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, 5600 Fishers Lane, Mail Stop 06E37A, Rockville, Maryland 20857, (301) 427–1456. For press-related information, please contact Karen Migdail at (301) 427–1855 or Karen.Migdail@ahrq.hhs.gov.

If sign language interpretation or other reasonable accommodation for a disability is needed, please contact the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Office of Equal Employment Opportunity and Diversity Management on (301) 827–4840, no later than Thursday, November 1, 2018. The agenda, roster, and minutes will be available from Ms. Bonnie Campbell, Committee Management Officer, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, Maryland 20857. Ms. Campbell’s phone number is (301) 427–1554.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Purpose

In accordance with section 10(a) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. 2, this notice announces a meeting of the National Advisory Council for Healthcare Research and Quality. The National Advisory Council for Healthcare Research and Quality is authorized by Section 941 of the Public Health Service Act, 42 U.S.C. 299c. In accordance with its statutory mandate, the Council is to advise the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services and the Director of AHRQ on matters related to AHRQ’s conduct of its mission including providing guidance on (A) priorities for health care research, (B) the field of health care research including training needs and information dissemination on health care quality and (C) the role of the Agency in light of private sector activity and opportunities for public-private partnerships. The Council is composed of members of the public, appointed by the Secretary, and Federal ex-officio members specified in the authorizing legislation.

II. Agenda

On Thursday, November 15, 2018, the Council meeting will convene at 8:30 a.m., with the call to order by the Council Chair and approval of previous Council summary notes. The meeting is open to the public and will be available via webcast at www.webconferences.com/ahrq. The meeting will begin with an update on AHRQ’s budget, programs and initiatives. The agenda will also include updates on AHRQ Data, Analytics, and Insights and AHRQ’s Support of Secretary Priorities including, opioids, value, and drug pricing. The final agenda will be available on the AHRQ website at www.AHRQ.gov no later than Thursday, November 8, 2018.

Francis D. Chesley, Jr., Acting Deputy Director.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Administration for Children and Families

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

Title: Information Collection for HHS Certification of Foreign Adult Victims of Human Trafficking.

OMB No.: 0970–0454.

Description: The Trafficking Victims Protection Act, Public Law 106–396 (TVPA) requires the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to certify adult alien ("foreign") victims of severe forms of trafficking in persons ("human trafficking") who are willing to assist law enforcement in the investigation and prosecution of human trafficking, unless unable to cooperate due to physical or psychological trauma, and who have either made a bona fide application for T nonimmigrant status that has not been denied or been granted Continued Presence (CP) from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS). The Office on Trafficking in Persons (OTIP) within the HHS Administration for Children and Families issues HHS Adult Certification Letters that grant adult foreign victims of human trafficking eligibility for federal and state benefits and services to the same extent as refugees.

In general, OTIP initiates the certification process when it receives a notice from DHS that DHS has granted a foreign victim of trafficking CP or T nonimmigrant status, or has determined an application for T nonimmigrant status is bona fide. To issue HHS Adult Certification Letters, it is necessary for OTIP to collect information from a victim, or a victim’s representative, such as an attorney, case manager, or law enforcement victim specialist, including an address to send the HHS Certification Letter.

OTIP will ask if the victim is in need of a case management services and the current location (city, state) of the victim, and refer the victim to an appropriate service provider in his or her area, if requested. OTIP will also ask about the victim’s primary language and urgent concerns, such as medical care or housing, and transmit this information to the service provider with the victim’s consent.

Finally, OTIP reports information on victim certification to provide to Congress in an annual report on U.S. Government activities to combat trafficking that is prepared by the U.S. Department of Justice. Congress requires HHS and other appropriate Federal agencies to report information on the number of persons who received benefits or other services under subsections (b) and (f) of section 7105 of Title 22 of the U.S. Code in connection with programs or activities funded or administered by HHS. HHS may include in these annual reports additional aggregate information that it collects about the victims when assisting each victim to obtain HHS Certification.

OTIP developed the form to facilitate the submission of consistent information and improve program reporting. The trafficking victim or his or her representative may submit the completed form, which we recommend be done via password-protected email or encryption, to OTIP for the purpose of issuing a Certification. OTIP will store this information in OTIP’s secure database for no longer than 10 years, at