

Kyle Kessler  
KVC Behavioral HealthCare  
President



Bruce Linhos  
Executive Director

Community Agencies Serving Children and Families

---

627 S.W. Topeka Blvd. Topeka, Kansas 66603  
(785) 235-KIDS fax: (785) 235-8697 e-mail: blinhos@childally.org  
Website: www.childally.org

House Corrections and Juvenile Justice Committee

March 7, 2013

Hearing on SB 61

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in **support of SB 61**. This bill is an important step in acknowledging the increasing concern and impact in our state of human trafficking. Because of the work of the Attorney General and a committee he put together, the bill provides critical and essential steps in reducing the incidence of human trafficking and providing needed interventions for victims, many of whom are children.

The Children's Alliance, as the association of private non-profit child welfare agencies in Kansas, represents a diverse network of services to strengthen and support families and provide necessary interventions to children and families in crisis. Consequently, our member agencies see first hand the damage inflicted on young people who have become the victims of trafficking. We agree that laws regarding this crime need to be strengthened and modified and support the manner that reflects the work of the Senate committee. Specifically, we applaud and support the creation of a fund that not only will educate law enforcement and individuals about the crime itself, but also provides needed services and assistance to the victims of this crime.

Please know that the Children's Alliance stands ready to support the efforts this legislation would provide to reduce the incidence and impact of human trafficking. Thank you for this opportunity for input.

Bruce Linhos  
Executive Director