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### Speaker's Disclosure

Dr. Raquel Vargas-Whale has no relevant financial relationship with ineligible companies to disclose.



# CARE Team Driscoll Children's Hospital

361-694-2273 (CARE)

### Objectives

- Explore the scope worldwide and locally
- Discuss common myths
- Definition & types of human trafficking (HT)
- Identify indicators and warning signs of trafficking involvement (criminal activity)
- Review HT of minors
- Familiarize yourselves with resources available

### Americas Daughters

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aTAVZChvLR4



<u>www.polarisproject.org/americasdaughters</u>. Produced and Directed by: William Caballero and Kate Keisel.

### Federal Anti-Trafficking Laws

#### **Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000**

- 1st comprehensive federal law to address trafficking (3 -pronged approach: prevention, protection, and prosecution)
- Reauthorized through the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act (TVPRA) of 2003, 2005, 2008, 2013, and 2017.

Under U.S. federal law, "severe forms of trafficking in persons" includes both sex trafficking and labor trafficking:

#### Labor trafficking

• Is the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purposes of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery, (22 USC § 7102).

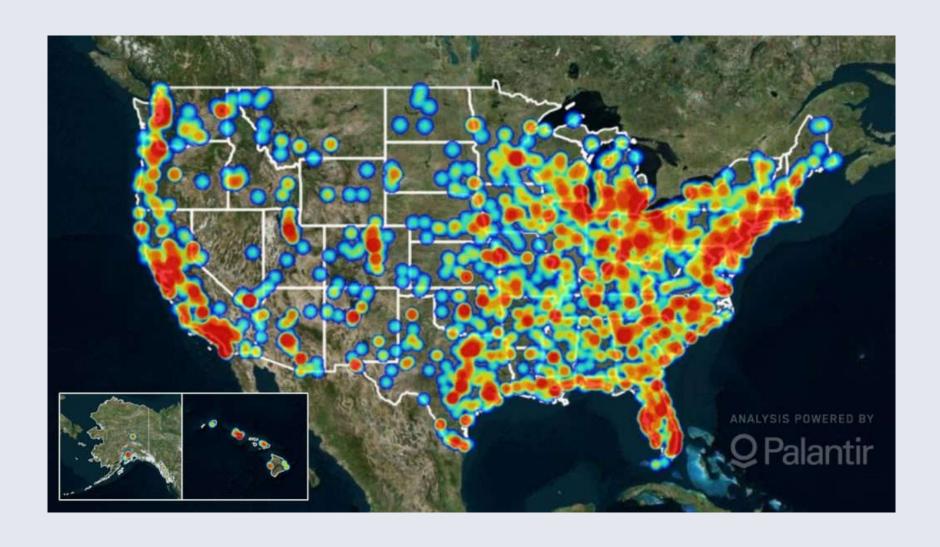
#### Sex trafficking

• is the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, obtaining, patronizing, or soliciting of a person for the purposes of a commercial sex act, in which the commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such an act has not attained 18 years of age (22 USC § 7102).

### SCOPE OF THE PROBLEM

- Globally, estimated 28 million individuals are victims of HT.
- In 2016, on any given day in the US, between 14,500 and 17,500 people are victims of HT.
- 81 percent of them are trapped in forced labor
- 25 percent of them are children
- 75 percent are women and girls

### Polaris Project 2019 US map

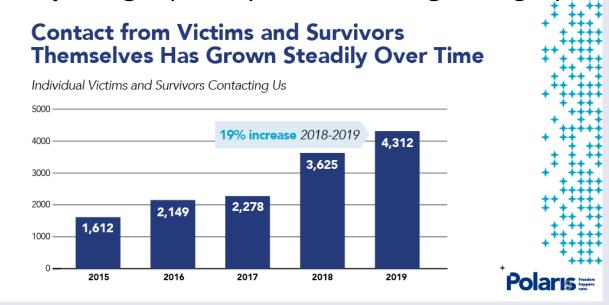


### Scope Nationally

Statistics from the National HT Hotline and Polaris BeFree Textline show:

- 2021: 32,709 phone calls, 11,256 texts, 3,490 online tips, 2,802 emails,
   816 webchats
- Number in the U.S. increases every year
- The number of texting conversations on the Polaris BeFree Textline from survivors are steadily rising especially in the underage category





#### Human trafficking is profoundly adaptable.

Shut down one venue and traffickers will find a new one. Wherever there are vulnerable people and communities, there will be someone who finds a way to exploit them.

# 2021



Online recruitment increased a significant 22%. During the lockdowns, as the proportion of victims from common recruitment sites such as strip clubs (-46%), foster homes (-70%) and schools (-38%) went down drastically, the internet was reported as the top recruitment location for all forms of trafficking.



Most notably, the analysis found a significant increase in the proportion of potential victims for whom Facebook and Instagram were the sites for recruitment into trafficking (120%). There was a 125% increase in reports of recruitment on Facebook over the previous year and a 95% increase on Instagram.

### Scope in Texas

- 234,000 Victims of <u>labor</u> <u>trafficking</u> in Texas any given time
- 79,000 Victims of youth and minor <u>sex trafficking</u> in Texas at any given time



Global Estimates of Modern Slavery: Forced Labor and Force Marriage, International Labor Organization, Walk Free Foundation, and the International Organization for Migration (2017)

Busch-Armendariz, N.B., Nale, N.L. Kammer-Kerwick, M., Kellison, B., M.I.M., Cook Heffon, L., Nehme, J. (2016). Human Trafficking by the Numbers: The Initial Benchmark of Prevalence and Economic Impact for Texas. Austin, TX: Institute on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, the University of Texas at Austin.

### Data limitations

Data on identified victims of trafficking depends on a range of factors:

- Whether <u>counter trafficking organizations</u> are operational or able to consistently collect or share data in any given country/location.
- Presence of large quantities of human trafficking data may not necessarily indicate higher prevalence.
- Paucity of data may be due a lack of effective counter-trafficking responses, the profiles and experiences of the victims, the forms of human trafficking, and information on perpetrators.

### Data limitations



- Difficulty identifying victims (hidden nature of the crime and the use of the Internet by traffickers
- Lack of understanding of domestic HT
- Inadequate services
- Safety concerns.
- Identified cases are better understood as a sample of the unidentified population of victims
- Nevertheless, where available, these data are indispensable, as they provide detailed insight into the profiles and experiences of the victims, the forms of human trafficking, and information on perpetrators.

### Common Myths



Myth: We live in a slavery free world

**Truth:** more enslaved today than during Transatlantic Slave Trade. 25 million people worldwide, another 15 million in forced marriages. (See International Labor Organization 2017 report)

Myth: This doesn't happen here

Truth: in cities and towns all across Texas

Myth: Traffickers target victims they don't know

**Truth:** Many trafficked by romantic partners, including spouses, and by family members, including parents

### Common Myths



Myth: It's always or usually a violent crime

**Truth:** most traffickers use psychological means (tricking, defrauding, manipulating or threatening)

Myth: Only women and girls are trafficked

**Truth:** as many as half are male. **Advocates believe percentage may be even higher** but that male victims are far less likely to be identified. LGBTQIA+ boys and young men are seen as particularly vulnerable to trafficking

### Common Myths



**Myth:** Trafficking is a crime about movement, immigration, 18-wheelers and truck stops, crossing international or state borders

#### **Truth:**

**Smuggling** is a distinct crime. Entering a country without appropriate documentation (by paying or crossing). Requires transport & movement from one country to another, and both the person coming in without permission and the person bringing them are committing a crime

**Trafficking** does not require movement. You can be trafficked in your own home, your own country, by a fellow citizen. Only the trafficker commits a crime exploiting for forced labor or sex

# Further Define Human Trafficking

- Modern-day slavery: traffickers profit from the control and exploitation
- Adults & children used as commodities in conditions of sexual and labor servitude; occurs wherever there is work
- **Highly profitable global criminal enterprise**, generating billions of dollars in annual profits
- Operates in the dynamics of supply and demand
- Tactics used by recruiters, traffickers and their associates are often same as used by abusers and can mirror dynamics of Domestic Violence/Intimate Partner Violence



# People Are Trafficked For Many Kinds Of Work, Involuntary Servitude, And Sexual Exploitation

- Debt Bondage (22 U.S.C. 7102 (7)).
- Sex Industry
- Domestic Labor
- Agricultural Work





- Restaurant Work
- Factory Labor
- Commercial Sex Acts\*

any sex act on account of which anything of value is given to or received by any person, (22 U.S.C. 7102 (4)).

Construction

### Trafficked Persons Are:

Female

**Labor Trafficked** 

**Adults** 

Youth/minors



**US Citizens** 

Foreign nationals

Transgender

Sex Trafficked

Male

### Who is the Trafficker?

No one in particular. Anyone. People who are willing to treat other people like objects or commodities they can buy, sell, or exploit for their own benefit

This week Esmerelda Garza, of Corpus Christi, was convicted of three counts of selling or purchasing a child.



(credit: Nueces County Jail)

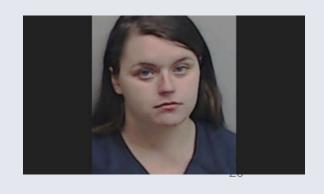
Officials had been executing a drug warrant when they found a been sold for \$2,500. It was then they learned that two girls, a time, were also in the process of being sold.

Garza, who was also convicted of money laundering and const purchase a child, accepted a plea deal of six years for selling he years for the other charges. The sentences will run concurrent

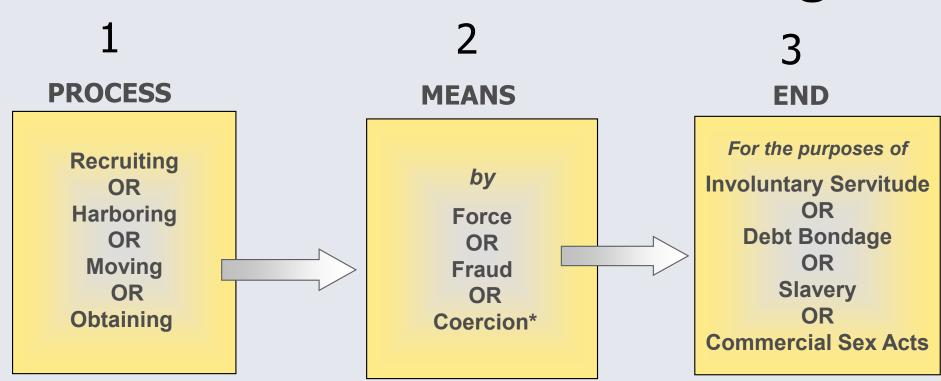




- All races, genders
- Family members
- Peers
- Employers
- Gang and cartel
- Strip club owners/managers
- Intimate partners
- Neighbors and friends
- Online acquaintances



## Elements Of Human Trafficking



"commercial sex act": any sex act on account of which anything of value is given to or received by any person (22 U.S. Code § 7102) and is different from HT as HT is defined as "the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for the purpose of a commercial sex act, in which the commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion or in which the person induced to perform such act has not attained 18 years of age";

\*Minors involved in "commercial sex" do not need to prove force, fraud, or coercion

# RECRUIMETHOD



#### COMMON METHODS OF RECRUITMENT INCLUDE:



FOOD, CLOTHING, SHELTER





**EXPLOITING POSITION OF AUTHORITY** 



PROMISES OF ROMANCE, LOVE, ACCEPTANCE



**FLATTERY, LIES,** MANIPULATION



OFFERS OF INDEPENDENCE, **LUXURY ITEMS, CASH** 



**EXPLOITING** VULNERABILITY OR DESPERATION



**Traffickers Exploit Vulnerability** And Manipulate

# IDENTIFYING HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN HEALTHCARE SETTINGS



87.8%

of human trafficking survivors reported having contact with a healthcare provider while they were being trafficked.



63.3%

of those who had contact in healthcare settings were treated in an emergency room.

Lederer, L., Wetzel, C. (2014). The Health Consequences of Sex Trafficking and Their Implications for Identifying Victims in Healthcare Facilities. Annals of Health Law, 23, 61-91.

# Polaris 2019 US National HT Hotline-Data-Report



Health care providers are one of the few professionals likely to interact with trafficked persons while they are still in captivity

This represents a serious missed opportunity for intervention

Health care providers are in a unique position to identify victims of trafficking and provide important physical and psychological care for victims while in captivity and after

### **Human Trafficking**



10 **Red Flags** that Your Patient Could be a Victim



HOSPITALS AGAINST VIOLENCE

- Clinical presentation and oral history don't match up
- Oral history is scripted, memorized or mechanical
- Someone with the patient exerts an unusual amount of control over the visit
- Patient appears fearful, anxious, depressed, submissive, hyper-vigilant or paranoid
- Patient is concerned about being arrested or jailed
- Patient is concerned for his/her family's safety
- Evidence that care has been lacking for prior or existing conditions
- Tattoos or insignia's indicative of ownership
- Occupational-type injuries or physical ailments linked to their work
- Sexually transmitted infections

# Challenges When Interfacing with Trafficked Persons

in the medical setting are:

The hidden nature of the crime

The trafficked person fearing consequences of identifying as victim:

- Retaliation by trafficker especially common are threats made against family members or loved ones
- Fear of deportation (foreign national)

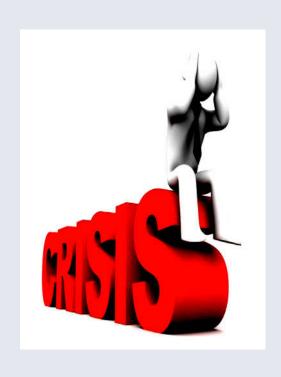
Challenges regarding social services interventions (especially for youth who previously experienced abuse or harassment in home or foster care) such as removal from home or placement into a juvenile facility



# Challenges When Interfacing with Trafficked Persons

- Law Enforcement/Legal: you may be required by law to contact LE.
   This could have real and perceived negative consequences or implications for the trafficked person such as
  - Fear of arrest/Fear of prosecution
  - Fear of incarceration
- Could lead to reticence to seeking needed medical care in the future leading to exacerbation of health conditions
- May raise are how to survive outside of the HT context?
  - Will this action result in homelessness for the patient?
  - Loss of employment, loss of resources?

# Trauma & Situation May Challenge The Medical Assessment



### Trafficked persons may be in:

- In crisis mode
- May have trouble recounting history/details
- May not self-identify as victim
- May have loyalty to trafficker(s)
- May have Cultural/language barriers
- Mistrust of health professionals
- Limited understanding of rights
- Mistrust of "system"

### Opportunities and Strategies

Best Practices For Interfacing With Suspected Trafficked Persons In The Clinical Setting

**Facilitate private conversation** for history taking by following these strategies whenever possible:

- Making time: Schedule enough time to have a thorough discussion. Being rushed minimizes the critical nature of the conversation
- Making space: If accompanied by others, find a way to speak privately. Choose a private, quiet area.
- Eliminate disruptions: Turn off your cell/pager, remove anything from the room that could cause interruption
- Envision the conversation: Take a few minutes beforehand to visualize how the discussion may evolve
- **Get assistance**: Enlist the aid of experienced colleague, Social Worker, or Nurse if appropriate
- Seek Opportunities: during procedures to speak privately with the person (while in radiology, or going to lab to give a sample)

### Opportunities and Strategies

Best Practices For Interfacing With Suspected Trafficked Persons In The Clinical Setting

Implement appropriate interpreters when needed. Easily accessible professional interpreter services have been shown to lead to:

- Fewer communication errors;
- Enhanced patient knowledge and understanding of their diagnosis and treatment (Karliner et al, 2007);
- Increased access to healthcare services;
- Reduced disparity of health-service use by those with No/LEP compared with native speakers (Gill et al, 2009; Diamond et al, 2008; Karliner et al, 2007).

Use same words the patient does. Don't correct them, especially as it refers to their relationships and situation, anatomic references.

Be open to unfamiliar narratives and stories

Use a trauma-informed, non-judgmental approach when interviewing patients (mind your face!)

### Opportunities and Strategies

Best Practices For Interfacing With Suspected Trafficked Persons In The Clinical Setting

Trafficked persons may find themselves in Emergency Department, admitted to hospital, Psychiatric facility, or in outpatient clinic when situation, injury or illness escalates to the point of becoming life-threatening

#### Ask simple, direct questions such as:

- Are you in a personal or work relationship with a person who physically harms or threatens you?
- ➤ You seem to be in a hurry to leave. We are here to help you and it is important that you remain for treatment. What is making you feel anxious to leave right now?
- ➤ Have you been hurt while working/on a job either by someone you work for or with?

### If A Disclosure Is Made (Infrequent)

- Recognize goal is not disclosure or rescue, but create a safe, nonjudgmental scene to help identify HT indicators and assist the patient
- If the patient is a minor/person with a disability, or elderly, <u>follow</u> mandatory state reporting laws and institutional policies
- Information regarding patient's injuries or treatment is accurately documented in health record
- Document findings accurately, without judgement or assumption
  - Document injuries, labs and studies
  - Document evidence collected
  - Document calls or reports to investigative authorities, and referrals for services
  - Document allegations or history verbatim when possible
- While documentation of abuse may be helpful in building a case against a trafficker, information about the victim can also be used against them in a court proceeding

# If Possible Facilitate Safety By:



- Allowing the patient to decide if they would feel more comfortable speaking with a male or female practitioner
- Chaperones use may ben helpful during sensitive exam
- Build rapport, or if you do not have the time, find someone else on staff who can (Use multidisciplinary resources -social workers)
- Explain confidentiality policies and practices, including mandatory reporting laws
- Consider informing security officer to be on standby
- You may contact the National Human Trafficking Hotline for assistance in conducting an assessment and determining next steps

# If Identified Patient Is Not Ready To Accept Your Help...

#### Remember a survivor centered approach is imperative

#### Validate/normalize their feelings:

- Reassure them that they have the choice not to accept your help at that time (if an adult)
- Remember that reporting is <u>mandatory</u> if person is a child, person with a disability or a person who is elderly

#### Provide information:

- Many trafficked persons will seek assistance for their situation when they feel safe and able to do so
- Tell your patient where they can go for help in the future (i.e. return to the clinic)
- Make sure to communicate options verbally since traffickers are likely to destroy written instructions if they are found

### Trafficking of Minors:

What You Need to Know to Recognize and Respond to the Trafficking of Youth



Home > St. Louis jobs > St. Louis show biz/audition

Report Ad

### Looking for inexperienced modeling candidates interested in entering the industry.

Posted: Wednesday, August 16, 2017 3:24 PM

Reply

Calling for those beautiful people interested in working toward a professional career modeling or working events in any of the following mediums:

- Body paint
- Cam Girl
- Cosplay
- Danca

st. louis, mo free classifieds

Home > St. Louis rentals > St. Louis roommates

Report Ad

#### 4br, Very Nice Home with a Room for Rent, Female Only

Posted: Saturday, September 2, 2017 10:34 PM

Reply

I have a room available in my home and the person that i rent to will have full run of the home. I am not there alot and looking for a female that can take care of the home and treat it as there own when im gone. Rent is reduced to \$0.00 for taking care of the home. I am single and not looking to date currently as i am focused on my career and small business and do not want the distraction.that comes with girlfriends. With that being said, if your a single female and were a good fit, it would be Friends with Benefits type of arrangement and the rent will be \$0.00. A little about me so we dont waste each others time and you get a general idea about me. Goal oriented, muscular, fit, intelligent, great cook (atleast i think so, lol..), very neat and clean type of person. SIDE NOTE:if interested I am also looking for someone to head up a new small drone business.

63366 google map | yahoo map

Bedrooms: 4

Gender Preference: Female Only

· Location: Ofallon, Mo, St. Louis

Post ID: 28721128 stlouis

email to friend



Enlarge Picture



**Enlarge Picture** 



**Enlarge Picture** 

ductions focuses on inexperienced Midwest talent interested in gaining experience e participating in paid entry opportunities intended to improve exposure. Models suing a career in this exciting and ever moving industry. Candidates 18 and older so of size, race, experience level or medium of choice. Kaliber will be calling ing auditions on a monthly basis in the following Cities:

## Labor Trafficking Among Adults and Youth

- Domestic work
- Agricultural and husbandry
- Traveling sales crews (magazines / candy)
  - Selling magazines to earn points for...x,y,z
  - Money stays on the books to cover expenses
  - Daily stipend for food (\$10-\$15), 10 14 hour days
- Illegal Drug Distribution

# LABOR TRAFFICKING Situations of labor trafficking: Individual victims and survivors of labor trafficking: 1,236 Agriculture and animal husbandry Top 3 Identified Labor Trafficking Types Domestic work Agriculture and animal husbandry Traveling sales crews Top 3 Identified Labor Trafficking Types Domestic work Agriculture and animal husbandry Traveling sales crews 107

## The Numbers

- In 2020, of the nearly 26,500 missing children reported to NCMEC who have run away, 1 in 6 were likely victims of child sex trafficking
- 16% of the children who ran from the care of social services and were reported missing to NCMEC in 2019, were likely victims of child sex trafficking
  - National Center for Missing and Exploited Children
- The exact number of trafficked youth is unknown due to the data limitation described previously

## Age of Onset



### 12 to 14...

The average age at which **girls** first become victims of \*"proping ion"

11 to 13...

The average age at which boys and transgender youth first become victims of \*"prostit

(\*this is sexual abuse and HT)

### Vulnerabilities

- Economic vulnerability (poverty, lack of education, poor employment opportunities)
- History of systems involvement (child welfare, juvenile justice)
- Prior experiences of abuse (Physical and Sexual) reported by HT survivors
  - In some studies as high as 95% incidence of maltreatment and 49% sexual abuse
- Homelessness/running away
  - 1 in 5 Homeless Youth are Sex Trafficked, 1 in 3 Homeless Youth have engaged in sex trade (survival sex)
  - 91% of Homeless Youth are approached for some type of labor trafficking

## Vulnerabilities

- Age (inexperience, need to belong, self-esteem issues)
- Physical or intellectual disabilities
- History of substance use in the family
- LGBTQIA+ : 39% of youth sex trafficked were LGBTQIA+ with the highest percentage being Transgender
- Lack of a support network, including a trustworthy adult

# Signs Of Human Trafficking Health Care Setting

Recognize that, while HT is believed to disproportionately affect women and girls, it crosses all racial, gender, class, sexual orientation, age, ability, and socioeconomic boundaries



As with many disadvantaged members of society, they may also present with chronic diseases at advanced stages as they are systematically denied access to medical care

## Acute Medical Complaints: Varied And Multifactorial

- Signs of Physical violence untreated injuries, explanations inconsistent with injuries
- Sleep deprivation
- Mental health concerns due to extreme stresses
- Sexual Health concerns
  - Multiple STIs
  - Abortions
  - Evidence of sexual abuse (minors)

- Delayed medical care
- Dental problems-Severe/untreated
- Malnourishment
- Drug or alcohol addiction
- Headaches
- Fatigue
- Abdominal Pain
- Back pain

# Signs Of Human Trafficking/ Effects On Quality Of Life



- Environmental/Situational
- Suspicious employment situation
- Dependence on "friend" or coworker to answer questions
- Abusive relationships
- Verbal/Emotional/ Psychological
- Providing health provider with contradictory information
- Suicidality, depression
- Fearfulness, anxiety, trauma symptoms

## Signs Of Human Trafficking

### **Trauma Indicators:**

- Reactions to disrobing or genitourinary exam (appearing fearful, screaming, sobbing, tensing up as if expecting intense pain, hyperventilating, sweating, fainting, flinching or jerking away from contact
- Sexualized behavior or seductiveness, particularly in a child (seeking inappropriate proximity to nurse or doctor)
- Appearing "checked out", not responding to verbal prompts or name
- Confused, having difficulty paying attention

## Warning Signs (youth)

- Changes in school attendance (truancy), habits, friend groups, vocabulary, demeanor, and attitude
- Chronic running away, Homelessness
- The presence of an older "boyfriend" or "girlfriend", travel with an older male who is not a guardian, references to frequent travel to other cities
- Sudden appearance of "luxury" items (e.g., manicures, designer clothes, refillable gift cards)
- Substance use/addiction
- Isolation from family, friends, and community

## Warning Signs (youth)

- Unusual attachment to cellphone
- Lack of control over schedule, money, and/or proof of identification
- Signs of psychological distress, such as depression, anxiety, paranoia, and/or suicidal ideation
- Signs of psychological coercion, such as an overly submissive attitude or inability to speak for self
- Signs of physical trauma, including bruises, cuts, burns, and/or scars



# Warning Signs (youth)

- "Provocative" clothing, online or stored on the phone (??)
- Multiple phones or social media accounts (lying about the existence of)
- Tattoos or other branding marks
- Poor health: sexually transmitted diseases, malnutrition, and/or serious dental problems
- References to sexual situations beyond what is age-appropriate







## Understand The Impact

- Impact on mental and physical wellbeing, serious and long lasting
- Remember that severe and complex forms of interpersonal trauma may affect interaction with medical professionals
- Substance use may be forced on the victim by the trafficker or used by the victim as a coping mechanism for abuse
- Changed relationships with self and others (profound sense of shame and guilt, inability to trust)
- Unhealthy bond with the perpetrator ("trauma bond")
- Developing healthcare response a critical step to ensure survivors identified and receive proper trauma informed/evidence based care and support



## Importance Of Organizational Protocols



- As anchor institutions, we can leverage our influence by being aware of the "supply side" of human trafficking globally
- Hospitals can begin by developing protocols to help victims and survivors
- Protocols are essential tools that help to guide the collaborative response to HT
- Collaboration among medical providers with victim service providers and other community stakeholders is central to successful interactions with HT survivors in the medical setting

## Importance Of Organizational Protocols



- Organizational protocols should be survivor centered, AND include partnering with SW/case management department, clergy and clinical staff to determine what are the best steps
- Implemented using trauma informed AND evidence-based strategies in organizational protocol to facilitate trust
- Should help identify & support victims by being alert to the problem and that their patients may be victims
- Collaborating with public agencies (LE, CPS) and community-based organizations can raise awareness and help advocate for public policies that address HT

# The Value Of Collaboration And Building Trusted Network Of Resources

### It is important to reiterate that:

- The most effective way to ensure trafficking survivors get everything they need is to build relationships with organizations and allies in key systems that encounter or help crime victims
- Survivors may need assistance with stability in their life, food to eat, health care, counseling, help with sexual or domestic abuse they have suffered, as well as trauma from other crimes.
- They need help identifying their legal options for gaining immigration status and filing any civil suits to challenge their exploitation
- They must make their own choices (SURVIVOR CENTERED), which means they may need someone to help buffer them from conflicting agendas.

## Survivor Centered, Multidisciplinary Resources Are Important

This approach will join together the different components which should include at minimum the survivor, Social Worker, Forensic Nurse Examiner, and Physician in order to more effectively:

- Acknowledge the experiences of and deliver justice to as many survivors as possible
- Create a more inclusive, comprehensive, culturally sensitive, and survivorcentered assessment that will lead to more accurate:
  - Assessment of basic needs and benefits, health care, housing, education
  - Coordination with resources
  - Medical Forensic Examination- potential evidentiary collection
  - Safety Planning
  - Interpretation service if needed

## National Human Trafficking Hotline

NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING HOTLINE

Call 1-888-373-7888 (TTY: 711) | \*Text 233733 | Live Chat



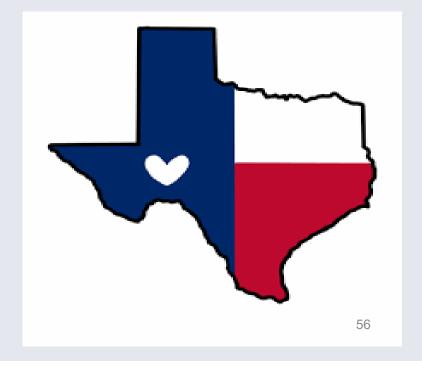
## Resources (South Texas)

### **Legal Services**

- Rights-based education (Coastal Bend Psych Associates-specialist, Claudia Schmidt, LPC)
- Immigration assistance (for non U.S. Citizen)
- Criminal Justice Advocacy and Support
- Nueces County Juvenile Justice Center (Angela Luna- (361) 8557303

### **Advocacy groups:**

- New Life Refuge
- CBBRHTTF
- Texas Advocacy Project 1800 734 HOPE





#### **2022 YEAR IN REVIEW**

Texas Advocacy Project's mission is to end dating and domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking in Texas. Texas Advocacy Project empowers survivors through free legal services and access to the justice system, and advances prevention through public outreach and education. Our vision is that all Texans live free from abuse.

#### WHO WE HELP



Provided free legal services to 4,765 primary survivors in power-based abuse cases



Supported clients from ages 13 to 84 years old



Served 10,502 clients and children across the state



Served survivors in 58% of all counties in Texas

### WHY WE HELP

Nearly 1 in 3 human trafficking victims are recruited by a family member or caregiver\*

74%\* of all Texans will experience domestic violence or will know someone who has

1 in 10\* children have seen one parent assault another

Over half of U.S. women and almost 1 in 3 U.S. men will experience sexual violence\*

U.S. economy loses \$8.3 billion annually due to domestic violence\*

### **HOW WE HELP**

14 staff attorneys and 3 social workers provided civil legal and social services

Provided 3.932 victims with financial empowerment tools for financial abuse matters

Provided 1.254 clients and their family members with social work services

Educated 4,906 judges, prosecutors, law enforcement officers, educators, students, military members, health care providers, and other advocates

Distributed 2,072 handbags, diaper bags, and unisex tote bags to domestic violence shelters, clinics, hospitals, and more, as well as 1,951 backpacks to children across Texas agencies.

Zandbags backpacks for OPE

Provided training on healthy relationships, teen dating violence, online safety, and leadership skills to 348 teenagers -88 of which served as Teen Ambassadors of Hope.



### **GET INVOLVED**

Visit TexasAdvocacyProject.org/communitysupport for donations, sponsorships, annual report, volunteering, Hope Campaigns, and events. Last year, supporters came together to raise \$982,550 at the 16th annual Black & White Ball.



@TexasAdvocacyProject



@TXAdvProject





@TexasAdvocacyProject

### https://txssc.txstate.edu/videos/be-the-one/

### https://youtu.be/aTAVZChvLR4



To learn how to spot trafficking, check out the "Be the One in the Fight Against Human Trafficking" training video above.





### References

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