HUMAN TRAFFICKING
IDENTIFICATION & RESPONSIBLE RESPONSE TO SURVIVORS

A training for healthcare providers

HEARTLAND ALLIANCE
HUMAN CARE
Introduction

• Name
• Agency
• How long you’ve been there
We believe that **housing, healthcare, jobs and justice** are the way out of poverty.
What is the first word that comes to your mind when you think of the human trafficking
What is human trafficking?

Modern Day Slavery

Anyone who is compelled by force, fraud or coercion for the purposes of commercial sex or forced labor.
Why healthcare providers should know about human trafficking

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Treatment Source</th>
<th>% Reporting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Any contact with healthcare</td>
<td>87.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Any type of clinic</td>
<td>57.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospital/ER</td>
<td>63.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planned Parenthood</td>
<td>29.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regular Doctor</td>
<td>22.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urgent Care clinic</td>
<td>21.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women’s Health Clinic</td>
<td>19.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neighborhood clinic</td>
<td>19.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Onsite Doctor</td>
<td>5.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>13.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Based on a study in the US of adult and minor female survivors of domestic sex trafficking

(Lederer & Wetzel, 2014)
Why healthcare providers should know about human trafficking

“This case actually involves a foreign national, a Mexican foreign national. She was living with. . . .This is an outcry. She was working for, we’ll just say, the four traffickers and she was just doing a domestic servitude kind of situation. They had their. . . she had a cleaning business. One of the traffickers did. So she was forced to clean office buildings at night. And then one of the traffickers had his own construction business, and she was forced to also to work construction as well as cleaning the house and making food. She was mowing the backyard and she got poison ivy and they wouldn’t take her to the doctor. So finally after like two weeks, she was in so much pain that she ran out of the house and got someone to take her to the hospital. And that’s when she made her outcry and we got her information” – Ice Agent, Hidden in Plain Sight, Urban Institute
True or False

Human trafficking requires a person to cross an international border.
Human Trafficking is Different from Smuggling

- **Smuggling:** transportation
  - Involves an agreement to transport or harbor someone in violation of US immigration law
  - Can evolve into trafficking

- **Trafficking:** exploitation
  - As defined under federal and Illinois laws
  - An initial agreement of smuggling that evolves into trafficking, does not negate one’s status as a trafficking victim and ability to seek remedies
True or False

Foreign national victims in the United States are always undocumented or come in using false documents.
Foreign National Victims in the US:

- Are NOT always undocumented or DO NOT always come in using false documents.
- Many arrive with
  - Fiancé visa
  - Temporary worker visa
  - Student/exchange programs
  - Others(R-1/NATO/etc.)
Elements of Human Trafficking

**Force**
- Physical assault
- Sexual Assault
- Isolation
- Confinement

**Fraud**
- False/deceptive offers of employment
- Sham marriages
- Lying about conditions of work and living situations
- Withholding wages
- Taking documentation

**Coercion**
- Threat's of violence against victim and/or his/her family
- Threats of arrest and/or deportation
- Debt bondage
- Withholding legal documentation and identification
IL Safe Children’s Act (2010)

• Under 18: immune from prosecution for prostitution under any circumstances.
• Amends the IL Abuse and Neglected Child Reporting Act to:
  • include cases of sex/labor trafficking or “involuntary servitude,” and
  • mandates DCFS as the agency-responder to such reports.
Location of potential human trafficking cases reported to NHTRC hotline in 2015

Consistently, the number one source of calls were community members, with the second source being victims of trafficking. Other sources: NGOs, victims of other crime, etc.
In Illinois

609 calls with 198 cases reported

- 85% Female; 12% Male; 3% Gender Minority

- 156 Calls with Labor
- 9 Calls with Sex
- 23 Calls with Both
- 10 Calls with Unknown

- 100% US Citizen

Bar Chart:
- Adult
- Minor
- US Citizen
- Foreign National
Human trafficking happens everywhere
Traveling Sales Crews

- 419 cases of labor trafficking on sales crews.*
- 42 states where labor trafficking on sales crews have been reported.*
- 25% of cases referenced abandoned workers with no means to return home.*

*Cases reported to the National Hotline and Polaris’s BeFree Textline (Jan. 2008 - Feb. 2015)
Sex Trafficking

Coercion and Threats
- Threatens to do physical harm
- Threatens to harm family
- Threatens to shame victim to community
- Threatens to report to police/immigration

Intimidation
- Harms or kills others to show force
- Displays or uses weapons
- Destroys property
- Harms children
- Lies about police involvement in the trafficking situation

Economic Abuse
- Creates debt bondage that can never be repaid
- Takes some or all money earned
- Forbids victim to have access to their finances or bank account
- Forbids victim to go to school

Emotional Abuse
- Humiliates in front of others
- Calls names
- Plays mind games
- Makes victim feel guilty, blame for the situation
- Creates dependence by convincing victim they’re the only one that cares about them

Using Privilege
- Treats victim like a servant
- Defines gender roles to make subservient
- Uses nationality to suggest superiority
- Uses certain victims to control other victims
- Hides or destroys important papers

Isolation
- Keeps confined
- Accompanies to public places
- Creates distrust of police/other
- Moves victims to multiple locations
- Rotates victims
- Doesn’t allow victim to learn English
- Denies access to children, family and friends

Sexual Abuse
- Forces victim to have sex with multiple people in a day
- Uses rape as a weapon and means of control
- Treats victim as an object used for monetary gain
- Normalizes sexual violence and selling sex

Minimizing, Denying & Blaming
- Makes light of abuse or situation
- Denies that anything illegal is occurring
- Places blame on victim for the trafficking situation

Power & Control

Domestic servants, farm workers, food service

Labor Trafficking
ASSESSING FOR TRAFFICKING
Faces of Human Trafficking - Youth

https://ovc.ncjrs.gov/humantrafficking/publicawareness.html
Must Dos

1. **Build rapport**
   1. What is their experience from the moment they walk in?
   2. Choices (where to meet, what to drink)
   3. Small talk

2. **Client-Centered** (go at their pace)

3. **Assess NEEDS only**
   1. What can I do to help you today?
   2. What do you need to feel safe? What makes you feel unsafe?
   3. I can help you with a variety of things. Is it okay if I go over a list with you and you tell me if you need help in that area?
Indicators in healthcare setting

- Untreated injuries/illnesses
- Malnourishment
- Exhaustion
- Signs of physical abuse
- Chronic STIs
- Teenage pregnancy
- Depression
- Anxiety
How to increase possibility of identification

- Nonjudgmental
- Listen
- Believe
- Save face
- Create a safe environment
- Have a plan
- Know your partners
Needs to Assess For

- Housing
- Medical care
- Culturally appropriate food
- Mental health services
- Transportation
- Communication (cell phone)
- Identification documents
- Legal services
- Education
- Employment
- Childcare
- Budgeting
What to listen for

- Confiscated identification documents
- Long hours at work with low/no pay
- Violence in the workplace
- Why they came to the US (if foreign-born)
- Limited support of family/friends
- Lack of familiarity with community/area
- Debt owed to an individual or employer
- Untreated Illness/injury
Barriers to Identification

Barriers to Identifying Victims

- Hidden crime
- Coached by trafficker
- Charged as perpetrator
- Don’t always identify as victim

Barriers to Identifying Immigrant Victims

- Fear of deportation
- Language & economic barriers
- Lack of protection in home country
- Misinformation from perpetrator about rights & available services
How to increase possibility of identification

Don’t ask what is wrong with the person, ask what happened to them.

We need to ask the questions otherwise we are missing an opportunity to help someone who is being exploited or at risk of further exploitation.
Missed Opportunity

• “I showed up to her house and half of my hair was gone, basically was pulled out from the roots [from abuse by trafficker], and she said she recalled her mom, her mom was a nurse and now I remember it, her mom was a nurse and her dad was a minister, and I showed up at that door and it was raining and I was crying because you know they had just beat me and her mother’s response, who was a nurse was, you know, “We just don’t want to get involved in this.” I think my only attempt was that time when I went to [friend’s] house when I was in [state] when I ran to her house, but of course if a pastor and a nurse can’t help me, then I felt like nobody could.” (site 2, survivor 7, female, domestic servitude)

   -- “Hidden in Plain Sight”, Urban Institute
TRAUMA-INFORMED & VICTIM-CENTERED RESPONSE

Best Practices when working with clients who have experienced trauma
The world is generally a safe place. People are generally good. I am generally in control of my life.

Trauma can occur when our basic life assumptions are challenged or shattered.
Individualize the response

According to:

- Age
- Physical condition
- Emotional condition
- Ability to protect the minor
- What is known about the trafficker
- Ability to provide services to minor within protective custody
- Ability to follow up a later date
Mandated reporting

“Healthcare workers are mandated reporters, not mandated interveners!”

Immediate removal of a minor from the situation is not always safe.

https://healtrafficking.org
CHOICE

- When to leave
- Where to live
- Report to police
- Engage in services
- Receive mental health counseling

ACCESS

- Specialized, trauma-informed case management
- Current resources
- Public benefits
- Immigration relief
- Criminal justice advocacy
- Education & job training/readiness

- Reduced risk of re-exploitation
- Increased participation in the community and work force
- Decrease traumatization
- Better quality of life
Debt facilitated drug addictions
- Inability to get help – isolation, confinement, and guarded
- Unaware of their rights or resources available to them
- Distrust of law enforcement agencies and service providers
  - Fear of not being believed
  - Fear of retaliation (for themselves and others)
- Empathy/emotional ties to traffickers – i.e. Stockholm syndrome
- Overwhelming sense of hopelessness, no one cares or a normalization of the exploitation
- Shame
  - Distrust of law enforcement agencies and service providers

- Facilitated drug addictions
- Debt
- No documents
- Inability to get help – isolation, confinement, and guarded
- Unaware of their rights or resources available to them
- Distrust of law enforcement agencies and service providers
  - Fear of not being believed
  - Fear of retaliation (for themselves and others)
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- Shame
**Word choice & conveying appropriate information to victims of trafficking**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DON’TS</th>
<th>DOS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>You are safe now.</em></td>
<td><em>We will do everything we can to keep you safe.</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>No one here will hurt you.</em></td>
<td><em>We are not working with the individuals who hurt you and took advantage of you. We are here to help you.</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Coming to us and working with us will help you.</em></td>
<td><em>We are here because we want to do our best to help you and protect you as well as your family.</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DON’TS</th>
<th>DOS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>You are a victim, not a criminal.</em></td>
<td><em>The people who did this to you are the criminals. You were mistreated and your rights were violated.</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>You can trust me</em></td>
<td><em>[Do not say this. Show them this. It is much more impactful.]</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>We want to make sure what happened to you doesn’t happen to any one else.</em></td>
<td><em>[Inflicts guilt; victim blaming; onus is never on the victim for prevention]</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What does being client-centered mean to you?
Guiding principles of trauma-informed care

1. **Safety**: Ensuring physical & emotional safety
2. **Trustworthiness**: Maximizing trustworthiness through task clarity and maintaining appropriate boundaries
3. **Choice**: Prioritizing survivor choice and control
4. **Collaboration**: Maximizing collaboration and sharing power with survivors
5. **Empowerment**: Prioritizing survivor empowerment and skill-building
6. **Language Access & Cultural Competency**: Eliminating service disparities based on language or culture
TAKING ACTION

What to do when a client is identified as a potential survivor of human trafficking
Specific Strategies For Your Office

• Have resource brochures and one-pagers on hand

• Hang the NHTRC flyer in your organization

• Add questions to typical intake at initial meeting with client
  • Coordinated Assessment

• Require all staff to be trained on how to identify human trafficking
Next Steps: Safety & Referral

1. Ensure any potential perpetrators or threats to the victim are removed.
2. Understand immediate safety concerns.
3. What do you need to feel safe? What would you like to do next?
   → *FOLLOW THIS LEAD
Available Resources for Survivors

Specialized anti-trafficking services
- Comprehensive case management
- Trauma-informed & victim-centered

Specialized anti-trafficking legal services
- comprehensive, holistic legal services
- Trauma-informed & victim centered
- Explain and protect rights
Role of Law Enforcement

Victims have a right to an attorney and should have one present when speaking with law enforcement.

Offering to call law enforcement could cause the survivor to become extremely fearful and he/she may leave your care without further help/referrals and not return.
Specialized Services = Best Practice

Anti-trafficking case manager

- Housing
- Job training
- Mental health
- Legal services
- Healthcare
- Criminal Justice Advocacy
- Public benefits

Criminal Justice Advocacy

- Healthcare
- Housing

Mental Health

- Job training
- Public benefits
- Legal services
# Services Available in Chicagoland (*statewide*)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Free Legal Services</th>
<th>Comprehensive Social Services</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National Immigrant Justice Center*</td>
<td>Salvation Army STOP IT Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(312) 660-1370</td>
<td>1-877-606-3158</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAF*</td>
<td>Heartland Human Care Services*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(312)341-1070</td>
<td>312-662-6185</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metropolitan Family Services Human Trafficking Initiative/VLAN</td>
<td>Metropolitan Family Services Victim Assistance Legal Network (VLAN)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(312)986-4200</td>
<td>(312) 986-4200</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If the potential victim is outside of Illinois, please contact the National Human Trafficking Resource Center at **1-888-373-7888**.
Immigration Relief Process for Foreign Born Survivors

1. Meet with attorney
2. Report to law enforcement
3. File Visa
4. Visa Decision

- 6 to 8 months
- 12 to 16 months
- 18 – 24 months
# Immigration Relief Available to Survivors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Continued Presence</th>
<th>T-Nonimmigrant Visa</th>
<th>U-Nonimmigrant Visa</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Issued by law enforcement</td>
<td>• Completed with an immigration attorney</td>
<td>• Completed with an immigration attorney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Temporary relief – 1 year increments</td>
<td>• Must be in the US on the account of trafficking</td>
<td>• 26 different crimes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Can be renewed or revoked</td>
<td>• Law enforcement certification is optional</td>
<td>• Law enforcement certification is required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Obtain work authorization</td>
<td>• Valid for four years</td>
<td>• Obtain work authorization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Access to public benefits</td>
<td>• Obtain work authorization</td>
<td>• Not eligible for public benefits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Access to public benefits</td>
<td>• Valid for 4 years, can adjust to LPR status after U visa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• After 3 years, can begin adjustment to LPR</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Access to Public Benefits

- Food stamps
- Health Insurance
- Cash Assistance
- Child Care

Receiving temporary benefits allows the survivor to engage and prepare him/herself for the workforce:

- Work with immigration attorney to obtain legal status to work
- Participate in ESL
- Enroll in job training programs
- Complete education
QUESTIONS?

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