Labor Trafficking: A Victim-Centered and Trauma-Informed Case Management Services, Collaboration and Advocacy

Lutheran Services Florida, Inc.
Acknowledgements:

Thank you to all the survivors who have allowed us to be a part of their journey to healing and recovery.
Human Trafficking in Florida

367 Human Trafficking cases reported (National Human Trafficking Hotline, 2018)
- Sex Trafficking (261),
- Labor Trafficking (58)
- Trafficking Type Not Specified (26)
- Sex and Labor (22)

Citizenship:
- Foreign National (72)
- US Citizen/LPR (71)

Top Victim Nationalities:
- Mexico
- Honduras
- Philippines
- Guatemala
- El Salvador

Top Venues/Industries for Labor Trafficking:
- Agriculture/farms
- Domestic work
- Landscaping services
- Hospitality
- Restaurant/food service
- Construction

Pinellas and Hillsborough Counties - in the top five (5) counties that generated the highest number of cases of human trafficking (National Human Trafficking Resource Data Center, 2018).
**How it Happens**

**Labor trafficking occurs in two steps**
- Recruitment
  - force, fraud and coercion
- Ongoing control during employment

**Recruitment methods**
- Job offer/advertisement
- Fraud/misrepresentation of job
- Posing as a benefactor
- Familial
- Coercion/blackmail

**Type of Recruiter**
- Employer
- Labor recruiter/Contractor
- Friends/coworker/other victim
- Family member/caregiver
- Intimate partner

**Methods of Control**
- Economic Threats
  - Excessive working hours
  - Emotional abuse
- Withholds/destroys important documents
- Isolation
- Immigration Threats
- Monitoring/stalking
- Manipulation of language barrier
Look Beneath the Surface Regional Anti-Trafficking Program (LBS)

**Program Goal:** Increase the identification and protection of domestic and foreign human trafficking victims in the United States and Build local capacity to prevent human trafficking and protect its victims.

**Activities**
- Direct outreach, identification and referrals
- Training and technical assistance
- Public Awareness
- Building Local Capacity

Trafficking Victims Assistance Program (TVAP)

**Program Goal:** Provide comprehensive case management services and assistance to foreign national victims of trafficking, potential victims seeking HHS certification, and derivative family members and minor children of victims.

**Comprehensive Case Management Services**
- Client-centered, trauma-informed, culturally and linguistically sensitive services
- Safety planning and Safety
- Initial Needs Assessment
- Financial Assistance
- Assistance with basic needs
- Accessing community resources
- Assistance accessing Federal/State benefits
Labor - Trafficking Specific Indicators

*The patients may be:*

- Accompanied by a controlling person
- Unable to speak freely or share information
- Sharing a scripted or inconsistent history
- Showing signs of physical abuse and malnourishment
- Reluctant to explain injuries
- Not in control of own money, identification or other possessions

*Health & Mental Health Issues*

- Injuries consistent with working without proper personal protective equipment
- Dehydration, heat stroke, exhaustion from working long hours (18-20 hours)
- Respiratory problems
- Skin infections
- Urinary Tract Infections due to lack of toilets for agricultural/industrial workers
Recommendations for Assessment

• Create a safe and nonjudgmental place to screen for trafficking indicators
• Use professional interpreters
• Give your patient the choice to speak to male or female practitioner
• Find a time and place to speak with the patient privately
• Ensure the patient understands confidentiality policies and procedures (including mandatory reporting laws)
• Use multidisciplinary resources (social workers, hotlines)
• Provide the patient with options for services, reporting, and resources
• Ensure that safety planning is included in the discharge planning process
1. Safety Plan
Help your patient develop a safe exit strategy

2. Refer
National Human Trafficking Hotline
1-888-373-7888
Text 233733 (BEFREE)
Free|24/7 |confidential

The Florida Abuse Hotline
Report online at https://reportabuse.dcf.state.fl.us/
Call 1-800-962-2873
Florida Relay 711 or TTY 800-955-8771
fax at 1-800-914-0004

3. Understand Mandatory Reporting
Review the state mandatory reporting laws and your obligation for mandated reporting

4. Protocols
Establish a protocol for health care professionals to screen for human trafficking
Where To Refer in Tampa Bay

Case Management Services

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