

LUTHERAN
SERVICES



FLORIDA

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)

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*).

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



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



LSF Anti-Trafficking Response

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



Assist

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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Legal Services

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