



TRAFFICKING VICTIM ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (TVAP) FOR PRS PROVIDERS

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USCRI-TVAP

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AGENDA

- Overview
- Identifying Minor Victims of Trafficking
- Requesting Assistance from OTIP
- Trafficking Victim Assistance Program (TVAP)
- Q&A

ROLE OF PRS CASE MANAGERS

- Identify possible trafficking concerns during home study or post-release
- Submit Request for Assistance to OTIP and/or coordinate with ORR facility to do so
- Connect minors to TVAP services
- Liaise with TVAP providers to ensure quality services

Email traffickingvictim@uscrdc.org or call 1-800-307-4712 to connect a minor to TVAP services.

TVAP Program Goal

TVAP is here to help foreign national survivors of human trafficking:

- *achieve HHS certification (eligibility)*
- *provide **trauma-informed, person-centered, comprehensive case management services***
- *facilitate timely access to vital services they need to stabilize and re-establish their ability to live independently.*



OFFICE ON TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS

An Office of the Administration for Children & Families

- The Office on Trafficking in Persons (OTIP) is part of the Administration for Children & Families (ACF), under the Department of Health & Human Services (HHS)
- OTIP reviews cases of possible child trafficking and issues HHS Interim Assistance & Eligibility Letters to minors
- USCRI manages the Trafficking Victim Assistance Program (TVAP) through a cooperative agreement with OTIP and ACF

Child Eligibility Webinars

Join OTIP's Child Protection Specialists to learn how to assist foreign national minors who may have experienced trafficking

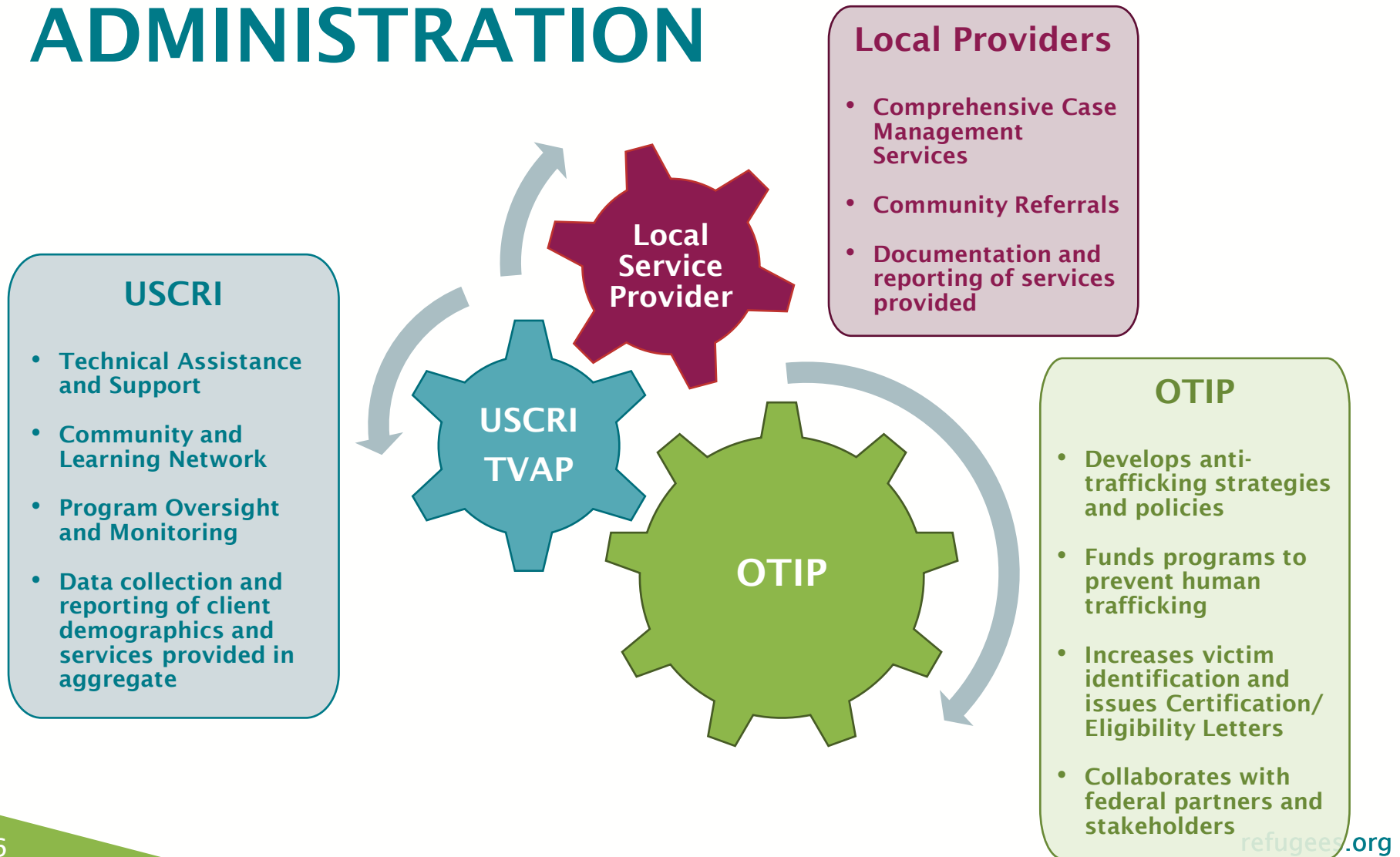
FIRST WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH

2-4 PM EST

Details: acf.hhs.gov/otip



TVAP ADMINISTRATION



REFERRALS

USCRI-TVAP manages referrals to organizations that provide services to foreign national survivors of trafficking:



- Comprehensive Services
- Enhanced Collaborative Model (ECM Task Force)
- Capacity Building Grant



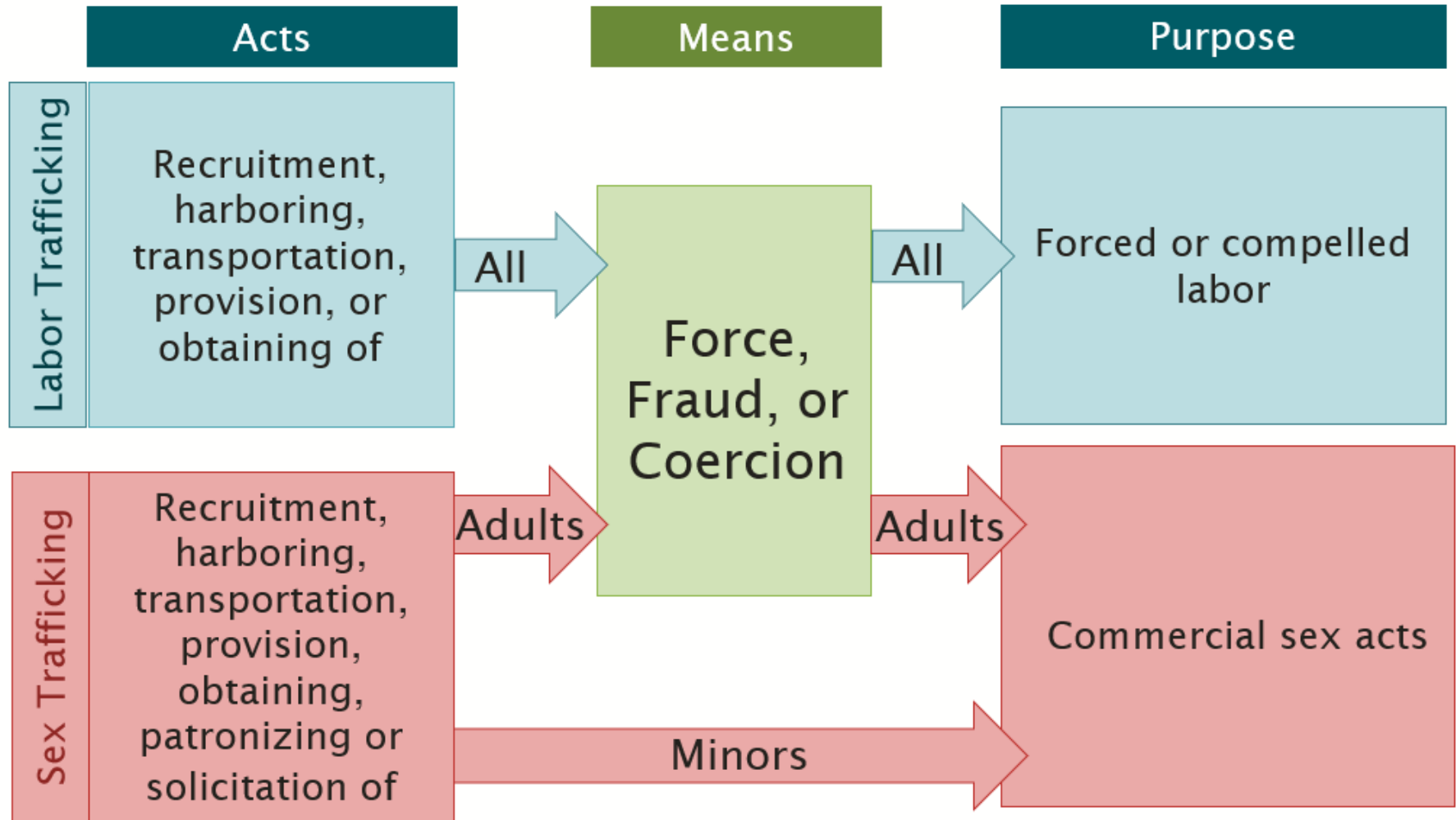
- HHS-funded Trafficking Victim Assistance Program (TVAP) Network of subgrantees (managed by USCRI)



- Community resources
- Low cost/pro-bono options

IDENTIFYING MINOR VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING

HUMAN TRAFFICKING



ACTION: SEX & LABOR TRAFFICKING

■ Recruitment

- Did the minor have a vulnerability that was used against them for the purposes of exploitation? Did the child fit a specific profile? Were there grooming behaviors?

■ Harboring

- Was the child taken away from others (family, friends) or isolated? Was the child confined to a specific location? Were the child's movements or communications monitored?

■ Transporting

- Was the child moved from one location to another for the purpose of being forced to work?

■ Provision

- Was the child given to another individual? Was the child given to a third party employer?

■ Obtaining

- Was the child forcibly taken by an individual?

■ Soliciting* (sex trafficking only)

- Was the child offered or promised money in exchange for a sex act?

■ Patronizing* (sex trafficking only)

- Was any person offered or given money or something of value in exchange for a sex act?

MEANS: LABOR TRAFFICKING

Force

- Physical assault, restraint, harm
- Sexual assault
- Isolation
- Confinement and monitoring

Fraud

- False/deceptive offers of employment
- False promises of love or a better life
- Sham marriages
- Lying about conditions of work and living situations
- Withholding wages

Coercion

- Threats of violence against victim and/or their family
- Threats of arrest and/or deportation
- Debt bondage
- Withholding legal documentation and identification
- Blackmail

PURPOSE: SEX & LABOR TRAFFICKING

Note: one does not need to be physically transported from one location to another to fall within these definitions.

■ Involuntary Servitude

- *Forced labor.* Any scheme, plan, or pattern intended to cause a person to believe that, if the person did not enter into or continue in such condition, the person or another person would suffer serious harm or physical restraint; or the abuse or threatened abuse of the legal process. Can also include “involuntary sexual servitude”

■ Debt Bondage

- Labor associated with a debt that increases or never decreases.

■ Peonage

- *Labor with threat of harm that is connected to a debt.* A status of involuntary servitude based on real or alleged indebtedness.

■ Slavery

- Owned for the purpose of performing labor or services.

■ Commercial Sex Act

- Sexual act in exchange for something of value. Any sex act on account of anything of value given to or received by any person.

COMMON GREY AREAS

■ Family Context

- Is the minor being asked to work due to poverty and family circumstance, or through forced labor?

■ Sex trafficking vs. involuntary sexual servitude

- Sex trafficking is any commercial sex act performed by a minor
- Labor trafficking can be identified as sexual servitude if the minor is providing sex involuntarily

■ Physical and sexual abuse

- Is there a specific purpose for the physical and sexual abuse?

■ Gang involvement

- Is the minor forced to sell or engage in forced criminality for the gang?

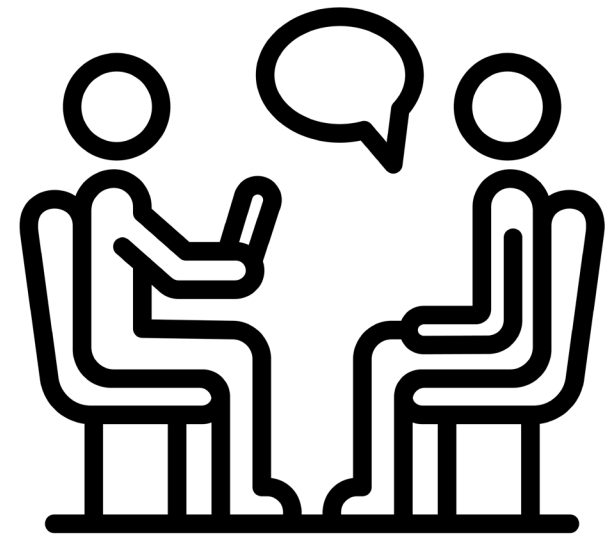
■ Trafficking scheme

- If a minor is brought to the U.S. as part of a trafficking scheme, but it is interrupted, the attempt may qualify as trafficking



POSSIBLE FOLLOW UP QUESTIONS

- Was the minor **harmed** or **threatened**?
- What did the minor think would happen if **they refused**?
- Did the minor feel that they had a **choice**?
- Was the minor able to attend **school**?
- How did the minor spend their **free time**?
- Was the minor **singled out** in their family?
- Was the minor **afraid** in this situation? What specifically made them feel this way?
- How **old** was the minor? Did their **age** or other circumstances increase their **vulnerability**?
- How were the minor's **wages** used?



FACTORS THAT IMPACT SCREENING AND IDENTIFICATION

■ A minor may:

- Lack awareness of victimization
- Think exploitation is normal
- Have complex trauma
- Feel shame or guilt
- Have been coached by trafficker
- Distrust screener or authorities
- Fear that trafficker will cause harm to them, their family, or their loved ones
- Fear deportation

■ A screener may:

- Not address language or cultural barriers between minor and screener
- Be rushed or not have time to complete thorough interview
- Not have extensive knowledge of trafficking indicators
- Not ask open ended questions
- Interview minor with others present

TRAUMA-INFORMED AND VICTIM CENTERED SCREENING

- Use TED Questions.
- Ask open-ended, non-leading questions.
- Assess impact of child's environmental factors and possible vulnerabilities with disclosure.
- Consider effects of trauma on the child's responses, consider cognitive abilities, and consider mental health.
- Build felt safety and trust.
- Seek to allow the minor to share a narrative rather than asking for specific details and trying to get every detail of the situation.

TED Questions

T – Tell me about.

E – Explain.

D – Describe.

COMMON RED FLAGS

Physical	Behavioral	Social and Environmental
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sexually transmitted infections ▪ High number of sexual partners ▪ Multiple pregnancies or abortions ▪ Dental issues ▪ Bruising and burns ▪ Signs of self-harm ▪ Weight loss or malnourishment ▪ Suicide attempts ▪ Physical abuse ▪ Sexual abuse 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Confusing or contradicting stories ▪ Inability to concentrate ▪ Protects person who exploited them ▪ Minimizes abuse ▪ Guilt and shame about experiences ▪ Suicidal ideations ▪ Extreme timidity ▪ Aggressive, antagonistic, or defensive ▪ Heightened stress response ▪ Posttraumatic stress disorder ▪ Withdrawn or depressed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Not able to speak for oneself or share information ▪ Evidence of being controlled ▪ Reports that they lived at their worksite ▪ Reports that they were multiple people in cramped living space ▪ Absent from school ▪ Failing grades ▪ Sudden increase in substance use ▪ Age-inappropriate romantic partner ▪ Frequently running away

CASE EXAMPLE: POST RELEASE

- 15 year old female minor from Honduras
- CAT 3 sponsor is identified and agrees to ORR requirements for reunification in sponsor care agreement
- The minor expresses optimism about reunification with the sponsor, a family friend, and attending school
- The minor is released to the sponsor and assigned 90 days of PRS

CASE EXAMPLE: POST RELEASE

- The minor is assigned a PRS case manager 6 months after her release, due to backlog on the ORR UC Portal
- The minor disclosed that her sponsor **required her to work** overnight cleaning restaurants and salons seven days a week
- The minor expressed that she would not be allowed to live with the sponsor if she did not work. The minor reported being too tired after working all night to attend school.
- The PRS case manager submits a Request for Assistance from OTIP and the minor is connected to TVAP services.

CASE EXAMPLE: POST RELEASE

- What are the Action, Means, and Purpose in this case?

- Action
- Means
- Purpose

- **Recruitment:** The minor's vulnerabilities as a UC without family support may have been exploited.
- **Fraud:** The minor was unaware that she would be required to work for the sponsor; the situation changed over time.
- **Involuntary Servitude:** The minor believed that if she did not work for the sponsor, her basic needs would not be met.

TIPS FOR PRS CASE MANAGERS

- Check SIRs for narratives that may indicate **possible trafficking history**. If a minor experiences trafficking at any time in their lives, prior to turning 18, they can receive an Eligibility Letter.
- If you identify **concerns of trafficking** during a home study, communicate with the facility case manager and clinician about submitting a Request for Assistance.
- If a minor is trafficked **post-release**, contact local authorities and submit a Request for Assistance on the minor's behalf within 24 hours.
- Connect minors with **any trafficking concerns** to TVAP right away – as soon as concerns are identified.



REQUESTING ASSISTANCE FROM OTIP

REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE

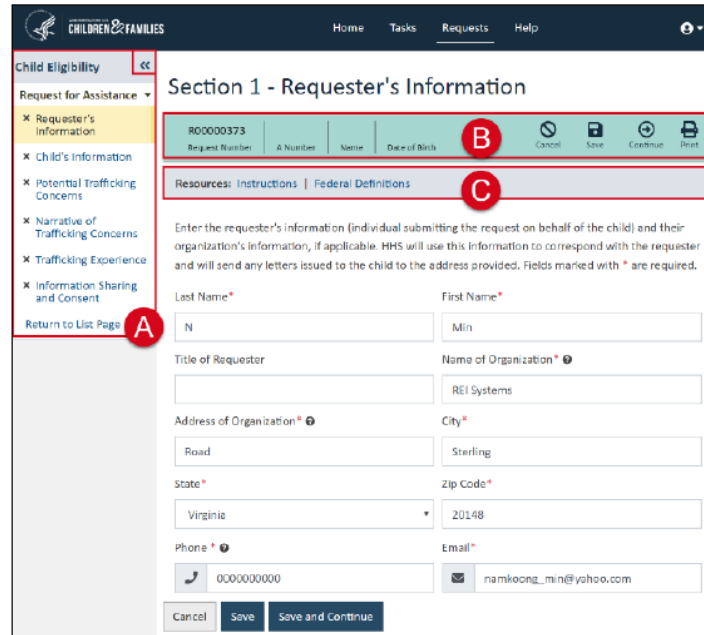
- A **Request for Assistance** can be submitted online using OTIP's Shepherd system
- **24 Hour Reporting Requirements**
 - “Not later than 24 hours after a federal, state, or local official discovers that a person who is under 18 years of age may be a victim of a severe form of trafficking in persons, the official shall notify HHS to facilitate the provision of interim assistance.”
(Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, as amended)
- To qualify for an **Eligibility/Interim Assistance** Letter, the child must be:
 - Under the age of 18 at the time of submitting Request for Assistance (RFA)
 - A foreign national (non U.S. citizen/lawful permanent resident)
 - A victim of trafficking (sex, labor, or both)
 - Currently in the United States

SHEPHERD SYSTEM

Submit a Request for Assistance (RFA)

9

RFA Interface



The screenshot displays the 'Section 1 - Requester's Information' page in the Shepherd System. On the left is a side menu (A) with links to 'Child Eligibility', 'Request for Assistance', 'Requester's Information', 'Child's Information', 'Potential Trafficking Concerns', 'Narrative of Trafficking Concerns', 'Trafficking Experience', 'Information Sharing and Consent', and 'Return to List Page'. The 'Request for Assistance' link is highlighted. The main content area (B) contains a form for 'Section 1 - Requester's Information'. At the top of this section is an action header (B) with buttons for 'Cancel', 'Save', 'Continue', and 'Print'. Below this is a resources bar (C) with links to 'Resources', 'Instructions', and 'Federal Definitions'. The form itself contains fields for 'Last Name', 'First Name', 'Title of Requester', 'Name of Organization', 'Address of Organization', 'City', 'State', 'Zip Code', 'Phone', and 'Email'. The 'Name of Organization' field is pre-filled with 'REI Systems'. The 'State' field is set to 'Virginia' and the 'Zip Code' is '20148'. The 'Phone' field is '0000000000' and the 'Email' is 'namikoong_min@yahoo.com'. At the bottom of the form are 'Cancel', 'Save', and 'Save and Continue' buttons.

Section 1 – Requester's Information is the landing page for the RFA.

- A) The **Side Menu** links to sections 1 through 6 of the RFA. The **X** next to each section will change to a checkmark once you enter all required information and save the RFA. Select **Return to List Page** to return to the **Requests – List** page. To collapse or expand the side menu, select the arrows at the top.
- B) The **Action Header** banner at the top of each section contains cancel, save, continue, and print buttons. The banner automatically populates the child's A-Number, Name, and Date of Birth once **Section 2** is completed and saved.
- C) The **Resources** bar contains links to **instructions** for completing the Request for Assistance and **federal definitions** of severe forms of trafficking involving children.

INFORMATION TO INCLUDE IN A REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE

Labor Trafficking	Sex Trafficking
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beatings, physical abuse, sexual assault, confinement, supervision, or monitoring • False offers of employment, love, marriage, a better life • Change in work environment, work conditions, or compensation • Threat of serious harm against the child or others, witness of harm to others, climate of fear, threatened abuse of legal system, or perceived threat of harm for noncompliance • Requirement to pay off a real or alleged debt • Requirement to pay off an increasing debt or debt that changes over time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offer, promise, or exchange of something of value (money, food, shelter, etc.) to the child in exchange for a sex act • Offer, promise, or exchange of something of value (money, food, shelter, etc.) to a person other than the child in exchange for a sex act with the child

INTERIM ASSISTANCE VS. ELIGIBILITY LETTER

Interim Assistance Letter	Eligibility Letter
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Issued by OTIP after an RFA is received that indicates a minor may be a victim of trafficking. OTIP will consult on the case during the interim period 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Issued by OTIP once a determination has been made that there is sufficient information that the child experienced forced labor or commercial sex
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grants interim eligibility for federal benefits and services to the same extent as a refugee for up to 90 days or 120 days, if extended 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grants full eligibility for minors to apply for federal benefits and services to the same extent as a refugee with no expiration date. Some benefits are time-limited



ADMINISTRATION FOR
CHILDREN & FAMILIES

Office on Trafficking in Persons | 330 C Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20201
www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/endentrafficking



HHS Tracking Number: 55555
DOB: 01/01/2020

Ms. Jane Doe
c/o John Smith
100 Glebe Ave.
Arlington, VA 22202

ELIGIBILITY LETTER

Dear Ms. Doe:

We have determined that you were subjected to a severe form of trafficking in persons. In accordance with 22 U.S.C. § 7105(b)(1)(G), this Eligibility Letter confirms that you are eligible to apply for benefits and services to the same extent as a refugee. This letter does not confer immigration status.

You can start applying for benefits and services on **February 3, 2020**.

If you wish to apply for benefits and services, it is important that you seek assistance as soon as possible because some of the benefits are time-limited and may expire. When you access benefits, bring the original copy of this letter to the benefit-issuing agency.

See the attached packet for further information on accessing benefits and services, descriptions of the benefits and services you are eligible for, and information about the comprehensive case management services that are available to support you in this process.

The National Human Trafficking Hotline at 1-888-373-7888 is also available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to connect you with available services in your area.

Sincerely,

Katherine Chon
Director
Office on Trafficking in Persons

Benefit-issuing agencies: To verify the validity of this letter, you may call the toll-free
HHS Trafficking Victim Verification Line at 1-866-401-5510 during regular business hours.

Use la carta para solicitar beneficios y servicios

¿Qué carta recibió?



La **Carta de elegibilidad (Eligibility Letter)** no caduca, pero algunos beneficios se otorgan durante un tiempo limitado.



La **Carta de asistencia provisional (Interim Assistance Letter)** puede usarse para solicitar beneficios durante un máximo de 120 días.

- Su **"fecha de inicio de beneficios" (Benefits Start Date)** figura en negrita y subrayada en la mitad de la carta.
- **¡Guarde la carta!** Necesitará la carta original para solicitar beneficios y servicios.

Con la carta, puede obtener ayuda con lo siguiente:

Alimentos	Servicios médicos	Empleo
Dinero	Salud mental	Alojamiento
Seguro de salud	Educación	Hogares de tránsito

*Quizá no sea elegible para todos los beneficios, y algunos beneficios se otorgan durante un tiempo limitado. Consulte los detalles en el reverso.

¿Qué debe hacer a continuación?

- 1 Llame al 1-800-307-4712** para obtener ayuda para encontrar un gestor de caso. El gestor de caso lo ayudará gratuitamente con los pasos que se describen a continuación.

Con la ayuda de su gestor de caso:

- 2 Solicite un número de Seguridad Social (Social Security Number, SSN) no laboral**
 - Visite ssa.gov/locator o llame al **1-800-772-1213** para buscar la oficina de Administración de Seguridad Social (Social Security Administration, SSA) más cercana. *Tal vez sea necesario solicitar una cita.
 - Cuando acuda a la oficina de SSA, lleve lo siguiente:
 - Carta de elegibilidad o Carta de asistencia provisional original (*obligatoria*)
 - Acta de nacimiento (Birth Certificate) (*recomendado*)
 - Identificación con fotografía, como una identificación estatal, pasaporte vigente o identificación escolar (*recomendado*)

- 3 Solicite un número de Seguridad Social (Social Security Number, SSN) no laboral**
 - Consulte a los organismos locales que otorgan beneficios
 - Cuando acuda a una oficina u organismo, lleve lo siguiente:
 - Carta de elegibilidad o Carta de asistencia provisional original (*obligatoria*)
 - Número de Seguridad Social no laboral (*obligatoria*)
 - Comprobante de ingresos familiares de todos los miembros del hogar que trabajen (*obligatoria*)
 - Identificación con fotografía, como una identificación estatal, pasaporte vigente o identificación escolar (*recomendado*)

¿Qué debe hacer a continuación?



Alimentos



Dinero



Seguro de salud y servicios médicos



Salud mental



Educación superior



Empleo



Alojamiento



Hogares de tránsito

- **Programa de Asistencia Nutricional Complementaria (Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program, SNAP):** programa de asistencia que se usa como dinero en efectivo para comprar alimentos en casi todos los supermercados.
- **Ingreso de Seguridad Complementario (Supplemental Security Income, SSI):** asistencia con dinero en efectivo para satisfacer las necesidades básicas (comida, refugio y ropa) para personas ciegas, ancianas o que tienen una discapacidad y poco o ningún ingreso y recursos.
- **Asistencia Temporal para Familias Necesitadas (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, TANF):** dinero en efectivo y oportunidades laborales para familias y menores de 18 años.
- **Asistencia en Efectivo para Refugiados (Refugee Cash Assistance, RCA):** asistencia con dinero en efectivo durante un tiempo limitado para refugiados y otras poblaciones especiales que no son elegibles para el SSI o la TANF. *La RCA solo está disponible durante un máximo de 8 meses después de su fecha de inicio de beneficios.
- **Medicaid:** cobertura de salud para personas de bajos ingresos y con recursos limitados.
- **Asistencia Médica para Refugiados (Refugee Medical Assistance, RMA):** asistencia médica durante un tiempo limitado para refugiados y otras poblaciones especiales que no son elegibles para Medicaid. *La RMA solo está disponible durante un máximo de 8 meses después de su fecha de inicio de beneficios.
- **Programa de Seguro de Salud para Niños (Children's Health Insurance Program, CHIP):** seguro de salud para menores de 18 años de bajos ingresos, que carezcan de seguro.
- **Pruebas de detección de enfermedades de la Oficina de Reubicación de Refugiados (Office of Refugee Resettlement, ORR):** pruebas de detección de enfermedades, diagnóstico, tratamiento y cuidado preventivo.
- **Administración de Servicios de Salud Mental y Abuso de Sustancias (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, SAMHSA):** ayuda con el consumo de sustancias y enfermedades mentales.
- **Título IV: Ayuda Económica Federal para Estudiantes (Title IV Federal Student Financial Aid, FAFSA):** subvenciones, préstamos y programas de trabajo y estudio para ayudar a pagar por educación.
- **Job Corps:** programa de capacitación profesional para jóvenes de 16 a 24 años.
- **Servicios de Apoyo a Refugiados (Refugee Support Services):** los servicios incluyen capacitación en el idioma inglés, formación profesional y búsqueda de empleo y contratación.
- **Programa de Alojamiento Público (Public Housing Program):** alojamiento asequible para familias e individuos de bajos ingresos.
- **Programa de Vales de Elección de Vivienda (Housing Choice Voucher Program):** programa de vales de vivienda para ayudar a familias e individuos de bajos ingresos a pagar la renta.
- **Programa de Menores Refugiados no Acompañados (Unaccompanied Refugee Minors Program, URM):** hogares de tránsito temporal para menores refugiados no acompañados y otras poblaciones jóvenes especiales en los Estados Unidos.

Preguntas acerca de la carta y los beneficios

Especialistas en Protección de Menores de la Oficina de Trata de Personas (Office on Trafficking in Persons Child Protection Specialists)

202-205-4582

✉ ChildTrafficking@acf.hhs.gov

Servicios de gestión de caso en su área

Programa de Asistencia a Víctimas de Trata de Personas (Trafficking Victim Assistance Program)

1-800-307-4712

✉ traffickingvictims@uscridc.org

Servicios de urgencia

Línea de Atención Nacional contra la Trata de Personas (National Human Trafficking Hotline)

1-888-373-7888

✉ Envíe un mensaje de texto al 233733
Chat en vivo humantraffickinghotline.org/chat



ADMINISTRATION FOR
CHILDREN & FAMILIES
Office on Trafficking in Persons

BENEFITS AVAILABLE WITH ELIGIBILITY LETTER

Federal Benefits	
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP or Food Stamp)
Supplemental Security Income (SSI)	Survivors of Torture Program
Medicaid and State Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)	American Job Centers (CareerOneStop)
Refugee Cash and Medical Assistance (RCA & RMA)	Matching Grant
Job Corps	State-Specific Programs
Housing	Unaccompanied Refugees Minor Program
State Benefits	
Trafficking and Crime Victims Assistance Program (CA)	Public Private Partnership (MD)
Cash and Food Assistance for Non-Citizen Victims of Trafficking, Torture, or Other Serious Crimes (IL)	Response to Human Trafficking Program (NY)

- Certification and Eligibility letters allow the victim to access eligible benefits and services under any Federal or State program to the same extent as a refugee.

FINAL LETTER AND NEXT STEPS

1. Conduct session(s) with the child to assess for trafficking concerns, applying the AMP model to determine if there is any indication of **forced labor** or **commercial sex**.



2. Submit a Request for Assistance (RFA) through the OTIP/ACF Shephard System



3. Respond to follow-up questions from OTIP during the RFA process.



4. During the RFA process, notify OTIP by email if the child **changes placements**, if the child is close to **aging out**, or if the child is **re-determined to be an adult**.



5. Should the child receive an Interim Assistance or Eligibility Letter, ensure that the child receives and keeps the original letter and is connected to appropriate services.

CASE EXAMPLE: POST RELEASE

- 15 year old female minor from Honduras
- CAT 3 sponsor is identified and agrees to ORR requirements for reunification in sponsor care agreement
- The minor expresses optimism about reunification with the sponsor, a family friend, and attending school
- The minor is released to the sponsor and assigned 90 days of PRS

CASE EXAMPLE: POST RELEASE

- The minor is assigned a PRS case manager 6 months after her release, due to backlog on the ORR portal
- The minor disclosed that her sponsor **required her to work** overnight cleaning restaurants and salons seven days a week
- The minor expressed that she would not be allowed to live with the sponsor if she did not work. The minor reported being too tired after working all night to attend school.
- The PRS case manager submits a Request for Assistance from OTIP and the minor is connected to TVAP services.

CASE EXAMPLE: POST RELEASE

- What information would you include in the Request for Assistance?
- What follow up questions could you ask?
- How would you ask these questions in a trauma-informed way?
- When would you connect the minor to TVAP services?
- What information would you provide the minor and sponsor about TVAP services?



TRAFFICKING VICTIM ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

TVAP MINOR SERVICES

- TVAP serves minor victims and potential victims of trafficking who have been trafficked at any point in their lifetime - **both outside and inside the U.S.**
- Minors are eligible for TVAP benefits:
 - **Once they are released from ORR care.**
 - Minors cannot receive TVAP services while they are in ORR care due to a “duplication of services.”
 - **Prior to receiving legal status in the U.S.**
 - Minors are eligible for TVAP until they are granted a form of immigration relief. If a minor is granted a T visa or Continued Presence, they may continue to be eligible for TVAP.
 - **After they turn 18.**
 - An individual who received an HHS Eligibility Letter as a child may receive assistance as an adult.

TVAP Program Guidelines

- Provide comprehensive case management services to survivors including, but not limited to:

Legal Relief: Immigration relief (T visa or CP)	Language Access
Access to Public Benefits	Education
Individualized Service Plan	Employment
Basic Needs (food, clothing, personal care)	Financial Literacy
Housing	Transportation
Safety Planning	Childcare
Medical Care	Reunification
Mental/Behavioral Health	Maintaining Confidentiality
Substance Use	Specialized Services for Foreign National Minors
Emergency Response	Referral Services
Victim Advocacy	Victim Compensation Fund

TVAP MINOR BROCHURE

USCRI PROGRAMS

Trafficking Victim Assistance Program (TVAP)

TVAP Eligibility Requirements

A child with a Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Interim Assistance Letter, an HHS Eligibility Letter, or a pending referral to the HHS Office of Trafficking in Persons (OTIP) and has emergency needs is eligible for a variety of services through the Trafficking Victim Assistance Program (TVAP).

Case Management

TVAP connects children and their families with an organization that will help them access important social services. Each child is assigned a case manager to work with the child and family. All case management services are free and confidential.

The case manager will help:

- Find an immigration attorney
- Locate a medical professional
- Obtain a non-work social security card
- Apply for public benefits

Client Assistance

Once connected to a social services organization, the case manager assists with:

- Emergency needs
- Housing (rent, utilities)
- ESL/Education
- Transportation
- Medical expenses
- Mental health counseling
- Food
- Clothing
- Personal care items
- Obtaining a cell phone
- Legal rights
- Employment
- Life skills training
- Interpretation/Translation
- Financial support

TVAP Eligibility Timeline

TVAP case management can be accessed at any time with the HHS Interim Assistance Letter or the HHS Eligibility Letter. Of note, an individual who received an HHS Eligibility Letter as a child may receive assistance as an adult with their HHS Eligibility Letter.

To learn more about the HHS Interim Assistance Letter or HHS Eligibility Letters, please visit: www.acf.hhs.gov/otip/victim-assistance/eligibility-letters

2231 Crystal Drive, Suite 350, Arlington, VA 22202 refugees.org

This program is 100% funded by the Office of Trafficking in Persons through the following grant awards: 90ZV0135-01-00, 90ZV0136-01-00, 90ZV0137-01-00.



CONTACT TVAP

Please contact TVAP for more information about the program. TVAP is available Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

traffickingvictim@uscridc.org

1-800-307-4712

To get immediate help 24/7, call the National Human Trafficking Hotline.

1-888-373-7888

If you think you are in danger or have an emergency, call 911 immediately.

WHO WE ARE

The U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants (USCRI) is a nongovernmental, not-for-profit international organization that responds to the needs and advocates for the rights of refugees and immigrants worldwide.



PROGRAMAS DEL USCRI

Programa de Asistencia a Víctimas de Trata (TVAP)

Requisitos de elegibilidad para participar en el TVAP

Los niños que tengan una Carta de Asistencia Provisional del Departamento de Salud y Servicios Humanos (Health and Human Services, HHS), una Carta de Elegibilidad del HHS o una derivación pendiente a la Oficina contra la Trata de Personas (Office of Trafficking in Persons, OTIP) del HHS, y que tengan necesidades urgentes, son elegibles para recibir diversos servicios a través del Programa de Asistencia a Víctimas de Trata (Trafficking Victim Assistance Program, TVAP).

Administración de casos

El TVAP conecta a los niños y a sus familias con una organización que los ayudará a acceder a servicios sociales importantes. A cada niño se le asigna un administrador de casos para trabajar con el niño y la familia. Todos los servicios de administración de casos son gratuitos y confidenciales.

El administrador de casos lo ayudará con lo siguiente:

- Conseguir un abogado especializado en inmigración.
- Buscar un profesional médico.
- Obtener una tarjeta del Seguro Social no válida para trabajar.
- Solicitar beneficios públicos.

Asistencia al cliente

Una vez que esté en contacto con una organización de servicios sociales, el administrador de casos lo ayudará con lo siguiente:

- Necesidades urgentes
- Vivienda (alquiler, servicios públicos)
- Inglés como segundo idioma/Educación
- Transporte
- Gastos médicos
- Asesoramiento sobre salud mental
- Alimentos
- Vestimenta
- Artículos de higiene personal
- Conseguir un celular
- Derechos legales
- Empleo
- Capacitación en habilidades básicas
- Interpretación/Traducción
- Apoyo económico

Plazo de elegibilidad para participar en el TVAP

Se puede acceder a los servicios de administración de casos del TVAP en cualquier momento con la Carta de Asistencia Provisional del HHS o la Carta de Elegibilidad del HHS. Cabe destacar que una persona que recibió una Carta de Elegibilidad del HHS cuando era niño puede recibir asistencia de adulto con la misma carta.

Para obtener más información sobre la Carta de Asistencia Provisional del HHS o la Carta de Elegibilidad del HHS, visite www.acf.hhs.gov/otip/victim-assistance/eligibility-letters.

2231 Crystal Drive, Suite 350, Arlington, VA 22202 refugees.org

Este programa está completamente financiado por la Oficina contra la Trata de Personas a través de las siguientes subvenciones: 90ZV0135-01-00, 90ZV0136-01-00, 90ZV0137-01-00.



COMUNIQUESE CON EL TVAP

Comuníquese con el TVAP para obtener más información sobre el programa. El horario de atención es de lunes a viernes, de 8:00 a. m. a 5:00 p. m.

traffickingvictim@uscridc.org

1-800-307-4712

Para recibir ayuda inmediata las 24 horas del día, los 7 días de la semana, llame a la Línea Directa Nacional de Trata de Personas (National Human Trafficking Hotline).

1-888-373-7888

Si cree que está en peligro o tiene una emergencia, llame al 911 de inmediato.

QUIÉNES SOMOS

El Comité de Refugiados e Inmigrantes de EE. UU. (U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants, USCRI) es una organización internacional no gubernamental sin fines de lucro que responde a las necesidades y defiende los derechos de los refugiados y los inmigrantes de todo el mundo.



MINOR REFERRAL PROCESS FOR TVAP

- Once a Request for Assistance has been submitted, you should receive an email from TVAP
- Please email traffickingvictim@uscridc.org or call 1-800-307-4712 with any questions or to connect a minor to services.
- If you are working with a minor who has an Eligibility Letter, Interim Assistance Letter, or pending RFA – **please contact TVAP to ensure they are connected to services.**

TRAFFICKING VICTIM ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

REFERRAL FOR TVAP SERVICES

Please do not include any personal identifying information – any client names, phone numbers and addresses should be shared directly to the provider who has accepted the referral.

Referrer Information

Name: Date of Referral:

Phone Number: Email:

Organization:

Client Information

Client Initials: Gender:

Client's DOB: Type of Trafficking:

Client's current location (City, State):

Does the client have any emergency needs?

Does the client have their Interim Assistance/Eligibility or Certification Letter? Yes ☐ No ☐

If yes, what is the HHS Tracking Number?

Does the client require any translation services? Yes ☐ No ☐

If yes, what language does the client speak?

Comments (ex: services needed, intent to relocate):

Submit completed form to traffickingvictims@uscridc.org.
If you prefer to coordinate via phone, please call TVAP at 1-800-307-4712.

Important: The information provided on this form is confidential and intended solely for the use of making a referral to TVAP.
TVAP will only share this form with service providers who may be able to accept the referral and assist the client.


**U.S. COMMITTEE
FOR REFUGEES AND IMMIGRANTS**

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TVAP REFERRAL PROCESS

- TVAP does not store identifying client information for **confidentiality** purposes.
 - **TVAP relies on “Points of Contact,”** including ORR facility case managers and clinicians, PRS case managers, or attorneys to facilitate minor referrals to TVAP services.
- A minor can be **immediately referred to TVAP** once a Request for Assistance to OTIP has been submitted.
 - A minor may be released from ORR care with an Interim Assistance, Eligibility Letter, or pending request to OTIP. Please contact TVAP to connect these minors to services.
 - Please ensure the minor has **a copy of their Eligibility Letter and a copy of the TVAP brochure**, so that they are aware of the program and can reach out with any concerns.
- Minors placed in **foster care** may be able to receive TVAP on a case-by-case basis.

OBTAINING LEGAL STATUS

- **Child Eligibility and Interim Assistance Letters** do not confer immigration status.
- **T visa:** allows applicants to remain in the United States for four years and to receive an employment authorization document.
 - Minors with an EL may not be eligible for a T visa*
- **Continued Presence:** a temporary immigration status provided by law enforcement to individuals identified as survivors of a severe form of trafficking who assist law enforcement with their investigation. It is valid for 2 years and allows victims to access public benefits.
- Minors with eligibility letters often pursue other forms of legal relief, including **SIJS, asylum, and the U visa.**

TROUBLESHOOTING

Please notify USCRI-TVAP in the following situations:

- **Relocation:** Please ensure the minor is aware of how to access services if they relocate.
- **Age outs:** If a minor is close to aging out of PRS, TVAP can assist post-18.
- **Change of provider:** If a provider is not meeting the minor's needs, or if there are challenges with communication or a referral, please notify USCRI-TVAP.



ROLE OF PRS CASE MANAGERS

- Discuss with the sponsor and minor the differences between PRS and TVAP services
 - **PRS:** Supports the minor and family generally with placement, legal, education, mental health, medical, and other resources
 - **TVAP:** Supports the minor in accessing benefits with their Eligibility or Interim Assistance Letter and can support in accessing financial assistance or other community resources for the family. **TVAP can assist with some PRS service areas if PRS is not in place.**
- Educate minors about emergency/crisis resources including 911, **the ORR Hotline**, and **National Human Trafficking Hotlines** to call if they are forced to work or feel unsafe.

SI NECESITA AYUDA, LLAME:

1-800-203-7001

Centro nacional de atención de llamadas
de la Oficina de Reasentamiento de Refugiados

Si te encuentras en peligro inminente, llama al 9-1-1

**NATIONAL
HUMAN
TRAFFICKING
HOTLINE**

1-888-373-7888

TEXT BEFREE TO 23373

Trafficking Victim Assistance Program



Case Management Checklist: TVAP vs. PRS

PRS and TVAP case managers should discuss division of responsibilities and areas of support based on their location, rapport with the family, and familiarity with local resources. Each case will look different.

PRS and TVAP case managers should also discuss their distinct roles with the minor/family and get the minor's consent to share information and coordinate services.

Service Area	Trafficking Victim Assistance Program (TVAP)	Post Release Services (PRS)
Public Benefits, Social Security & Financial Assistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ Apply for non-work SSN and public benefits, including Medicaid or health insurance ☐ Provide direct financial assistance to family 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ Connect the minor to TVAP to access public benefits, financial assistance, and additional case management
Medical & Mental Health Care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ Connect to specialized mental health/medical providers that accept Medicaid or other health insurance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ Provide mental health and medical resources to the minor and sponsor ☐ Coordinate with TVAP provider based on needs
Legal Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ Connect to specialized legal services if the minor is pursuing a T visa ☐ Coordinate with law enforcement if pursuing Continued Presence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ Provide information about attending court ☐ Ensure minor has needed documents from ORR ☐ Connect to low-cost legal resources
Safety & Placement Stability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ Assess for signs of trafficking or exploitation by the sponsor ☐ Safety plan with the minor around possible re-trafficking concerns ☐ Notify USCRI with placement stability/safety concerns 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ Assess for safety and stability of placement ☐ Report child abuse/neglect to CPS and notify ORR with concerns ☐ Discuss indicators of trafficking or other safety concerns with TVAP provider and coordinate on safety planning
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ Address any barriers to the minor attending school ☐ Support with FAFSA and specialized education options 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ Ensure the minor is enrolled in school and address any barriers ☐ Request any needed documentation from ORR ☐ Provide post-18 resources

CASE EXAMPLE: POST RELEASE

- 15 year old female minor from Honduras
- CAT 3 sponsor is identified and agrees to ORR requirements for reunification in sponsor care agreement
- The minor expresses optimism about reunification with the sponsor, a family friend, and attending school
- The minor is released to the sponsor and assigned 90 days of PRS

CASE EXAMPLE: POST RELEASE

- The minor is assigned a PRS case manager 6 months after her release, due to backlog on the ORR portal
- The minor disclosed that her sponsor **required her to work** overnight cleaning restaurants and salons seven days a week
- The minor expressed that she would not be allowed to live with the sponsor if she did not work. The minor reported being too tired after working all night to attend school.
- The PRS case manager submits a Request for Assistance from OTIP and the minor is connected to TVAP services.

CASE EXAMPLE: POST RELEASE

- The minor reports that she and her family have not yet been contacted by their assigned TVAP case manager.
 - What steps can you take to ensure the minor is connected to services?
 - Who can you contact to provide feedback on services?
- The minor reports that her family has a high level of needs, including connection to legal services, medical needs, counseling, and financial assistance.
 - Which of these services can PRS vs. TVAP provide or assist with? How would you go about dividing responsibilities with the TVAP provider?
 - What if the PRS case is going to close?

RESOURCES

- **ORR HELPLINE:** 1-800-203-7001
- **TVAP HOTLINE:** 1-800-307-4712
- **NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING HOTLINE:**
1-888-373-7888
- **OTIP:** <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/otip>
 - Email: childtrafficking@ACF.HHS.GOV
- **NHTTAC:** <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/otip/training/nhttac>
- **OVC Training and Technical Assistance Center:**
<https://www.ovcttac.gov/views/TrainingMaterials/dspTrainingByRequest.cfm>
- **CAST:** <https://casttta.nationbuilder.com/webinars>

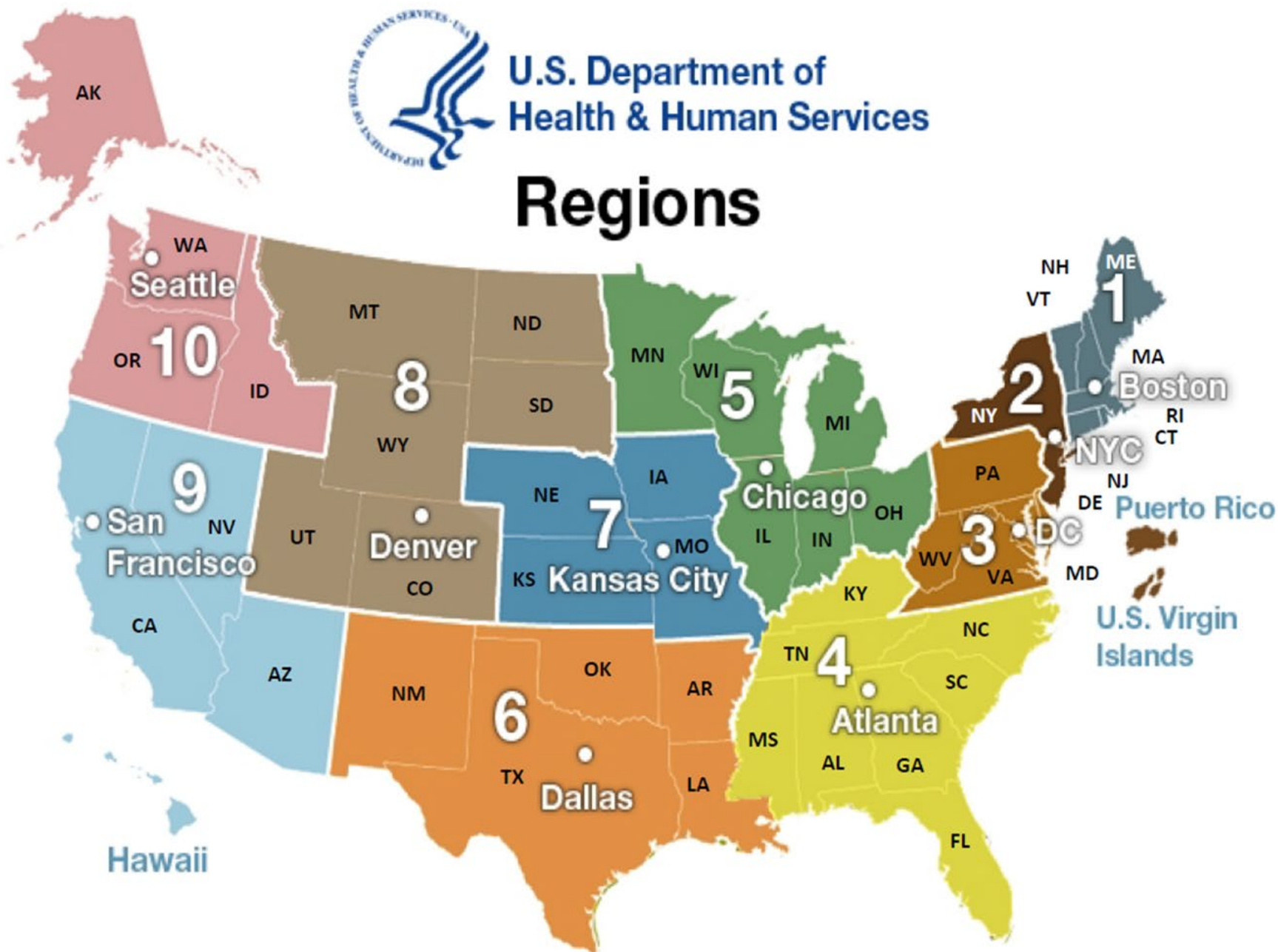


QUESTIONS?



U.S. Department of
Health & Human Services

Regions





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Thank you!