Human Trafficking: Helping Communities Identify Survivors and Improve Responses

IN PLAIN SIGHT:
IDENTIFYING TRAFFICKED YOUTH IN JUVENILE JUSTICE SETTINGS

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Screening Pilot Goals
1. Identify victims of sex trafficking within the juvenile justice system
2. Develop comprehensive response for survivors
3. Collect data on number of trafficked youth

Key Partners
Maryland Department of Juvenile Services (DJS)
TurnAround, Inc.
Shared Hope International
Maryland State Police
Maryland Human Trafficking Task Force

PILOTING INTERVENE
• Partnership: established 1 year formal MOU between DJS and TurnAround, Inc., regular check-in meetings, updated policies and procedures, initial designation of agency responsibilities, statewide training roll out
• Screening tool: customized Shared Hope International’s INTERVENE* tool
• Pilot: began screening March 2012 at Waxter Children’s Center in Laurel, MD. In November 2012, expanded implementation to Alfred D. Noyes Detention Center in Rockville, MD

EFFECTIVE SCREENING
• Assesses key risk factors for trafficking
  Ex: “Have you ever run away or left home/foster care?” “About how many times?” “How long do you usually stay away?” History of childhood abuse or homelessness? Presence of older, controlling romantic partner?
• Non-threatening questions that reflect concern for well-being
  Ex: “How do you take care of yourself while away?”
• Talk about trafficking when we talk about sexual violence
• Tailored specifically for that setting and population
  Ex: “Where were you staying overnight prior to detention?”
• Tool reveals pattern & highlights risk, not meant to confirm victimisation
BENEFITS OF SCREENING

- Connected youth with specialized services & safety planning that actually meet their needs
- Better prevalence data, funding follows the numbers
- Ability to provide human trafficking education and prevention info
- Created anti-exploitation culture in the facility
- Increase in trafficking investigations and convictions

No previously unidentified victims of trafficking were found in the first 2 years. Victims were exploited through prostitution, stripping and/or child pornography. One successful case example involved a perpetrator who was found guilty on child pornography charges in Baltimore City, November 20, 2013.

LESSONS LEARNED

No such thing as too much training.
Build agency buy-in, know your partners and develop written protocols.
Follow-up interviews by expert providers are necessary.
Identifications and disclosures will come from many sources.
Manage response from multiple systems to prevent re-victimization.
Plan for privacy and confidentiality considerations.

What data are you already collecting?

“NO SURVEYS WITHOUT SERVICES”

WHERE SHOULD WE SCREEN?

- Hospitals (ERs and adolescent/pediatric psychiatric units)
- Homeless and runaway youth shelters
- Juvenile detention facilities
- Child welfare settings (local departments across all units, private foster care/group homes, child protective services hotlines, residential treatment centers)
- CASA and mentoring agencies
- Domestic violence and sexual assault centers
- Law Enforcement (vice, missing children, child abuse units)
“Advocating for Dependent Children”

**The Florida Department of Children and Families**

**The Florida Department of Juvenile Justice**

**Legislative Overview**

Kimberly Grabert, DCF Human Trafficking Prevention Director
Bethany Brimer Gilot, DJJ Anti-Human Trafficking Director
July 9, 2015

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**Human Trafficking Reports In Florida Safe Families Network (FSFN)**

Since January 1, 2013, the Department began recording Human Trafficking allegations by three primary categories:

- **Human Trafficking-Commercial Sexual Exploitation of a Child (CSEC) Non-caregiver**: This maltreatment type is used for those cases in which the allegations appear to involve commercial sexual exploitation of a child (e.g., adult entertainment clubs, escort services, prostitution, etc.), and the alleged perpetrator is not considered to be a parent, legal guardian, or caregiver.

- **Human Trafficking-Commercial Sexual Exploitation of a Child (CSEC) Caregiver**: This maltreatment type is used for those cases in which the allegations appear to involve commercial sexual exploitation of a child (e.g., adult entertainment, escort services, prostitution, etc.), and the alleged perpetrator appears to be a parent, legal guardian, or caregiver.

- **Human Trafficking-Labor**: This maltreatment type is used in those cases in which the allegations appear to involve issues associated with labor trafficking, slavery, or servitude that do not appear to be sexual in nature.

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**Region Reports Received by Victim ID**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>FFY 2013-2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Central</td>
<td>209</td>
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<tr>
<td>Southeast</td>
<td>184</td>
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<tr>
<td>Northeast</td>
<td>81</td>
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<tr>
<td>Northwest</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
<td><strong>978</strong></td>
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</tbody>
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**Safe Harbor Act**

- The Florida Safe Harbor Act provides for the treatment of sexually exploited children as dependent children if they have no parent, legal custodian or responsible adult relative currently known and capable of providing the necessary and appropriate supervision and care (§ 409.1678, Florida statutes).

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**House Bill 7141: Human Trafficking**

- Creates F.S. 409.1754—Sexually exploited children: screening and assessment; training; case management; task forces.
  - Department to develop or adopt screening and assessment instruments for the identification, service planning, and placement of sexually exploited children
  - Requires specialized intensive training of child protective investigators (“CPIs”) and case managers who handle cases involving sexually exploited children
  - Assignment of HT cases to these CPIs and case managers
Screening of child shall consider, at a minimum:

1. Risk of the child running away.
2. Risk of the child recruiting other children into the commercial sex trade.
3. Level of the child’s attachment to his or her exploiter.
4. Level and type of trauma that the child has endured.
5. Nature of the child’s interactions with law enforcement.
6. Length of time that the child was sexually exploited.
7. Extent of any substance abuse by the child.

Amends F.S. 409.1678, to require the Department to:

• Define and identify “safe house” and “safe foster home”; 
• To create a certification process that goes hand-in-hand with the existing licensing process in order to self identify as a “safe house” or “safe foster home”; 
• To inspect “safe houses” and “safe foster homes” prior to certification and annually thereafter; and to 
• Specify the contents of training for foster parents seeking the “safe foster home” designation; the lead agency will ensure the foster parent has completed the appropriate training.

Residential treatment centers are required to provide specialized treatment for sexually exploited children in the custody of the Department (out-of-home care) who are placed in these facilities.

Department, Lead Agencies and other community stakeholders are required to:

▫ Assess service needs and system gaps; and
▫ Draft local protocols and procedures that allow for child-specific responses for sexually exploited children.

Lead agency shall ensure that all sexually exploited children residing in “safe houses” or “safe foster homes,” or served in residential treatment centers or hospitals, have a case manager and a case plan, whether or not the child is a dependent child.

To the extent possible provided by law and with authorized funding, the services specified in this section may be available to all sexually exploited children whether such services are accessed voluntarily, as a condition of probation, through a diversion program, through a proceeding under chapter 39, or through a referral from a local community-based care or social service agency.

Develop a Statewide Council on Human Trafficking to include the Department.

▫ Goals: Are to develop recommendations for comprehensive programs and services for victims of HT—including recommendations for certification criteria for “safe houses” and “safe foster homes”—and work with the Department to create and maintain an inventory of HT programs and services in each county.

OPPAGA – (Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability) shall:

▫ Conduct an annual study on commercial sexual exploitation of children in Florida; 
▫ Analyze the effectiveness of “safe houses,” “safe foster homes,” residential treatment centers and hospitals with specialized treatment programs for sexually exploited children; and
▫ Address safety, therapeutic, health, educational and emotional needs when considering other residential options for serving sexually exploited children.

Effective date July 1, 2014.
**DJJ Numbers**

- Between July 2009 and September 2013, 1835 children were named (non duplicative) in reports to DCF under the Human Trafficking Maltreatment code.
- 55% of these youth had contact with DJJ. Over half of those children had contact with DJJ prior to having their respective DCF Human Trafficking reports called in.

**What % of those 964 arrested children were arrested for prostitution?**

- Only 1% of victims were arrested for prostitution.

**Agg Assault/Battery** 130 13%
**Burglary** 54 6%
**Assault/Battery** 256 27%
**Misd Sex Offenses** 34 4%
**Petit Larceny** 132 14%
**No Offense** 99 10%

**DJJ Pilot Project**

- Conducted 2012-2013 in Broward, Miami-Dade and Orange County Juvenile Assessment Centers
- Implemented a Human Trafficking-specific screening on youth with certain risk factors
- Allows DJJ to serve as a safety net for children not identified by law enforcement

**Verified youth were more likely to have alcohol and drug use, twice as likely to have 3 or more prior DCF placements, 2.7 times more likely to have over 5 instances of running away.**

**Verified youth had extensive abuse histories compared to non verified youth, more physical abuse, greater likelihood of witnessing violence and were 3.5 times more likely to have identified as victim as sexual abuse.**
Human Trafficking Screening Tool
- Created in 2014 by a 23 member workgroup convened by DCF and DJJ
- Corrected for some of the issues with the Pilot tool: HTST screens for all forms of human trafficking and is gender-neutral
- Facilitates increased collaboration between DCF and DJJ
- Currently being utilized in all DJJ intake facilities throughout the state

HTST Outcomes
February 27, 2015 - June 15, 2015
- The first Human Trafficking Screening Tool was completed on February 27, 2015.
- As of April 6, 2015 the Human Trafficking Screening Tool was being utilized statewide in all DJJ intake facilities and Juvenile Assessment Centers.

HTST Outcomes
Statewide Numbers as of 6/15/15
- 1,340 screenings have been completed on a total of 1,110 youth.
- Calls were placed to the DCF Abuse Hotline for 389 (35.04%) of the 1,110 youth screened.
- Of the 389 calls placed to the Hotline, 211 (54%) were accepted for further investigation.

HTST Outcomes
Demographic Information
- Among youth for whom calls were accepted 77% were female and 23% were male
- Of the female youth assessed, 28% had a call accepted by the hotline compared to 9% of males
- 25% of the Hispanic youth screened had a call accepted compared to 20% of White/Non-Hispanic Youth and 16% of African American youth.

HTST Outcomes
Questions Most Likely to Result in an Accepted Call
- 46% of those who were screened as having evidence of unsafe online activity warranted a hotline call that was accepted.
- 50% of those who were screened as having an unsafe living environment warranted a hotline call that was accepted.

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Are You Ready to Change Your Perception?

Who Are We?

- Courtney's We provide services for youth in the DC, Northern Virginia & Maryland area.
- Courtney's House is a drop in center that offers a Non-Residential Program that serves 12-21 year old survivors of Domestic Sex Trafficking, Female, Male, and the LGBTQ community.
- In addition, Courtney's House offers emergency Case Management to clients over the age of 21 for 30 days.
- **Mission:** To provide survivor focused, trauma informed, and holistic services to survivors of sex trafficking.

Services

- **Intake Assessments**
  - Assessments are screening methods for Sex Trafficking.
- **Street Outreach**
  - Friday & Saturday nights (2-7am)
- **Hotline**
  - 24 Hours, 7 days a week
  - Answered by survivors of sex trafficking, DV and sexual assault
  - 1-888-261-3665
- **Research**
  - Support Street Outreach
  - Find possible matches with Missing Kids
  - Find & remove Online ads for clients

Services (continued)

- Survivor Support Groups
- Parent/Guardian Support Groups
- Mentoring
- Tutoring
- Survivor Intensive Case Management
- Parent Insensitive Case Management
- Drop-in Center

Types of Trafficking

Four types of Control in the greater DC Area
- Pimp
- Gang
- Family
- Boys/Transgender

*Knowing the correct control Enables you to ask the right questions*
Common Ways Survivors Tell without Telling

- Testing the waters
- Calling others the names they have been called to see how you react
- Talk about an abusive boyfriend that they live with, with other girls, or rape
  - see what questions you follow up with

Trauma on the Brain

- Of course higher risk of
  - PTSD
  - Mood Disorders
- Self-blame, Shame, Guilt
- Dissociation, Depersonalization
- Limited ability to think about themselves in the future, plan goals
- Affects on sex drive
- Drug and/or alcohol use, but DO NOT assume

Trauma on the Body

- Cuts, bruises, burns, broken bones
- STIs, trauma to genitalia
- Change in sleep and eating
- Significant change in weight
- Muscle tension
- Somatic Disorders
- Stomach problems
- Unable to feel temperature

Who’s Pulling the Strings???

PIMP Controlled

Intervene Assessment
(from Shared Hope International)

- Have you ever left home?
- What made you leave home?
- How many times did you leave home?
- What were some of the ways you took care of yourself while you were away from home?
- Did you ever do any traveling while you were gone?
- What places did you go?
- While traveling, who did you go with?
- How long were you gone?
- While you were away from home did anybody keep you from coming back?
- Did anyone introduce you to stripping? If so where did you strip?
- Did you ever go to any shopping malls while you were gone?

GANG Controlled

(from Shared Hope International)

*Courtney’s House expanded on these questions

- Have you ever been asked to go to a skip party?
- How did you hear about the skip party?
- Were you asked bring any friends?
- Did anyone ever show you any DVD’s or YouTube footage of them or someone else harming someone?
- What clique or set were you with?
**FAMILY Controlled**

- Have you ever helped your family save money?
- What are some ways you helped?
- Has anyone in your family ever dropped you off at someone’s house?
- How long were you gone?

**BOYS/TRANS Controlled**

- Did anyone ever give you hormone shots?
- Do you have a Mama that helps take care of you?
- Who helped you become Fierce?
- Are you in a Dance Crew?
- Have you ever worked chatlines?

**Pimp Control TERMS:**

- **Trafficker/Pimp** – Person who buys and sells the child with no regard for their well-being.
- **John/Buyer** – Person who buys sex from the child with no regard for their well-being.
- **Quota** – An amount of money that survivors must provide to their trafficker/pimp every night.
- **Bottom** – A trafficker/pimp who has multiple women/girls under his control will pick one to help supervise and control the others. The “bottom” will collect money for the pimp and sell on the other girls, but the “bottom” is also controlled by the pimp and often endures the most abuse.
- **Track** – A set area known for prostitution activity where girls & boys are sent by their trafficker.

**Pimp Control TERMS (continued)**

- **Runway/Kiddie Track** – Where young girls, usually ages 11-16 are sent by trafficker.
- **Daddy** – What pimps require victims to call them.
- **Mama** – What transgendered traffickers require victims to call them.
- **Wife-in-law** – What women/girls are required to call the other women/girls in the “stable”.
- **Stable** – A group of victims under pimp control.
- **Gorilla Pimp** – A violent Pimp/Trafficker.
- **“The Life”** – Being involved in pimp control.

**Hard Facts**

- Sexually exploited minors should not be treated as criminals or delinquents but as severely traumatized and abused survivors requiring protection, empathy, specialized services and counseling/therapy.
- They should NOT be re-traumatized through arrest, prosecution and detainment.
- Police Officer Oath: “I will always have the courage to hold myself and others accountable for our actions.”