

Building A Health Care Response to Human Trafficking

November 19, 2013

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Speakers

Erica Monasterio, MN, FNP-BC is a Clinical Professor on faculty in the Division of Adolescent and Young Adult Medicine, Department of Pediatrics and the Department of Family Health Care in the School of Nursing at the University of California, San Francisco since 1997. She is the Nurse Faculty in the Leadership Education in Adolescent Health (LEAH) Program and the coordinator of the Nursing Leadership in Adolescent and Young Adult Health (NLAYAH) Program. Ms. Monasterio has over 27 years of clinical experience working with youth and families in primary care, both at UCSF and in the San Francisco Department of Public Health, and is the co-founder of the Cole Street Youth Clinic, part of the San Francisco Department of Public Health's Community Health Network.

Debra Seltzer, MPA is the Program Administrator for the Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Prevention Program, Bureau of Health Promotion and Risk Reduction, Ohio Department of Health. Debra began working as a volunteer for the Columbus Rape Crisis Center in 1984, and served as Rape Crisis Coordinator and Prevention Coordinator for Women Against Rape. In 1989, Debra began work as the Director of the Ohio Coalition On Sexual Assault (OCOSA). She left OCOSA in the spring of 1997 to accept a position as a Rape Prevention Coordinator with the Ohio Department of Health. She has a Master's Degree in Public Administration from the Ohio State University.

Beth Malchus is the Rape Prevention Coordinator for the Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Prevention Program, Bureau of Health Promotion and Risk Reduction, Ohio Department of Health. She assisted in the development of the ODH Human Trafficking Protocol Template and Training that have been implemented with Ohio's Health Surveyors and School Nurses.



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Recognizing Victims of Human Trafficking in the Clinical Setting

Erica Monasterio, MN, FNP-BC

Futures Without Violence Webinar

November 2013

Objectives for today

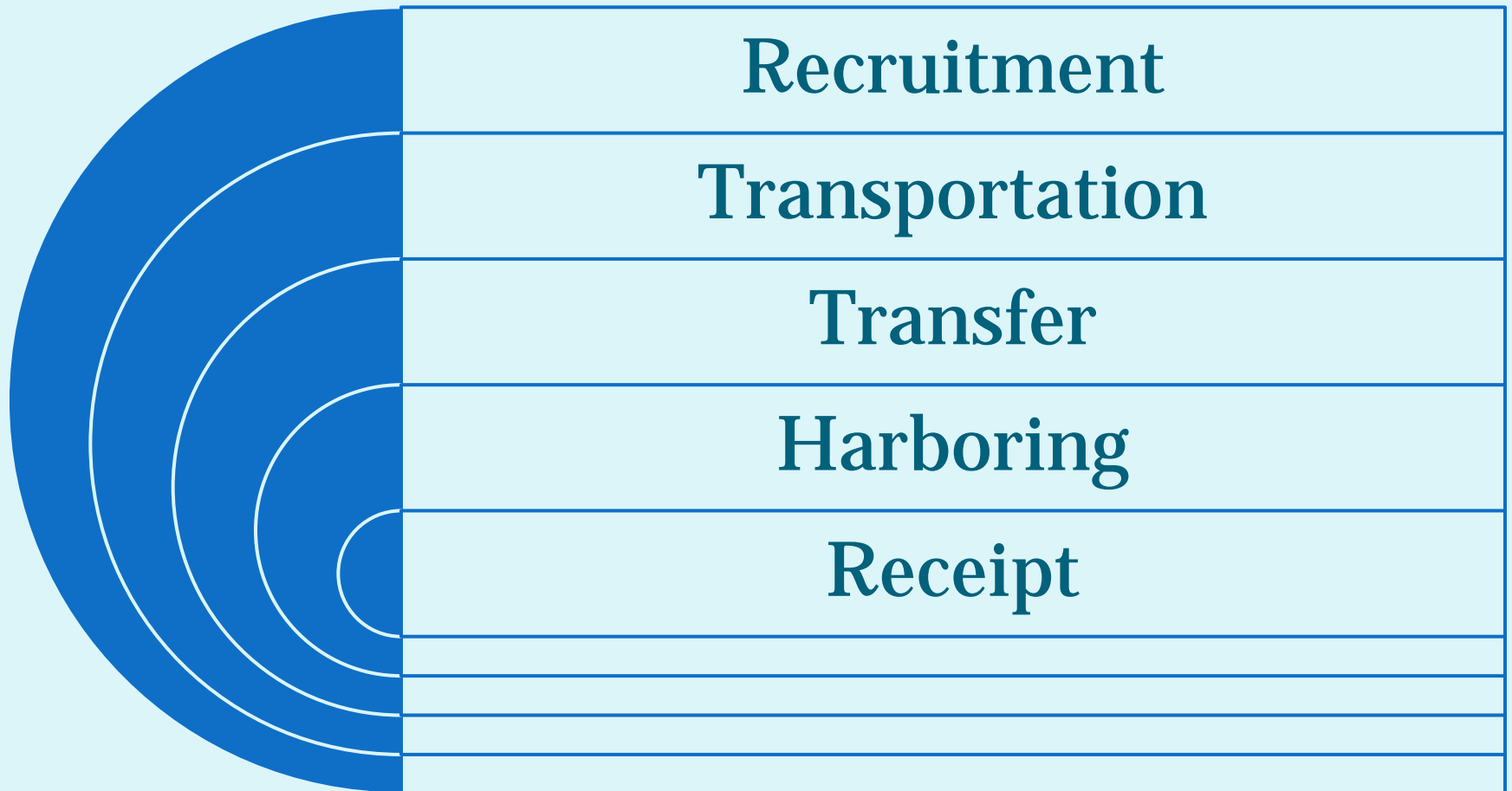
As a result of attending this webinar, participants will be better able to:

- List three similarities between IPV and human trafficking
- Identify and respond to human trafficking victims in health settings
- Initiate multi-disciplinary collaborative strategies in responding to human trafficking
- Access local, state and national anti-trafficking resources

What is human trafficking?

| Category 1 | Category 2 | Category 3 |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Those 18 or older involved in commercial sex via force, fraud, or coercion | Minors involved in commercial sex | Adults or minors in forced labor, services or involuntary servitude via force, fraud or coercion |

The *actions* of human trafficking



The *means* of human trafficking

Force:

- physical assault,
- sexual assault,
- confinement,
- isolation

Fraud:

- false employment offers,
- deceit,
- lying about work conditions

Coercion:

- Threats to life, safety , to family members
- Threats involving immigration status or arrest
- Debt bondage
- Withholding legal documents
- Creating a climate of fear/ psychological abuse

The *purpose* of human trafficking

Commercial Sex Acts

•

OR

Some form of labor or
services

Clarifying the Myths

Myths

Trafficked persons must be foreign nationals

Trafficking requires transportation across borders

If the individual consented before the abuse or if they were paid then it is not trafficking

There must be physical restraint or bondage

Realities

- Can be US citizens or foreign nationals
- The legal definition does NOT require transportation
- Consent prior to the act of force, fraud or coercion or payment is not relevant
- Psychological means of control can be sufficient

Minors and Commercial Sex Work

- Any minor involved in commercial sex work is, by definition, a victim of human trafficking



Vulnerable Populations

Victims/Survivors of Past
Violence/Abuse

Runaway and Homeless
Youth

Financially Vulnerable

Temporary Visa
Holders/Undocumented
Foreign Nationals

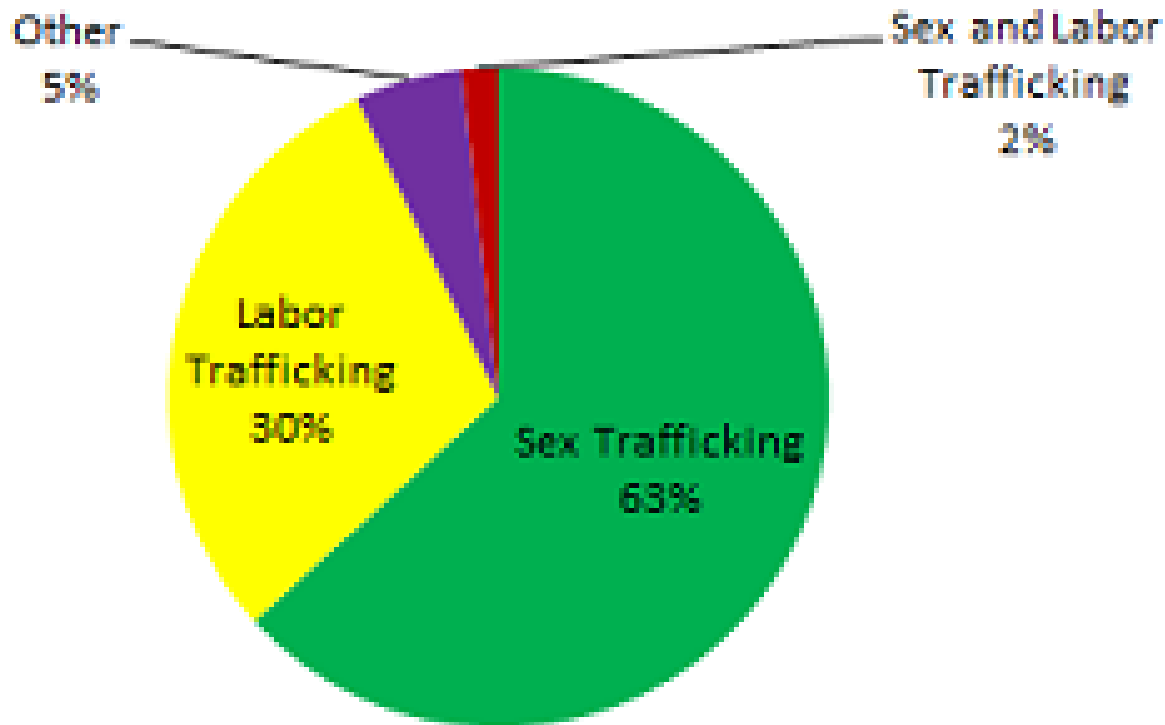
Statistics: Human Trafficking in the US

- 14,500 to 17,500 foreign nationals are trafficked into the United States annually
- The number of U.S. citizens trafficked within the country each year is even higher, with an estimated 200,000 American children at risk for trafficking into the sex industry.
 - U.S. Department of Justice. 2004. *Report to Congress from Attorney General John Ashcroft on U.S. Government Efforts to Combat Trafficking in Persons in Fiscal Year 2003*. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Justice.

Foreign National's Country of Origin

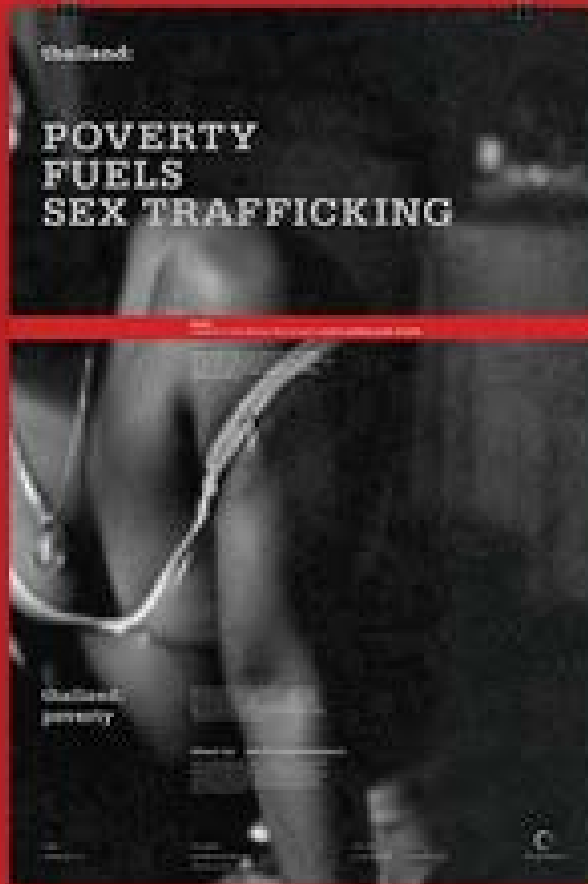
- East Asia and the Pacific
 - 5,000 to 7,000 victims/year
- Latin America
- Europe
- Eurasia
 - 3,500 to 5,500 victims /year from each.
 - U.S. Departments of Justice, Health & Human Services, State, Labor, Homeland Security, Agriculture, and the U.S. Agency for International Development. 2004. *Assessment of U.S. Government Activities to Combat Trafficking in Persons*. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Justice.

Type of Trafficking



21 million
people are
victims of
human
trafficking
worldwide

Who are Traffickers?



- **People who exploit others for profit**
 - **Any demographic**
 - **Individuals and groups**
 - **Street gangs and organized crime**
 - **Businesses or contractors**

Pathways to Entry

Vulnerability + Targeted Opportunity=
Victimization

Recruitment

- Seduction and coercion
- Violence and force
- Peer recruitment
- Kidnapping
- Parents selling children
- Internet enticement through chat rooms and social media sites
- False advertising for “modeling”, “acting” or “dancing” opportunities

Youth at Risk for Recruitment

- Under 18
- Walk to school or the store alone
- Have access to a computer
- Like/desire consumer goods
- Want a romantic relationship
- Sometimes feel insecure
- Feel misunderstood
- Have conflicts with their parents
- Sometimes feel like their parents don't care
- Want more independence
- Test boundaries and take risk

In other words... Almost ANY adolescent

Recognizing the Problem

Screening questions

Behavioral indicators

Common health problems

Setting the Stage for Disclosure

- Separate ALL patients from anyone accompanying them regardless of age or stated relationship
- Do NOT use any accompanying individuals as translators; use trained interpreters or health center staff
- Establish confidentiality and discuss limits to confidentiality

You don't have to "reinvent the wheel"

- Utilize existing protocols for abuse/sexual abuse victims
- Ensure culturally sensitive care as with all patients
- Use age and developmentally appropriate approaches when working with adolescents
- In the sexual history, distinguish between consensual and non-consensual experiences
- Provide confidential care as with all patients

You DO have to look for the indicators

- General indicators:
 - No identification of any kind
 - Use of false identification papers
 - States they are “just visiting” but cannot give any specific information
 - Inconsistencies in story
 - Someone else speaks for the patient, and does not allow patient to speak for him/herself
 - Someone else pays for services and controls money

Behavioral Indicators

- Individual exhibits hyper-vigilance, paranoia, fear, anxiety, depression, submission, nervousness
- Individual avoids eye contact
- Individual seems disoriented to time of location

Indicators related to sex trafficking

- ANY individual under 18 years old and involved in the commercial sex industry
- Appears to be younger than 18 but lies about age
- Evidence of sexual trauma
- Multiple/frequent STIs or STI screening requests
- Multiple/frequent pregnancies or pregnancy testing requests
- Report an excessively large number of sexual partners

Indicators of sex trafficking (continued)

- Much older sexual partner
- Indicators of IPV
 - Controlling/monitoring by partner
 - Expresses fear of displeasing partner
- Use of slang related to prostitution (“the life”)
- Use of inappropriate clothing for healthcare visit
- Tattoos on neck/lower back, particularly initials or man’s name. Other forms of “branding”
- History of family dysfunction
- Fear of intervention

Health indicators: Sexual health

- STIs
- HIV
- Pelvic pain
- Rectal trauma
- Urinary tract trauma/infections
- Pregnancy
- Infertility from chronic infections or unsafe abortions

Health indicators: General Health

- Chronic back pain
- Hearing problems, weak eyes
- Respiratory infections
- Untreated chronic health problems (HTN, DM)
- Significant dental problems
- Bruises, scars and other indicators of physical abuse (look at lower back for “hidden” bruises)
- Substance abuse problems

Health Indicators: Mental Health

- Long Term:
 - PTSD
 - Severe depression with suicidal ideation
 - Feelings of being mentally “broken”
 - Difficulty establishing/maintaining healthy relationships

Screening questions

- Can you come and go as you please?
- Have you been threatened if you try to leave?
- Have you been physically harmed ?
- Have you ever been deprived of food, water, sleep or medical care?
- Do you have to ask permission to eat, sleep or go to the bathroom?
- Are there locks on your doors or windows so that you cannot get out?

Screening questions (continued)

- Has anyone threatened your family?
- Has your identification/documentation been taken from you?
- Is anyone forcing you to do anything that you do not want to do?



Interventions

Key messages

Appropriate health screening and care

Resources

Key Messages

- We are here to help
- We want you to be safe: your safety is our 1st priority
- We will help you find a safe place to stay
- We will give you the medical care that you need
- You have rights and are entitled to assistance
- If you are a trafficking victim, you can get help to rebuild your life safely

If the victim is a minor

- Report abuse as appropriate
- Even if minor reports consensual sexual activity a report may be indicated

Health Care Services

- Vital signs
- Vision screening
- Hearing screening
- Comprehensive physical exam
 - Look for indicators of trauma
- TB screening
- GYN exam
 - STI/HIV screening
 - Pregnancy screening
 - Look for indicators of trauma

Sexual Assault Exam

- Determine if there is an allegation of sexual assault within past 72 hours
- If so,
 - Do NOT do GYN exam
 - arrange for sexual assault exam with evidence collection

Intersections:

Human Trafficking and
Domestic/Intimate Partner Violence

There are many overlaps

- Methods of exerting **power and control**
- **Cyclical violence and exploitation**
- **Sexual violence** used as a method of control in both labor and sex trafficking
- **History of domestic and/or sexual violence** as a contributing factor
- Trafficking perpetrated by intimate partner, family member or household member

Cycle of Exploitation



Supporting movement towards change

Meet immediate needs



Know that building trust takes time



Listen with compassion



Avoid re-traumatization and disempowerment



Be sensitive to power dynamics (including your own)



Provide options



Know resources



Don't make promises you cannot keep

Barriers

The individual being trafficked may:

- Not self-identify as a victim
- Refuse help
- Express love/loyalty towards the trafficker
- Lie or give “canned” stories
- Be defensive, aloof, dissociated
- Have unclear or disjointed memories

Case 1

- Mara comes to the clinic with a complaint of dysuria and blood in her urine. She is accompanied by her brother, who offers to translate for Mara since she does not speak English.
- Mara appears nervous, does not make eye contact, and defers to her brother to answer all the healthcare provider's questions.

Case 2

- Belinda is 22 years old and has come in today requesting “to be tested for everything”. She refuses Title X funding, stating “Oh no, I’ll just pay cash”. She has been in every month for the past 3 months for similar services. She is accompanied by an older adult male who always waits quietly in the waiting room until her appointment is over.

Case 3

- Renata is almost 17 years old and comes in today for a pregnancy test. She states that she was told that she was pregnant “when I got picked up for driving without a license and spent the night in jail. She is not in school “because I just moved ...I’m going to start soon though”. She wants to terminate the pregnancy and reports “I’ve got the money to do it”. When asked about abuse, she freely admits that she had an abusive partner “he could go to jail for it” but states that she “ran” from him and is now safe.

Resources

- Polaris Project:
 - General information and resources
 - <http://www.polarisproject.org/>
- National Hotline/text
- State-by-State Resource Map:
 - <http://www.polarisproject.org/state-map>



ASSESSMENT QUESTIONS

- Is the victim in control of his/her identification documents? If not, who is?
- Does the victim have someone speaking or interpreting for him/her?
- Is the victim's movement or communication restricted or monitored?
- Is the victim afraid to speak about him/herself in the presence of others?
- Is the victim aware of his/her location (city/state)?
- Is the victim under 18 and engaging in commercial sex?
- Were there incidences or evidence of physical or sexual assault?
- Is the victim doing a job they were recruited for or something different?
- Is the victim's salary being confiscated to pay off a debt to an employer?
- Is the victim being held against his/her will?
- Has the victim or his/her family been threatened with harm if the victim attempts to escape or report the abuse?

To get help, report a tip, or request information or training, call the National Human Trafficking Resource Center at **1-888-373-7888** or text **BeFree (233733)**.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING

SEX TRAFFICKING:

minors (under age 18) induced into commercial sex; or adults aged 18 or over induced into commercial sex via force, fraud, or coercion.

LABOR TRAFFICKING:

children and adults induced to perform labor or services through force, fraud, or coercion.

CALL 1-888-373-7888

or TEXT BeFree (233733)

Contact the **National Human Trafficking Resource Center** to get help, report a tip, or request information or training.



Can you recognize victims of human trafficking among the people you help everyday?



If you think someone is a victim of trafficking, call 1.888.373.7888
For more information about human trafficking, visit www.letthepeoplehearthings.org.



Human Trafficking

Looking beneath the surface
Ohio's health care response



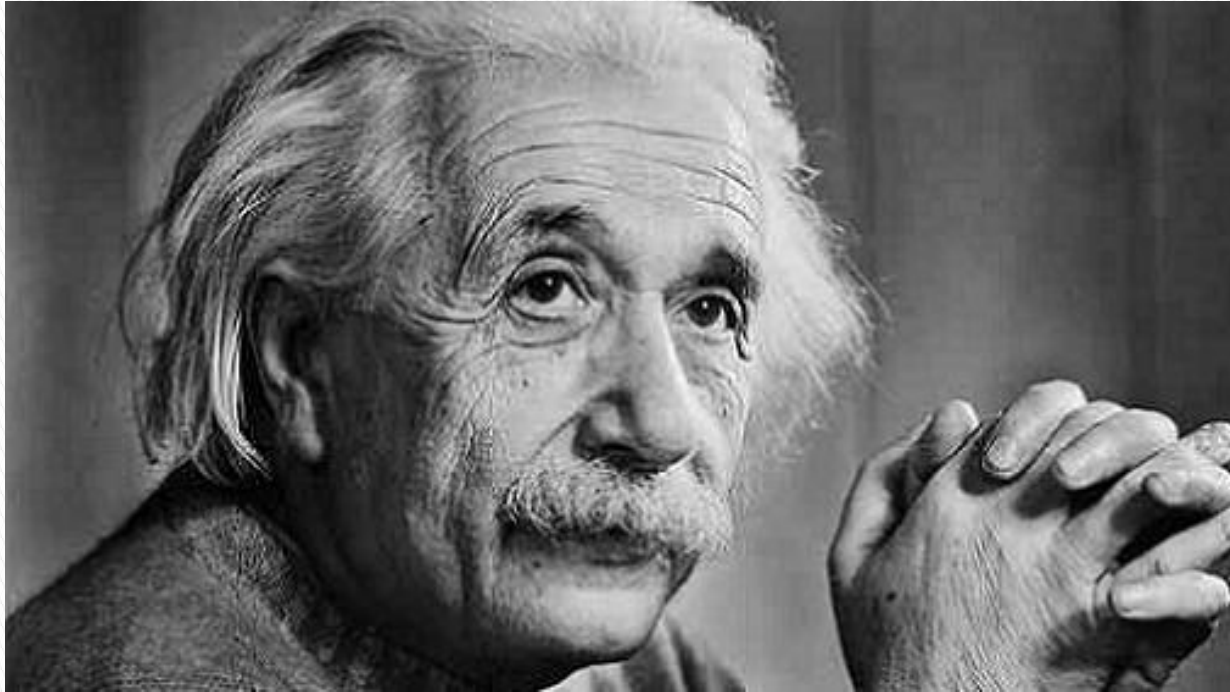
Beth Malchus

My connection to the issue.



Debra Seltzer

My connection to the issue.

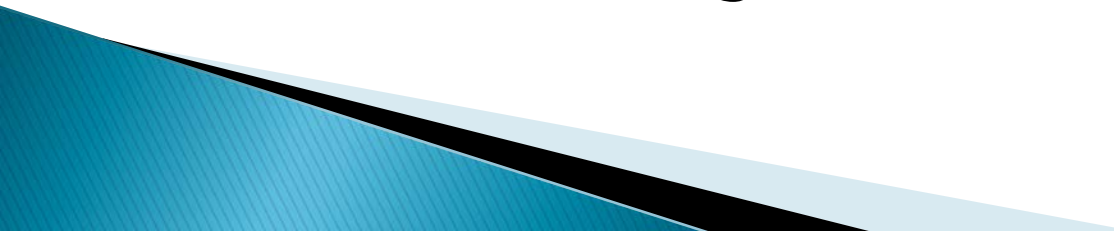


Albert Einstein

“The world is in greater peril from those who tolerate or encourage evil than from those who actually commit it.”

Learning Objectives

Participants will be able to:

1. Identify two categories of workers in the health care setting.
 2. Describe why bringing stakeholders together to work on human trafficking is important.
 3. Describe Ohio's template for creating a protocol on human trafficking in the health care setting.
 4. Identify additional things you can do to help end trafficking.
- 

Ohio's Background on the Issue



Governor's recommendations – Ohio Department of Health

- ▶ Train public health workers
- ▶ Train Ohio school nurses
- ▶ Train health surveyors
- ▶ Guide for health care workers to create a protocol





Safety and Preparedness

Know how to hang a bear bag

Best Practices for a Protocol

- ▶ Grounded in the Public Health Model
- ▶ Literature Search
- ▶ Collaboration with Stakeholders
- ▶ Protocols available



Two Job Categories



Observers



Screeners

Collaboration Collaboration Collaboration Collaboration





Ohio Department of Health - Ohio School Nurses

HUMAN
TRAFFICKING

Human Trafficking Observing and Reporting Protocol (May 2013)

If you suspect you have come into contact with a victim of human trafficking,
ASK YOURSELF
Is victim in immediate life threatening danger?

YES

STEPS

1. Call 911.
2. Call the **Trafficking National 24 Hour Hotline 1-888-3737-888** to report tip.
3. Report suspected child abuse or neglect to Children Services per school policy.
Call **Ohio's Child Abuse Reporting Hotline 1-855-642-4453.**

Note: School Nurses are mandated reporters (ORC 2151.421).

NO

Trafficking Victims Protection Act 2000 Definitions

Labor Trafficking: the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services through the use of force, fraud or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage or slavery.

Sex Trafficking: the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person of a commercial sex act, in which a commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud or coercion or in which a person forced to perform such act is under the age of 18 years.

If victim is not in immediate danger, do you suspect the situation meets the **Trafficking Victim's Protection Act Definitions** of human trafficking?

Look for signs and possible indicators that can help you identify if it's a trafficking situation.

Does the youth exhibit any signs or potential indicators of human trafficking?

Ask the student the questions on page 2.

YES

STEPS

1. Call the **Trafficking National 24 Hour Hotline 1-888-3737-888.**
2. Report suspected child abuse or neglect to Children Services per school policy.
Call **Ohio's Child Abuse Reporting Hotline 1-855-642-4453.**

Note: School Nurses are mandated reporters (ORC 2151.421).

NO

- Victim may be experiencing abuse or have other significant needs.
- 211 may be available in your area or contact local resources (e.g., domestic violence shelter, mental health).
- Report suspected child abuse or neglect to Children Services per school policy. **Call Ohio's Child Abuse Reporting Hotline 1-855-642-4453.**

Note: School Nurses are mandated reporters (ORC 2151.421).

Examples of signs and indicators to look for

- Does not attend school regularly, may have unexplained absences or be identified as truant.
- Runs away from home regularly.
- Talks about frequent travel to other cities.
- Has bruises or other physical, mental or sexual signs of abuse.
- Shows signs of fear, anxiety, depression or emotional distress.
- Physically exhausted; works long hours; responsible for childcare or cleaning.
- Experiences malnutrition or hunger, poor hygiene, back problems or urinary difficulties.
- Shows signs of drug addiction.
- Demonstrates a sudden change in behavior or clothing
- Makes references to sexual situations that are unusual for a child of that age.
- Has a "boyfriend" or "girlfriend" who is noticeably older (10+ years).
- Poor dental health.



Ohio Department of Health Ohio School Nurse Protocol

Human Trafficking Observing and Reporting (May 2013)

**HUMAN
TRAFFICKING**

General Information

Not all youth see themselves as being trafficked, victimized or in abusive situations. Some do not recognize that they are unsafe, and may not want to be rescued from their situation. They may see their trafficker/abuser as the only person who cares for/loves them or provides for them. Telling them they are abused or that the trafficker is endangering them – instead of them telling you – may put the youth on the defensive or increase their loyalty to the trafficker/abuser. Note: The trafficker/abuser may be a parent, guardian, boyfriend or girlfriend.

- Explain limits of confidentiality (important with minor – mandated reporting).
- Trust your intuition.
- Human trafficking happens in all ethnic/racial groups; all economics groups; all religions; to lesbians, gay, bisexual, transgender (LGBT) and heterosexual persons; to those at all levels of education or profession. Like sexual assault and teen partner violence, human trafficking knows no boundaries. Provide education to all students.
- Make sure the student's partner/guardian/friend is not within earshot or view. You can explain "This part of the session is for the student only; I'll come and get you in a few moments."
- Use the student's language to refer to the partner/abuser/boyfriend/girlfriend.

Start off: "Because abuse is so common in our state, I ask every student if they are experiencing abuse. Abuse can take many forms – not just physical, but also emotional, financial, and sexual."

These questions are to serve as a guide to help you assess if it is human trafficking or another form of abuse. These are not to be asked in any specific order. Use age-appropriate language when asking students these questions.

- Has anyone put his/her hands on you in a way you didn't want (push, pinch, restrain, wrestle) when you didn't want? Tell me what happened.
- Tell me about a time, if any, where someone told you that you had to ask permission to eat, sleep, or use the bathroom?
- What kind of payment do you get when you work?
- If you do not get paid with cash or a check, in what other ways do you get paid for your work (such as food, clothing, or other material things)?
- Tell me what happens when your work is done for the day.
- If student tells you they are not allowed to leave at the end of their workday, follow up by asking them: What happens if you try to leave? Who tells you that you cannot leave?
- Describe to me where you work. Are there locks or bars on the doors or windows?
- Tell me about your home. Are there locks or bars on the doors or windows there?
- Tell me about the times when you need to show your identification or documentation. Where is your documentation kept?
- Does your partner make you have sexual contact when you don't want? Tell me what you do.
- Has your partner or anyone forced you to have sex with someone else in exchange for money, drugs or housing? Tell me about it.

Key messages for survivor/victim

- You deserve to be safe.
- Abuse is not your fault.
- I believe you and I am sorry this has happened to you.
- Explain the limitation of confidentiality.
- I want to give you this number to... Can we call this number together?



Other Forms of Violence and Abuse

The Nightmare (1782)

Henry Fuseli

Detroit Institute of Art



Isak Dinesen

“When you have a great and difficult task, something perhaps almost impossible, if you only work a little at a time, every day a little, suddenly the work will finish itself.”

Stay Involved

- ▶ Stay informed; seek out training opportunities
- ▶ Start a conversation with family and friends
- ▶ Volunteer
- ▶ Find out where your food and clothing come from
- ▶ Compensate people fairly for the services they provide
- ▶ Don't buy sex or support a message that buying and selling sex is acceptable





bell hooks

“You have to love justice more than your allegiance to race, sexuality and gender. It is about justice.”

Contact

- ▶ Debra Seltzer debra.seltzer@odh.ohio.gov
 - 614-728-2176
- ▶ Beth Malchus beth.malchus@odh.ohio.gov
 - 614-466-8960

<http://www.healthy.ohio.gov/sadv/htraffick.aspx>

Questions?

Please type your questions in the
chat box. →

Thank You!

Thank you for participating in the webinar! The slides and recording of today's webinar will be available to download from our website:

[http://www.futureswithoutviolence.org/section/our_work/health/webinars/ 11 19 13](http://www.futureswithoutviolence.org/section/our_work/health/webinars/11_19_13)

Please take a few minutes to complete the online evaluation form:
(a new browser window will appear in a few seconds)

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/BXG8YKJ>

