



Community Resource Mapping Toolkit: Supporting the Needs of Survivors of Human Trafficking, Domestic Violence, and Sexual Assault

This Community Resource Mapping Toolkit can aid anti-human trafficking community collaborations to: a) recognize the needs of survivors; b) discern internal individual and organizational capacity and resources; c) identify community-based services, resources, point persons, and gaps to support survivors; and d) explore opportunities to improve services through collaboration strategies.

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This resource was developed as part of the training institute: [Building Collaborative Responses to Trafficked Victims of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault](#), for collaborative teams or task-forces, organized by Futures Without Violence.

For questions on using this resource, contact: learning@futureswithoutviolence.org

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SECTION 1: Resource Mapping Overview

Due to the nature of human trafficking, survivors are likely to need a number of services to support them on their healing journey. The resources needed may include physical and mental health care, legal services, housing resources, support with follow up on advocacy support and goals. It is also important to consider culture, language access, transportation, and childcare access, among other things. Survivors may not know of the available resources and should be advised of their options. The survivor knows themselves the best, and their self-determination should be centered in all aspects throughout the process.

Community mapping and assessment can help identify the capacity of your programs and to uncover needs and resources. Multi-disciplinary and collaborative responses strengthen the coordination of services for those experiencing domestic violence, sexual assault and human trafficking (DV/SA/HT). Identifying resources and cultivating relationships with service providers is key for being prepared for a human trafficking case and to support survivors.

We recommend that you consider your community demographics and identify other forms of violence and issues that overlap with human trafficking, like increasing rates of domestic violence, labor exploitation, homelessness, etc. Identify patterns of trafficking in your community in order to understand survivors' experiences, determine needs, and engage culturally-relevant resources.

It is also valuable to consider identifying community resources that would support survivors in each of these demographic groups, regardless of their prevalence in your local area, as trafficking survivors may come from any background. To prompt your community assessment, consider the following groups:

- American Indian/Alaska Native survivors
- LGBTQ+ survivors
- Youth/young adults
- U.S. born survivors
- Foreign-born survivors
- Different language needs
- Males, female, non-binary
- Survivors of labor trafficking
- Survivors of sex trafficking
- Survivors with disabilities
- Survivors in rural settings
- Survivors using substances
- Survivors experiencing homelessness
- Survivors in specific industries

SECTION 2: Strategies for Collaborative Community Resources Mapping

1. Identify interest, capacity, and support. Recruit [partners](#) and develop a vision.
2. Formalize collaboration and partnership. Establish goals and focus, develop a work plan, and clarify roles and responsibilities.
3. Engage in an [internal review](#) of values, resources, capacity, protocols, and partnerships.
4. Compile a list of community resources and point persons. Engage community through survivors' feedback, partnerships, surveys, and online research.

Recommendations:

- Identify capacity gaps and needs of service providers, and cross train staff at all levels, to build skills to support survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking.
- Develop or update a resource list with information on points of contact, types of services, community served, roles in supporting survivors, and any other notes.
- Develop a referral process and protocol to ensure a response that includes trauma-informed care and survivor-centered approach. Include confidentiality, immediate safety needs, and culturally appropriate advocacy response in different possible scenarios.
- Leverage relationships with service providers to ensure immediate needs are met and on-going support is provided.
- Get to know the culture and social structure of your community, this helps understand how to address the needs and use its resources.

Tier Approach for Community Resource Mapping



SECTION 3: Community Resources Mapping Worksheets

Use the worksheets below to identify, map, and discuss individual and community resources.

- ❖ [Internal Individual Organizational Resource Map to Support Survivors Worksheet](#)
- ❖ [Community Resources Map and Directory Excel Worksheet](#), FUTURES
- ❖ [Community Asset Mapping Worksheet](#), (workforce development programs), FUTURES
- ❖ [Connecting the Pieces: A Socio-Ecological Approach to Collaboration, Internal and External Resource Mapping Workbook](#) – Community Solutions

SECTION 4: Questions to reflect on resources, gaps, and opportunities

These questions are for a collaborative team, to can help assess current resources, gaps, and opportunities for partnerships and to enhance services. This activity can be done after filling out the [community resource map worksheet](#) attached.

- 1) Over all, what agencies or organizations are addressing human trafficking and providing services to survivors in our community?

- 2) What level of capacity do agencies have to provide services to survivors/victims of human trafficking? Are survivors being turned away due to agency lack of capacity? What are some strengths?

- 3) Are there any gaps in services? Consider: gender, age, ethnicity, language/disability access; minimum standards for assistance. Discuss how to better identify gaps in services.

- 4) What could we do to fill these gaps and who could help bridge the gaps? Who is missing from the table? Think of agencies and champions within advocacy, social, legal services, health, and law enforcement.

- 5) What could our collaboration do together to improve services, referral process, and partnerships to support survivors? Are there potential new collaborations?

- 6) What are the specific industries or settings in your community that might be vulnerable to human trafficking? Based on this, who should be in your collaborative to address the needs of the community?

- 7) Notes on next steps:

SECTION 5: Possible Needs of Survivors of Human Trafficking, Domestic Violence, and Sexual Assault, Overview

The victim/survivor knows themselves the best and should be included in all aspects of recovery. They will know what they specifically need throughout the process.

Safety	A safe place to live free from their traffickers. Safety plan.
Emergency Essentials	Food, clothing, housing, medical treatment, language access, child care assistance, legal emergency assistance, and emergency financial aid.
Advocacy	Assistance retrieving identification documents, completing applications, attending appointments, and navigating different U.S. systems (e.g. criminal justice, child welfare, immigration, human services, transportation, etc.).
Social Services	Assist victims in receiving services such as food stamps, Medicaid, housing assistance, etc.
Health Care	Medical care, dental care, universal education on healthy relationships, health insurance, work related injuries, addressing chronic health concerns such as HIV/AIDS and STIs (among others). This includes emergency needs and long term care, and overall wellness.
Mental Health	Counseling, therapy, and support groups. Behavioral health professionals can support survivors with anxiety, depression, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), and substance dependency. They also work with case managers to establish the best course of support for survivors.
Case Management	Assistance receiving social services.
Education	GED assistance, enrollment in school, technical/training certification, English language classes.
Employment & Life Skills Counseling	Job training, employment location and placement assistance, and financial management. Assistance with operation of basic household appliances, using public transportation, learning to cook, parenting, etc.
Faith-Based	Assistance with emergency shelter, basic needs of victims, transportation, and mentorship/spiritual needs of victims. Monetary support.
Youth Services	Juvenile Justice, Department of Social Services, and school systems.
Rights Enforcement	Informed of available services. Notification of significant actions pertaining to their case. Notification of crime victim compensation. Access to emergency funds. Restitution and compensation for unpaid wages. Accompaniment to all criminal proceedings by any person

	providing support or assistance. Receive notice of a defendant's release.
Federal Law Enforcement	Helping with cases that involve interstate commerce, witness protection, also insuring safety of victim/survivor, and repatriation. Also prosecutes traffickers and buyers.
Local Enforcement	Ensures safety of victims/survivors, response, and referral to services. Also tasked with arresting traffickers and buyers, collecting evidence, and investigation.
Legal Assistance	Legal representation, civil, criminal, family law, employment (back wages/sexual harassment), and immigration. Assistance with filing T-Visa applications and immigration petitions for foreign-born victims. Child specific: Court appointed special advocate or guardian, advocacy within child welfare system. Education on know their rights in the workplace, sexual harassment/assault.

Legal Assistance Needs Overview

Minors	Minors may require legal representation in guardianship proceedings and education/school issues (placement, suspension, tuition).
Housing	Many trafficking survivors face housing problems such as eviction as a result of a trafficking situation. They also need help with enforcing disability discrimination housing laws.
Medical	Some survivors may need help maintaining the privacy of their medical records or applying for fee waivers for medical care.
Name and Gender Change	Some trafficking survivors request name changes for safety reasons, and some transgender trafficking survivors may request name and gender changes.
Family Law	Protection or Restraining Order. Victims, particularly those who are related to their traffickers, may need assistance with separation, divorce, child custody and support, guardianship, or adoption.
Employment Law	Trafficking victims may have claims under state or local minimum wage laws or contract law. Victims may have been subjected to harassment or discrimination in their workplace and need assistance in filing a complaint with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.
Public Benefits Access	Trafficking survivors may be eligible for a wide range of federally and locally funded public benefits, but usually need assistance to access these benefits. The services available to them may depend on their income, legal status, marital status, age, criminal record, and other factors. Public benefits offices may not be familiar with trafficking, for assessing eligibility.

Criminal Defense	Victims facing current criminal charges will need representation in those proceedings, and may be assigned a public defender if they cannot afford a private attorney.
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[Immigration Law Needs and Protections Overview, OVC](#)

[Legal Services Open to All Immigrant Survivors – NIWAP Resources](#)

Continued Presence	Temporary immigration relief to potential witnesses who are victims of severe forms of trafficking. Continued Presence is generally issued for 1 year, includes employment authorization, and confers eligibility for some federally funded public benefits. May be renewed in 1-year increments, upon law enforcement request.
T Nonimmigrant Visa	Issued for 4 years, include employment authorization, and confer eligibility for some federally funded public benefits. Also available to certain immediate family members of the victim. Can apply for Permanent Resident status after 3 years or the conclusion of the criminal case.
U Nonimmigrant Visa	For victims of a variety of crimes and require law enforcement support. Issued for 4 years, include employment authorization, no access to federally funded public benefits.
Special Immigrant Juvenile (SIJ) Status	Allows certain foreign national children who are abused, abandoned, or neglected to remain legally in the United States and to seek Permanent Resident status (a “green card”). Trafficked youth who are in the child welfare system often qualify for SIJS.
Repatriation	Foreign national victims/survivors might prefer to return to their home country, and may need assistance in replacing their passport or other documentation. They should also be provided with referrals or resources that are available in their home country for survivors of trafficking.

[Civil Legal Needs of Survivors of Human Trafficking](#)

Research your [state law](#) to determine what benefits are available for victims/survivors of human trafficking in your state or region.

SECTION 6: Resources and Tools

- ❖ Ten Action Steps: Building and Sustaining Collaborations to Support Trafficking Survivors of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, A Toolkit for Advocacy Programs. (FUTURES)
- ❖ Toolkit for Building Survivor-Informed Organizations, DHHS, Office on Trafficking of Persons
- ❖ Victim Assistance Fact Sheet, Benefits and Services Available to Victims of Human Trafficking (HHS)
<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/otip/victim-assistance/services-available-victims-trafficking>
- ❖ Services Available to Victims of Human Trafficking: A Resource Guide for Social Service Providers (HHS)
- ❖ Guiding Principles for Agencies Serving Survivors of Human Trafficking
- ❖ Human Trafficking, Domestic and Sexual Violence Intersection Assessment Tool and other Resources, Community Solutions
- ❖ National Human Trafficking Referral Directory
- ❖ Inclusion in the National Human Trafficking Referral Directory: Guidelines & Expectations
- ❖ Assessing the Problem for Human Trafficking (OVC)
- ❖ Assessing Community Needs and Resources, Community Tool Box
- ❖ Potential Collaboration Members and Membership Characteristics
- ❖ Human Trafficking Task Force E-Guide (OVC)
- ❖ Community-Based Partnerships
- ❖ Community Resources Mapping Report of Domestic Violence Services, (sample)
- ❖ Targeted Resource Mapping Toolkit: Mapping Resources Along a Continuum of Services to Address Substance Use Disorders (Sample, NCJFCJ)
- ❖ Network Mapping Tool Worksheet (Advocacy & Communication Solutions)
- ❖ Toolkit on Participatory Asset Mapping (Advancement Project California)
- ❖ North Carolina Human Trafficking Resource Directory (2021 Sample)

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