09:59:45 Good morning, we'll get started in just a couple minutes.
10:01:51 Good morning, good afternoon, everyone
10:01:57 We're going to go ahead and get started
10:02:06 I'm Anisa Ali and I work with Futures Without Violence
10:02:13 Our presenters today are Perla Flores
10:02:28 and Monica Arenas
10:02:37 Please note that any information shared in the chat is public.
10:02:53 Please contact Futures Without Violence for support and resources.
10:03:01 (reading slide)
10:03:37 Thank you Anisa
10:03:58 This is Monica Arenas, thanks to everyone for joining, I work with Futures Without Violence, today's host for the webinar.
10:04:02 (Reading slide)
10:04:48 Futures provides technical assistance to OVW and their partners to identify best practices on human trafficking and intersections of DV and SA
10:05:03 We hold free trainings, webinars and support collaboration
10:05:22 We can also provide site visits and tailored trainings...available to OVW grantees and partners as resources permit.
10:05:50 We will hold an institute this fall. Please contact me (Monica) with any questions about resources, also featured on our website.
10:06:07 As part of this project, we have a team of faculty with extensive experience on HT programs.
10:06:23 Today, we are honored to have Perla and Kiricka join us. (Reading slide)
10:07:37 So now, we will go into our learning objectives for today's webinar.
10:07:45 As a result of this webinar (reading slide)
10:08:31 So now we will review briefly the agenda for today...
10:08:52 We will do a welcome...and this webinar is a continuation of other webinars we've held in the past examining HT and DV/SA/
10:09:12 This webinar will aim to provide you with additional information to compliment those webinars. We will start by covering a few basics.
10:09:21 (reading slide)
10:09:51 Thank you. Now we'll go into learning about you...
10:10:15 In terms of the people who registered...almost 700 people and a mix of advocates and others
10:10:31 About 30% of you here have no experience working on HT
10:10:36 Some of you are just getting started
10:10:53 You all have experiences that you can share and different strategies
10:11:03 Our faculty presenters will share what they've developed...
10:11:17 We now move into our definition of Human Trafficking as a reminder
10:11:22 (Reading slide)
10:12:26 So what this means in general is for both victims over 18 to be recognized as HT there does not need to be force, fraud or coercion.
10:12:37 Examples of force may include beatings, confinement...
10:12:51 For fraud, false promises, working conditions
10:13:00 Coercion is about threats of harm, or physical restraint
10:13:06 Can include confiscating passports
10:13:47 TVPA defines HT as a criminal offense and creates a penalty and mandates restitution for victims...and allows victims to work in the U.S. and receive benefits
10:13:54 That's an overview of HT
10:14:02 We have many more resources in the handouts on this topic.
10:14:21 In terms of intersections, like DV/SA...HT is about power and control
10:14:33 Someone can be a victims of both labor ans sex trafficking, as well as DV or SA
10:14:47 includes involuntary marriage, requiring spouses to conduct labor, sex work...
10:15:02 physical and sexual abuse...
Fraudulent courtship...(reading slide)
Fraudulent promises and being coerced or threatened into work
For example, someone who thought they would be in one line of work but are coerced into another
This is an overview of the intersections that we see in terms of HT cases.
Now we're going to turn it over to Perla
Good morning or afternoon (Perla)
In the DV/HT field because of the way these movements have emerged and because of funding, service providers are often cornered into providing mutually exclusive support to clients.
Because of the way the funding is set up, we're looking at these issues in silo.
We find that survivors are better supported in a collaborative, comprehensive way.
We want to address different forms of gender-based violence in an intersectional, collaborative approach.
Why is it important to address intersections? We need to support survivors across the experiences.
Some things like a T-visa are only available to HT survivors, so it is important to recognize the unique legal benefits for distinct survivors.
This can include housing or vocational programs and services.
We have found through our data that roughly 40% of DV survivors have also experienced Sexual assault.
We want to ensure that people who came in for HT services can access other additional supportive services.
Connecting clients to legal providers, family law support, employment law...
We might also be working with a DV survivor that needs housing.
What are the trauma informed advocacy pieces to support clients?
DV and SA service providers have been supporting trafficking survivors because of our philosophy and empowerment based approach.
A lot of times service providers extend services to trafficking providers to address the gaps in services.
Build your capacity internally to increase staff awareness to support HT survivors.
Staff can better understand the survivor's needs and support needed.
What we've seen is a lot of HT survivors, particularly sex trafficking, the trafficker is known -- a family member, boyfriend, etc.
Make sure you're familiar with state and federal laws addressing HT
What partnerships do you need to develop?
How can you develop interdisciplinary partnerships?
Find out what agencies offer to clients in your area.
Maybe some can support labor trafficked survivors but not children who are exploited.
When we think about HT it's very similar to SA and DV cases...typical flow (see slide)
First, identification at the community based level
The crisis response is an important point of engagement and important that trust building happens with client.
So when we think about a model for collaborative model on HT, think about these four components: identification, crisis, engagement and case management
HT can take many forms. Can be perpetrated by family, business owners, organized crime...no single profile for HT victim
Look at the forms your org is currently using to ID trafficking survivors
Many tools are available to assist you (see links on screen)
It's important for us to utilize the tool on the screen with every client. Through that tool we've been able to ID that 13% of people who came in our agency we're also DV survivors/
Many were SA survivors
Really important to assess for different intersections. See the tool and implementation guideline.
Some of the pieces that are important when thinking about ID and assessment...it took us about two years to develop that tool...the purpose of the assessment is to support the survivors and gather info that does so. Keep questions simple.
Our victim screening tool is used by the providers in our county, English and Spanish, Tagalog and Mandarin
Make sure you adapt tools for languages spoken in your community.
Something that's important to collect...what are survivor's immediate needs, mental health, do they have something on their record?
Many survivors are coerced or threatened into committing crimes.
The tools should be administered in the first week
10:30:04 to identify needs early on and to form the goals.
10:30:33 When we think about case management, one is the crisis response...initial contact with the survivor.
10:30:40 WE want to build capacity to increase client safety
10:31:06 The Office of Victims of Crime they recommend having one victim service provider as the point of contact.
10:31:16 All service providers can agree to this.
10:31:40 All agencies will call the one lead agency who will then coordinate with all other agencies. One hour response time.
10:31:54 That lead will assess for emergency needs, medical needs, protective orders, etc
10:32:19 After that initial engagement piece which is really important, they will be offered a connection to a case manager to help the survivor begin the process of healing.
10:32:30 When we think about case managers, it's a critical role.
10:32:38 The case manager is a liason and hub for the survivor.
10:32:57 The case manager can inform on the client's rights and ensure that the survivor understand info is confidential.
10:33:14 Explain role of mandated reporting
10:33:31 A goal plan will ideally be established for three stages
10:34:01 Work with survivor so they can ID their own decisions and you can help inform on options.
10:34:22 Collaboration is key...identify any gaps like transportation, or other resources needed...
10:34:35 Roles and responsibilities of different service providers...
10:34:53 There might be one agency that focuses on DV and can provide shelter, another agency can provide court accompaniment...
10:35:06 So explore your partners and services to identify wrap around support.
10:35:25 Address safety concerns most pressing to the client
10:35:42 This is just a snapshot of components of case management...
10:35:52 The first day we meet with the survivor through 30 days
10:36:09 the transitional or stabilization phase begins after the crisis phase.
10:36:24 Long term is advocacy, case management and therapeutic support
10:36:40 The last phase begins when the client is stable...in long term housing...
10:36:48 The average client requires 3 years of support
10:36:59 Advocacy, case management and housing is critical
10:37:08 I'm turning over to Monica...
10:37:20 Now we're going to read a case that is a scenario to help a survivor
10:37:32 (Reading slide)
10:38:26 (continue reading slide)
10:39:02 And now Perla will discuss the victim's safety
10:39:11 (Perla) We know there's DV happening with her partner
10:39:15 We know there's sexual assault
10:39:32 Because of dates and handing over money, with violence...we see the coercion of sex trafficking
10:39:40 She also disclosed child molestation
10:39:56 The first thing the advocate will do is ID basic needs and housing
10:40:40 One of the things we'd offer Vanessa in our county is housing, medical care and case management...developing a safety plan, peer advocacy and counseling...and develop a goal plan for emergencies
10:40:52 And connecting Vanessa to legal support
10:41:27 The other important piece is ensuring seamless support to HT survivors in DV/SA programs...our emergency DV shelter can accommodate 14 HT survivors.
10:41:39 We know HT survivors might have to stay longer in the shelter
10:41:59 Every client will work with their advocate to make sure they have food, clothing, toiletries, school, transportation...
10:42:14 Explore whether they're eligible for benefits...
10:42:21 Court accompaniment
10:42:31 Goal plans that focus on education and income planning
10:42:38 Transportation support and rides to appointments.
10:42:53 And Kiricika you can feel free to add to this if you like...
10:42:58 (Kiricika: Sure)
10:43:11 Kiricka: With this slide, what are the housing options and support?
10:43:16 Trafficking specific shelters
10:43:42 WE don't have a lot of trafficking shelters so if you are using DV shelters or homeless shelters, make sure they also have received training on needs of trafficking survivors.
10:44:17 from being able to receive housing, from one of those particular sources, and if they have children.
10:44:32 sometimes if they don't have children, they aren't eligible for certain programs. and if they have employment
10:44:50 if they dont have residence, what do they put on their ID?
10:45:07 working with legal providers and identifying whether it's legal aid
10:45:21 some of the strategies that we need when we are working ithw crisis, is housing support
10:45:36 you need an MOU between DV and SA sheter and HT program
10:45:41 to make sure housing is accessible
10:45:58 we want to make sure it meets basic standards ofHUD to make sure everything is working
10:46:08 you want to make sure to try to develop some relationships with some of the hotels
10:46:22 htoels aren't the most ideal options for trafficking survivors but sometimes are the only option.
10:46:32 and how to option housing vouchers for HT survivors
10:46:46 sometimes community and faith based groups to provide you with funding for shelter
10:46:53 or a down payment on an apartment
10:47:03 make sure you're adapting your procedures to enhance access
10:47:20 whe you have people who are deaf, blind, hard of hearing just making sure your materials are accessible
10:47:32 the federal victims assistance emergency fund
10:47:47 36% of youth that were homeless traded sex for money, a place to spend the night, and for drugs
10:48:11 a lot of times they are being targeted because people feel like they are desperate for food, income, shelter, and their basic needs
10:48:25 whether you are a hoousing provider or an advaocate
10:48:31 you want to think about a few things with safe housing
10:48:41 make sure housing not located close to high crime areas
10:48:51 in terms of where home is located and in terms of transportation
10:49:03 you want to look at, do you have a bus line?
10:49:19 do you have shared van resources so survivors can access food, medical, employment
10:49:27 you want to make sure you have a list of housing option in your area
10:49:39 make sure you know the populations that each of those providers works with
10:49:56 make sure whatever home you are working with that they can accommodate their age, gender, and accessibility needs
10:50:05 important that survivors know their rights
10:50:13 what they are responsible for, what are there expectations
10:50:23 what is the anticipated length of stay at that safe house?
10:50:34 that can cause survivors anxiety if they dont know how much time they have
10:50:52 we want to make sure we are providing complete expectations for survivors to maek informed decisions
10:51:05 make sure they know safety rules, policies and procedures, in a language they understand
10:51:25 make sure you are adapting your policies and practices to accommodate the needs of survivors
10:51:39 make sure housing provider can accommodate age, gender, and accessibility needs
10:52:14 make sure that survivors are consulted regularly about services they receive to make sure they are appropriate and survivors feel secure
10:52:24 in our housing program, an individual was receiving a deposit for an apartment
10:52:40 but in follow-up we were made aware that that person was still living in a hotel
10:52:46 they had mixed up the names of the individual
10:53:01 if the coordinator hadn't followed up with person, then we wouldn't have known that
10:53:11 the three phases of our case management approach
10:53:21 for Vaness, basic needs no longer a concern'
10:53:33 we are looking at legal service providers
10:53:45 if she had questions about T visa or protection order
10:53:54 or other legal support, here is where collaboration is key
10:54:09 advocacy and case management would include advocate dfor benenfits
10:54:15 maybe Vanessa doesn't have ID
any type of advocacy with law enforcement
the housing piece is important
this model we are looking at ending cycle of violence and poverty
it's hard to do that without housing
at CS, one of our rooms at shelter
most residents will stay there for a year
until we talk about other housing option
identifying safe peers in community she can connect with
if there's any mental health or primary care
many survivors don't have access to medical care and have chronic health issues
some survivors want ESL classes
or some type of education to help them be prepared to have stable income once ready to work
during this transitional support phase
a lot of these has to be provided by victims service providers or other services from CBOs
first we look at emergency and crisis housing
but with transitional housing, have to think outside of the box
having innovative ideas and processes
sometimes harder for us to reach out to local businesses or rental companies who may not understand survivors' issues
with some agencies, don't have short term rental options
but some local or faith-based groups will work with you on this and with furniture
don't have to be involved with survivors care
can look at local foundations to help with expenses
HUD a lot of times offers grants funding too
HUD works a lot with rapid re-housing
if we are connecting with those providers who aren't advocates but may work with homeless individuals, may also work with re-entry
want to bring others into the fold to map our resources as best as possible
sometimes are clients are also spread so that it may be DV and SA but also may be homeless
just make sure we have continuous case management from advocate, continuous follow-up
really making sure that something with housing can cause a lot of issues if don't have stable housing if trying to build job skills or trying to figure out how to enroll kids in school
it can be traumatic for survivors
with transitional support, goal is to move people into safe and permanent housing as safely and quickly as possible
in santa clara county, have developed partnerships with continuum of care providers
access to long term and rapid re-housing
in Vanessa's case, would continue with case management and advocacy
during crisis phase, CM checks in with survivor daily
during transitional phase, checks in once every couple of weeks
at this point, focus is on what support we provide to survivor so that they aren't forced to go back into crisis
maintaining housing, support networks, employment
for CM, continue with counseling, driver's license, obtain a car
primary care and mental health support
once they get into housing, want to still receive counseling and peer support
we also do developing life skills with survivors
we will work with survivors to develop a safety plan and a goal plan
the long term sustainability phase can last 1-2 years, and depends on survivors
if you prefer to close out your file, totally ok
if you need any support, survivors can reach out to us
for housing, connect survivors with housing
for long term and permanent housing options,

it's really important that you really work on building relationships and network of providers you can work with
11:05:06 make sure you are having conversations with people for subsidized housing, section 8 housing
11:05:19 there's an idea they will always be in bad areas or neighborhood
11:05:31 but can use vouchers to go outside of the area as long as it's in the area
11:05:41 with tenant-based housing, it's about knowing the language
11:05:54 an advocate's guide to public housing has the language you'll need
11:06:08 housing stabilization really affects everything with survivors
11:06:17 it improves their health, boosts their self-esteem
11:06:26 need ID, access to schools, for employment
11:06:32 can work with transitional housing programs
11:06:49 survivors who have an eviction history, may have negative referrals from landlords
11:07:06 that might make it difficult to work with private transitional housing survivors
11:07:18 one of the things that has benefitted us is having an upfront discussion
11:07:39 with eviction history, may not have the best credit, but if we can help pay the deposit or employment, that helps
11:07:50 and we can pay for example for first 4 months
11:07:59 sometimes those are some of the ways you can have a discussion with them
11:08:11 some of the strategies can help clear criminal record
11:08:25 you can look at private attorneys if you don't have Legal Aid, sometimes will work pro bono
11:08:42 having MOUs with DV shelters and faith-based housing and apartments is helpful
11:08:52 also having housing vouchers for human trafficking survivors
11:09:05 with one agency worked with, we received 10 vouchers in 7 different communities
11:09:20 may not sound like a lot, but that meant at least 10 families in those communities to be safe!
11:09:33 really making sure we are addressing/adapting our policies to adapt access
11:10:03 Perla: one of the things that comes to mind with safety plan is that it should be a light document we adapted Jill Davis' safety planning for HT survivors
11:10:16 this includes identifying and addressing life-generated risks and HT-generated risks
11:10:29 it's important to discuss their idea of "safe place"
11:11:03 there are times when the advocate may feel like that's not a safety concern, or times when survivor might not think something is a safety concern
11:11:33 when a survivor leaves a violent situation, really important to incorporate into the safety plan the perpetrator generated risks
11:11:58 sometimes the family is in a different country
11:12:03 important to take that in account
11:12:25 traffickers can be really dangerous, so important to ensure that the hotel is a a secure location and confidential
11:12:44 if we have relationships with hotel, we can treat them as extension of our shelter
11:12:53 if possible, having security cameras and alarm at the shelter
11:12:59 some shelters have security guards
11:13:08 in terms of phone or internet use, we do have that
11:13:28 we want to treat survivors with respect and have autonomy but want to have conversations about how technology can be used to cause harm
11:13:47 we purchase pre-paid cell phones for survivors
11:13:54 so they have a way to communicate with advocate and 911
11:14:14 safety consideration for survivors, have a work cell phone, and voice mail won't have the name
11:14:25 Kiricka: power of collaborative relationships
11:14:48 having someone coordinate that relationships is really important
11:14:58 and build connections to help survivors with resources
11:15:04 develop a resource list within your community
11:15:17 how do we make sure we have those providers and as up to date as possible?
11:15:29 identifying single point of contact in each agency as much as possible
11:15:43 burnout, low pay, turnover is real, so make sure you have a plan B
11:15:51 with those relationships, always draft and sign MOU
11:15:58 and have that spell out roles for each agency
11:16:10 develop a referral process and protocol for how to do referrals
check in periodically with each other and address gaps as needed
with potential partners in community, it depends on your community
what is the target population your community serves?
DV programs, local law enforcement, faith-based, housing, etc
how many of you engage with partners outside of this list? we'll look at the list in just a minute
elements for collaborations that should be in place are:
coordinating services, trauma-informed and victim-centered
making sure that we are providing cross-training and peer exchange
advocates will say can we train your agency?
but advocates can have training from partners too and will help get people in the door
map your resources as you are pulling people together
law enforcement is a difficult topic sometimes for advocates
it's beneficial with law enforcement to know that these relationships can build over time
clarify what your roles are, what are your expectations of them, and them of you
make sure survivors informed of laws for HT that can protect them
also understanding and talking with them that victim has the right to cooperate with law enforcement when they are ready
be consistent and have proactive communication
in order to collaborate, have to understand there is a purpose and place for everyone, and need to figure out what that purpose is
work towards common goals, and setting those goals
what are the common goals that you have?
professionalism and attitude is key to making sure survivors are engaged
we do understand that these are the individuals who are already been serving survivors in their community
advocacy non-negotiables:
protect survivor's confidentiality always
respect differences and avoid assumptions
have survivors explore options and repercussions
support the survivors' decision, even when contrary to what advocates believe
maintain strong professional boundaries
number 1 non-negotiable is to take care of yourself!
Monica: now we want to go over questions you have shared
Lorraine from Tecas says she is partnering with law enforcement
Ruth is collaborating with SANE nurses and has been helpful, also works with court system, and medical system
others can share as well
we want to learn about strategies you have found meaningful or helpful for survivors for HT
participants were asking about strategies for keeping communication with survivors throughout, from a few months to a year
Perla: I mentioned earlier that we developed goal plan, which includes meeting schedule, can be 3-4 times a week
transitional phase will be once a week every couple of weeks
make sure these are the same days/times of week
same thing with goal plan for long term, ie meeting plan once a month, Mondays at 4
have a standing meeting
Kiricka: relationships, relationships, relationships!
so the person will want to reach back out to you and work with you
like we have bus passes, other ways to keep them engaged and coming back to the table
Monica: I also just posted a link to some of these resources for tracking case management and referrals. It's in the chat box
Monica: We have a question about your experience with references on harm reduction
Monica: what is your experience or references for harm reduction when providing harm reduction strategies?
Kiricka: maintain confidentiality, always making sure all potential signs for re-victimization
always discuss with the survivor
always help them maintain a choice, it should be their choice
very basic but things you can do
sit down with them and come up with a safety plan
safety planning is a huge way to reduce harm!
Monica: thank you, that's helpful
Monica: we want to highlight some of the resources in the tools
we have a handout for you to assess your preparedness to provide services
and collaboration roles and indicators
so these are the links on the slide, and they are on the handouts as well
Monica: thank you for your participation!
Please take a moment to fill out the evaluation
through the evaluation you can request resources or a certificate of participation
the link is in the chatbox right now
Monica: thank you Kiricka and Perla for your presentation!
And all of you for your participation! And all your feedback is important
For any questions, please contact Monica ARceans
Thank you so much and hope you have a great day
The evaluation link: you'll have to copy it and paste it in your browser
I'll post the evaluation link as well.
Thank you again!