Healthcare’s Response to Human Trafficking
Presented by:
Forensic Healthcare Consulting
Central Ohio Rescue & Restore Coalition

Objectives
• Recognize the different forms of human trafficking
• Recognize the physical and mental health consequences of trafficking victims
• List 2 characteristics of human trafficking victims that may assist in their identification in the healthcare setting

What is Human Trafficking?
• Modern-day slavery
• Exploitation of men, women and children for commercial sex or labor purposes
• The second largest and fastest growing criminal industry in the world

• 150 years since the Emancipation Proclamation
• Yet today, there are more slaves in the world than ever before

Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA)
• Legal definitions
  • Sex Trafficking
  • Labor Trafficking
  • Must prove force, fraud or coercion if >18 yrs

TVPA
• Goals
  • Prevention – international and domestic
  • Protection for victims
  • Prosecution of traffickers
International Scope of Trafficking

- 800,000 trafficked across international borders
- 17,500 trafficked into the US
- 80% transnational victims are women and girls
  US Department of State Trafficking in Persons Report 2008
- 27 million people living in slavery today

Two Broad Categories of Human Trafficking

Labor Trafficking
- Domestic Service
- Sweat Shops/Factories
- Begging
- Agricultural Work
- Mining
- Brick Kilns
- Child Soldiers

Sex Trafficking
- Prostitution
- Pornography
- Strippling
- Lap Dancing
- Live-Sex Shows
- Mail-order Brides
- Child Brides

Vulnerability Factors: Labor Trafficking

- High unemployment
- Poverty
- Crime
- Discrimination
- Corruption
- Political conflict
- Cultural acceptance of practice
  US Trafficking in Persons Report 2008

Forms of Labor Trafficking

- Debt Bondage
  - Victims must reimburse his/her traffickers
  - Amount to be repaid set by the traffickers

Forms of Labor Trafficking

- Forced Labor
  - Victim forced to work against their will
  - Threat of violence
  - Freedom restricted
  - Degree of ownership

Forms of Labor Trafficking

Child Labor

- Work likely to be hazardous to the health and/or development of children
- 246 million exploited children between 5-17 years of age
Prevalence of Labor Trafficking
- 122 goods produced in 58 countries
- More goods made with child labor than forced labor

Who Are The Traffickers?
- Organized crime
- Neighbors, friends, family members, village chiefs
- Agricultural operations
- Business owners
- Boyfriend
- Pimp

SEX TRAFFICKING
Commercial sex act induced by force, fraud, coercion, or in which the individual is under the age of 18

Sex Trafficking in the US?
- 100,000 to 300,000 US children at risk
- 100,000 children involved
- Average age of entry - 12 to 14 years
- 90% of runaway youth

Factors Associated with Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking
- Runaway children
- Adult prostitution markets
- Prior history of sexual abuse
- Poverty

Where Do Victims Come From?
- Cities, suburbs, small towns
- All races, ethnic groups
- All walks of life

Recruitment into Sex Trafficking

- Malls, corner stores
- Friend's house
- Truck stops
- Sporting events
- Outside juvenile justice center

Factors Associated with Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking

- Large numbers of unattached/transient males
- Membership in gangs
- Promotion of child prostitution by family/friends
- Organized crime


Traffickers Exploit Vulnerability

- Identify vulnerable
- Befriend them
- Show love and affection
- Isolate from family/friends
- Control/exploit

Pimp Control/Traffickers

- Masters of the art of seduction
- Torture tactics
  - Physical
  - Psychological

Dr. Celia Williamson, University of Toledo and Second Chance

HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN OHIO

"Ohio is not only a destination place for foreign-born trafficking victims, but it's also a recruitment place."

-Celia Williamson, associate professor at the University of Toledo

Human Trafficking in Ohio

- Extensive highway system
- Most truck stops in the nation
- 5th most strip clubs
- Agricultural industry
- Close to Canada
Example of the Buyers

- Human trafficking case in Toledo
- Member of the Toledo Opera Guild
- A business man
- A lawyer
- A builder
- Women were sellers

Toledo Blade May 27, 2012

Ohio Attorney General Human Trafficking Study Commission

- Purpose
  - Understand the problem
  - Make recommendations

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Report on the Prevalence of Human Trafficking in Ohio

- **6,316** Ohio children are at risk
- **1,861** are believed to be trafficked in Ohio today

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THE IMPACT OF TRAFFICKING ON VICTIMS

"They didn’t see us as human beings, but just as whores, just as flesh that they could use. That’s all."

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Study of Trafficking Survivors

- 28% came in contact with the health care system
- Emergency department personnel
- **13%** felt confident in identifying a victim
- **3%** had training

*Turning Pain into Power: Trafficking Survivors’ Perspectives on Early Intervention Strategies, Family Violence Prevention Fund in Partnership with the World Childhood Foundation, March 2005
*Onsaim-Stoyle M, Richardson L. Assessment of emergency department provider knowledge about human trafficking victims in the ED, Acad Emerg Med 2007*

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Health Concerns

- Preventive health care non-existent
- Health problems not treated in early stages
  - **Tend to fester until they become critical, life-endangering situations**
Physical Harms of Human Trafficking

- Older broken bones
- Bed bugs
- Traumatic brain injury
- Burns, bruising, bite marks
- Rape, vaginal/anal tearing
- Stab wounds, torture

http://www.acf.hhs.gov/trafficking/about/fact_sex.html Polaris Project

Physical Harms of Human Trafficking

- Reproductive Health Problems
- Alcohol/drug use
- Chronic back, visual or respiratory problems

http://www.acf.hhs.gov/trafficking/about/fact_sex.html Polaris Project

Health Issues Associated with Victims

- Malnourishment
- Poor dental hygiene
- Unusual infectious diseases

Psychological Harms of Sex Trafficking

- Mind/body separation
- Depression, hopelessness
- Anxiety disorders
- Self destructive behaviors
- Traumatic bonding with perpetrator

http://www.acf.hhs.gov/trafficking/about/fact_sex.htm

www.JCF.com/transition

Post Traumatic Stress Disorder

- Level of PTSD 68%, same as combat veterans

http://www.acf.hhs.gov/trafficking


Current research in US

- 2012 – 107 survivors of domestic sex trafficking
- Age 14-60
- 12 cities

Common Forms of Violence/Abuse

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>% Reporting at least one symptom</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Forced sex</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Punched</td>
<td>74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beaten</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kicked</td>
<td>68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forced unprotected sex</td>
<td>68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Threatened with a weapon</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strangled</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abused by person of authority</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
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</table>


Psychological Health Problems

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>% Reporting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Depression</td>
<td>89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flashbacks</td>
<td>68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shame/Guilt</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTSD</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attempted suicide</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Any contact with healthcare

88%


IDENTIFYING TRAFFICKED PERSONS

Identifying Victims

- Frontline health providers play an important role
- Many victims are in plain sight
- Opportunities to intercede:
  - Law enforcement & Healthcare
Identifying Victims of Human Trafficking

- Accompanying person seems controlling
- Physical abuse
- Submissive or fearful
- Communication difficulties
- Lack of identification

Barriers to Identification

- Watched, escorted or guarded
- Coached answers
- Unaware of what is being done to them is a crime
- Loyalty toward trafficker as coping mechanism

Barriers to Identification

- Moved frequently
- Fear for safety of family
- Fear and shame
- Self-blame, hopelessness
- Dependent on trafficker

If you have a suspicion of trafficking…..

- National Hotline 888-373-7888
- Text National Hotline “BeFree” or 233733

Communicating with Victims

- If you choose to question a potential trafficking victim:
  - Isolate without raising suspicions
- Many require a translator

Communicating with Victims

- Strict confidentiality
  - Ask questions in safe, confidential and trusting environment
  - Limit number of people in contact with victim

- Indirect and sensitive
  - May deny being a victim, so best not to ask direct questions
  - Phrase “trafficking victim” will have no meaning
Communicating with Victims
- **Questions to ask:**
  - Can you leave your job or situation if you want?
  - Can you come and go as you please?
  - Have you been threatened if you try to leave?
  - Have you been physically harmed in any way?
  - What are your working or living conditions like?
  - Have you ever had to exchange sex for food, shelter or drugs?

Communicating with Victims: Messages
- Gaining victim's trust
- Sample messages to convey:
  - We are here to help you
  - Our first priority is your safety
  - We are not in the business of deportation
  - We will give you the medical care that you need

HELPING VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING
"The function of freedom is to free someone else." – Toni Morrison

Human Trafficking Case Management Model

Healthcare Response-Central Ohio
- Collaborating with Salvation Army and Human Trafficking Task Force
- Acute triage to determine immediate medical needs
- Acute detox services
- Coordination of healthcare organizations and providers for non-acute medical needs

Central Ohio Rescue & Restore Coalition
- Coordinated by The Salvation Army Central Ohio
- Comprised of over 200 member organizations from a wide cross section of the community:
  - Social services providers
  - Law enforcement (FBI, ICE, CPD)
  - Faith community
  - Medical providers
  - State Refugee Coordinator
  - Ohio Attorney General Office
  - Ohio Department of Public Safety
  - Ohio Department of Job and Family Services
  - Ohio Latino Affairs Commission
Central Ohio Rescue & Restore Coalition

- Five Areas of Focus:
  - Public Awareness
  - Legislation & Lobbying
  - Law Enforcement
  - Demand Reduction
  - Services to Victims of Human Trafficking

What Will CORRC Provide?

- Comprehensive case management
- Adults served by The Salvation Army
- Youth served by Gracehaven

Central Ohio Rescue & Restore Coalition
614-285-4357 (HELP)
www.CentralOhioRescueandRestore.org

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  Director of Professional and Community Services
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  614-637-2249
  mhannan@usa.salvationarmy.org

Central Ohio Rescue & Restore Coalition

You Can Be a Change Agent!

- Talk
  - Speaker's Bureau
  - Volunteer
    - Street Outreach
    - Hotline
    - The Well
  - Lobby
    - Contact Representatives
  - Report
  - Rescue
- Rehabilitate
- Gather
- Donations
- Show Up
  - Coalition Meetings
  - 1st Wed every month
- Shop
- Fair Trade
- Pray

Change requires action... be creative and take action!

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