Probation Training
Slavery in your Community!
Identifying and Responding to DMST

PARTICIPANT GUIDE
Any presentation or training you attend takes work by both the trainer and the participant. To get the most out of this experience please take a moment to read the following suggestions. Remember that you are responsible for your own learning. Ask for what you need from your trainers and the members of the group. Be as open as possible throughout the training in your groups. Respect differences and be supportive rather than judgmental. Give feedback appropriately and with an open mind. Make at least one new contact during the training session. Do your best to support the agenda times by arriving on time and returning back from breaks on time as well.
Does Slavery Happen Here?

The Answer is YES!

Performance Objectives

Understand the difference between “Human Trafficking” and “Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking” as defined by the Trafficking Victims Protection Act

Explain the best practice methods for identification and response to victims of Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking (DMST)

Demonstrate the use of the Tier One DMST Intake Assessment Tool
The Trafficking Victims Protection Act was originally passed in 2000 and was last renewed in 2013. Under the TVPA, human trafficking is defined as:

- the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for the purposes of a commercial sex act, in which a commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such act has not attained 18 years of age; or

- labor or services, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery.

A “commercial sex act” is further defined as any sex act on account of which anything of value is given to or received by any person.

This has created a unique category of domestic minor sex trafficking where any individual under 18 who is engaged in the commercial sex industry can be considered a victim of sexual exploitation or sex trafficking. To combat this crime, the TVPA focuses on four primary areas, the four “P’s” for combating trafficking in persons: prosecution, protection, prevention and partnership.
In 2003, Texas passed its first human trafficking law. Chapter 20A of the Texas Penal Code defines the crime of trafficking of persons as the use of force, fraud, or coercion against an individual to receive or benefit from labor or commercial sex acts.

Under Texas Penal Code, Chapter 20A, sex trafficking occurs when a person:
- knowingly traffics another person (transports, entices, recruits, harbors, or provides)
- utilizing force, fraud, or coercion in cases involving adults
- causes the person to engage in prostitution, promotion of prostitution, aggravated promotion of prostitution, or compelling prostitution

The State of Texas is a hub for both international and domestic human trafficking. Two major international airports, five major cities with populations over 750,000, its proximity to the Mexican border, and a diverse group of people all contribute to the allure of traffickers bringing their victims to Texas.

Texas is also home to the I-10 Corridor, which the United States Department of Justice has identified to be among the most heavily traveled routes for human trafficking in the United States. Authorities estimate that one of every five human trafficking victims in the United States passes through Texas along the 1-10 Corridor.

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CLUES & SIGNS

Runaway/Reluctant to self-identify

Signs of physical abuse

Intense fear / Depression/ Body Language conveys fear

Won’t look at you, always look down

Branding/ “Daddy” tattoo/ pimp’s name/ Loyal to the trafficker

Drug or alcohol addiction

Doesn’t speak the local language or will not speak for themselves

Someone else controls victim’s identification documents

Recent arrival from a source / transit country/ may not know their location

Dependent on trafficker to meet basic needs

Use scripted stories, may change when questioned

Behaviorally / physically dependent on trafficker

May exhibit “Stockholm Syndrome” (consider trafficker “boyfriend”)

Fear government employees

Fear for family’s safety; threats of harm

Believe current situation better than where they came from

May not want family to know of their circumstances
Reluctant to Self-Identify: victims will often not identify themselves as victims and they may say that prostitution was their choice; however it is important to look beneath the surface. When the victim perceives her trafficker/pimp as her boyfriend and prostitution as her choice she perceives herself as in control of the situation.

Loyalty to the Trafficker/Pimp: victims are psychologically attached to their abuser and have been conditioned to believe everyone else is against them.

Running Away/Relapse: victims may run back to their traffickers/pimps repeatedly as a result of the psychological control he exercises and the trauma bonds formed.
**BARRIERS**

**Adhering to rules and Structure:** victims have been controlled and abused, they have lived what sometimes is viewed as an “adventurous life.” These youth are not accustomed to following normal structure and have been taught to resist authority. Additionally, their schedule involves sleeping during the day and staying up all night. It is important to intentionally integrate victims into a daily routine to demonstrate a connection between following rules and achieving goals.

**Lack of Trust:** victims have been trained by their trafficker/pimp not to trust anyone. The chronic abuse they have suffered at the hands of adults has confirmed a lack of faith or trust in humanity. Traffickers/pimps force youth to lie and encourage manipulative behaviors. This should be expected and will continue until trust is built between the juvenile justice responders and the youth. It is important to remember that manipulation and lying are training inflicted on the victim by their trafficker/pimp.

**Sexual Confusion:** having been exploited by 5-20 buyers each day during their victimization through prostitution many will have confusion about their sexual relationships and appropriate sexual behaviors. Their bodies physiological response to the sexual encounters can lead to confusion as to whether they are responsible for their abuse. Withdrawal from this intense level of sexual interaction can be met with feelings of confusion and self blame.

**Glamorizing the Exploitation:** victims will sometimes present their involvement in the prostitution as dangerous and exciting in an attempt to rationalize their continued or past involvement in the exploitation. An extreme example is the attempt to recruit other youth by a victim to meet requirements of the trafficker/pimp. Rewards are given when recruits are brought into contact with trafficker/pimps.

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**NOTES**

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GROUND RULES FOR INTERVIEW

Be non-judgmental and kind

Address emergency and basic needs first

Check your environment

Allow plenty of time

Be flexible and do not let your goals overwhelm the survivor

Be up front about who you are and your mandatory reporting requirements

Ask for permission to take notes or use a form and clarify what the information is used for

Ensure that your body language is open and indicates you are ready to hear

There will be unpleasant and uncomfortable details be prepared

Use youth friendly language and mirror language used by the youth

Limit personal information

Limit interruptions to “check ins” A barrage of questions can disrupt and take away from a supportive environment

Respect where they are psychologically and emotionally

Set boundaries and do not touch without permission

Professionalism understand and respect that survivor will bond with some practitioners and not others do not take it personally

Trust is earned – be transparent involve the survivor in decisions and discussions

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“Tell me about the moment when you knew you had survived”

“Tell me when you knew it was over”

“Tell me about when help arrived”

“Tell me what is helping you to get through this now”
Resources

New Steps

For Victims

Safe Harbors

Trafficking Resources

1 (888) 373-7888
National Human Trafficking Resource Center
SMS: 233733 (Text "HELP" or "INFO")
Hours: 24 hours, 7 days a week
Languages: English, Spanish and 200 more languages

Texas Attorney General Human Trafficking Task Force
https://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/oagnews/release.php?id=3202

Shared Hope International
http://sharedhope.org/
Thank you for your attendance and participation at today’s training. It is our goal to provide beneficial and relevant training for the work that you do. Please help us in these efforts by completing any evaluations so that we can use your feedback to provide future training events.