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Health care providers are uniquely positioned to identify and respond to potential victims of human trafficking. Given that safety-net family planning providers deliver sensitive services to vulnerable populations and are sometimes the only connection patients have to health care services, it is especially important that staff at your health center know how to identify and assist human trafficking victims. Below are resources to help your health center refine or develop protocols so that your staff can be prepared to support victims of human trafficking who seek services at your facility.



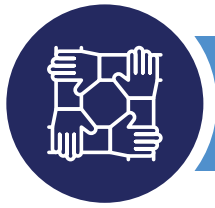
LEARN ABOUT EXISTING SUPPORT NETWORKS

Victims of human trafficking often require support in many areas including legal, housing, transportation, immigration, and more. Learn more about the resources and services already offered in your community, establish partnerships, and develop a referral system so that your staff know where and how to connect to patients for additional support.

- Visit the Office for Victims of Crime's [database](#) or [one-pager](#) to learn about organizations in your state that receive federal grants to provide services to victims, or use the National Human Trafficking Hotline's [referral directory](#) to learn about additional local organizations that are dedicated to victim support.
- The Office for Victims of Crime also has produced a human trafficking task force [e-guide](#) with further information about the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000 and other state and federal laws on Human Trafficking.
- The National Conference of State Legislatures' offers a [synopsis](#) of the types of anti-trafficking legislations in each state and requirements for posting hotline information.

Want to learn more about Human Trafficking in the United States?

Visit the [2017 State Department's Trafficking in Persons Report](#), pages 415-420, for more information.



DEVELOP PROTOCOLS FOR IDENTIFYING, ASSESSING, AND RESPONDING TO VICTIMS

Establish health center protocols on human trafficking so that staff are aware of applicable state and federal laws and understand, in advance, the systems in place for supporting victims of human trafficking.

- Health, Education, Advocacy, Linkage (HEAL) Trafficking offers a complementary [protocol toolkit](#) which offers the most comprehensive, step-by-step guidance on developing health center protocols for responding to and caring for victims of human trafficking.
- Massachusetts General Hospital and Massachusetts Medical Society produced a [guidebook](#) that provides great introductory information on human trafficking as it relates to health care settings. It also outlines important considerations for assessing and evaluating victims of human trafficking that seek services in your health center including information on clinical manifestations and taking histories, which may be useful when developing health center protocols.
- The National Human Trafficking Resource Center's [FAQ document](#) for health care professionals includes a helpful checklist of clinical indicators of human trafficking and explores considerations providers may have when deciding to report cases to law enforcement.

There are more than **1.5 million human trafficking victims**
in North America, the European Union, and other developed economies.¹

98% of health care providers claimed that they had not received any training on clinical presentations of human trafficking and 95% did not receive any training on proper treatment of victims of human trafficking.⁶



TRAIN STAFF

Because providers and health center staff may have the opportunity to interact with victims of human trafficking, it is important that they are trained in the complexities of human trafficking and are able to recognize indicators for human trafficking. Below are online webinars available that may be useful for training staff.

- The Family Planning National Training Center's [webinar](#) is a good introduction to human trafficking and includes considerations specific to family planning providers and case study examples. To review the content covered in the webinar, you may also access a [PDF printout](#) of the PowerPoint slides.
- National Human Trafficking Training & Technical Assistance Center's [SOAR training](#) offers an in-depth training program on human trafficking, and it's available online for free. This webinar series takes three hours to complete and has specific tracks for behavioral health professionals, social workers, and other health care professionals. Supplemental documents such as case studies are also available below the webinar link. Refer to their [handout](#) for more information about the SOAR training program.
- The National Human Trafficking Hotline's 30-minute [webinar](#) on recognizing and responding to human trafficking in the health care setting reviews a few case studies, and is relevant to providers in all settings.
- Produced by the National Human Trafficking Hotline, the [Human Trafficking 101 training](#) is not specifically targeted towards health care professionals, but provides general information such as the scope of the issue in the United States and common industries involved.

Of trafficking victims, up to **87%** had medical care while enslaved by a trafficker.^{3,4}

Human trafficking victims are at risk for unintended pregnancy and because condom use is typically controlled by the trafficker or clients, human trafficking victims are also at risk of contracting STDs including HIV.⁵ For more information about Sex Trafficking and HIV, refer to the American Bar Association's [article](#) from their publication, Human Rights Magazine.



FOR ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Visit the National Human Trafficking Training & Technical Assistance Center's [resource library](#) for additional information on minor victims, certification letters and related programs, posters and brochures, and more. Translations of many of the materials are also available.
- The National Human Trafficking Hotline's [resource library](#) also includes additional webinars, factsheets, and more.
- The National Human Trafficking Hotline's programming code for their informational widget is available on the [outreach](#) page of their website so that you may add the hotline number and informational links on human trafficking to your website or blog.

The National Human Trafficking Hotline alone received more than
7,600 reported cases in the United States in 2016.²

¹ International Labour Organization *Global Estimate of Forced Labour 2012: Results and Methodology*. Geneva: International Labour Organization, 2012. http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_norm/---declaration/documents/publication/wcms_182004.pdf.

² National Human Trafficking Hotline. "Hotline Statistics." Accessed September 5, 2017. <https://humantraffickinghotline.org/states>.

³ Baldwin, Susie B., David P. Eisenman, Jennifer N. Sayles, Gery Ryan, and Kenneth S. Chuang. "Identification of Human Trafficking Victims in Health Care Settings," *Health and Human Rights* 13, no. 1 (July 2011): E36–49.

⁴ Laura J. Lederer, and Christopher A. Wetzel. "The Health Consequences of Sex Trafficking and their Implications for Identifying Victims in Facilities," *The Annals of Health Law: The Health Policy and Law Review of Loyola University Chicago School of Law* 23, no. 1 (Winter 2014): 61–91.

⁵ Zimmerman, Cathy, Katherine Yun, Inna Shvab, Charlotte Watts, Luca Trappolin, Mariangela Treppete, Franca Bimbi, Sae-tang Jiraporn, Ledia Beci, Marcia Albrecht, Julie Bindel, and Linda Regan. *The Health Risks and Consequences of Trafficking in Women and Adolescents: Findings from a European Study*. London: London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, 2003.

⁶ Makini Chisolm-Straker, Lynne D. Richardson, and Tania Cossio. "Combating Slavery in the 21st Century: The Role of Emergency Medicine," *Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved* 23, no. 3 (August 2012): 980–87. <https://doi.org/10.1353/hpu.2012.0091>.

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