

# Addressing Human Trafficking within the STOP Grant Program

STAAR Project, ALSO  
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# Presenters

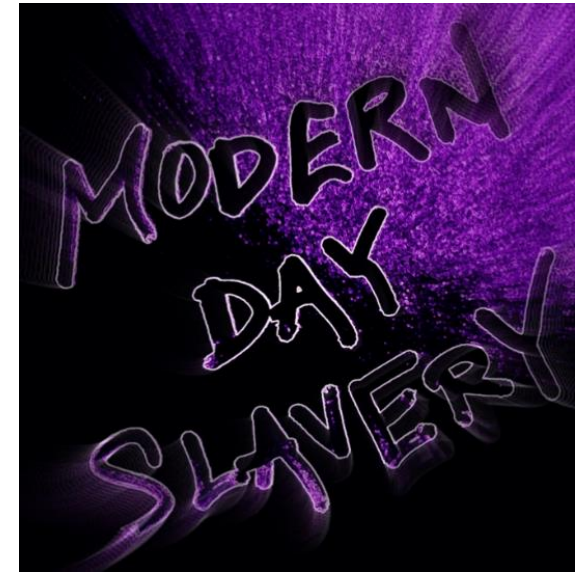
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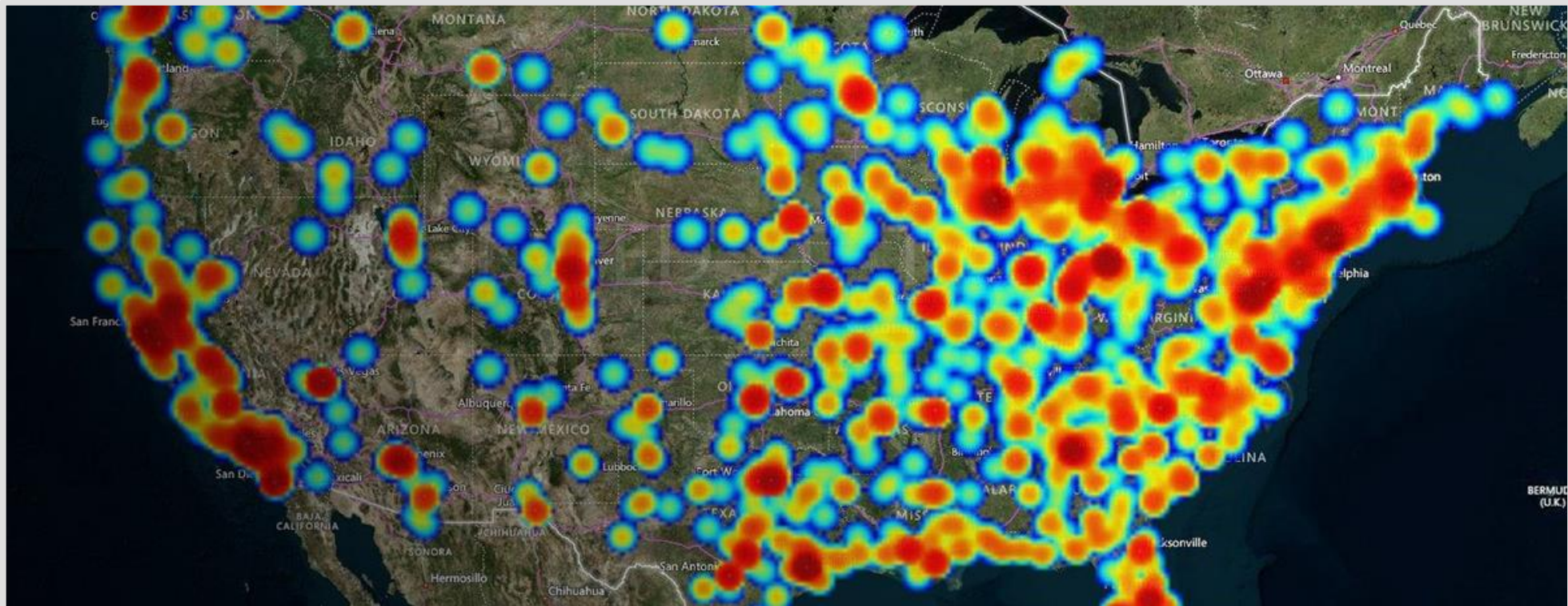
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# What is Human Trafficking?

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- Forms of modern-day slavery that involves the exploitation of persons for commercial sex or forced labor
- Often involves moving victims across international borders, but does not require transportation to another location
- Victims are frequently held by the “invisible chains” of **psychological coercion**

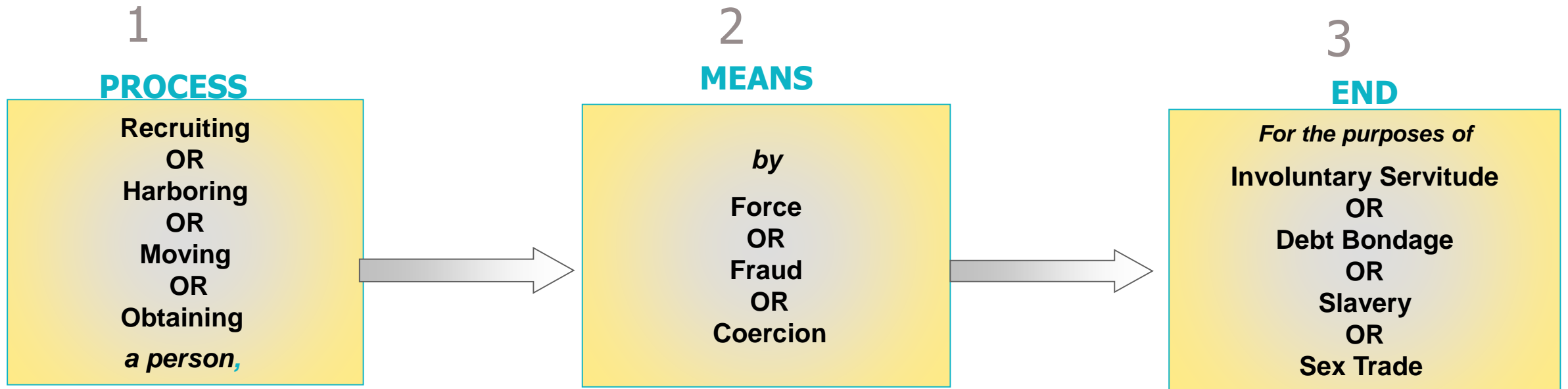




# A Vastly Underreported National Epidemic

36,270 cases reported since 2007

# Three Elements of Trafficking



# Human Trafficking defined

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## ➤ **Sex Trafficking**

Recruiting, harboring, transporting, providing, or obtaining a person for a commercial sex act that is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, **or in which the person induced is under age 18.**

## ➤ **Labor Trafficking**

Recruiting, harboring, transporting, providing, or obtaining a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery.

# Who is at risk?

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- Refugees and Asylees
- LGBTQI Individuals
- Immigrants and Migrant Workers
- Runaway and Homeless Youth
- Individuals with Cognitive and Physical Disabilities
- Survivors of Other Crimes



# Others at risk for being trafficked

- Substance use
- Foster care
- Mental health concerns
- Unstable housing
- Abuse as child
- Poverty
- Underserved/minority



<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-36304721>



<http://www.ncfc.us/Pages/RunawayYouth.aspx>



<http://sfdetective.com/missing-and-runaway-kids/>

***ANY vulnerable person***



# Who are the traffickers?

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- Organized criminal syndicates
- Families (mom & pop operations)
- Labor subcontractors
- Pimps
- Diplomats
- Business people/professionals
- Individuals with non-commercial sexual motives (seeking personal sex slave)
- Neighbors, friends, relatives of the victim

# How are they recruited?

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- Fraud and coercion
- False promises of jobs
- Online recruitment
- Posing as a benefactor
- Relationship may be that of a “boyfriend” who later turns out to be the pimp
- *Those with history of abuse are at increased risk*
  - *Victims of sexual violence are more likely to be re-victimized*

# US Minors in Sex Trafficking

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- Runaways at greatest risk
- Exploited through sex trade
- May be both labor and sex trafficked

*Remember, any child under 18 induced to perform a sex act is a trafficking victim*

# Human Trafficking and STOP

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- Trafficking overlaps with domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking
- Must have these predicate crimes/prior victimization
- Traffickers target the vulnerable
- STOP funds can be used with other funding streams to develop a comprehensive response
- Trafficking can be added to existing programs
- Include trafficking in Implementation Plan
- Add trafficking experts to STOP Planning Team

# Domestic/Dating Violence and Trafficking

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- Family members traffic other family members (within definition of DV)
- Use same tactics of control
- Can charge/prosecute HT crimes + DV crimes
- Examples:
  - Abuser forces wife and child to panhandle
  - Abuser forces intimate partner to have sex for money
  - Abuser is a pimp/trafficker, residing with many victims “as if a family”
  - Trafficker has “child in common” with trafficking survivor
  - Trafficking situation fits definition of “dating violence”

# Sexual Assault and Trafficking

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- Sex trafficking by definition sexual assault
- Labor trafficked women and children often sexually assaulted
- Prior victimization common among sex trafficking survivors
- Distinction between prostitution and sex trafficking important to know
- LGBTQI populations especially vulnerable, particularly transgender



# Stalking and Trafficking

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- Similar to DV stalking, including tactics
- Common among gangs and other criminal enterprises
- Traffickers see victims as property they own
- Cyber stalking common

# Pennsylvania

- Commonwealth with 67 counties
- Bordered by six (6) states
- 12 interstates running through PA
- 12.7 Million people
- Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Allentown, Erie & Reading
- $\frac{3}{4}$  of state is “rural” with no local law enforcement



# Critical PA Legislation

## Act 105

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➤ Pennsylvania's comprehensive anti-trafficking statute

➤ Enacted in 2014

PROSECUTION: Expanded PA law by defining human trafficking and giving law enforcement the tools to go after traffickers.

PREVENTION: Calls for prevention of trafficking by working to develop, expand or strengthen programs for victims.

PROTECTION: Affords survivors eligibility for vacating of prior convictions, participation in diversionary programs, confidential case management and/or civil legal remedies.

## Act 130

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➤ Pennsylvania's Safe Harbor for Sexually Exploited Children

➤ Enacted in 2018 to amend Act 105 to ensure that child victims of sex trafficking receive the protective response they need.

➤ Defines "sexually exploited child"

➤ Immunizes sexually exploited children from criminal prosecution for the crimes of prostitution and obstruction of the highway.

➤ Mandates a trauma-informed alternative to delinquency through intervention of child protective services for sexually exploited children accused of minor offenses.

➤ State Agency Cross-System Response

➤ Gives State Attorney General concurrent jurisdiction over the crime of human trafficking

➤ Establishes a fund for victim services and awareness

# PCCD Planning Processes

## **STOP FORMULA GRANT**

➤ PA has approximately \$5M allocation per year.

➤ Competitive Award Process

Priority Areas in 2017-2020 STOP Implementation Plan

✓ Training to increase identification of and response to Human Trafficking

✓ Building collaborative partnerships to help evaluate and update response protocols, *particularly to address human trafficking.*

## **VICTIMS OF CRIME ACT (VOCA)**

➤ PA's VOCA allocation nearly tripled when the "cap" was removed by Congress in 2014.

➤ Statewide Victims' Services Advisory Committee

- Ongoing planning and forecasting
- Needs Assessment

➤ Competitive Statewide Solicitation Process

Between 2016 and 2018 funded 39 programs to provide services to HT victims.

# What We Knew

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- We had a Human Trafficking Law that needed to be implemented.
- We anticipated that Safe Harbor legislation would be enacted before the end of our STOP Implementation Plan.
- Several of our victim service providers were receiving additional funding directly from OVW and OVC to respond to Human Trafficking; but there was no requirement for coordination or collaboration with PCCD.
- We were funding over 39 individual grantees through STOP and VOCA to provide services to victims of trafficking.
- No consistency or agreement on what services should look like, how they should be delivered to this population or the minimum requirements for training.
- Need to include other state agencies and statewide organizations in our anti-trafficking efforts.

# How We Responded

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- As an objective under Pennsylvania's STOP Formula Grant Funding Strategy 2018-2024
- Fund one jurisdiction in Pennsylvania to serve as an “incubator” to establish a statewide model collaborative community-wide response to sex trafficking.
  - ✓ Develop written policies, procedures & protocols
  - ✓ Develop model training for allied professionals
  - ✓ Establish minimum standards for funding of future community responses to sex trafficking.
- \$300K over 24 months



# Solicitation Process

## Parameters

1. Applicants had to have experience providing a multi-system response to victims of sex trafficking.
2. Current services to victims of sex trafficking had to include emergency shelter and counseling.
3. Required to have an internal leadership team for the project implementation;
4. Required to assemble a multidisciplinary Sex Trafficking Response Team (STRT) to set goals and objectives; engage in collaborative problem solving; and oversee policy development.
5. STRT has to meet monthly and agree to participate in quarterly calls with an Advisory Workgroup of State and National Experts.
6. Project will produce a set of guidelines for a multi-disciplinary, trauma-informed anti-sex trafficking program that can be replicated across Pennsylvania.

## STRT Members:

- Victim Services
- Criminal justice
- Law Enforcement
- Social Services
- Community Based Agencies
- Regulatory Agencies

# Advisory Workgroup

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- Two national experts on Human Trafficking
- Pennsylvania State Police
- State Attorney General
- Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence
- Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape
- State expert on Human Trafficking
- Federal Prosecutor
- State Department of Human Services

# Timeline

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- Solicitation released April 27, 2018
- Applications due June 6, 2018
- PCCD received three responses
- Late August 2018 – Selection of winning application.
- September 2018 Application approved by PCCD
- January 1, 2019 – Start date of Project
- PCCD used paid independent reviewers.
- Competition was fierce. The selected application had a survivor of human trafficking on their STRT.

# Considerations

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- Find out what other people are doing and get yourself invited.
- Invite them to be part of what you are doing, if appropriate.
- No one organization owns trafficking. Addressing the needs of HT survivors requires a tremendous financial commitment, time commitment, and a variety of resources.
- Practice humility. There is much we don't know and need to learn when it comes to serving trafficking victims.
- Engage survivors in your planning process and programs.

# STOP Program Purpose Areas and Trafficking

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- PPA 1 – Training – add trafficking to existing, funded training programs for all sectors
- PPA 2 – Units – include trafficking in work of special victims units, other crimes against persons units
- PPA 4 – Data Collection – Trafficking data is challenging so design new methods to collect and add to existing data collection efforts
- PPA 5 – Victim Services – include – make sure of DV/SA capacity as trafficking different
- PPA 6 – Tribes – Trafficking of Native women especially severe – develop programs to address

# Outcome

## **STOP Implementation Plan**

### Cross System Collaboration

- Help local STOP Teams update response protocols to include response to human trafficking.

### Training

- Prioritize training that increases identification of and improves the response to victims of human trafficking

## **VOCA**

- Prioritized services to victims of human trafficking in 2016 VOCA competitive application.
- Identified victims of human trafficking as an underserved victim population.
- Identified human trafficking as an emergent type of crime in Pennsylvania.



# PPAs and Human Trafficking - continued

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- PPA 10 – Immigration – specifically include trafficking (T and U visas)
- PPA 12 – PO Enforcement – develop training/implementation on PO enforcement when trafficking also present
- PPA 15 – SARTS – train SARTS on trafficking; include in existing
- PPA 16 – SA policy, training, investigation, prosecution – ensure all funded here understand differences in trafficking cases, etc.
- PPA 20 – Prevention and Education – include trafficking as any vulnerable population is at risk

# Brainstorming and Reactions

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- Have you included human trafficking in your work?
- Can you give examples where you could enhance existing funded programs with an emphasis on human trafficking?
- Does your State or Territory have a statewide human trafficking council or similar body? Could you work with them?
- What are some challenges to adding human trafficking to STOP?
- Do you have human trafficking expertise on your VAWA planning team?
- How can you add trafficking to law enforcement, courts, prosecution?

# Questions and Conclusion

# Resources

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- National Human Trafficking Hotline. Human Trafficking Power and Control Wheel, <http://vawnet.org/material/human-trafficking-power-and-control-wheel>
- National Human Trafficking Resource Center. <https://humantraffickinghotline.org>
- APIGBV. *Intersections of Human Trafficking, Domestic Violence, and Sexual Assault: National Organizational Advocacy Roundtable*. [http://www.api-gbv.org/files/IntersectionsOfHumanTraffickingDomesticViolenceSexualAssault\\_API-GBV\\_2016.pdf](http://www.api-gbv.org/files/IntersectionsOfHumanTraffickingDomesticViolenceSexualAssault_API-GBV_2016.pdf)
- Bullard, Becky Owens. *Human Trafficking Intersections with Domestic Violence*, <https://beckyowensbullard.files.wordpress.com/2012/04/dvht-brief-bbullard3.pdf>
- U.S. Government Accountability Office. *Investigations in Indian Country or Involving Native Americans and Actions Needed to Better Report on Victims Served*. <https://www.gao.gov/assets/690/687396.pdf>