



# HUMAN TRAFFICKING: MODERN-DAY SLAVERY

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# Objectives

1. Define human trafficking and its subtypes
2. Identify how and where trafficking occurs
3. Identify red flags and correlated negative effects of trafficking
4. Become familiar with available resources
5. Review the Occupational Therapy Life Skills Program



# Danielle's Story, Survivor







# WHAT IS HUMAN TRAFFICKING?



**Human trafficking** includes the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or other services, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion, for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, debt bondage, or slavery.



# Basic Definitions

Labor  
Trafficking

Sex  
Trafficking

1. Bonded Labor (Debt Bondage)
2. Forced Labor (Involuntary Servitude)
3. Child Labor



# Federal Laws & Anti-Trafficking Efforts

- *Michigan law prohibits all forms of human trafficking.*
- The human trafficking chapter of Michigan law can be found at MCL 750.462(a)-(i).
  - Effective as of 2006; updated in 2011.
- Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000
  - Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act (TVPRA) of 2003, 2005, 2008, 2013.
- Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act of 2014
- Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act (JVTA) of 2015





# Administrative Rule for Michigan

**MCL 333.16148**

**Rules; establishing standards for education and training for practice of health profession; training standards for identifying victims of human trafficking; accreditation of training programs; requirements for action or decision; voting; applicability of R 338.10305 to certain members of nursing faculties**



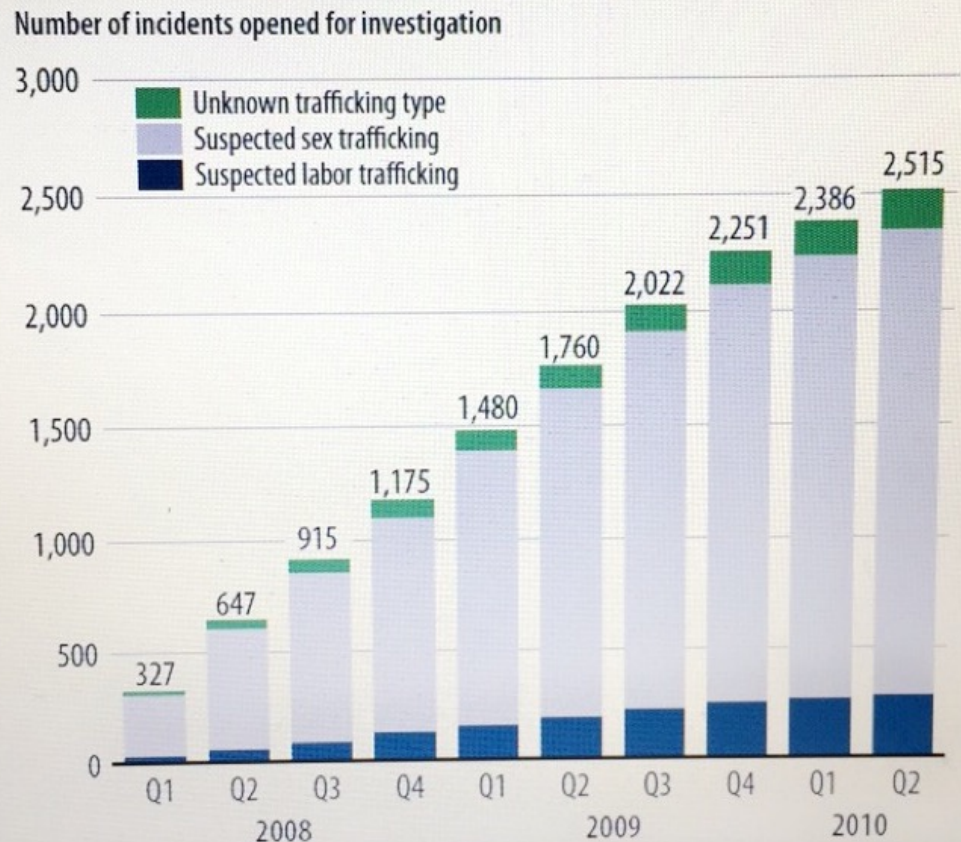
# The Facts

## 7,572 Incidents of Human Trafficking

- **87% Sex Trafficking**
  - **35% Child**
  - **65% Adult**
- **13% Labor Trafficking**

**83% U.S. Citizens**

**Cumulative number of incidents of human trafficking between January 2008 and June 2010, by suspected trafficking type and reported investigation start date**





# The Facts

## Number of Reported Cases (2016):

- Where do you think Michigan ranks in the nation?
- How about our neighboring state, Ohio?

### **By State (2016):**

- California (1323)
- Texas (670)
- Florida (550)
- Ohio (375)
- New York (327)
- Georgia (256)
- Michigan (246)

### **Cities in Michigan with the most reported cases in 2016:**

- Detroit
- Grand Rapids
- Ann Arbor
- Kalamazoo
- Lansing
- Mackinac Island



# Myths and Misconceptions

- Myth 1: Trafficked persons can only be foreign nationals or are only immigrants from other countries.
- Myth 2: Human trafficking is essentially a crime that must involve some form of travel, transportation, or movement across state or national borders.
- Myth 3: Human trafficking is another term for human smuggling.
- Myth 4: There must be elements of physical restraint, physical force, or physical bondage when identifying a human trafficking situation.
- Myth 5: Victims of human trafficking will immediately ask for help or assistance and will self-identify as a victim of a crime.



# Myths and Misconceptions, cont.

- Myth 6: Human trafficking victims always come from situations of poverty or from small rural villages.
- Myth 7: Sex trafficking is the only form of human trafficking.
- Myth 8: Human trafficking only occurs in illegal underground industries.
- Myth 9: If the trafficked person consented to be in their initial situation or was informed about what type of labor involved, then it cannot be human trafficking because they “knew better.”
- Myth 10: Foreign national trafficking victims are always undocumented immigrants or here in this country illegally.



# Negative Associated Experiences

- Celia Williamson (2010) interview survivors of child sex trafficking
  - **91%** reported child abuse in their homes
  - **73%** reported being raped
- Ward and Roe-Sepowitz (2009), prostitution exiting program
  - **75%** sexual abuse
  - **70%** physical abuse
  - **50%** emotional abuse
  - **90%** illegal drug use problem
  - **75%** excessive alcohol consumption
  - **62%** attempted suicide



# Negative Impacts

- Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)
- Memory Disruption
- Trauma Bonding (i.e. Stockholm Syndrome)
- Other Mental Health Disorders
- Physical Impairments



# How is this Possible?

- Coercion & power
- “At risk youth”
  - Online
  - Mall
  - Library
  - Bus stop
  - School
- False promises
- Kidnapping
- Fear, shame, guilt
- Addiction





# Where does trafficking occur?

Anywhere there are other people willing to pay or utilize these services.

## Sex Trafficking

- Commercial-front brothels
- Hotel/motel
- Online exploitation
- Street-based
- Residential brothels
- Escort services
- Truck stops
- Hostess/strip club

## Labor Trafficking

- Domestic work
- Traveling sales crews
- Restaurant/food service
- Agriculture
- Health and beauty
- Begging rings
- Retail/small businesses
- Landscaping





# HUMAN TRAFFICKING & HEALTHCARE



# Access to Medical Services

One study reported **87.8%** of trafficking survivors reported accessing healthcare services during their trafficking situation.



*“During the time I was on the streets I went to the hospital, urgent care clinics, women’s health clinics, and private doctors. No one ever asked me anything anytime I ever went to a clinic.”*

*-- Lauren, survivor*



# When do Victims Seek Medical Services?

- In an emergency
- After an Assault
- After a workplace injury
- Gynecological services
- Prenatal care
- Routine checkups
- Mental health services
- Addiction treatment
- Pre-existing conditions
- Health issues unrelated to trafficking
- As a parent of a patient





# Red Flags – Physical

- Musculoskeletal and ergonomic injuries
- Malnutrition/dehydration
- Lack of routine preventative care
- Poor dental hygiene
- Untreated skin infections/inflammations
- Exposure to harmful chemicals/unsafe water
- Ophthalmology issues or vision complaints
- Somatization
- Signs of substance abuse





# Red Flags – Emotional/Behavioral

- Anxiety/panic attacks
- Depressed mood
- Unexplained/conflicting stories
- Inability to make decisions independently
- Affect dysregulation/irritability
- Angry/aggressive with staff
- Fearful, anxious, depressed, submissive, tense, or nervous/paranoid
- Exhibits unusually fearful or anxious behavior towards law enforcement
- Avoids eye contact





# Red Flags – Social

- Abnormally high number of sexual partners
- Early sexual initiation
- Pregnancy/abortion at young age
- Using language from “the life”
- Suspicious tattoos or branding
- History of running away
- Truancy/stop attending school
- Loss of sense of time
- Involved with CPS/foster care
- Has hotel keys/cards





# Red Flags – Lack of Control

- Has few or no personal possessions
- Pays in cash
- Is not in control of:
  - Money or financial records
  - Identification documents
- Not allowed or able to speak for themselves
- Not free to leave or come and go as he/she wishes
- Has false identity or travel documents
- Has limited or no social interaction
- Has limited contact with their families or others





# Red Flags – Work/Living Environment

- Unpaid, paid very little, or paid only through tips
- Works excessively long and/or unusual hours
- Not allowed breaks or suffers unusual restrictions at work
- Owe a large debt and are unable to pay it off
- Recruited through false promises concerning the nature and conditions of work
- High security measures in work/living locations
- Inability to clarify where he/she is staying/address
- Lack of knowledge of what city he/she is in
- Unable to negotiate working conditions





# Barriers to Self-Identification

**Shame or Guilt**

**Fear of  
Retaliation By  
Trafficker**

**Fear of Arrest or  
Deportation**

**Lack of  
Transportation  
or Controlled  
Movement**

**Fear of a Report  
to Social  
Services**

**Lack of  
Understanding  
Healthcare  
System**

**Normalization  
of abuse as  
coping  
mechanism**

**Not viewing self  
as a victim**

**Unaware there  
is a word for  
their experience**



# Video: Blue Campaign

[https://www.dhs.gov/xlibrary/videos/15\\_0430\\_blueCampaign/clinic.mp4](https://www.dhs.gov/xlibrary/videos/15_0430_blueCampaign/clinic.mp4)



# What Should YOU Do?

If you identify 1 or more trafficking indicators:

1) Meet primary health and safety needs,  
and

**2) Contact Social Work**  
**They will...**

Provide support  
and referrals as  
needed

Report to law  
enforcement and NHTRC  
Hotline (1-888-3737-  
888), and Centralized  
Intake if needed



# Victim-Centered Approach

## FIVE STEPS:

1. Assess immediate danger
2. Speak in private and safe setting
3. Build trust and rapport
4. Provide education
5. Meet their basic needs

## REMEMBER:

- Use appropriate language and terms
- Sensitive to power dynamics
- Avoid re-traumatizing
- Do not ask unnecessary information



# Sample Questions



- Who do you live with?
- How do you earn money?
- Do you have to share that money with anyone?
- Do you feel safe at home and work?
- Do you feel that the things you need such as food and clothes are always available?
- Have you done any traveling recently?
- Do you have access to your personal documents such as driver's license, passport, and finances?



# Coordinate Care with Other Providers

## Basic

- Clothing & Food
- Transportation
- Housing
- Employment
- Medical care
- Testing for STI's
- Interpretation services

## Legal

- Immigration services
- Child custody issues
- Prosecution of trafficker
- Prostitution charges & other offenses

## Emotional & Social

- Crisis intervention
- Case management
- Social service advocacy
- Mental health care
- **Life skills & job training**
- Education
- Contacting family

## Safety & Security

- Safe space
- Safety planning
- Emergency & transitional shelter
- Protective orders from traffickers



# National Human Trafficking Resource Center

1-888-3737-888

*CONFIDENTIAL | TOLL-FREE | 24/7*

*[www.TraffickingResourceCenter.org](http://www.TraffickingResourceCenter.org)*

- National confidential crisis and tip line
- National resource and technical assistance center
- National referral and response network
- Trained call specialists
- Online form for anonymous tips
- Interpreters available
- Any information can be useful



# Other Resources

- SOAR to Health and Wellness, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- HEAL Trafficking: Health Professional Education, Advocacy, and Linkage
- PATH: Physicians Against Trafficking in Humans
- Child Family Health International: Conversations in Global Health
- Child Sex Trafficking Webinar Series for Healthcare Professions, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta
- Confronting Commercial Sexual Exploitation and Sex Trafficking of Minors in the U.S., Institute of Medicine/National Research Council Report
- Human Trafficking: Guidebook on Identification, Assessment, and Response in the Healthcare Setting, Massachusetts General and Massachusetts Medical Society
- Caring for Trafficked Persons: A Guide for Health Providers, The International Organization for Migration and UN Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking
- The Role of the Nurse in Combatting Human Trafficking, Donna Sabella in the *American Journal of Nursing*
- Online educational modules for the healthcare professional on human trafficking, Christian Medical & Dental Associations
- Domesticshelters.org
- National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV)



# Anti-Trafficking Organizations in Michigan

## Grand Rapids

- Wedgwood Christian Services' Manasseh Project
- Phone: (616) 942-2110
- [www.wedgwood.org](http://www.wedgwood.org)

## Flint

- YWCA of Greater Flint
- Hotline: (810)238.7233; Phone: (810) 238.7621
- [www.ywca.org/flint](http://www.ywca.org/flint)

## Utica

- Michigan Abolitionist Project
- [www.map-mi.org](http://www.map-mi.org)

## Detroit (4)

- All Worthy of Love
- Hotline: (313) 923-7477 (24/7); Phone: (313) 923-7477
- [www.allworthyoflove.org](http://www.allworthyoflove.org)
- Alternatives for Girls
- Hotline: (888) 234-3919 (24/7); Phone: (313) 361-4000
- [www.alternativesforgirls.org](http://www.alternativesforgirls.org)
- Freedom House – Detroit
- Hotline: (313) 964-4320; Phone: (248) 508-2765
- [www.freedomhousedetroit.org](http://www.freedomhousedetroit.org)
- Wayne County SAFE
- Phone: (313) 964-9701

- [www.wcsafe.org](http://www.wcsafe.org)

## Dearborn Heights

- Vista Maria
- Hotline: (313) 271-0305 ext. 360; Phone: (313) 271-3050
- [www.vistamaria.org](http://www.vistamaria.org)

## Romulus

- SOAP Metro Detroit
- Phone: (734) 334-8055
- [www.traffickfree.com](http://www.traffickfree.com)

## Ann Arbor

- Human Trafficking Clinic, University of Michigan Law School
- Phone: (734) 615-3600
- [www.law.umich.edu/humantrafficking](http://www.law.umich.edu/humantrafficking)

## Warren

- The Alabaster Gift
- Phone: (586) 453-7129
- [www.thealabastergift.org](http://www.thealabastergift.org)

## Toledo, Oh (4)

- Advocates for Basic Legal Equality, Inc. (ABLE)
- Hotline: (888) 534-1432; Phone: (419) 255-0814
- [www.ablelaw.org](http://www.ablelaw.org)
- AO: Advocating Opportunity
- Phone: (419) 318-9829
- [www.advocatingopportunity.com](http://www.advocatingopportunity.com)

- Rahab's Heart

- Hotline: (419) 690-3714; Phone: (419) 720-1146
- [www.thatneighborhoodfoudation.org/rahabs-heart](http://www.thatneighborhoodfoudation.org/rahabs-heart)
- Trafficking Education Network
- Phone: (202) 417-7193
- [www.traffickingeducation.com](http://www.traffickingeducation.com)

## South Bend, In

- YWCA North Central Indiana
- Hotline: (866) 937-9922 (24/7); Phone: (574) 233-9491
- [www.ywcanon.org](http://www.ywcanon.org)

## Chesterton, In

- Duneland Abolitionists
- Hotline: (219) 805-1720; Phone: (219) 929-5313

Marinette, WI (closest for UP)

- Rainbow House Domestic Abuse Services, Inc.
- Hotline: (800) 956-6656; Phone: (715) 735-6656
- [www.therainbowhouse.us](http://www.therainbowhouse.us)





# OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY LIFE SKILLS PROGRAM (OTLSP)



# Second Chance

- Toledo, Ohio
- Adolescent survivors
  - 12-17 years old
- Limited access to services
- Inability to make crucial life decisions



Photo: Mary Schmidbauer



# Goal of the Program

The goal of the Occupational Therapy Life Skills Program (OTLSP) is to enhance person-centered life occupations in female adolescents affected by or at-risk for sex trafficking, sexual exploitation, and/or prostitution.



# Programming

- Twice per week, 1.5 hours
- 13-week period (26 sessions total)
- Twice per year (spring and fall)
- Maximum of 10 participants
- Individual goals and progress monitored based on:
  - Occupational Profile
  - Life Skills Assessment
  - Program Evaluation
  - Daily Progress Notes
  - Discharge Summary
  - 3 Month Follow-up



# Program Content Overview

1. Introduction
2. Beauty and Self-Esteem
3. **Self-Respect and Sexual Relationships**
4. Stress Relief and Recreational Interests
5. Exercise
6. Healthy Eating
7. Grocery Shopping
8. Cooking Occupation
9. Home Management
10. Time Management and Organizational Skills
11. **Money Management and Budgeting**
12. Accounts and Community Resources
13. **Vocational Skills**
14. College Preparation
15. Future Planning and Goal Setting
16. Take Action!
17. Social Relationships: Communication
18. Social Relationships: Conflict Resolution
19. Social Relationships: Trust and Forgiveness
20. **Life Choices**
21. Red Flags
22. **Drugs and Alcohol**
23. Craft Day
24. Social Hour
25. Giving Back
26. **Graduation Day**



# Implications For Occupational Therapy

- Human trafficking is the most pressing human rights issue of our time
- Be aware of the red flags and how to respond
- NHTRC Hotline: **1-888-3737-888**
- Occupational therapist can assist these individuals in living successful, independent, and healthy lifestyles





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# Suggestions for Additional Reading (Books)

- A Crime So Monstrous, E. Benjamin Skinner: A journalist reports back on modern day slavery from locales around the world
- Disposable People, Kevin Bales: Pioneering study done on human trafficking in the global economy
- Ending Slavery, Kevin Bales: A practical call to arms to join the budding abolitionist movement
- Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide, Nicholas D. Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn: Treatise on human trafficking and the importance of investing in women's health and autonomy worldwide
- Little Princes, Conor Grennan: The story of one man's promise to bring home child survivors of human trafficking in Nepal
- Not For Sale, David Batstone: The story of modern day abolitionists and the global movement to end slavery
- Slave: My True Story, Mende Nazer and Damien Lewis : Biography of Nazer's kidnapping and enslavement in Khartoum
- Slavery Today, Kevin Bales and Becky Cornell: A primer on the full range of issues related to human trafficking around the world
- Slavery Today, Ronald D. Lankford, Jr.: A compilation of anti-trafficking articles aimed at young adults



# QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?



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