

***Human Trafficking and Other
Societal Issues: The
Intersection of Human
Trafficking and Substance Use***





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(Johnson, Brown, Monroe, Jackson, Jennings, Scott, Jefferson, Switzerland, Ohio, Dearborn, Ripley, Franklin, Fayette, and Union counties)

Indiana Trafficking Victims Assistance Program

Indiana Youth Services Association

ITVAP

Indiana Trafficking Victims Assistance Program



Indiana Youth Services Association

IYSA advocates for children and families of Indiana by enhancing its members' ability to implement the core roles of:

- Youth advocacy
- Delinquency prevention
- Information and referral
- Community education

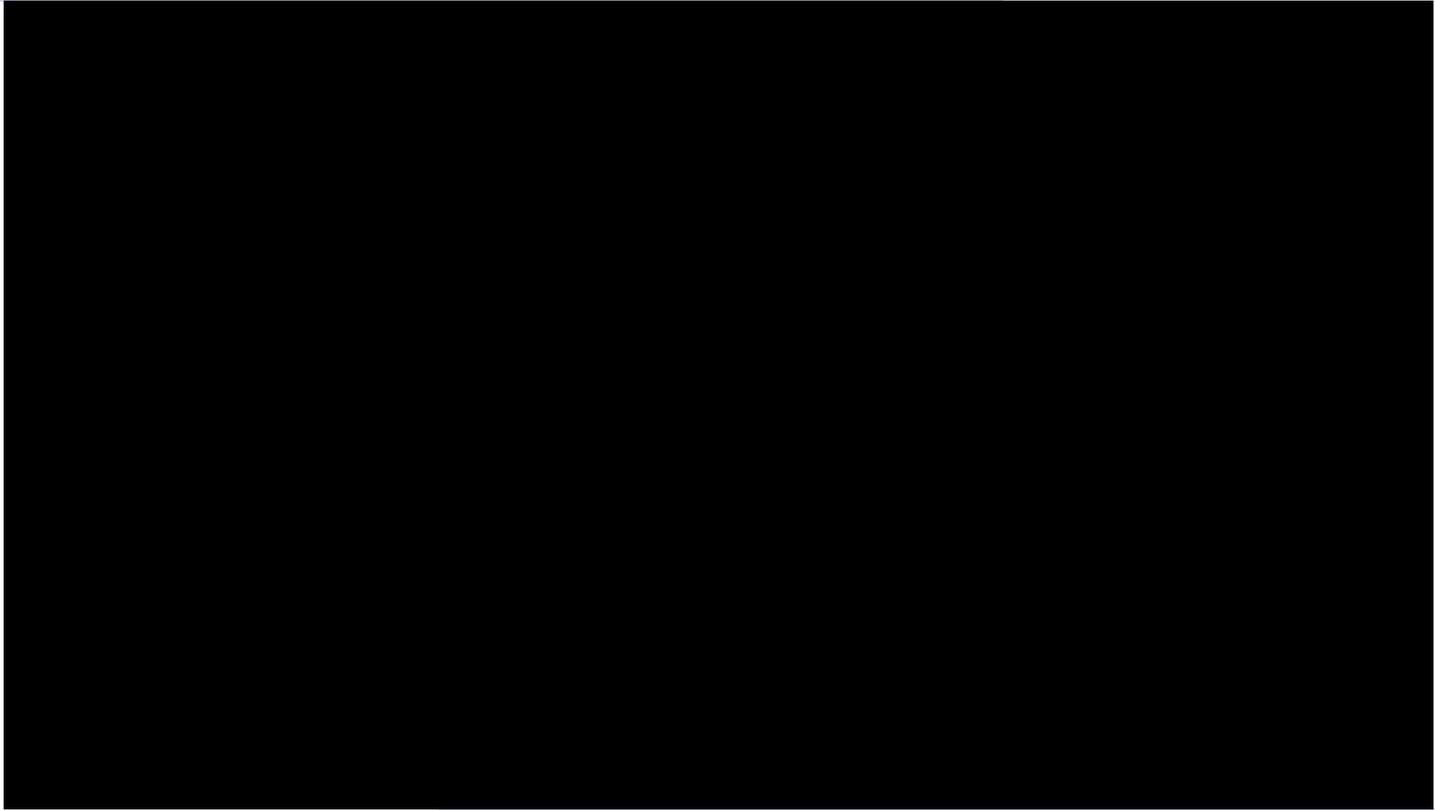


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Presentation Objectives

- Review of human trafficking and its components
- Understanding the **intersection between substance abuse and human trafficking victims**
- Identify risk factors and red flags
- Identify techniques for identification of trafficked victims
- Identify techniques for building trust and support
- Explain the impact of human trafficking
- Building your capacity to respond

Faces of Trafficking



What is Human Trafficking?

Human trafficking is the use of **force, threat of force, fraud or coercion** to compel a person into any form of work or service against their will.

ACTION

Recruits

Harbors

Transports

Provides

Obtains

Patronizes

Solicits

MEANS

Force

Fraud

Coercion

PURPOSE

Labor or
Services

Commercial
Sexual
Conduct

FORCE

Beating and slapping

Burning

Sexual Assault

Rape and gang rape

Confinement

Initiation

Torture practices

FRAUD

False promises

Deceitful enticement

Withholding wages

Blackmail/extortion

Lying about work conditions

Preying on desperation

COERCION

Threats of serious harm

Intimidation

Humiliation

Emotional abuse

Controlling daily life skills

Establishing quotas

Climate of fear

Human Trafficking Defined

- **Sex Trafficking:** The recruiting, harboring, transportation, provision, obtaining, patronizing, or soliciting of a person for the purpose of a commercial sex act in which the commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud or coercion or in which the person induced to perform such an act is under 18 y.o.
- **Labor Trafficking:** The recruiting, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of 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.

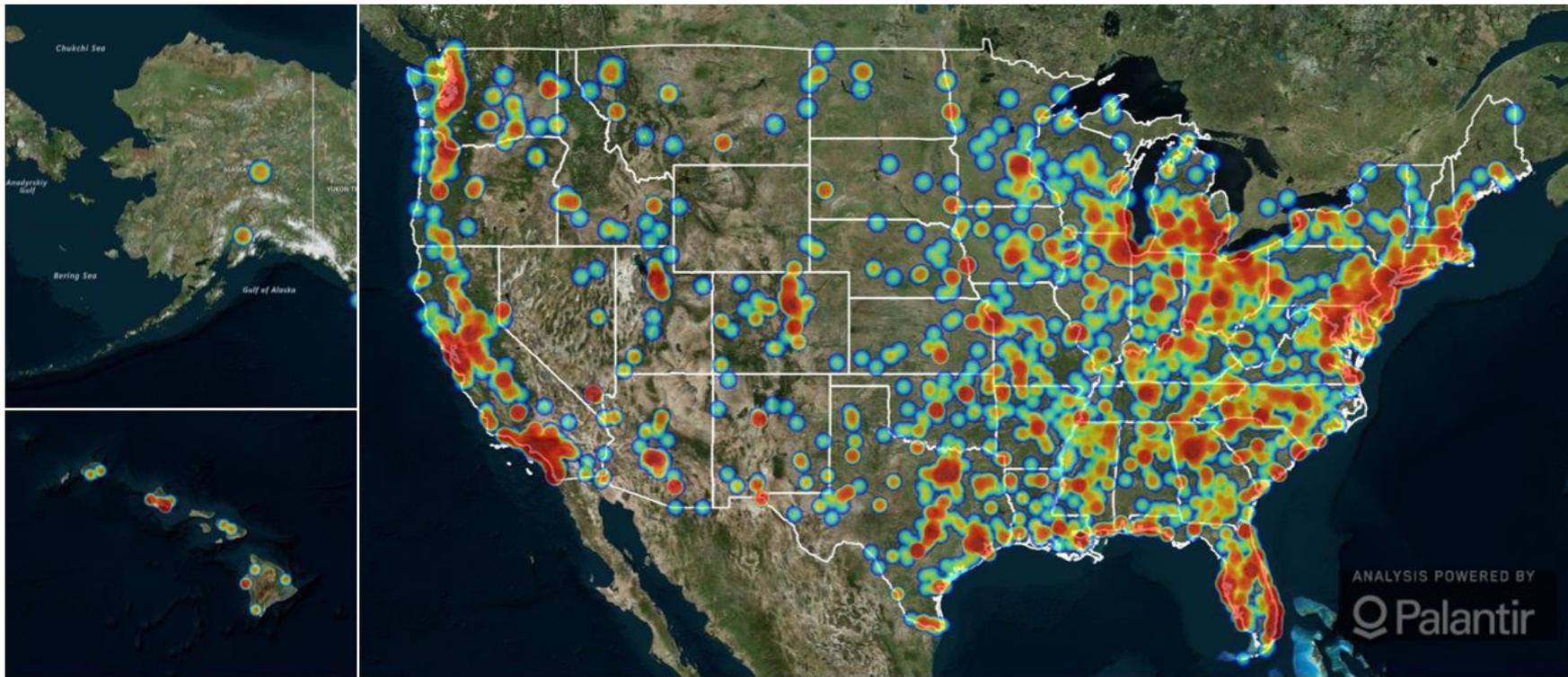
Indiana Law

- Individuals under the age of 18 **cannot** be arrested for prostitution (there's no such thing as an underage prostitute!)
- Force, threat of force, fraud, coercion do **not** need to be proven when a minor is trafficked for commercial sex.
- It is not a defense to *Promotion of Child Sexual Trafficking* that a minor consented to participate in prostitution or sexual conduct
- Buyers can be charged with human trafficking whether or not they knew the individual they purchased was a human trafficking victim

Indiana Law

- Force, threat of force, coercion, or fraud means but is not limited to a person:
 - ▷ Causing or threatening to cause physical harm
 - ▷ Physically restraining or threatening to physically restrain
 - ▷ Abusing or threatening to abuse the law or legal process to further the act;
 - ▷ Knowingly destroying, concealing, removing, confiscating or possessing any actual or purported passport or other immigration document, or any other actual or purported government identification document;
 - ▷ Using blackmail or threatening to cause financial harm for the purpose of exercising financial control; or
 - ▷ **Facilitating or controlling a human trafficking victim's access to a controlled substance.**

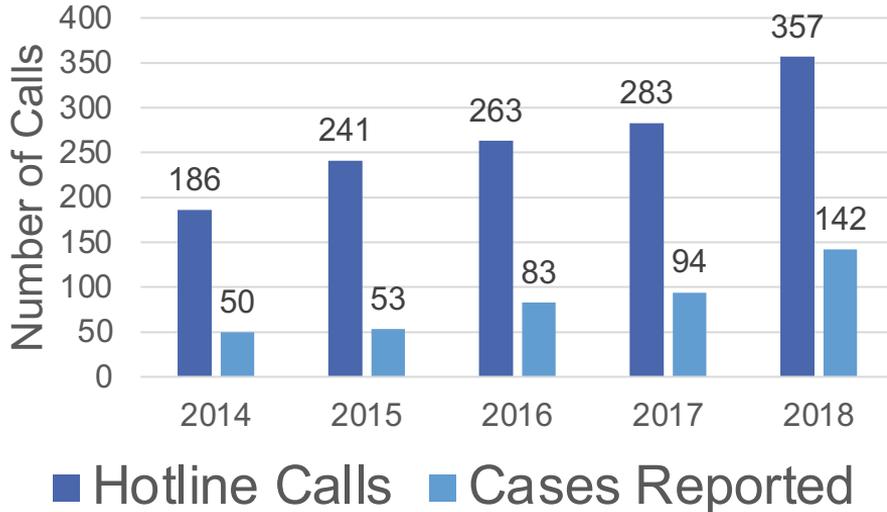
Does It Really Happen Here?



Polaris, 2019

Does It Really Happen Here?

National Human Trafficking Hotline - Indiana



ITVAP Service Partners have served over **730** trafficked, sexually exploited, and high-risk youth from October 2015 to July 2019

Have you ever?

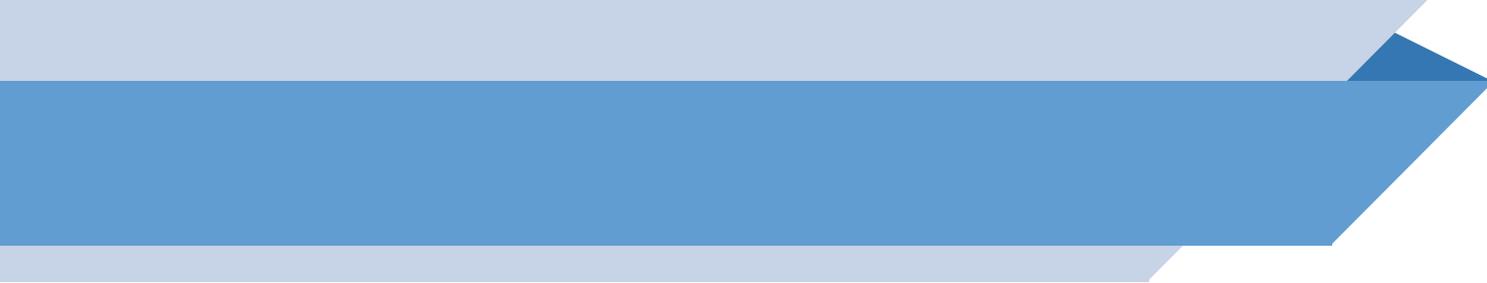
- Wanted to feel special?
- Wanted to belong?
- Wanted to feel safe?
- Needed resources?
- Had nowhere to go?
- Had no trusted adult you could call for help?



WICHITA STATE
UNIVERSITY

CENTER FOR COMBATING
HUMAN TRAFFICKING

© Countryman-Roswurm, 2011



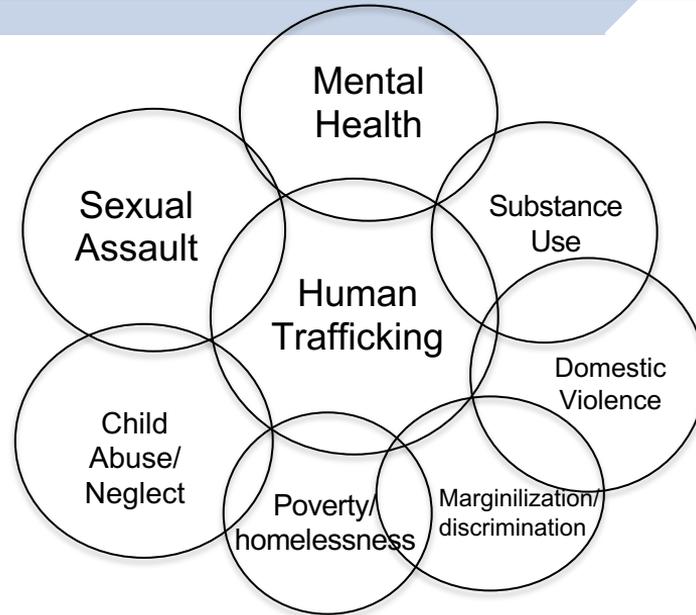
What populations in Indiana are particularly vulnerable to trafficking?



Vulnerable Populations

- Runaway & homeless youth
- Poverty
- System-involvement
- Untreated mental health/ **substance use issues**
- LGBTQIA youth
- Immigrant & migrant youth
- Refugee & asylum seeking youth

Human Trafficking & Other Social Issues



Vulnerable Populations & Substance Use

- 40% to 85% of prostitutes and sex trafficking and survivors have a chemical use disorder.
- According to a survey by the U.S. Conference of Mayors, 50%-60% of homeless women suffer mental and emotional disturbances, often predating their homelessness. Many homeless woman become homeless in response to escaping pasts laden with domestic violence or sexual trauma, some are victims who fled the hard grip of sex trafficking.
- 81% of labor trafficking cases were instances of forced drug dealing

Control through Substance Use

-**State of Indiana v. Chris Smiley (Indiana)** (1st State prosecution in IN; 19 y.o. victim was forced into prostitution to pay off drug debt of someone else)

- **U.S. v Hicks: (2015, California)** (Defendant used drugs and alcohol to motivate victims to perform commercial sex acts)¹

- **U.S. v. Haskins (2014, Virginia)** (Defendant encouraged victims to develop drug addictions which he used as a motivator and control mechanism)²

- **U.S. v. Fields (2013, Florida)** (Defendant sold Oxycodone, Dilaudid, and Morphine to women, causing addiction and dependency; forced them into commercial sex to pay off their drug debt. He also coerced them into commercial sex by threatening to withdraw the drugs and subject them to painful and debilitating withdrawal symptoms)³

- **U.S. v Mack (2014, Ohio)** (Defendant controlled victims by exploiting their addiction, withholding heroine until after they performed commercial sex acts. 1st court to hold that withholding drugs from someone addicted is form of coercion for purposes of human trafficking.)⁴

Substance Use During Exploitation

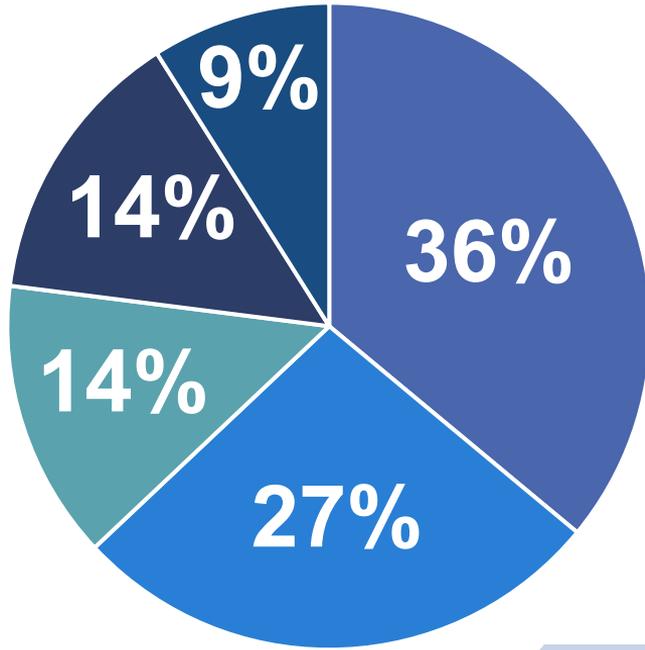
- Coping Mechanism

2012 study of 100 domestic sex trafficking victims and survivors across the U.S. found many were dependent on drugs or alcohol during their exploitation either because they were forced to use by their trafficker or because “substance use was a means of coping with the immense abuse they suffered”. 84.3% used alcohol, drugs, or both during their captivity.

Who are the Traffickers?

What connection might a trafficked person have with their trafficker?

Who Are The Traffickers?



- 36% Immediate family
- 27% Boy of family
- 14% Friends of family
- 14% Employers
- 9% Immediate family

Trauma Bonding

“Dysfunctional attachments that occur in the presence of danger, shame and fear.”

■ Characterized by

- ▶ An imbalance of power
- ▶ Unpredictable, intermittent abusive or violent behavior
- ▶ Affection, loving or generous behavior by the controlling individual
- ▶ Denial and/or dissociation on the part of the victim/survivor

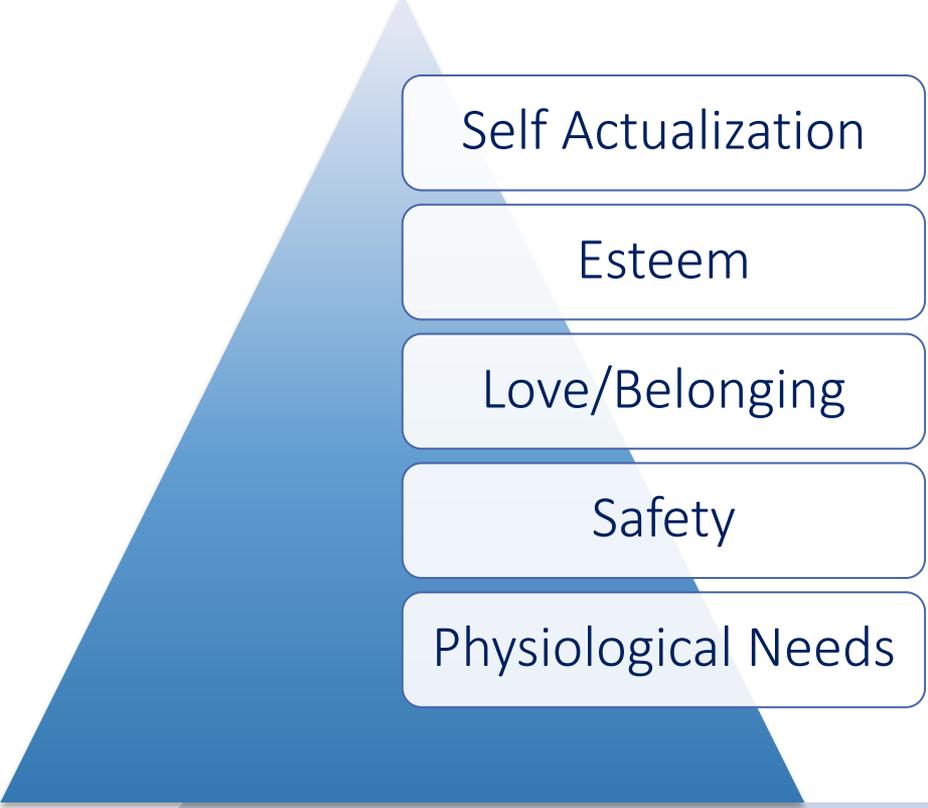
The Science of Trauma Bonding

- Oxytocin (bonding hormone)
- Endorphins (pleasure, pain, withdrawal, dependence)
- Corticotropin (withdrawal, stress)
- Dopamine (cravings, seeking, wanting)

Grooming

An intentional effort to identify potential victims and gain their trust

Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs

A blue pyramid is positioned on the left side of the slide. To its right, five rounded rectangular boxes are stacked vertically, each containing a level of Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs. The pyramid's color transitions from a darker blue at the base to a lighter blue at the top. The boxes are white with a thin blue border. The overall design is clean and modern, with blue and white as the primary colors.

Self Actualization

Esteem

Love/Belonging

Safety

Physiological Needs

Social Media

Social Media is utilized to:

Connect, Engage, Memorialize, and Share

Social Media is also utilized to:

Target, Groom, Recruit, Exploit, and Advertise victims of
human trafficking

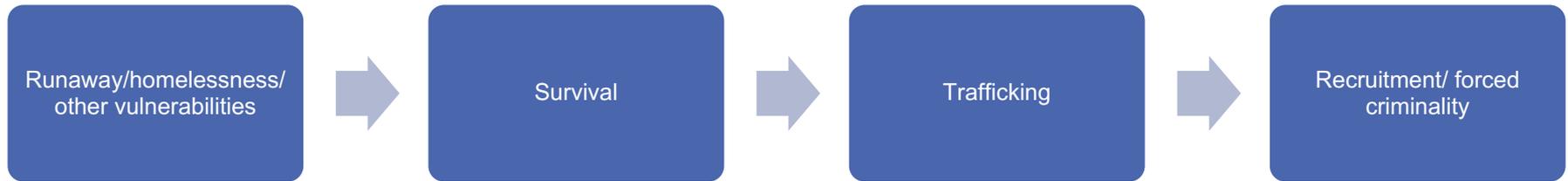
Industries Vulnerable to Recruitment

- Outpatient facilities
- Support groups/meetings
- Residential services
- Institutions
- Inpatient programs
- MAT treatment facilities
- Funerals
- Needle exchange programs
- Pharmacies/ emergency rooms/ medical facilities

Recruitment Behavior & Signs

- Older partner/ impressionable
- Gang involvement or connection to people in gangs
- Talking about the game/life, money, partying, getting hair/nails done, shopping, getting “taken care of”
- “selling the dream”
- Dominant personalities
- Excessive loyalty or devotion
- Flashing money or status symbols
- Isolating vulnerable youth or turn youth against one another
- Secretive and/or exchanging private information
- Planning to elope
- Contact after discharge (via social media)

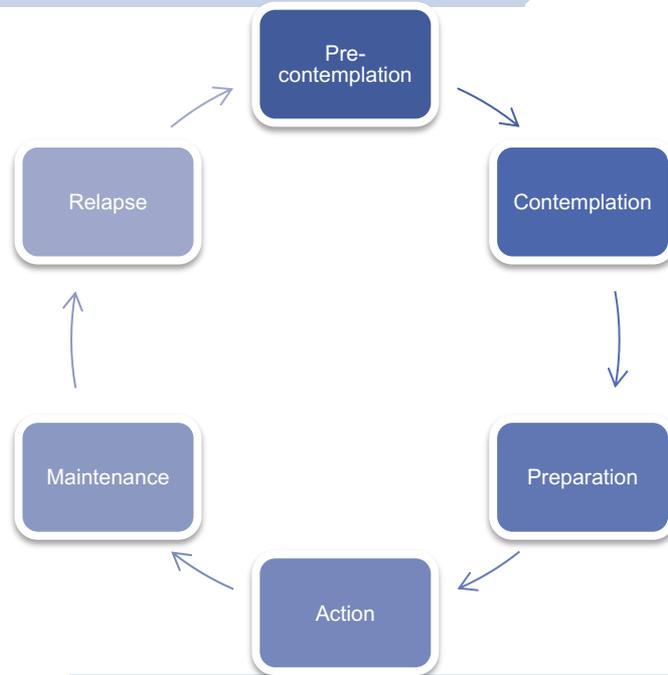
Recruitment Pipeline



Understanding the Trafficked Client

- Engagement requires a trusting relationship
- Client may have survived violent/controlling relationships
- Decisions made were often for economic/survival reasons
- Lack of trust in systems
- There is no straight path

Stages of Change



Impact of Trafficking

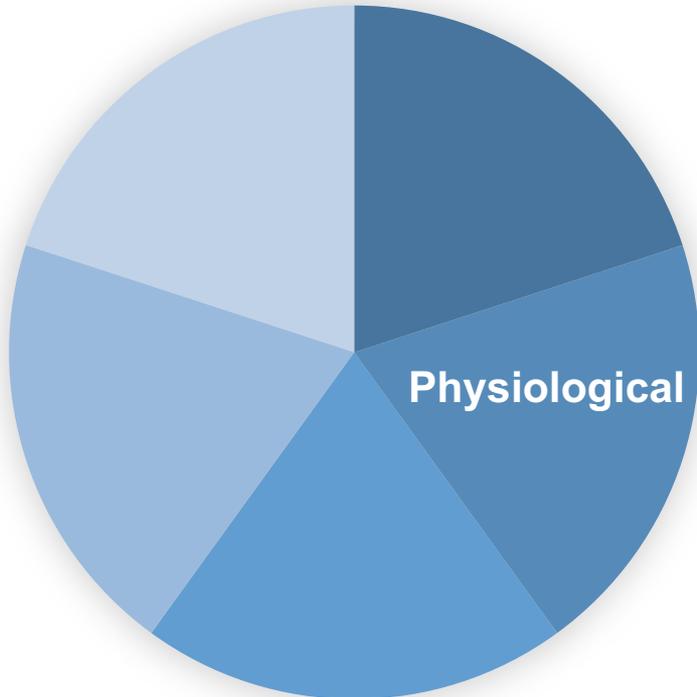


Impact of Trafficking



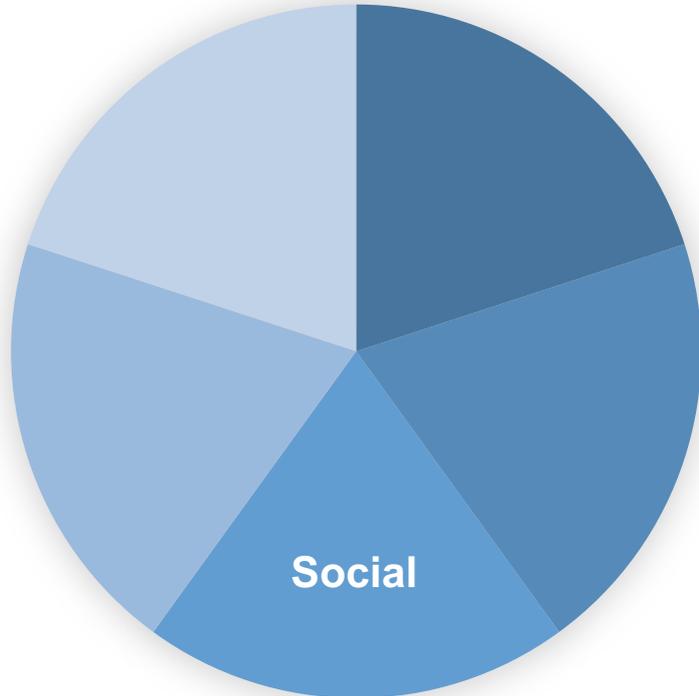
- Impedes development
- Negatively effects self concept/self worth
- Poor mental health outcomes
 - ▷ PTSD
 - ▷ Anxiety
 - ▷ Depression
- Trauma bonding

Impact of Trafficking



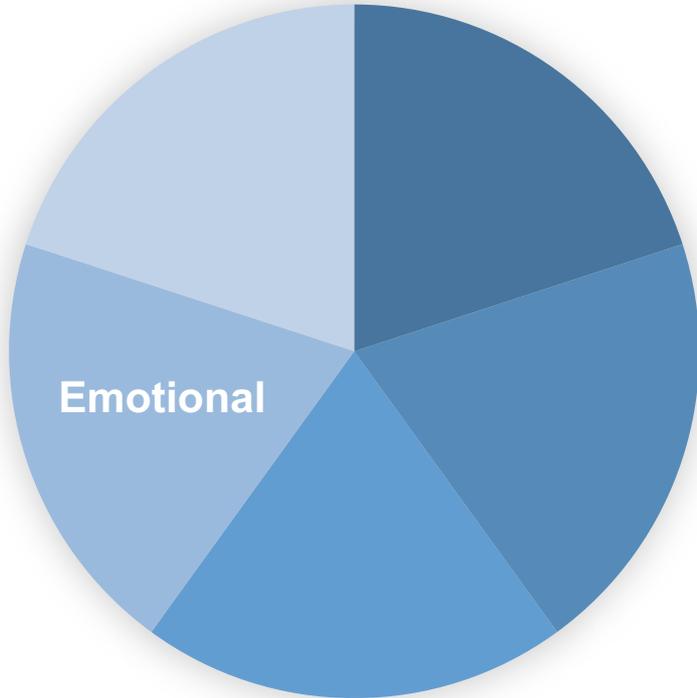
- Rape or gang rape
- STIs
- Untreated illnesses
- Malnutrition
- Lack of sleep
- Dental needs
- Physical trauma
- Pregnancy

Impact of Trafficking



- Isolation
- Lapse in education
- Disconnection from family
- Homelessness
- Incarceration
- Lack of basic life skills

Impact of Trafficking



- Mood swings
- Feelings of shame, humiliation
- Self blame
- Numbness
- Hypersensitivity
- Hypervigilance
- Fear

Impact of Trafficking



- Building trust will take time
- Past relationships may have to be severed
- Self-harm or violent behavior
- Sense of hopelessness may lead to lack of motivation
- **Substance use**

Pathway to Recovery

- Addressing substance abuse issues
 - Detox/inpatient/sober living/support groups
- Acknowledging the trauma when ready
 - Mental health/ therapy
- Transitioning into society
 - Residential/ vocational/ long-term support

Trafficking Survivors and Recovery Support Needs

- access to recovery programs that acknowledge and address their co-occurring needs using a trauma-informed and survivor-informed approach.
- Safe, judgement-free environment
- Survivor-led peer support groups
- Open and honest communication
- Trauma-informed therapy and treatment
- Case management services

Recovery Support Needs

- Emergency shelter
- Safety planning
- Interim & long term housing
- Medical care
- Therapy/counseling
- Legal/immigration services
- ESL classes
- Interpretation services
- Mentoring
- Support groups
- Life skills training
- Vocational training
- School assistance
- Job assistance
- Substance abuse treatment

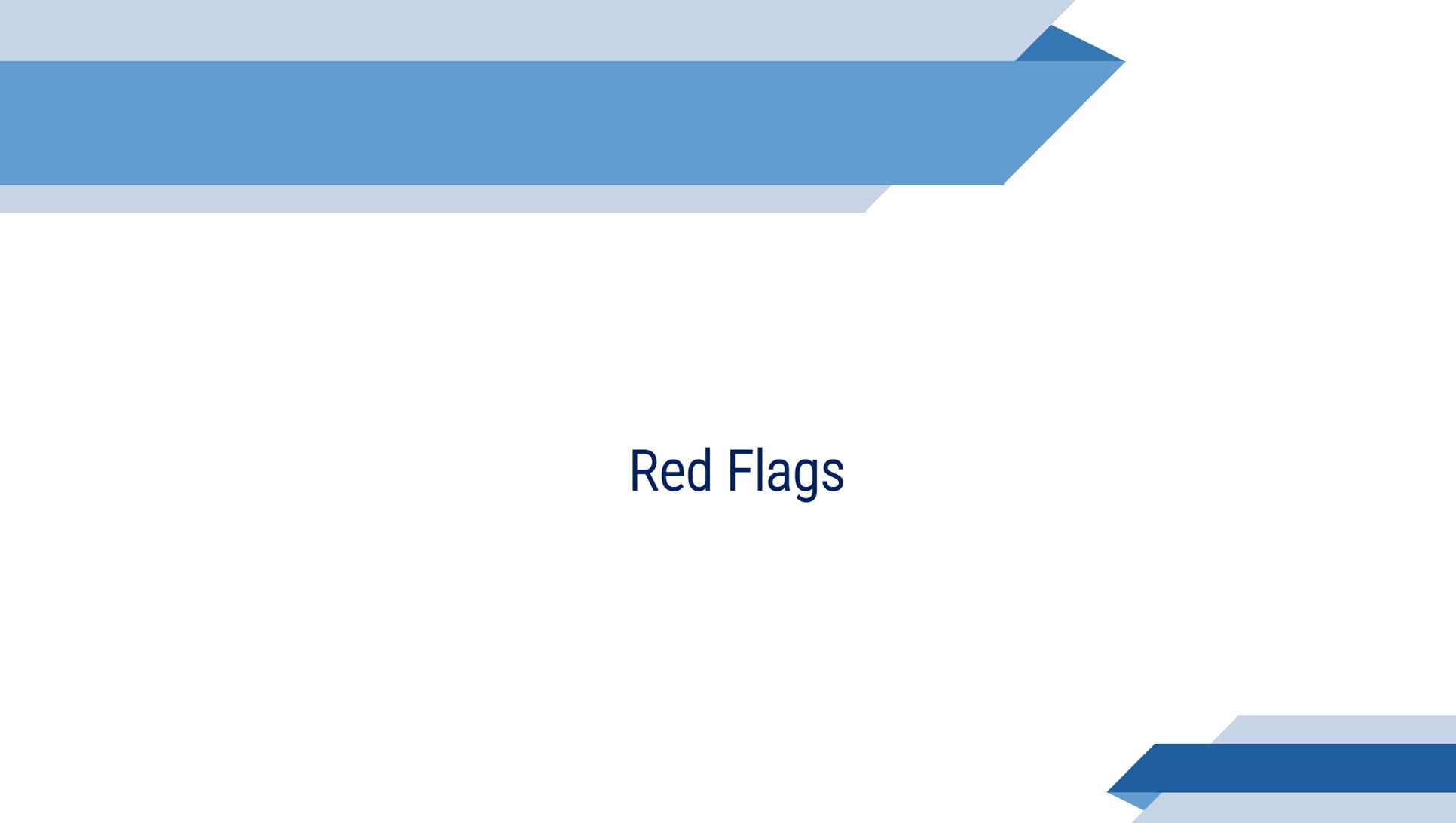
Addressing the ROOT of the Problem

“This is clearly a public health crisis. We must tackle both opioid addiction and trafficking through prevention and treatment. There are no quick fixes here. Substance abuse treatment must be coupled with a trauma-informed approach to mental health. High quality and long-term treatment should be available to victims. Trafficking survivors need specialized addiction resources because of their extensive histories of trauma.”

-Dr. Hanni Stoklosa is an emergency physician at Brigham and Women’s Hospital and Harvard Medical School, and Executive Director of HEAL Trafficking.

Why Victims May Not Disclose

- Shame, self-blame, embarrassment, guilt
- Believe *they* are the criminals
- Do not realize they are victims of HT
- Fear law enforcement and/or legal system
- Fear of retaliation
- Criminal activities
- Lack of trust



Red Flags

Red Flag Examples

- Chronic truant/runaway and/or homeless youth
- Branding (tattoos, jewelry)
- Excess cash and/or goods/services they cannot afford
- Someone else has control of their ID; inconsistencies
- Multiple hotel keys, marbles, poker chips or cell phones
- Lack of knowledge of their whereabouts
- Substance use
- Scripted/restricted communication
- Controlling adult/partner
- Signs of physical, sexual or psychological trauma

Clarifying Questions

■ Open-ended

■ Non-judgmental

- ▶ Victims of trafficking have suffered severe trauma
- ▶ Decisions/behaviors often stem from survival instincts (fight, flight, freeze)

■ Without punishment

■ Respectful

- ▶ Be compassionate
- ▶ Talk calmly
- ▶ Offer choices with able to

■ Honest

- ▶ Don't promise things you can't deliver
- ▶ Don't say "everything is going to be alright"



Reporting

Trust Your Instincts and Report

Indiana Child Abuse Hotline (DCS):

1-800-800-5556

“I suspect **human trafficking.**”

National Human Trafficking Hotline

1-888-373-7888

Text “HELP” or “INFO” to 233733

24 hours, 7 days a week

English, Spanish, and 200 more languages

Text 911

- Enter the numbers '911' in the 'To' field
- Send your exact location, brief description of the help you need
 - ▶ Use simple words
 - ▶ Do not use abbreviations or shorthand
- Send text; be prepared to answer 911 call taker's questions

B 4 U TXT

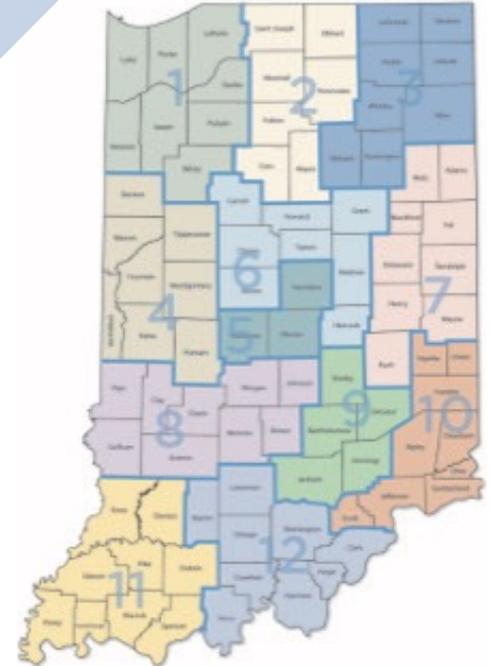
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VOICE is best



- Training and Outreach
- Network Building
- Victim Service Provision Reimbursement
- Case Coordination and Management
- Referrals to Service Providers

Indiana Trafficking Victims Assistance Program (ITVAP)



Community Response and Support

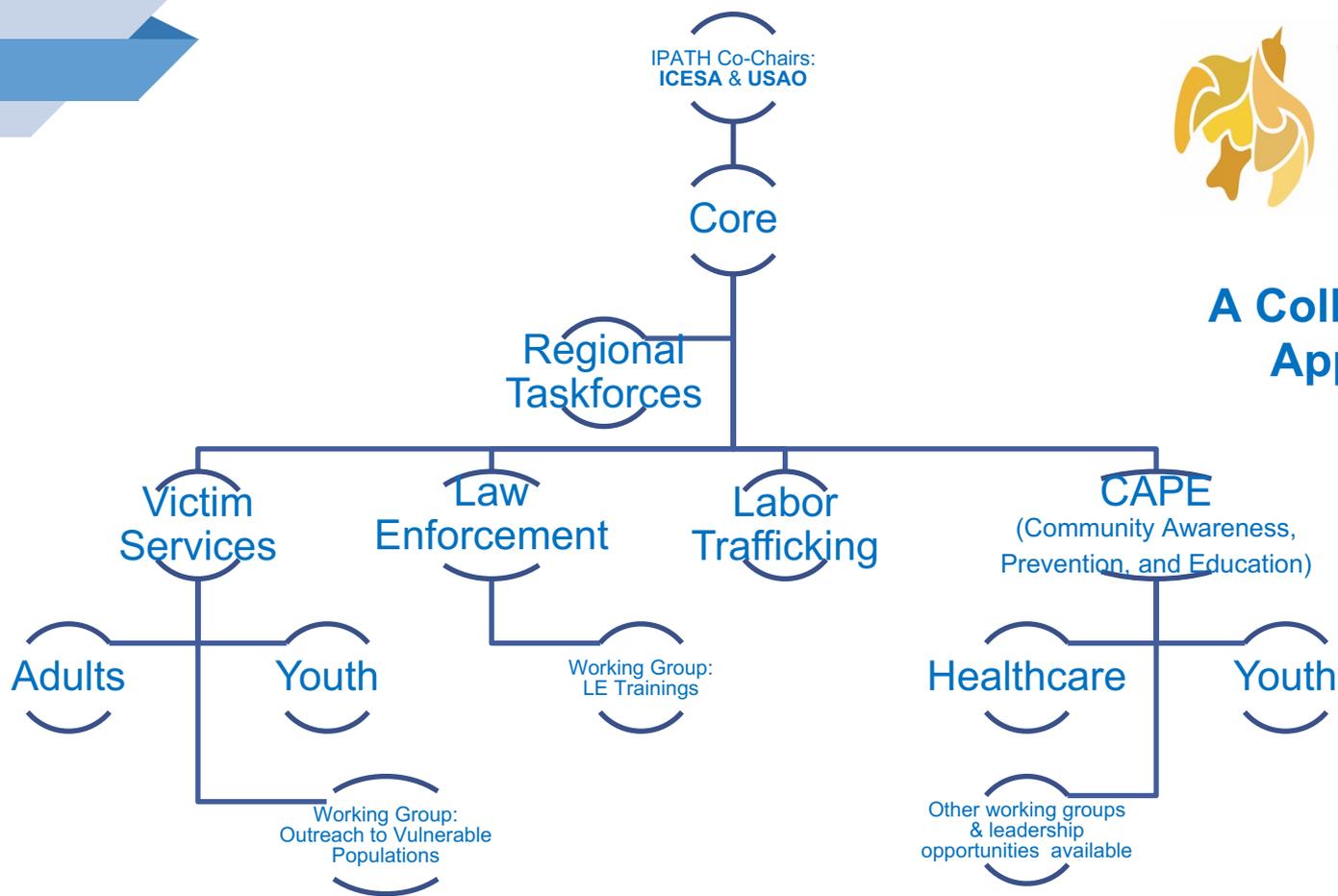
- Law Enforcement
- Child Protective Services
- Service Providers
- Healthcare Providers
- Housing
- Legal Services
- Community Leaders
- Chamber of Commerce
- Victim Advocates
- Mentors
- Schools
- Funders

IPATH Co-Chairs:
ICESA & USAO



IPATH
INDIANA PROTECTION FOR
ABUSED AND TRAFFICKED HUMANS
Task Force

A Collaborative Approach



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- Indiana Trafficking Victims Assistance Program - www.indysb.org/itvap
- Polaris Project - www.polarisproject.org
- National Safe Place Network - nspnetwork.org
- National Safe Place - nationalsafeplace.org
- Family & Youth Services Bureau - www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/fysb