

Human
Trafficking in
Washington
State:
Identifying & Serving
Survivors

Washington
Anti-Trafficking
Response
Network
(WARN)

Kathleen Morris
WARN Program Manager
International Rescue Committee in
Seattle



Washington Anti-Trafficking Response Network (WARN)

- Provides direct services to victims of human trafficking in Washington State
- Network of community-based providers in Seattle, Yakima, and Spokane
- Community outreach and training
- Collaborates with local and federal law enforcement agencies through WashACT task force for the benefit of survivors

Where WARN Works

■ Seattle/Western Washington

- International Rescue Committee in Seattle
- API Chaya (formerly Asian and Pacific Islander Women and Family Safety Center)
- Refugee Women's Alliance (ReWA)
- YouthCare

■ Central Washington

- Central Washington Comprehensive Mental Health in Yakima

■ Eastern Washington

- Lutheran Community Services Northwest in Spokane

Overview

- I. Human trafficking basics
- II. Identifying victims of human trafficking
- III. Working with victims of human trafficking
- IV. Existing services and resources for human trafficking victims

Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA)

- Signed into law October 2000
- Made human trafficking a Federal crime
- Provided Immigration Relief for “victims of a severe form of trafficking”
- Goals of law:
 - *Increase prosecution of human traffickers in United States*
 - *Protect victims, provide Federal and state assistance to victims*
- *Reauthorizations in 2003, 2005, 2008 , 2013 added further protections and expanded budget to combat trafficking domestically*

What is Human Trafficking?

Legal Definitions

- Labor Trafficking: Using force, fraud or coercion to recruit, harbor, transport, obtain or employ a person for labor or services in involuntary servitude, debt bondage or slavery
- Sex Trafficking: Commercial sex act induced by force, fraud or coercion, or in which person performing the act is under age 18

What is Human Trafficking?

Human Trafficking: The use of force, fraud or coercion to compel a person into any form of work against his or her will.

Smuggling vs. Trafficking

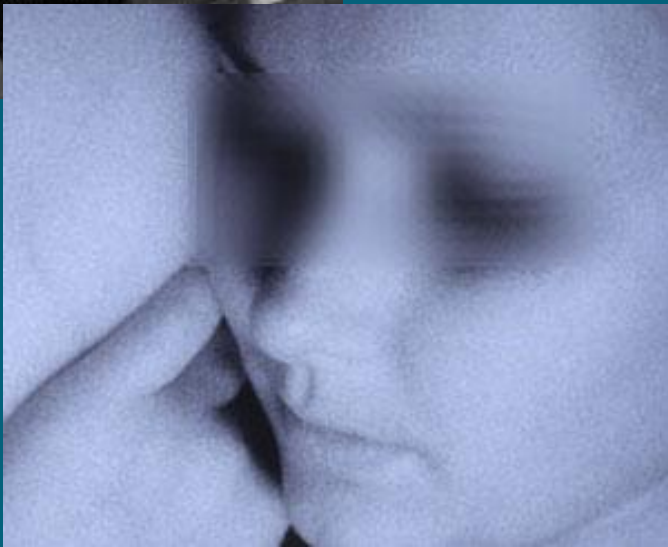
SMUGGLING

- *Consensual* movement across a border
 - For a fee
 - Crime against the State
-

TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS

- Ongoing exploitation
- Labor against person's will
- For the benefit of the trafficker
 - Crime against the person
 - No movement necessary

Who are victims of trafficking?



- Men, women and children
- Various ages and educational backgrounds
- Involuntary or voluntary migrants

Who are the traffickers?

- Women & Men
- Friends
- Family
- Neighbors
- Village Leaders
- Religious Leaders
- Government Officials (i.e. diplomats)
- Agricultural Farmers
- Owners of small/medium size businesses
- Organized crime
- Individuals unknown to the victim(s)



Barriers to Escape

Isolation, supervision, imprisonment

Threats

Unaware of rights

Distrust of others

Loyalty as coping mechanism

Language barriers

Geographical barriers



VICTIM IDENTIFICATION

Signs to Observe



Abusive or Forced Labor
Underage Commercial Sex
Forced/Coerced Commercial Sex
Servile Marriage

Control , Fear, Submission
Language/Cultural barriers
Control of documents
Ability to come and go
Work conditions
Voluntariness of work
Living conditions
Debt
Threats

Questions to ask if you suspect someone is a victim of human trafficking

- Do you feel safe?
 - ... in your home? ... at your job?
- Are you able to choose the work that you do?
- What are your working or living conditions like?
- Has anyone forced you to do something you did not want to do?
- Can you leave your work or job situation if you want?
- When you are not working, can you come and go as you please?
- Where do you sleep and eat?
- Do you have to ask permission to eat, sleep or go to the bathroom?

Questions (cont.)

- Have you been threatened if you try to quit?
- Has anyone threatened your family?
- Is there a lock on your door or windows so you cannot get out?
- Were you lied to about the nature of the work or working conditions?
- Do you keep the money you make?
- Has anyone taken your documents from you?
- Were you promised anything before coming to the U.S.?

The Survivor's Journey

Serving Survivors of Trafficking

- **Trauma Informed Approach**

- **Build Trust**

- *We are here to help you.*
- *Our first priority is your safety.*
- *We can find you a safe place to stay.*
- *We can help get you what you need.*
- *You are entitled to assistance. We can help you get assistance.*

- **Confidentiality**

- **Sensitivity – trauma, culture, language**

- **Check in with client: explanations, understanding, permission, comfort, questions, informed decisions**

WARN Values

- Self-Determination
- Empowerment
- Support & Access to Services
- Client-driven services
- Confidentiality
- Self-sufficiency
- ~~Rescue~~

Working with Interpreters

- Prior experience
- Not family member or friend
- Independent and neutral
- Language accuracy
- Confidentiality
- No expression of opinions or beliefs
- Respectful and courteous

Cultural Considerations

■ Culture

- Shared experiences, background, values, history, ethnicity, race
- Cultural identity

■ Cultural Misinformation

- Assumptions based on race, geography, socio-economic status, behavior, prior experience
- Prejudice
- Racism

Chinese Culture

- Chinese garment worker in New York
- Chinese lesbian doctor in Germany
- Chinese teenager adopted by Jewish parents in France
- Chinese Muslim farmer in Gansu Province
- Chinese newscaster, Connie Chung

Different Faces of Chinese Culture

The Survivor's Journey Needs Assessment

Urgent Response

- Safety
- Housing
- Medical Attention
- Mental Healthcare
- Calling loved ones
- Food – *culturally appropriate food*
- Clothing
- Client makes informed decisions throughout

The Survivor's Journey Options

- Referral to WARN?
- Client may not want to come forward
 - Explanation of rights and resources
 - Legal Options
 - Immigration Options
 - Service Options
 - Confidentiality
 - Sensitivity
- Client makes decisions

WARN

Services for Victims of Human Trafficking

Urgent & Long-Term Response:

- 24-hour victim assistance line: 206.245.0782
- Access to safe housing, food and clothing
- Intensive Case Management
 - Physical and mental health treatment
 - Criminal justice-system/ victim rights advocacy
 - Safety awareness/planning
 - Using the bus; grocery shopping; public benefits
- Immigration advocacy and legal assistance
- Interpretation services
- English classes and job readiness training
- Repatriation, if desired by client

The Survivor's Journey

The Call to WARN

- **WARN 24-Hour Victim Assistance Line:**
206.245.0782
- **Referral Sources**
 - Service Providers
 - Law Enforcement
 - Good Samaritans
- **Considerations**
 - Victim of Human Trafficking?
 - Confidential/Anonymous Assistance
 - Explanation of rights and options
 - Language, Safety, Urgency, Immediate Needs

Immigration Relief available to Victims of Trafficking

- Continued Presence
- T Visa
- U Visa
- Possibly others: VAWA, Asylum, Special Immigrant Juvenile Status, etc.

Criminal Investigation

- **Prepare victim for law enforcement interview**
 - purpose
 - setting
 - video/audio recording
 - disclosure
- **Explain process**
 - investigation
 - charging
 - court proceedings
 - trial
 - sentencing
- **Advise victim of rights in criminal case**

Repatriation & Reintegration

- Practical considerations:
 - ID and Documentation
 - Plane ticket
 - Belongings
- Long term considerations
 - Safety
 - Local NGOs
 - Re-victimization

*IOM, DOS, USAID can help

Local Response to Human Trafficking

Washington Advisory Committee on Trafficking

Victim/ Survivor Services:

- Washington Anti-Trafficking Response Network (WARN)
- Crime Victim Service Centers
- And other providers

Law Enforcement:

- Seattle Police Department Vice High-Risk Victims Unit
Human Trafficking Detail
- Various local & Federal Law Enforcement Agencies (FBI,
Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE))
understand human trafficking in Seattle

National Response

Department of Justice

- Funds victim service providers across the United States to serve victims of human trafficking
- Encourages multidisciplinary collaboration in response to human trafficking
- Funds local law enforcement agencies who collaborate with OVC-funded service providers to combat human trafficking

Department of Health & Human Services

- Funds outreach and education programs to increase identification of victims of human trafficking across the US
- “Rescue and Restore” Campaign provides outreach materials geared at service providers and law enforcement
- Provides certification for victims of trafficking

Order free Rescue and Restore materials at www.acf.hhs.gov/trafficking



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Administration for Children & Families

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THE CAMPAIGN TO RESCUE & RESTORE VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING



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Rescue & Restore Campaign Tool Kits

For Health Care Providers

- [Resource Overview](#) (pdf - 56KB)
- [Tips for Identifying and Helping Victims of Human Trafficking](#) (pdf - 66KB)
- [Screening Questions to Assess Whether a Person is a Trafficking Victim](#) (pdf - 45KB)
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- [Health Care Provider Brochure](#) (pdf - 83KB)
- [Health Care Provider Pocket Card](#) (pdf - 249KB)
- [Rescue & Restore Logo](#) (pdf - 210KB) / [Logo image](#) (jpg)

National Human Trafficking Resource Center

- National hotline, available 24/7
- Program of Polaris Project, a non-profit, non-governmental organization working exclusively on the issue of human trafficking
- Call 1-888-3737-888
 - To report a tip;
 - To connect with anti-trafficking services in your area; or,
 - To request training and technical assistance, general information or specific anti-trafficking resources.
- Connects calls to appropriate local service providers and/or law enforcement agencies

USCRI

Services for Survivors of Human Trafficking

Reimbursement for Expenses

Foreign National Victims/Survivors (Not US Citizens)

■ Pre-Certified Victims of Trafficking

- \$720/month for Administrative Expenses
- \$650/month for Client Expenses
 - Housing costs, groceries, clothing, basic needs
- 9 months of support

■ Certified Victims of Trafficking

- \$575/month for Administrative Expenses
- \$500/month for Client Expenses
- 3 months of support

For more information

Washington Anti-Trafficking Response Network
(24 hour victim assistance line)

206.245.0782

www.warn-trafficking.org

Kathleen.morris@rescue.org

206.623.2105

National Human Trafficking Resource Center
24-Hour Hotline

888-3737-888