

How Are Victims Trafficked?

Human trafficking can occur through many avenues of force, fraud or coercion:

Persons may be recruited from their home country (although they do not have to be foreign to be trafficked) to fill falsely advertised job or apprenticeship positions.

They may pay a smuggler to bring them into the country and then be sold unknowingly into prostitution or labor. (Smuggling alone is *not* trafficking.)

Persons may be kidnapped from their country and brought into the US to be used in any number of servitude positions.

Central Texas Coalition Against Human Trafficking

www.CTCAHT.org
512-472-9472



What Is Human Trafficking?

Human trafficking is the recruitment, harboring, transporting, provision or obtaining of a person for the purpose of a commercial sex act or labor, in which the commercial sex act, involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage or slavery is induced by force, fraud or coercion.

-Trafficking Victims Protection Act 2000

If you believe someone is a victim of trafficking please call:

**Austin Police Department's
Human Trafficking Unit**
512-974-4486

or

National Trafficking Hotline
1-888-3737-888

or

FBI
512-345-1111

or

Immigration and Customs Enforcement
512-916-5888

If you would like more information about human trafficking in the United States and abroad, please see the following websites:

www.humantrafficking.org
www.acf.hhs.gov/trafficking
www.usdoj.gov/crt
www.ovc.gov/help/tip.htm

Where Victims May Be Found

- Domestic servitude
- Construction work
- Sweatshops
- Sex/pornography industry
- Ranch work
- Restaurants
- Janitorial services
- Nail salons

Characteristics Of Trafficking Victims

A victim of trafficking usually does not have documentation or identification (this is a powerful way for the trafficker to keep them from running).

Foreign-born trafficking victims may not speak English and may be isolated from American culture.

Traffickers may accompany the victims everywhere. Victims may have little freedom from the trafficker.

Traffickers also keep the victims confused and scared about what may happen to them. Physical and sexual abuse may occur while in servitude. Trusting anyone will be an issue for a victim.

A community commitment to ending Human Slavery

Responding

Helping

Healing...

Together

Trafficking in humans is slavery.

As many as 20,000 persons are believed to be trafficked each year within the US borders.

(Department of Justice)

Trafficking victims are men, women and children from all over the world.

Human trafficking is the 2nd most prevalent organized crime activity in the world just after drugs and tied with illegal arms trafficking.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Central Texas Coalition Against Human Trafficking is to work collaboratively to increase public awareness and identification of human trafficking cases, and to provide identified victims of human trafficking with comprehensive social and medical services.

History

The Central Texas Coalition Against Human Trafficking (CTCAHT) was formed in 2003 after Austin law enforcement worked their first human trafficking case and found a lack in collaboration between law enforcement and social service organizations.

Typically, law enforcement is not responsible for providing social or medical services to crime victims. A new law (the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000) now mandates that victims of trafficking who cooperate with law enforcement be provided with emergency services beginning at the time of their rescue or escape. This new law meant law enforcement and service providers must work together.

The Office of Immigration & Refugee Affairs helped Austin gather together representatives from local and state-wide non-government agencies. These representatives partnered with law enforcement to create the CTCAHT.

Refugee Services of Texas in Austin was awarded a grant through the Office for Victims of Crime to hire a full-time victim's case manager who also chairs the trafficking coalition and acts as liaison and single point of contact.

Having a single contact for police to call regarding victim services is an invaluable tool for bridging law enforcement with social services. The Coalition continues to meet regularly as a multi-disciplinary team of service providers ready to respond to new cases.

Our Members Include:

American Gateways
Austin Police Department-Human Trafficking Unit
Caritas of Austin
Catholic Charities of Central Texas
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Green Leaf Refugee Services
Health and Human Services Commission,
Office of Immigration and Refugee Affairs
LifeWorks
Austin/Travis County Department of Health and
Human Services Refugee Health Screening Clinic
Refugee Services of Texas, Inc.
SafePlace
Texas Advocacy Project
Texas Association Against Sexual Assault
Texas Council on Family Violence
Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid
University of Texas, School of Social Work,
Institute of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault
US Attorney's Office
Zonta Club of Austin

Services Provided

As mandated by the 2000 TVPA, victims of trafficking must be provided shelter, protection, knowledge of their rights, and have access to medical care and translation services. Due to the broad expertise of the coalition, we are able to provide all of these services and also offer:

- Counseling services
- Food, clothing, furniture & household goods
- Intensive case management
- Employment preparation & search
- Immigration assistance
- Resettlement services
- Cultural orientation
- Transportation

Once a victim of trafficking is certified, they may be eligible for a special visa, government benefits and a work permit. After certification, victims have the possibility of bringing their children and certain other, immediate family members to the United States. There is also the potential to receive financial compensation for civil damages from the trafficker.

Opportunities

Coalition members offer free professional trainings and informational sessions to any interested agency or group. If you would like to learn more about human trafficking please call to schedule a presentation.

The CTCAHT hosts an annual conference geared towards collaboration between law enforcement and non-government agencies.

Our coalition is continually looking to grow and invites you to become a member. Areas to help in include advocacy, direct services and development.

Go to our website for the latest events, community contacts and updates on our work.

For information on any of the above opportunities please go to:

Central Texas Coalition Against Human Trafficking

www.CTCAHT.org

or call

512-472-9472

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