

**An Introduction to Human Trafficking in Colorado**

This training program was partially supported by federal grant 2015-VF-GX-0013, issued by the Colorado Division of Criminal Justice.

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**Before we begin ...**

**CAUTION**



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**Learning Objectives**

- Explain the who, what, where and why of human trafficking
- Define the three key elements of the criminal definition of human trafficking
- Identify factors that make a person vulnerable to human trafficking
- Explain the recruitment and control tactics used by traffickers
- Identify indicators of human trafficking from a victim's story, as well as physical and emotional cues
- Describe what a holistic community response to human trafficking looks like

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# Section 1: Overview of Human Trafficking

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## OVC: Faces of Human Trafficking PSA



Video courtesy of the Office for Victims of Crime. Faces of Human Trafficking video series (<http://ovc.ncjrs.gov/humantrafficking/publicawareness.html>)

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## What is Human Trafficking?

- Human trafficking involves the **denial** of a person's human right to **freedom and basic dignity**.
- It is a market-driven, criminal industry fueled by demand for labor services and commercial sex acts.
- Victims are forced, defrauded and/or coerced to provide services, labor, or commercial sex acts.
- It exists at the extreme end of a broader spectrum of human exploitation.

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## What is Human Trafficking 7

Human trafficking is a crime involving the exploitation of someone for the purposes of compelled labor or a commercial sex act through the use of force, fraud, or coercion.

When a person younger than 18 is induced to perform a commercial sex act, it is a crime regardless of whether there is any force, fraud, or coercion.



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## AMP Model 8

Process	Means	Exploitation
Recruiting	Force	Exploitation
Harboring	Fraud	Involuntary Servitude
Transporting	Coercion*	Debt Bondage
Providing		
Obtaining		
Patronizing		
Searching		

\*Neither Force, Fraud, nor Coercion are required to be shown for minors under age 18 induced into commercial sex acts

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## Human Trafficking vs. Smuggling 9

Trafficking	Smuggling
<p><b>Crime Against a Person</b> Exploitation-Based</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Requires:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Element of <i>force, fraud or coercion</i></li> <li>▶ <i>"Working"</i> or engaging in labor/services or commercial sex acts</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Does <i>not</i> require:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Movement of the victim</li> <li>▶ Crossing an international border</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><b>Crime Against a Border</b> Transportation-Based</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Persons are <u>free</u> to leave, change jobs, etc.</li> <li>▪ Facilitates illegal entry of person(s) from one country into another</li> <li>▪ <i>Always</i> crosses an international border</li> </ul>

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### General Scope of the Problem

- ▶ Victims can be anyone from around the world or someone from your home town.
- ▶ Unlike drugs or weapons, victims can be exploited repeatedly.
- ▶ Human trafficking is a multi-billion dollar industry. (International Labor Organization, 2012)

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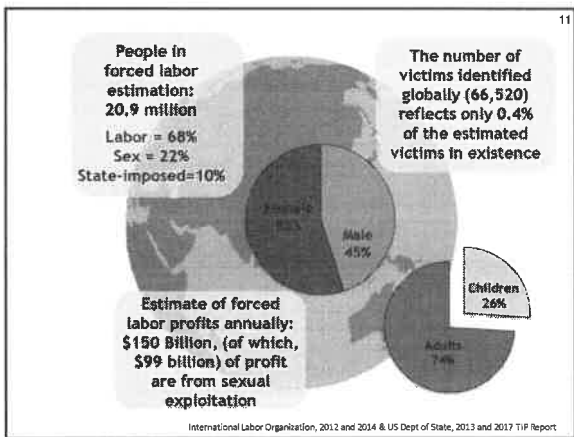
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### Foreign Born Victims in the U.S.

Victims come to the US as:

- Refugees
- Individuals with work visas, student visas, tourist visas
- Undocumented immigrants
- Persons married to a U.S. citizen
- Unaccompanied minors

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### Domestic Victims in the U.S.

U.S Victims are:

- U.S. citizens/legal permanent residents
- Every gender, all ages
- Engaged in forced labor and sexual services
- The 2017 DOS TIP Report indicated that the U.S. was the top country of origin for federally identified victims (FY 2016) in the U.S.

US Department of State, *Trafficking in Person Report*, July 2016

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### Countries of Origin for Colorado



Between 2008 and 2013, CoNEHT members provided services to more than 437 suspected and confirmed labor and sex trafficking victims (both domestic and foreign-national) throughout Colorado. These case profiles comprise 42 countries of origin (including the United States).

Map and data cited with permission of CoNEHT

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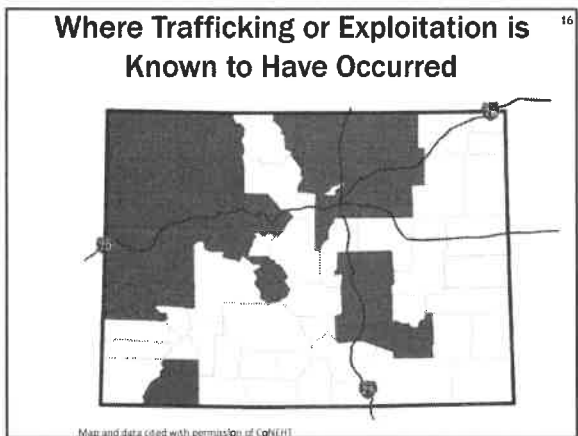
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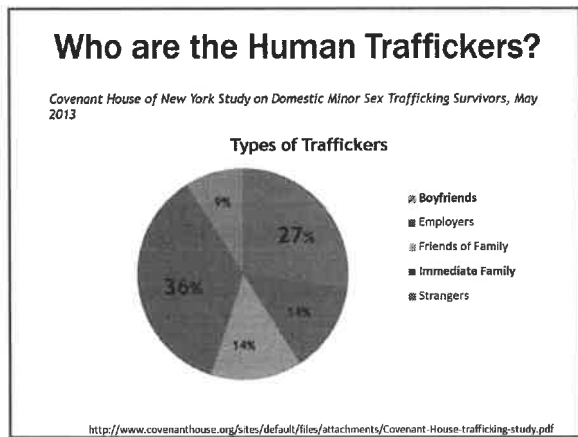
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### Sex Trafficking Venues




Online



Massage parlors



Boom Towns



Hotels

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### Sex Trafficking Venues




Truck Stops



Strip Clubs



Events



Street/Track

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### Labor Trafficking Venues




Agriculture



Tourism



Restaurants



Domestic Work



Traveling Sales



Carnivals

Traveling Sales photo by Adrian Gubaldo, originally published in the November 2009 issue of the Denver VOICE.

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### Labor Trafficking Venues



Beauty Services



Construction



Janitorial Labor

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## Section 2

### Laws on Human Trafficking

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### Trafficking Victims Protection Act

- First passed in 2000
- Made human trafficking a federal crime
- It is a victim-centered law
- Reauthorized in 2003, 2005, 2008, and 2013



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### Colorado HB 14-1273

In 2014, HB14-1273 changed state criminal statutes on human trafficking to better align with federal human trafficking statutes.

Established the Human Trafficking Council, a state-wide council of 31 representatives from various sectors

- ▶ Sets forth a number of mandates for the state council

C.R.S. § 18-3-505



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### U.S. vs. Kalu



- Deception to lure trained nurses from abroad
- Visa fraud/misuse of H-1B program regulations
- Extortion of pay
- Threats of deportation



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## Section 3

### Dynamics of Human Trafficking

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### Root Causes of Human Trafficking

- Poverty/lack of economic opportunity
- Social and economic inequality
- Oppressive political regimes--lacking in human rights protections and the rule of law
- Displacement due to political conflict or natural disasters
- Market demand for inexpensive products and services
- Demand for commercial sex

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime Toolkit, 2008

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### Potential Vulnerabilities

- Poverty
- Experience of homelessness
- Prior victimization
- Lack of opportunity
- Dreams of a better life
- Lack of local community support
- Low self-esteem
- Substance use
- Differently abled



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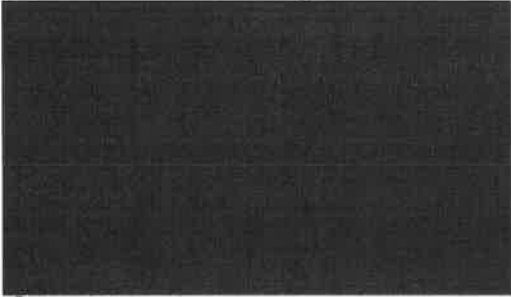
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### IOM: Campaign to Prevent Trafficking



Video courtesy of the International Organization for Migration – Tunisia, as part of their campaign to prevent human trafficking: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KoxRL4zuMM>. produced in 2013.

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### Potential Vulnerabilities Unique to Foreign Victims

- Language
- Immigration status
- Cultural norms/cultural differences
- Political instability

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### Youth and Vulnerability

Minors often experience *heightened* vulnerabilities to trafficking and exploitation  
**Why?**

- Dependent on others for protection and meeting basic needs
- Socialized to obey adults, especially care takers, and may lack ability to detect fraud or deceit
- Developing brain may exhibit impaired judgement

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### Youth and Vulnerability

Runaway, homeless, and child welfare involved youth

- 56.7% of youth who have experienced homelessness report physical abuse by an adult before the age of 18. 21% percent of study participants report that they were forced to have sex by an adult.  
DIRIS, Administration for Children & Families, Street Outreach Program Study, 2016
- 1 in 7 of the 25,000 runaways reported to NCMEC in 2017 were likely sex trafficking victims.
  - ↳ 88% of these likely sex trafficking victims were in the care of social services or foster care when they went missing.  
National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, January, 2017

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## Youth and Vulnerability

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex (LGBTQI) Youth

- Are overrepresented among runaway and homeless youth due to frequent harassment, family rejection, violence and economic instability.

Adapted from the Polaris Project, [www.traffickingresourcecenter.org](http://www.traffickingresourcecenter.org)

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## U.S. v. Terrell Layne Smith

- Recruited his victims through a girlfriend, the mother of one of his two victims
- Told victims they could earn money by going out on "dates" and kept their earnings
- Used his cell phone to take pictures of the minors and posted them to backpage.com
- Transported victims to various locations in Colorado and Arizona to prostitute them
- Purchased victims' food, clothing and marijuana to build dependency and control
- Convicted and sentenced to over 12 years in federal prison for sex trafficking of minors across state lines




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## Recruitment Tactics: Sex

- Familial recruitment
- Intimate partner recruitment
- Social media recruitment
- Use or threat of violence



Adapted from the Polaris Project, [www.traffickingresourcecenter.org](http://www.traffickingresourcecenter.org)

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### Methods of Control: Sex Trafficking

- Economic abuse (demanding high quotas, debt bondage, etc.)
- Withholding basic needs
- Forced drug use that could lead to dependency
- Physical or sexual assault
- Psychological manipulation
- Isolation & monitoring



Adapted from the Polaris Project, [www.traffickingresourcecenter.org](http://www.traffickingresourcecenter.org)

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### Recruitment Tactics: Labor

- False job advertisements
- Promise of a better life
- Promise of legal status
- Familial recruitment



Adapted from the Polaris Project, [www.traffickingresourcecenter.org](http://www.traffickingresourcecenter.org)

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### Methods of Control: Labor Trafficking

- Debt bondage
- False promise of legal status/threat of deportation
- Isolation or controlled movement
- Document confiscation
- Physical or sexual assault
- Psychological manipulation
- Threats against family or friends

Slide adapted from the Polaris Project and information from Southern Poverty Law Center

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### Traveling Sales Crew



\*Teen claims she was captive of door-to-door sales crew," Produced by: KXLY - Channel 4, in Spokane, WA

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### Understanding Human Trafficking Victimization

- Trafficking often involves a series of traumatic events
- Variety of abuses related to trafficking
  - ▶ Physical, sexual, psychological
  - ▶ Neglect (nutrition, hygiene, medical)
- Survivor's experience is compounded by his/her relationship to the trafficker

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### The Impact of Trauma



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**Section 4**

**Identifying Human Trafficking**

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**Possible Indicators: Victim's Story**

- Discrepancy in reported versus apparent age
- Claims that she or he is "just visiting" and unable to provide a home address
- Does not know what city she or he is in
- Is unfamiliar with people they are with
- Inconsistencies in story or very restricted/scripted communication
- Presence of an overly controlling "friend," "partner," or "boss" throughout victim's story

Adapted from Arizona State University's School of Social Work, "Training Tool for EMS Providers"

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**Possible Indicators: Physical**

- Injuries/signs of physical or sexual abuse
- Bruises/injuries at different stages of healing
- Joint issues
- Signs of branding (tattoo, scars, cigarette burns)
- Signs of malnourishment and/or serious dental issues
- Signs of drug and/or alcohol dependency
- Hearing loss from head trauma
- Somatic signs of stress such as headaches, back pain, stomach pain
- Bald patches or missing hair

Adapted from Arizona State University's School of Social Work, "Training Tool for EMS Providers"

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### Possible Indicators: Emotional

- Demeanor - fear, anxiety, depression, submissive, tense, nervous
- Substance use
- Low self-esteem
- Excessive guilt, shame, embarrassment
- Expressing responsibility about their situation
- Minimizing level of violence experienced
- Disassociation
- Hostile, uncooperative
- Suicidal ideation

Adapted from Arizona State University's School of Social Work, "Training Tool for EMS Providers"

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### Other Possible Indicators

- Someone else has possession of identification documents
- Third party who insists on interpreting
- Frequently texting or calling someone not present



Adapted from Arizona State University's School of Social Work, "Training Tool for EMS Providers"

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### Basic Assessment Questions

<p><b>Force</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Have you ever felt you could not leave the place where you worked?</li> <li>▪ Did anyone where you worked ever hurt you or threaten to?</li> </ul> <p><b>Coercion</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Did anyone you ever worked [or did other activities] for or lived with threaten to report you to the police or other authorities?</li> <li>▪ Did anyone ever take and keep your ID?</li> </ul>	<p><b>Fraud</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Have you ever worked [or done other activities] that were different from what you were promised or told?</li> </ul> <p><b>Debt/Monetary</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Do you owe anyone money?</li> </ul>
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**Complexities in Identification** <sup>49</sup>

Language	Stigma/Shame
Unaware of rights	Fear
Feelings about trafficker	Geographic isolation
Social isolation	Distrust

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**Case Scenario: Group Exercise**

- Vulnerabilities?
- Indicators or red flags of human trafficking?
- What additional information might you need to assess for trafficking?
- Is it a human trafficking case?
- Would you call an anti-trafficking hotline?

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**Section 5**

**Responding to Human Trafficking**

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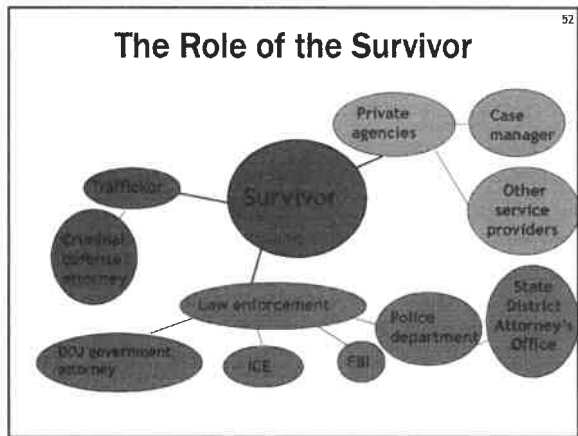
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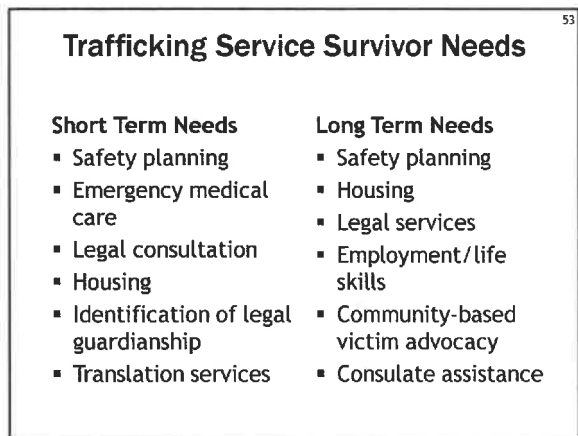
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## See it, Report it

- National Human Trafficking Hotline  
(888) 373-7888 or  
Text HELP or INFO to 233733 (BEFREE)
- Colorado Network to End Human Trafficking State  
Hotline  
(866) 455-5075
- Colorado Department of Human Services Child  
Abuse Hotline  
1-844-CO-4-KIDS



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## Colorado Human Trafficking Council

- Duties and responsibilities of the Colorado Human  
Trafficking Council
- CHTC Monthly Meetings
  - ▶ Forum for Public Comment
- CHTC Website
  - ▶ State Calendar
  - ▶ *The Colorado Anti-Trafficking Insider*
  - ▶ CHTC Annual Reports



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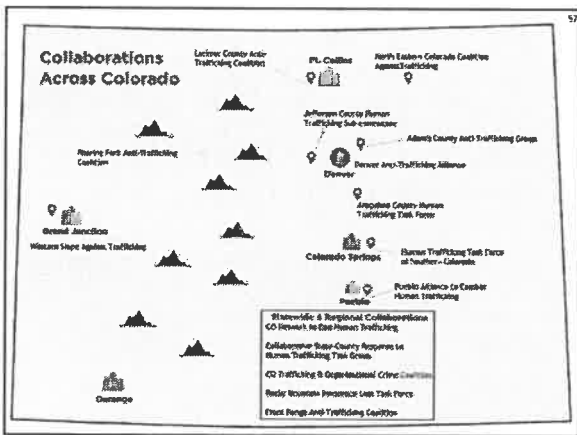
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### Statewide & Regional Collaborations <sup>58</sup>

- Colorado Network to End Human Trafficking
- Collaborative State-County Response to Human Trafficking Task Group
- Colorado Trafficking and Organizational Crime Coalition
- Rocky Mountain Innocence Lost Task Force
- Front Range Anti-Trafficking Coalition

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### Would you like to know more? <sup>59</sup>

Contact Human Trafficking Program Manager:  
**Maria Trujillo**  
**maria.trujillo@state.co.us**  
(303) 239-4454

Visit:  
The Colorado Human Trafficking Council Website  
<https://sites.google.com/a/state.co.us/cdps-prod/home/human-trafficking-council>

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