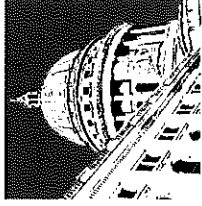


# Wisconsin Legislative Council

Anne Sappenfield  
Director



## **Human Trafficking** *NCSL Research on Recent Legislation in Other States*

Amber Otis, Senior Staff Attorney, and Tom Koss, Staff Attorney  
Speaker's Task Force on Human Trafficking | October 11, 2023

# Summary

- ▶ At the chair's request, we researched trafficking-related legislation that has been recently enacted in other states.
- ▶ To assist in this research, we engaged NCSL to provide more recent information to supplement the database currently available on NCSL's website.
- ▶ NCSL identified 8 states that have enacted trafficking-related legislation from 2021 to present.

# **NCSL's Website and Database**

- ▶ NCSL has a website devoted to human trafficking and describing state efforts to legislate on this topic.
- ▶ Their information includes a website in a narrative form and a database of legislation relating to trafficking, which can be filtered by state, year, and/or category of legislation.

# NCSL's Trafficking Webpage: Visual

Report

## Human Trafficking State Laws

Updated August 12, 2020

Easily browse the critical components of this report...

Select a Section to Jump To	▲
<b>Criminal Penalties</b>	→
<b>Judicial Protections</b>	→
<b>Funds &amp; Services</b>	→
<b>Criminal Penalt</b>	→
<b>Administration &amp; Cooperation</b>	→
<b>Awareness &amp; Regulation</b>	→
<b>Sex Trafficking</b>	→

**Topic:** CIVIL AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE  
and services,  
abolishing criminal  
penalties for traffickers seeking to profit from their labor or sexual services; the laws vary in several ways including who is defined as a "trafficker," the statutory elements required to prove guilt in order to obtain a conviction and the seriousness of the criminal and financial penalties those convicted will face.

Available at: <https://www.ncsl.org/civil-and-criminal-justice/human-trafficking-state-laws>

# NCSL's Database: Visual

## HUMAN TRAFFICKING ENACTMENT DATABASE

For faster performance, please use the fields below to filter your results. If you select nothing, the default search will pick up all topics and states in the most recent session year available. The full text of bills is available by clicking on the bill number.

TOPICS	Clear	STATES	Clear	
<input type="checkbox"/> Businesses, Regulations and Licensing		<input type="checkbox"/> All States		
<input type="checkbox"/> Child Welfare Administration		<input type="checkbox"/> Alabama		
<input type="checkbox"/> Coordination/Study of Trafficking Efforts		<input type="checkbox"/> Alaska		
<input type="checkbox"/> Funding, Fines and Appropriations		<input type="checkbox"/> Arizona		
<input type="checkbox"/> Judicial Options for Survivors		<input type="checkbox"/> Arkansas		
		<input type="checkbox"/> California		
KEYWORD	STATUS	BILL NUMBER	YEAR	AUTHOR
	All		2020	

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LexisNexis General Terms and Conditions

Available at: <https://www.ncsl.org/civil-and-criminal-justice/human-trafficking-enactment-database>

Search

Reset All

# NCSL's Database

- ▶ State legislation searchable by state and year (2015-2020).
- ▶ Organized and filterable by the following topics:
  - ▶ Businesses, regulation, and licensing.
  - ▶ Child welfare administration.
  - ▶ Coordination/study of trafficking efforts.
  - ▶ Funding, fines, and appropriations.
  - ▶ Judicial options for survivors.
  - ▶ Labor trafficking crimes.
  - ▶ Prevention and awareness.
  - ▶ Purchasers.
  - ▶ Services and protections for trafficking survivors.
  - ▶ Sex trafficking crimes.
  - ▶ Trafficking of children and youth.

# NCSL's Updated Research

- ▶ NCSL's database covers state enactments from 2015 to 2020.
- ▶ We requested updated information from NCSL – specifically, legislation in other states related to trafficking that has been enacted in 2021 to present.
- ▶ In response, NCSL identified 8 states that have enacted trafficking-related legislation from 2021 to present.

# Topic: Child Welfare Administration

- ▶ Delaware
  - ▶ Mandated reporting law expanded to expressly include human trafficking of a child.
- ▶ Oregon
  - ▶ Youth taken into custody must be screened to determine whether sex trafficking victim, and if so, county juvenile department must refer for appropriate resources, including access to a special advocate.
- ▶ Virginia
  - ▶ Pilot agency must design “alternative to an arrest” protocol for youth in partnership with local human services departments, among others.



# Topic: Coordination/Study of Trafficking Efforts

- ▶ Florida
  - ▶ Existing statewide council must assess social media platforms and trafficking.
- ▶ Hawaii
  - ▶ AG must develop program to prevent trafficking and assist victims.
- ▶ North Dakota
  - ▶ DHHS must study and implement framework for youth services to children impacted by trafficking.
- ▶ Oregon
  - ▶ DOJ must report to Legislature on trafficking screenings and related information.
- ▶ Virginia
  - ▶ Pilot agency must study safe harbor options and report on proposed law changes.

# Topic: Prevention and Awareness

- ▶ Florida
  - ▶ Foster parents and certain agency staff must complete a uniform, pre-service and annual training on trafficking.
- ▶ Hawaii
  - ▶ AG's program must promote public awareness of trafficking and the availability of services, produce and maintain informational materials, and provide training.
- ▶ Oregon
  - ▶ DOJ must develop a 1-hour virtual training on sex trafficking to be completed by certain state agency and county juvenile department staff once every 2 years.
- ▶ Washington
  - ▶ School districts must offer instruction on trafficking awareness and prevention, with a public-private partnership account created to support instruction.

# Topic: Purchasers

- ▶ Virginia
- ▶ Pilot program must focus on implementing a proactive reverse sting operation that targets buyers of sex services.

# Topic: Services and Protections for Trafficking Survivors

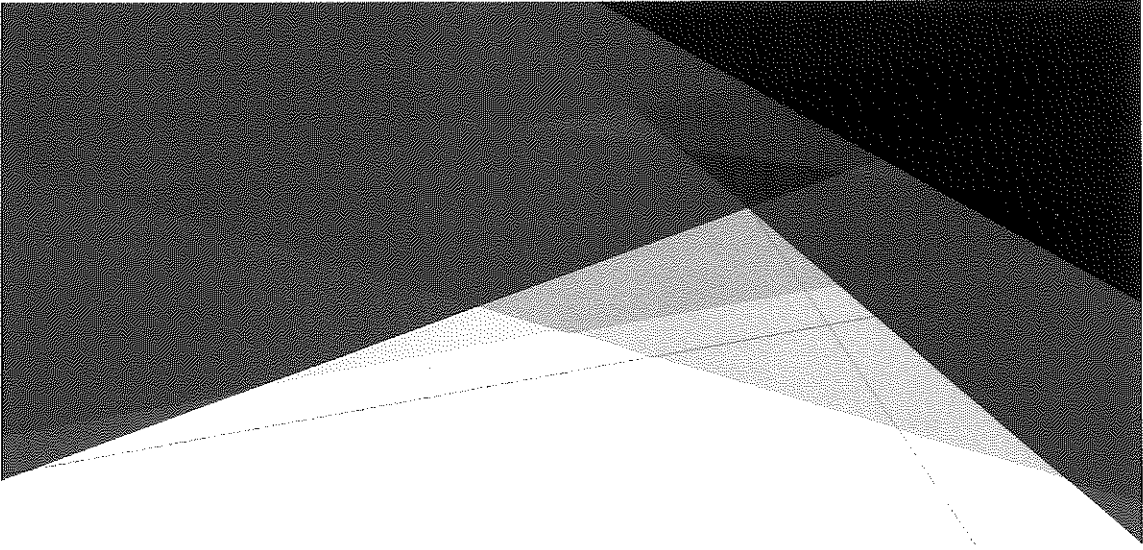
- ▶ Oregon
  - ▶ DOJ must compile a regularly updated list of referral resources to provide youth whose screening indicates may be a trafficking victim.
- ▶ Virginia
  - ▶ Pilot agency must utilize a multidisciplinary response team to coordinate assessment and treatment for victims of sex trafficking.
- ▶ Washington
  - ▶ Current office of crime victim advocacy to fund certain services to adults with lived experience of sex trafficking, with specified content and types of providers, and a requirement to collect data and report.

# Topic: Sex Trafficking Crimes

- ▶ Montana
  - ▶ Various changes to trafficking laws, including expanding crime of sex trafficking, employing new terminology, and increasing penalties.

# In closing...

- ▶ Please contact us if you want links to the resources currently available at NCSL's website.
- ▶ As a reminder, we have been assigned to provide nonpartisan staff services to the task force.
- ▶ Please contact us with any questions as the task force continues its work.



**TO:** Chair O'Connor, Vice-Chair Emerson, and Honorable Members of the Assembly Speaker's Task Force on Human Trafficking

**FROM:** Ragen Shapiro, Legislative Advisor  
Asia Jackson, DCF Anti-Human Trafficking Coordinator

**DATE:** October 11, 2023

**SUBJECT:** DCF Submitted testimony

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Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on Assembly Bill 48. The Department of Children and Families (DCF) is testifying in support of this bill.

### **Defining Human Trafficking**

Human trafficking is an umbrella term that includes both sex and labor trafficking. Using the Action, Means, Purpose model (A-M-P) from the National Human Trafficking Hotline, the definition of human trafficking can be understood as an action taken by means of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of commercial sex or labor/services.

As the state child welfare agency, our role centers on child sex trafficking specifically, although DCF partners with other state agencies engaged in the broader work of human trafficking prevention and response.

### **Elements of Child Sex Trafficking**

<b>Action</b>	<b>Means</b>	<b>Purpose</b>
Recruiting Enticing Harboring Transporting Providing Advertising Maintaining Soliciting or Benefitting by receiving something of value	Person is under 18 years of age	Sexual contact Sexual intercourse Sexually explicit performance Any other conduct done for the purpose of sexual humiliation, degradation, arousal, or gratification



### **Child Protective Services Response to Child Sex Trafficking**

Both federal and state law passed between 2014 and 2015 included several relevant requirements for child welfare including the following:

- requiring child welfare systems to screen and identify youth who may be at risk for or experiencing trafficking;
- requiring reporting between local law enforcement and child welfare;
- creating protocols for locating missing children and reporting them to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children; and
- amending the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) to add human trafficking as a form of child abuse.

### **Wisconsin Data on Child Sex Trafficking Maltreatment Reports to CPS**

These reports summarize data from eWISACWIS, Wisconsin's Statewide Automated Child Welfare Information System, a comprehensive automated case management tool that supports child welfare practice. Wisconsin counties use this system to document information for all child abuse and neglect referrals, allegations, and substantiated allegations made to their jurisdictions. This data reflects reports made to Child Protective Services (CPS) and do not include instances of trafficking not reported to CPS.

### **Child Sex Trafficking Trainings and Resources**

To increase knowledge of child sex trafficking in child welfare agencies, DCF created Human Trafficking 101: Understanding Child Sex Trafficking in Wisconsin to provide information to child welfare professionals to support the identification and responses to instances of child sex trafficking. Additionally, DCF continues to build off the work done by the WI Anti-Human Trafficking Task Force who worked on deliverables such as the [Wisconsin Child Sex Trafficking and Exploitation Indicator and Response Guide](#).

DCF's Youth Care Professional Foundation Training is a suite of short, online courses to introduce youth work and present practical strategies for providing care in congregate settings. Within this suite there is a training module available to the youth care professionals within congregate care environments which focuses on child sex trafficking.



- trainings to counties and communities as well as tools and guides to assist county agencies and community-based services with the identification and support of youth who have experienced sex trafficking.

Agencies that have provided these services have included human services agencies, child advocacy centers, community-based non-profits, and out of home care providers.

**Anti-Human Trafficking Grantees**

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Counties Served</b>
CW Solutions	Vilas, Oneida, Forest, Lincoln, Langlade, Marathon, Wood, Portage, Adams
House of Hope Green Bay	Brown
Children’s Wisconsin	Milwaukee
Lad Lake	Milwaukee
Grateful Girls	Milwaukee
Children’s Wisconsin	Kenosha, Racine, Walworth
Human Development Center	Douglas

Anti-Human Trafficking programs have provided a host of trainings that have been open statewide and to their specific service area. An example of that is a tool that was developed by Children’s Wisconsin who created two tools to assist professionals in building a strong team response to youth who have experienced trafficking and an accompanying tool to help young people identify their strengths and resiliency factors.

[Building a Strong Team Response to High Risk and Trafficked Youth](#)

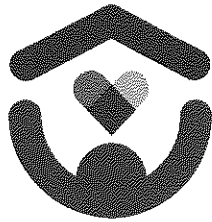
[Finding Your Strengths](#)

**Training and Cross System Collaboration**

The Department of Children and Families has created a documentary that tells the true stories of sex trafficking in Wisconsin and conveys how easy it is to be drawn into the life. *It Happens Here* is part of a statewide effort to inform youth and adults about the risk factors and warning signs of trafficking and what they can do to assist individuals who may be at risk of, or affected by, trafficking. To accompany this film, DCF has created a facilitation guide to assist communities in hosting screenings of this film.

Two versions available:

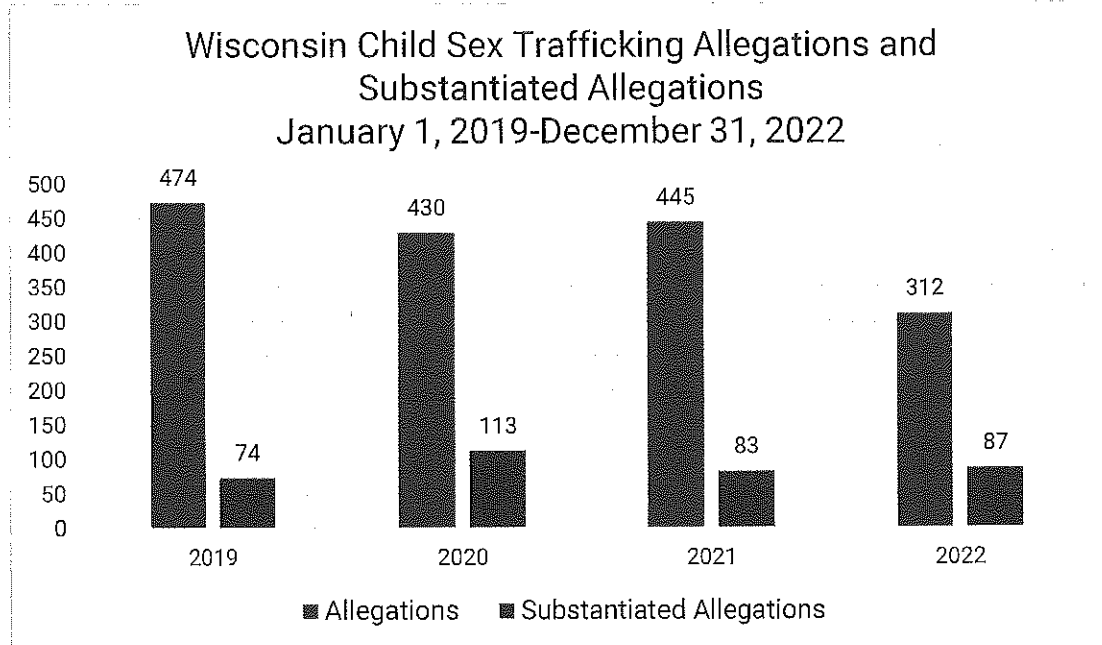
- [Main Documentary](#)
- [Professional Content](#)



# Wisconsin Department of Children and Families

## Reports of Child Sex Trafficking Allegations & Substantiations to Child Protective Services

### Child Sex Trafficking Allegations and Substantiated Allegations



In 2019, there were 474 allegations of child sex trafficking across Wisconsin. This figure represents 409 unique individuals with a child sex trafficking allegation, as some youth had multiple allegations. Of the 474 allegations, 74 allegations were substantiated.

In 2020, there were 430 allegations of child sex trafficking across Wisconsin. This figure represents 382 unique individuals with a child sex trafficking allegation. Of the 430 allegations, 113 were substantiated.

In 2021, there were 445 allegations of child sex trafficking across Wisconsin. This figure represents 406 unique individuals with a child sex trafficking allegation. Of the 445 allegations, 83 were substantiated.

In 2022, there were 312 allegations of child sex trafficking across Wisconsin. This figure represents 277 unique individuals with a child sex trafficking allegation. Of the 312 allegations, 87 were substantiated.

**Wisconsin Child Sex Trafficking Allegations, by Milwaukee and Balance of State, by Gender**  
January 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022

<b>Gender</b>	<b>Milwaukee</b>	<b>Balance of State</b>	<b>Total in Wisconsin</b>	<b>Total Percentage by Gender</b>
<b>Female</b>	72	153	225	81.2%
<b>Male</b>	13	35	48	17.3%
<b>Unknown</b>	1	3	4	1.4%
<b>Total</b>	86	191	277	100.0%

**Wisconsin Child Sex Trafficking Allegations, by Milwaukee and Balance of State, by Child Age at Report**  
January 1, 2022– December 31, 2022

<b>Age</b>	<b>Milwaukee</b>	<b>Balance of State</b>	<b>Total in Wisconsin</b>	<b>Total Percentage by Age</b>
<b>&lt;1-5 years old</b>	4	17	21	7.4%
<b>6-9 years old</b>	7	30	37	13.1%
<b>10-12 years old</b>	12	29	41	14.5%
<b>13</b>	8	13	21	7.4%
<b>14</b>	14	21	35	12.4%
<b>15</b>	17	26	43	15.2%
<b>16</b>	14	32	46	16.3%
<b>17</b>	13	21	34	12.0%
<b>Unknown</b>	1	4	5	1.8%
<b>Total</b>	90	193*	283	100.0%

\*An individual youth may appear in the chart above more than once if multiple allegations were made when they were different ages during the time period.

**Wisconsin Child Sex Trafficking Substantiated Allegations, by Milwaukee and Balance of State, by  
Child Age at Report**

January 1, 2022– December 31, 2022

Age	Milwaukee	Balance of State	Total in Wisconsin	Total Percentage by Age
<1-5 years old	0	3	3	3.7%
6-9 years old	0	10	10	12.2%
10-12 years old	2	10	12	14.6%
13	2	3	5	6.1%
14	5	11	16	19.5%
15	5	9	14	17.1%
16	5	9	14	17.1%
17	0	8	8	9.8%
<b>Total</b>	19	63	82*	100.0%

\*An individual youth may appear in the chart above more than once if multiple allegations were made when they were different ages during the time period.

**Wisconsin Child Sex Trafficking Substantiated Allegations, by Milwaukee and Balance of State, by  
Gender**

January 1, 2022– December 31, 2022

Gender	Milwaukee	Balance of State	Total in Wisconsin	Total Percentage by Gender
Female	17	50	67	83.8%
Male	0	11	11	13.8%
Unknown	0	2	2	2.5%
<b>Total</b>	17	63	80	100.0%

# Bureau of Youth Services Grantees



## Key

### Youth Services Regions

- Region 1
- Region 2
- Region 3
- Region 4
- Region 5
- Region 6
- Region 7

Independent Living  
Transition Resource Agency

Tribal Independent Living  
Program

Anti-Human Trafficking  
(AHT) Grant

YJ Innovation Grant  
(2022-23)

Brighter Futures  
Initiative (BFI) Program

Runaway and Homeless  
Youth (RHY) Program

Positive Connections,  
Academic Support, Training  
and Employment, Housing  
and Social/Emotional  
Support (PATHS) Program



## **Runaway and Homeless Youth Grants (RHY)**

The goal of the RHY Program is to reduce the number of youth experiencing homelessness in Wisconsin and prevent youth from becoming homeless by ensuring that youth and their families have the services and supports they need. To accomplish this, grantees implement holistic RHY Programs that: 1. Promote safe and stable housing 2. Develop permanent connections 3. Promote health and wellbeing to support self-sufficiency.

- **Youth Population Served:** Youth between the ages of 12 and 21 (programs may select a subset of this age range)
- **Agencies Eligible for Grant:** Counties, tribes, and public, private, and government entities
- **Contract Length:** One year with four renewals

## **Tribal Independent Living (TIL)**

This program serves youth currently or formerly in Indian Child Welfare (ICW) within the five independent living domains of housing, health and wellbeing, permanent connections, employment and education with an emphasis on preserving cultural connections.

- **Youth Population Served:** Young people between the ages of 14-23 (or a subset of that age group as determined by the ICW Agency) who experienced/are experiencing out-of-home care through ICW in a way that makes them eligible for services.
- **Agencies Eligible for Grant:** Indian Child Welfare Agencies of the 11 Federally Recognized Tribes in Wisconsin
- **Contract Length:** One year

## **Independent Living Transition Resource Agency Grants (TRA)**


























Transition Resource Agencies (TRAs) serve youth in Wisconsin who have aged out of out-of-home care (OHC) through the child welfare system (including youth justice) within the five independent living domains of housing, health and wellbeing, permanent connections, employment and education.

- **Youth Population Served:** Young people between the ages of 18 and 23 who have experienced and exited out-of-home care in a way that makes them eligible for services.
- **Agencies Eligible for Grant:** County human service agencies, tribes, and public, private, and government entities
- **Contract Length:** Varies by region

## **Youth Justice Innovation Grants (YJ)**

The Youth Justice Innovation Grants are an opportunity for county human service agencies to implement new, creative, evidence-informed practices or programs with short-term start-up funding from DCF. All projects must serve the overall purpose of improving community-based juvenile delinquency-related services and in 2023, needed to meet the requirements of one of the following topic areas: Racial and Ethnic Disparity (R.E.D.) Reduction, School-Justice Partnership, Matching Services to Needs, or Continuation.

- **Youth Population Served:** Youth between the ages of 10 and 16 who satisfy the original jurisdictional requirements of [Chapter 938 Delinquency](#)
- **Agencies Eligible for Grant:** County Human Service Agencies
- **Contract Length:** Initial Grant – 15 months; Continuation Grant – 12 months

Green County Human Services Department							
Ho-Chunk Nation Child and Family Services					△		
Human Development Center, Superior							
Jackson County Department of Health and Human Services							
Jefferson County Human Service Department							
Kenosha County Human Services Department							
Kenosha Human Development Services						▲	
La Causa Crisis Nursery and Respite Center, Milwaukee							
La Courte Oreilles Indian Child Welfare and Family Services Department					△		
Marathon County Department of Social Services							
Menominee Tribal Social Services					△		
Oconto County Department of Health and Human Services							
Oneida County Department of Social Services							
Outagamie County Department of Health and Human Services							
Pathfinders, Milwaukee							
Pierce County Department of Human Services							
Racine County Human Services Department							
Red Cliff Family and Human Services					△		
Running Rebels Community Organization, Milwaukee							
Safe Haven, Racine							
Walworth County Department of Health and Human Services							
Washburn County Health and Human Services Department							
Washington County Human Services Department							
Waushara County Department of Human Services							

Thank you for the opportunity to speak this morning. My name is Shannon Siirila. I am the Human Trafficking Detective with the Special Victims Unit for the City of Madison Police Department.

I have been in law enforcement for over 24 years and have been a detective since 2012. I would like to share with you what led me to become passionate about sensitive crimes that ultimately lead me to the path of becoming Madison Police Department sole human trafficking detective.

Approximately seven years of my tour of duty as a police officer I spent in the school system. I worked with high risk juveniles with high risk behaviors. Being in a position to support these at risk juveniles and their families was truly rewarding and became a focus of my career. Once I was able to promote in 2012 that job was dissolved due to lack of resources and I took an interest in sensitive crimes and human trafficking. I was lucky enough to have a wonderful mentor. He has since retired but I learned so much from him, my most important lesson was treating all people from all walks of life with respect and dignity.

My involvement and passion for these cases was cemented in 2015 when I had a significant case where a youth was gang raped in a basement on the south side of Madison. While prosecuted as a sexual assault case, there were significant concerns of trafficking. This was followed up by another impactful case in 2016. In this case I was assigned a sexual assault on the east side of Madison where the victim was a missing runaway. The victim was later recovered and I had a chance to speak with her. She gave me a statement and I realized once again this was more complex than the sexual assault cases I was used to.

She shared that she was drugged by a female and taken by a male to a house but the house had several men in it. She then said they took turns raping her continuously. She agreed to go testify and go through the court process, which as you know is not a fast process.

On August 16, 2016 I received a call from our officer in charge of the city and they expressed to be the victim hung herself.

You ask me what my mission is. It is to prevent these cases from occurring where ever possible and to help vulnerable victims get the resources, support, and the help they need to not only endure the long judicial process, but to assure they continue to have healthy, meaningful lives.

### **Share your first-hand experience and observations of trafficking in Madison Wisconsin**

When discussing human trafficking with individuals and groups, the leading questions always seems to be, "how bad is it" and "how many of these cases does Madison have a year." While this is understandable and a question we are always working to better answer, quantifying human trafficking cases in a meaningful way is an incredibly difficult task.

Human trafficking is a vastly underreported crime with traffickers often preying on vulnerable populations (e.g. drug addiction, missing juveniles, persons with societal disadvantages, etc.) where a fear or distrust of law enforcement may already exist and individuals lack significant support systems to help them separate from their trafficker. Furthermore, human trafficking during initial reporting may disguise itself as other case types, such as physical abuse, drug abuse, missing children, or even prostitution, and it often isn't until an individual is ready to



make a disclosure, sometimes years later, that the underlying issues of human trafficking is revealed.

However, I can tell you that Human Trafficking is occurring in Wisconsin's cities, suburbs and rural areas. Human trafficking is happening in Madison with adults and youth. Part of my duties is to monitor on-line activity. Daily, there are hundreds of sexual exploitation advertisements from various social media platforms in the City of Madison of both adults and suspected juveniles. During my casework I would say the most prevalent way a trafficker connects with victim is by using social media platforms. My experience in Madison is that human trafficking is occurring on-line, at hotels/motels, private residences, massage parlors and traditional street based commercial sex, with recruitment of victims occurring through numerous avenues, which include social media, shelters and jails.

Madison it is in close proximity to Milwaukee which is close proximity to Chicago and Minneapolis-St. Paul. Milwaukee which is a hub for traffickers moving victims through the Midwest move victims through Madison on Wisconsin's highway systems. Victims are housed in hotels and motel. This is low expenditure (fast food, cheap hotel/motel) with high profit for the trafficker. Advertising the victim's on-line making lots money by commercial sex trafficking and moving to the next city

**Discuss tools, processes, and techniques that are working and have been found to be successful in law enforcement, prosecution efforts or victim care**

When addressing human trafficking, there needs to be an understanding of the cycle of abuse and why victims cannot simply leave a trafficker or report abuse. A trafficker may exert control over individuals through threats and physical violence. However, the trafficker may also be that victim's source of shelter, clothing, food, safety, sense of belonging, stability etc. Victims, with non-exigent support systems or other resources, can often find themselves feeling dependent on their trafficker, to the point that they may refuse to report or even defend their trafficker out of a need to fulfill these basic needs.

**MDT's:**

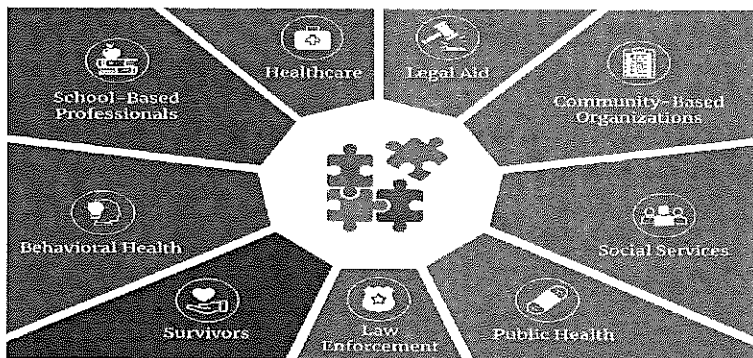
Due to the complexities of these cases and the unique needs of the victims, I have found that having a Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) approach is one of the most effective ways in combating human trafficking.

In order to best assist victims and break the cycle that exists within trafficking, we need to think about how all the needs can be met for a victim and survivors of human trafficking. This can be achieved by having a work group consisting of several different disciplines using best practices to develop and implement a coordinated and collaborative, **victim-centered, trauma informed** approach. Specifically, the MDT helps victims by providing individualized strategic planning for continued safety and care.

Utilizing a coordinated strategy that is implemented within the MDT helps to actively engage individuals within the community to develop trust, build relationships, support victim/survivor identification and incorporate feedback from survivors to improve response to this crime. Every individual who has experienced trafficking is unique and will require a **different mix of services** creating partnerships with public health professionals, community-based organizations, social services, school-based professionals health care, legal aid, immigration services and local , state and federal Law Enforcement and prosecutor's is essential. Through and MDT, team members can collaborate and work on identifying and addressing the unique needs of each individual victim, and more effectively leverage the different services of each participating organization.

Along the same line as the MDT approach, there has been success in utilizing the "No Wrong Door Model" public health model. With this model, any person can get help from different systems, this will empower individuals to make informed decisions to exercise control over their care and needs to achieve their goals.

The No Wrong Door Model is the idea of a universal gateway to community services and government programs. One step further would be to have multidisciplinary and multi-state agencies to have the same knowledge skills. Imagine having a link and support networks in different states and being able to access to certain partners to help and share intelligence, trends and data as needed. Human Trafficking is a multi-faceted complex crime and can move from state to state. Our response to these crimes and support for our victims needs to have a wider reach than just individual, local, jurisdictions with a more uniform response, assuring that victims receive the same needed care and support wherever they are.



As I mentioned before, Human Trafficking is vastly underreported complex crime often with significant barriers to reporting for the victim. I believe it is essential that we make it as easy as possible to receive and collect information from victims, witnesses and survivors of human trafficking: who may otherwise be deterred by the standard reporting practices and create a more victim centered trauma informed approach.

#### **Education:**

Education internally and externally with in systems needs to be at the forefront and mandated for example: local state federal and tribal law enforcement, healthcare workers, social services, school based professionals (social media and protective behaviors curriculum in the schools). The systems collaborating and conducting education to our community members is essential. Most important the victim/survivor we are serving and working in collaboration with local, state and federal prosecutors.

This will provide a wraparound of cultural competencies. By doing this the goals of the national strategies can be fulfilled at a state level in Wisconsin. Working in partnerships and having transparency, commitment, and communication with in the systems is crucial. Having a clear concise role, staying in your lane and putting pride aside to build a strong foundation as systems and the community work hand in hand together.

Education and outreach efforts can be met focusing on at-risk populations identifying and engaging with survivors in victim-centered, Trauma informed and culturally competent manner. Victims will be treated with sensitivity, respect and dignity and receive information on their statutory rights keeping them informed of their choices through the entire process.

Example: I get asked a lot how many traffickers have been prosecuted. Which is important, but usually I am not asked how many victim recoveries I have successfully had, or was the victim

able to get stable housing, drug rehabilitation and employment. Human trafficking can be a long drawn out process and a victim needs support through the entire process. Average case is six months-two years from time of identification to prosecution, in my experience. People need to realize that this usually is not an isolated event. It can be a crime that has been on-going for months or years and the trauma and isolation a victim experienced can be unimaginable.

**New and additional tools that would help human trafficking.**

Safe housing and resources for middle and long term care for victims and survivors.

The biggest challenges for victims is housing, long-term support and employment. If these needs are not met the victims often lacks the stability for long-term participation in the criminal justice cases. This may result in the trafficker not being successfully prosecuted. Or worse, the victim does not receive continued care and support the cycle will continue and repeat and re-victimization will occur. I believe it is crucial that we find ways to provide this much needed support and resources.

The legislature can help by supporting a Human Trafficking Taskforce for the City of Madison /County of Dane. The state has a taskforce but the city and county both work with one human trafficking detective for the city and one for the county. This taskforce should be more robust, with greater funding and resources to adequately support the multidisciplinary team approach with victim advocates and crime analysts.

Additionally, mandated training in human Trafficking for law enforcement, prosecutors and a mandated reporters would help increase awareness and create consistent investigative and support processes.

Funding for Victim Advocates

Shannon Siirila

Human Trafficking Detective

City of Madison Police Department

**Testimony of Jan Miyasaki  
Director of Project Respect**

**Before the Wisconsin State Legislature  
Speaker's Task Force on Human Trafficking  
Jerry O'Connor Task Force Chair**

**October 11, 2023**

Representative O'Connor and members of the Speaker's Task Force on Human Trafficking, thank you for the invitation to testify.

My name is Jan Miyasaki. I am the Director of Project Respect, a non-profit agency providing social services to adult and juvenile survivors of sex and labor trafficking. Our funders include: private individuals and organizations, the city of Madison Community Development Authority, Dane County Human Services, the State of Wisconsin Department of Justice Office for Crime Victim Services, and the U.S. Department of Justice Office for Victims of Crime.

Project Respect is the lead victim services provider for the Wisconsin Anti-Human Trafficking Task Force --- the lead law enforcement agency is the Wisconsin Department of Justice Division of Criminal Investigation. The Wisconsin Anti-Human Trafficking Task Force follows the **Development and Operations Roadmap for Multidisciplinary Anti-Human Trafficking Task Forces** developed by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, the Bureau of Justice Assistance, and the U.S. Department of Justice Office for Victims of Crime. The Roadmap supports collaboration among law enforcement and victim services providers in order to develop and implement a victim-centered, trauma informed response to human trafficking in Wisconsin communities. A coordinated strategy is needed to actively engage with the community to develop trust, build relationships, support survivor identification, and incorporate feedback from survivors to improve Wisconsin's response to this crime. And the Task Force has a long term goal to establish and sustain effective leadership and structure that will support combatting human trafficking in Wisconsin, after our federal support ends. As lead victim services provider -- we work to ensure that victims receive timely access to a comprehensive array of support services; we provide training and technical assistance based on up to date available research and reflecting best practices from the field; we are building a unified network of services for human trafficking survivors in Wisconsin; we are developing referral and information sharing protocols with law enforcement that ensures victim confidentiality, rights and fairness that is critical to our work; and, we are providing community awareness training that raises community awareness on the realities and dynamics of human trafficking. Our vision is working together, because that is what is needed, because trafficking is a complex crime. Victims, have been described as being in a nearly impenetrable web, for a number of reasons: the victim may not realize that he or she is imprisoned, because coercion is often psychological -- not necessarily physical; may appear ambivalent about their circumstance; and surviving alone -- not trusting our society's capacity to respond. Our vision is that by working together, we make all of our communities safer, prevent human trafficking, and are ready to respond to the needs of survivors.

At Project Respect, we provide a comprehensive array of needed services on site and with our partners. We support the **National Strategy to Combat Human Trafficking – the 4 Ps: Prevention, Protection, Prosecution, and Partnerships.**

-Prevention includes enhancing education and outreach efforts to at-risk populations;

-Protection starts with robust outreach efforts, and includes providing comprehensive victim services and applying victim-centered, trauma-informed strategies. Protection includes supporting survivor informed interventions, in which survivors of trafficking are essential partners and help to improve service delivery and inform victim assistance policy decisions. And, Protection includes: protecting survivors of human trafficking from incarceration, fines, or penalties for unlawful acts committed as a direct result of being subjected to trafficking; improving access to immigration benefits to help provide assistance to victims of human trafficking; and, increasing access to social services for survivors of human trafficking to increase short- and long-term stability.

-Prosecution involves holding individuals and entities engaged in human trafficking accountable and dismantling human trafficking networks, and to build capacity of federal, state, local, and tribal law enforcement to investigate and prosecute all forms of human trafficking using a trauma-informed, victim-centered approach.

-And, strong Partnerships. Effectively combating human trafficking requires collaboration to complement and support the other pillars of Prevention, Protection and Prosecution. These include partnerships with the private sector, community-based organizations, and survivors.

I have had the privilege of serving hundreds of victims of sexual exploitation and trafficking in Wisconsin over the last 30 years. Everyone's story is their own, but I have found that what many have in common is their desire to help others so that what happened to them doesn't happen to someone else, and a refusal to accept that this was how their story was going to end. I remember a woman telling me "Jan, my mother and my grandmother, all the women in my family have been in the life. Jan, there are prostituted women in the Bible." So I asked her why she was being so brave and courageous and she told me – "because this is not my destiny". The people that I know are often from around here. Many may be isolated from their loved ones, but have people that love them. Some do not. Traffickers and buyers of sex say they will take better care of them than others in their lives have. They will promise to provide material goods and affection. It's important for our programs to have resources available to help someone stabilize their basic needs. Also important are providing intangible things like: connection and belonging, non-judgmental acceptance, healthy relationships, healthy intergenerational relationships, and space to redefine love, sex, and identity.

I have 6 legislative solutions identified by the Wisconsin Anti-Human Trafficking Consortium – a state-wide group of concerned individuals and organizations interested in promoting safety and improving services for victims through policy and community awareness --

---- which I co-chair. The Consortium's Legislative solutions include: 1) **Enabling the expungement of criminal records.** Amend the current expungement provision of Wisconsin Statute 973.015 (2)(m) to include all offenses victims were induced or compelled to commit while trafficked. Trafficking survivors should not be criminalized in situations they were victimized in. This change may help remove barriers to jobs and housing. 2) **Enact a Safe Harbor law and undertake study to determine cost of fully funding.** Safe Harbor laws remove the crime of juvenile prostitution and will make Wisconsin law consistent with federal law protecting juvenile human trafficking victims. A fully funded services component of Safe Harbor requires that specialized services be made available to survivors. Services include but are not limited to: medical and psychological treatment, emergency and long-term housing, educational assistance, job training, assistance with language and legal services. 3) **Require and support funding of sex trafficking prevention education in all schools that meets state common core standards including teaching healthy relationships and boundaries.** Enhance and build on existing DPI efforts to combat child sex trafficking and support small school districts prevention education programs. Require schools to develop stated policy governing the response from school staff to child sex trafficking. And require regular training for staff on child sex trafficking identification and response. 4) **Promote access to crime victim services for victims with developmental and intellectual disabilities by eliminating force, fraud, or coercion for victims over the age of 18 with these disabilities and provide specialized victim services and enhanced training for law enforcement and school staff.** Survivors with these disabilities are at high-risk and vulnerable to sexual exploitation, however, current state and federal anti-human trafficking legislation requires victims over the age of 18 years to show elements of force, fraud, or coercion creating barriers to accessing protections. Specialized service provision includes: extended service provision time frames due to the nature of I/DD skill acquisition; programs to teach independent living skills; mental health providers who are experienced with disabilities and trauma; mentoring; housing services; vocational training; and assistive technology. Enhanced training includes: adequate and appropriate screenings and testing to determine who can benefit from services specific to persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities, and training for law enforcement or school staff on investigating and trauma-informed interviewing victims with developmental disabilities. 5) **Develop plans to educate groups interested in sponsoring Host Homes about the requirements for an effective program.** This includes, determining the barriers experienced by survivors of trafficking in successfully completing the rehabilitation review process, and modify regulations that are unnecessarily preventing healthy and prepared survivors from becoming licensed as foster parents. 6) **Support youth shelters and assessment centers.** Encourage the allocation of resources to create facilities where they are needed. Increase funding to enable them to meet the needs of sex trafficking youth.

I am appearing before you today to share some of the tools, processes and techniques that are known to be successful in responding to human trafficking. Thank you for considering my comments.



## Testimony for Task Force Hearing

First-Hand Experience & Observations of current status of HT in our area:

- We have survivor contacts from Slinger, Palmyra, Milwaukee, Waukesha, Appleton, Pewaukee, State of Denver, Iowa etc.
- Some searching for help, support, direction to not have to go back They are currently homeless shelter, abuse shelter, hotel, car, short term housing
- Find us through: social/web, other organizations like Aurora, 411, one-off services, AND from our volunteers relatives or friends
- Some have been 'out' and surviving with government assistance, or some kind of family support, but reach out for the same help, support, and direction to learn to live.
- Some have been youth that approach us by themselves, or youth with parents, parents of victims showing up at our presentations looking to learn or to understand what was happening to them or how to stop what was happening.
- Most women have children and somehow many still have custody of the child.
- Being trafficked is described as being in "The Life". Breaking free and staying out of 'the no life' is hard. What I call the "No Life" would be being sold for sex or earning money for survival sex. If a child is involved it makes it much harder and much more complicated. Many times that child can be the trafficker's child, and any child becomes another tool to exert control over the victim.
- We can take the woman and help lead her through a healing journey. But if she must parent and provide financially for her child too, the healing is much harder to get to while dealing with all of life's regular pressures at the same time. Trying to live and function with complex trauma (the effects of daily physical/mental/emotional/sexual abuses- (basically treated as a product not a human) is almost impossible without a healthy



support system and trauma therapy. The symptoms can be all of these and more: extreme anxiety, depression, suicidal, eating disorders, no sleep because of extreme nightmares, hyperarousal, disassociation, memory lapses, distorted sense of self, difficulty in having relationships, substance abuse, depersonalization, and chronic health issues. Housing services for women AND children is another challenging complexity to providing support. We are working on building connections and collaborations within the community to address this monumental, unmet need.

- The reason human trafficking is such a big problem is because of the demand. The demand is greatly fed by the existence of strip clubs in our communities. The design of these legal strips includes stalls/private booths to pay for sex acts. This is, of course NOT legal activity, which is allowed to continue out in the open with absolutely no intervention. The building design for these booths are also approved by local zoning boards. Many women end up getting manipulated, sold, and controlled by traffickers in and out of the strip clubs.

Example: Hopefully many of you have heard of the Hardware Store strip club in the little town of Clyman, WI, where one of the survivors we have been working with for the last few years, helped close that strip club because of the pimp that trafficked her and others in that club (with collaboration of the owners). Because of one good detective that dug in further, she was able to bring forth testimony that helped build a case that got the trafficker sentenced to jail and also brought down the club. Hopefully you understand that getting a conviction and closing a club is very rare and difficult.

- I want to point out the women tell us why they go to the club. They are sold because of the glamour, money for college, or they have a history of being sexually abused so that they at first felt empowered that they would get paid instead of assaulted against their will.
- After being in the club for a time, the women definitely want out, but find it hard to walk away due to the need for the money to survive, the control





of a trafficker, and the overwhelming shame and low self esteem makes them feel like trash and that no-one would hire them for a regular job. May also get addicted to alcohol or drugs to numb the pain and multiple traumas they have to endure every day. Thus, they need money for the alcohol and drugs.

- Who is the market? Those who are driving the demand are the people who continue to justify their actions by telling themselves it is consensual, she wants it, and she is getting paid. However, HE wants it for power, control, and to act out the porn, because he feels he is entitled. Those are actual answers from buyers. They are business owners, contractors, teachers...people in all occupations. Well over half are married and more than that have their own children.

Discuss tools, processes, and techniques that are working and have been found to be successful in Law Enforcement, Prosecution efforts, or victim care:

Law Enforcement & Prosecution: (Waiting for comments from two survivors with these good experiences)

#### Victim Care

- #1 Consistent relationship support: texting, calling, send cards, meetings for coffee, food or coaching. Encouraging, asking questions, praying with them.
- #2 They must feel safe and have trusted people around them, not fearing retaliation or a trafficker finding them, a place for their bed and things- not fearing to have to leave.
- Constant reassuring -that we will not abandon them. They are valuable.
- Having another survivor in their corner. Even though their stories are most likely very different, the underlying theme is the same. They know they get each other and understand on another more than others can.



Seeing another survivor ahead of them on the journey to recovering their life is very encouraging and reassuring.

- Trauma therapies; counselor, coaching, books, group sessions,
- Psychiatrist- using most drugs as temporary assistance, as part of the journey to be able to learn to deal with emotions and process them.
- Knowledge & learning- to understand the cycle of abuse, trafficking, boundaries, relationships, choices, and themselves. The who, what, why, and how things happened and happen.
- Choices with Grace: We need to empower them to make good choices for themselves and to be able to stand on their own two feet. We do not want to replace the trafficker as "the controller". (Unfortunately that means that sometimes, as they are learning, they will have setbacks and make poor choices. We cannot abandon them, but continue to coach and love them in hopes that they choose to continue to redirect and move forward in a positive way.)
- Life skills- They will all need some learning of healthy life skills. To make adjustments from unhealthy survival skills; most especially when they suffer different kinds of abuse when they are young.
- Self care, which includes nutrition, hygiene, and making healthy choices.
- Building other healthy relationships
- Helping others. They feel good and useful when helping someone else. Everything isn't about them.
- After there is some movement in growth and healing, then we can address education, job training, and opportunities they are interested to move forward as productive citizens of the community.

Discuss new or additional tools, that can be considered by the legislature to better equip our various agencies, law enforcement, and private groups in addressing the challenges coming from HT:



- Laws regarding strip clubs for enforcement of current laws regarding to prostitution. Not allowing for these special rooms/booths for sex acts. The design should be no different than for any other bar or restaurant.
- More collaboration between agencies and private groups encompassing the different aspects of this issue.
- Help write special CBRF rules for these specific type of homes. (We are currently in with nursing care type facilities, which does not reflect the unique needs and causes significantly more financial burden and difficulties to be able to serve these women.)
- Regular education of local judges and prosecutors as well as law enforcement officials. This education should include the overlap of drugs, alcoholism, mental health, abuse (physical and emotional), the existence of familial trafficking, vulnerabilities, and the fact that this includes victims who come from ALL economic backgrounds.
- Collaboration with the Department of Children & Families to help educate and understand the unique position of victims who have children. The short time period that is currently allowed for a mother to “get it together” or she could forever lose her child is detrimental and inadequate for the overwhelming amount of healing and recovery that the victim has to do. It is important to help reunite the family into a healthy, functioning family and to look at each situation on an individual basis, so as not to be more of a financial burden on the State of WI.
- Required education of teachers & guidance counselors who are on the front lines so they know the red flags, what to look for, and how the trafficking issue includes the overlap of drugs, alcoholism, mental health, abuse (physical and emotional), the existence of familial trafficking, vulnerabilities, and the fact that this includes victims who come from ALL economic backgrounds.
- Educate teachers and guidance counselors that they are mandatory reporters and this does include human trafficking concerns.
- Requirement that human trafficking awareness be included in the Health class curriculum for high school students.



- Additional protection and sensitivity with creative ideas for the survivor when they are testifying against their perpetrators. Many traffickers escape prosecution, are never brought to justice, and keep doing business as usual because the process for the victim to testify is so difficult and traumatic. Having to testify in a courtroom in front of their perpetrator triggers PTSD symptoms and the overwhelming fear keeps them from being able to commit to this process. Creation of a panel to brainstorm ideas of how to make this process more victim friendly is needed to bring more traffickers to justice.

Chaplain Krista Hull  
Founder & Executive Director  
Redeem and Restore Center



Marlene Sorenson's Testimony for the  
Task Force on Human Trafficking Hearing  
OCTOBER 11, 2023

Within our organization and collaboration efforts in supporting survivors of sex trafficking in Dane County, we can confirm that the frequency of this crime and the number of victims of commercial sexual exploitation within each community we work in is exponentially higher than reported cases reflect. We regularly encounter survivors opposed to reporting their experiences. Additionally, survivors frequently struggle to self-identify what they have experienced as sex trafficking due to the gaslighting, abuse and manipulation they have endured throughout their time in "the life". There also is an impression among survivors that law enforcement will not take their experiences or testimony seriously. Although some law enforcement agencies we work with most certainly do pursue justice for victims of trafficking, we know many survivors have experienced other realities across this state and country. In addition, they often know other survivors who have been disregarded, and even exploited, by members within law enforcement agencies, and therefore fear coming forward. As a survivor care organization, our main goal is to support the survivor in their healing process; and unfortunately for many of them, pursuing charges, undergoing trials and giving detailed testimony is the antithesis to healing. Trauma research strongly proves that the re-telling of our trauma is re-traumatizing in and of itself. A survivor's goal is to heal from the trauma they have endured, not re-victimize oneself. The process and reality of our current justice system is not aimed at the same goal. The survivor has to choose between healing and justice, and most will choose healing, not out of spite for justice but out of self-preservation and survival. This reality leads to underreporting and misrepresentation of the magnitude of the issue plaguing our communities.

The disconnect between our justice system and survivor's lived realities only solidifies the overwhelming need for close collaboration among law enforcement and justice agencies and survivor care organizations within each and every community across the state. This cannot be simply a "luxury" available within larger cities. In Dane County, we have seen the good that can result in the lives of survivors when MDTs and collaborative efforts between law enforcement and local organizations are taken seriously, and the needs of the survivors are truly put first; but even here we have only begun to scratch the surface. Rural and smaller communities are often referring survivors to relocate to larger cities in order to receive the level of response they need. This creates over-demand and under-response in the communities truly attempting to operate collaboratively, and takes the onus away from the majority of communities in the state. The more we can increase collaborative efforts not just here in Madison but across the state in every county, the more we will see restoration of our communities as a whole.

Even, as it stands, most law enforcement agencies that do have specific detectives and agency staff dedicated to the issue of human trafficking have far too few. Many have none at all. This leads to overwhelming under-response, if any response, from some departments. To illustrate, the homicide rate in our state is 8.5 per 100,000 people, and similarly the rate of trafficking in our state currently being 7 reports per 100,000 people. As we have established, due to the nature of under-reporting issues within the crime of human trafficking, it is safe to say human trafficking far outweighs murder within many of our states jurisdictions. However, each law enforcement agency in Wisconsin, whether they have encountered a murder in their community in recent history or not, knows what the response and process is to investigate and approach such a crime. Yet, the response and collaboration towards reports of trafficking is not nearly as systematic as a murder investigation. There is no rational reason for this aside from lack of education and awareness among law enforcement, and lack of resources and staff within the departments to respond accordingly. The pervasiveness of human trafficking across rural and urban spaces alike deserves at least the same amount of attention as the issue of murder and aggression do, since the statistics point to the truth that the frequency of the crime of exploitation and trafficking truly outnumbers the frequency of murder within Wisconsin. As it stands, it seems outdated views prevalent among and within the industry, in conjunction with resource scarcity, has led to dismissiveness of a prevalent problem we all know is growing across the state.

This disconnect results in a gap of care for victims and survivors. Local organizations are not confident of who within their local law enforcement is equipped

and educated to handle crimes of human trafficking; and inversely, law enforcement officers by and large are unaware of which organizations can and will step in to support specific needs a victim/survivor presents with. There needs to be on-going accountability and incentive for justice and law enforcement agencies on local levels to collaborate and connect with survivors care agencies and organizations, and vice versa. We should never coerce victims to testify or press charges, but on-going conversation between agencies will allow for an increase in trust not only among those working with survivors but most importantly for earning the trust of survivors themselves. Trust is earned, not given; and collectively it is no wonder why many victims do not trust our current system and those working within it in regards to the injustice they have endured as a trafficking victim. Our response to their experiences has statistically been quite poor within our state, and they deserve better. Our communities deserve better. Traffickers will continue taking advantage of our vulnerabilities within our justice system on local levels if we do not create a united, collective and swift response to their crimes.

Just as traffickers prey on the vulnerabilities of agencies to get away with their crimes, they also prey on vulnerabilities within the lives of those they target and groom to be their victims. Traffickers prey on a wide range of vulnerabilities, including poverty, limited language proficiency, lack of stable housing, limited economic and educational opportunities, members of marginalized communities, persons with disabilities, and individuals with substance use disorders. Many victims were targeted for having one or more of these vulnerabilities prior to even entering into a life of exploitation. After mustering the courage to leave, their vulnerabilities are now compounded. Due to the trauma they have endured in exploitation. We cannot simply "rescue and hope for the best" because the vulnerabilities that were present prior to being targeted are now exponentially increased. These vulnerabilities, both old and new, will only allow exploitation to resurface in the same victim's life, and the problem of trafficking within our communities will continue to grow.

In working with law enforcement and other local agencies, we have seen and been told time and time again that the vulnerability of unstable housing after leaving "the life" is one of the top reasons survivors are revictimized back into human trafficking after they have escaped. The stability and support provided in a long-term residential program for survivors is crucial for them to build the foundations of their life back up. Many programs that exist within our communities focus on emergency care instead of wrap-around care, and due to the high need for many of these services to be utilized across many other vulnerable populations, many organizations are filled to capacity or do not include trafficking victims within their scope of practice. For

instance, one survivor we work with said, "I remember sitting in my car one day on the west side of Madison, calling different places asking for help out of my situation, but no one could help me because I wasn't a drug addict...Had there been somewhere for me to go, I wholeheartedly believe my life could have changed for the positive so much sooner."

Despite the fact that we are working to fill this gap at Zeteo Community, we need more places providing long-term programming as well, not just emergency housing or short-term hotel vouchers. Without long-term and transitional housing, coupled with supportive and therapeutic services and programming, we will continue seeing those once stepping out of exploitation go right back in. This reality leads to burn out and discouragement within the industry, both on the justice side and the survivor care side alike. Law enforcement will be hard-pressed to prosecute traffickers and empower survivors with success if the survivors are left with few or no options but to return to a life of exploitation because of a lack of supportive care available when they did attempt to leave. This is often why it takes survivors an average of seven attempts at leaving before no longer returning. It typically takes that long before they access the care and support they need to heal and grow.

As an organization, we believe that there are a number of things legislatively that must change if we are to see justice for victims served, traffickers being prosecuted for their crimes, and survivors being empowered towards healing and independence. We must take a close look at how our justice system approaches crimes of human trafficking. Without a victim-centered approach (in practice, not just in language), victims will continue withholding their experiences from law enforcement, and traffickers will continue growing their chain of crime within our communities. In addition, there must be increased education, awareness, incentives and accountability for every community law enforcement agency within the state to have a collaborative community response to the issue of human trafficking. Without this, we will continue to see this evil grow within our cities and counties across our state. As it stands, human trafficking is an easy crime to get away with. There is a lack of detectives in all law enforcement agencies dedicated to human trafficking, the demand by consumers of exploitation continues to increase, the pay off for the criminals involved is lucrative, and the messages among professionals fighting against the issue are mixed and inconsistent. This has led to anything but a united front against exploitation in Wisconsin. If we do not make changes soon, we will continue to see children victimized, see more and more adults suffering from the trauma of their wounds (both seen and unseen), and have more and more traffickers taking advantage of our state's lack of response to the issue. Together this can change. There is hope.



However, we must make the changes necessary and enforce them with consistency across all counties within the state for that change to happen. Thank you.

James Emanuele

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Kids Protection Agency

# Background and Training

## Training Background

- Navy SWCC, Special Warfare Boat Team Veteran
- Visit Board Search and Seizure missions: Noncompliant boarding of a cargo ship in the Persian Gulf/trafficked adults and children in hull
- Only Special Warfare unit with a dedicated mission on global trafficking
- Trafficking rescue mission's overseas vs United States

## 100's Protection Agency was founded to eradicate child trafficking in the United States

- Partner with law enforcement and assist with rescuing victims and finding trafficking criminals
- Specially trained team, typically military Special Operation Forces with 5 years of experience and with a minimum of 1 combat mission, and 1 search and rescue mission.
- We do not accept everyone who asks to volunteer on our rescue team.
- Working with law enforcement and government agencies these crimes have been eradicated through education, awareness, proactive monitoring, legislation, and the proper tools.

# Here In Wisconsin

- 2022 Shared Hope International Report Card, Wisconsin scored an F in Child sex and labor trafficking.
- 2021 Trafficking Institute report indicates that 92% of human trafficking cases filed in the Federal Courts were for sex trafficking
- 796 human-trafficking cases and 1,640 victims since 2007 (National Human Trafficking Hotline)
- This has affected all 72 Counties
- The National Human Trafficking Hotline identified 96 cases in 2019, 98 cases in 2020 and 95 human trafficking cases in 2021 (last year with updated numbers)
- Half the people that get trafficked every year are children - Average age of minors trafficked in the United States is 12.
- In 2019, a Wisconsin Department of Justice law enforcement assessment on sex trafficking revealed concerns in several areas:
  - Uniform Crime Reporting Program human trafficking data is inconsistent across the state and incomplete
  - Confusion about, and inconsistencies in legal definitions and data entering practices about Wisconsin's human trafficking – Uniform Crime Reporting data
- This is not a women specific issue.
  - Nationally, women and young girls account for 71 percent of victims and boys account for 29 percent of victims

## The Targets

- “It is a problem,” said Green Bay Police Chief Chris Davis. “It is a problem everywhere. It is a problem in this community. And I think it’s a problem that we, as a society, really need to do more about. There are some promising ideas out there. But really, we need to devote — I’ll come right out and say it because I really believe this — we really need to devote more resources to this issue because it impacts a lot more people than you probably realize.”
- Most often youth are recruited online via social media platforms and in public spaces
- According to the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families-
  - trafficking occurs in cities, suburbs, and rural areas, KPA has found this to be true
- KPA has been partnering with WI based advocates and I must take the opportunity to state publicly what they continually educate the public on which is:
  - Most teens are not choosing to engage in these behaviors- this is NOT A CHOICE
  - Most cases are for survival
  - Many youths who are being trafficked do not see themselves as victims
  - Many do not realize they are being trafficked

# What We Do Well In Wisconsin

- Victim Support
  - Extensive network of victim advocacy groups
  - Wisconsin DOJ
  - Wisconsin Department of Children and Families
- Real-time reactions once trafficking is reported
  - National human trafficking hotline
  - Wisconsin 211
- Transparency of the issue
  - Have not met an elected official that isn't aware of the issue
  - Wisconsin DOJ published victim starting point map for human trafficking victim services
  - Wisconsin Child Sex Trafficking and Exploitation Indicator and Response Guide
- Willingness to find a solution
  - Communities, Officials, Elected Officials, Law Enforcement, etc..

# How We Partner and Fight Together

- Enhance the development and coordination of state and local law enforcement through private and public partnerships
- State Oversee Third Party Accreditations
  - Work with and support state and local law enforcement
  - Establish guidelines such as-Experience from military Special Operation Forces (SOF), law enforcement SOF or private security SOF
  - Provide law enforcement and accredited third parties with a road map of what resources are available in Wisconsin to fight trafficking
- Address Social Media Platforms
  - 2020, the hotline identified a 125% increase in reports of recruitment into trafficking through Facebook and a 95% increase in reports of recruitment on Instagram compared to the previous year-Federal Administration for Children and Families
  - Require social media companies to report on trafficking occurring on their sites
- Inventory of all trafficking prevention programs and services in the state; county and local municipalities
  - Full review of state funds currently allocated to all programs to eliminate redundancy

