

THE TEXAS

HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Prevention Task Force

REPORT 2018

TO THE TEXAS LEGISLATURE • DECEMBER 2018





Report to the Texas Legislature
Human Trafficking Prevention Task Force

December 2018
Office of the Attorney General

Texas Human Trafficking Prevention Task Force: 2018 Report to the Legislature and the Legislative Budget Board

As the Task Force begins its second decade in the fight human against trafficking, the critical need for the strategic coordination of state resources against modern day slavery is more evident than ever. We look forward to building on the successful prosecutions, victim service networks, and an educated and empowered public to make Texas a place where people are free from exploitation and able to realize their fullest potential.

Attorney General Ken Paxton

In 2008, Texas issued its first report on human trafficking in the state, *The Texas Response to Human Trafficking*. This comprehensive report provided an in-depth look at the laws in Texas – focusing on how they impacted trafficking prosecutions, investigations, and service provision for survivors. Recognizing that Texas had a long road ahead of it to address human trafficking in the state, the report recommended creation of a statewide multi-agency human trafficking task force. In 2009, the 81st Legislature created the Texas Human Trafficking Prevention Task Force (Task Force) to respond to the growing crisis – entrusting the members to develop legislative recommendations to attack the crime and policies to protect victims. In the 10 years since its creation, the Task Force has made 70 recommendations to the legislature to address human trafficking, with 65 becoming law. Those recommendations have included ways to prevent trafficking, protect victims, and prosecute offenders. These legislative enhancements, along with specialized training, have equipped law enforcement and prosecutors with the tools needed to effectively pursue traffickers and bring justice for victims.

Multi-disciplinary teams from across the state have also worked collaboratively at the local, state, and federal level on anti-trafficking efforts. The result has been an expanded network of regional and local task forces and coalitions focused on identifying victims and directing them to needed services, educating the public to recognize human trafficking, and ensuring traffickers are prosecuted. Promising victim services approaches have emerged – including survivor-centered and led responses, trauma-informed facilities to address victim needs, and collaborative response models.

While Texas has made great strides in addressing human trafficking at all levels, challenges remain. As more victims are identified, we need to be prepared with the resources necessary to facilitate their journeys from victims to survivors. We must continue to fight human traffickers even as they change their methodology and target newly vulnerable populations. Success will require strategic coordination and the Task Force is prepared to lead this effort – by identifying goals and a framework for a statewide approach to eliminating human trafficking.

Task Force Background

House Bill 4009 (81st Texas Legislature) created the Task Force and designated the Attorney General (OAG) as the presiding officer. The OAG is responsible for the administration of the Task Force. The Task Force now contains over 50-member agencies, including state agencies, local law enforcement entities, district attorneys, and non-profits. Task Force members work collaboratively to address anti-trafficking challenges across the state. The Task Force is required under Texas Government Code §402.035 to collect data, provide

training, and produce legislative recommendations that will enhance Texas’ anti-trafficking efforts.

The Task Force is also required to submit two reports:

- a report to the Legislature on December 1st of every even-numbered year; and
- an annual report to the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and the Legislature on Task Force activities by December 1st of every year (this report is combined with the biennial report in even-numbered years).

This biennial report serves as a compendium of information regarding the ongoing anti-trafficking efforts across the state, provides a historical record of past Task Force activities and deliverables, and fulfills the reporting requirements of the Task Force Senate Bill 1 (85th Legislative Session) and Section 402.035(g), Government Code. The information in this report represents not only the work of Task Force members, but also anti-trafficking partners across the state. Also contained within this report are recommendations made to the 86th Texas Legislature to improve the state’s anti-trafficking efforts.

Previous Task Force Deliverables

Since its creation in 2009, the Task Force has published several reports, manuals, and trainings that provide updates on anti-trafficking efforts across the state and guidance to organizations and individuals addressing human trafficking.

Biennial and Annual Reports to the Legislature
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Texas Human Trafficking Prevention Task Force: Fiscal Year 2017 Report of Annual Activities</i> • <i>The Texas Human Trafficking Prevention Task Force Report (2016)</i> • <i>Texas Human Trafficking Prevention Task Force: Fiscal Year 2015 Report of Annual Activities</i> • <i>The Texas Human Trafficking Prevention Task Force Report (2014)</i> • <i>The Texas Human Trafficking Prevention Task Force Report (2012)</i> • <i>The Texas Human Trafficking Prevention Task Force Report (2011)</i>
Other Legislative Required Reports
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • House Bill 1930 (82nd Legislative Session) report on the extent to which human trafficking is associated with the operation of sexually oriented businesses, and the workplace or public health concerns that are created by the association of human trafficking and the operation of sexually oriented businesses. • The Texas Human Trafficking Prevention Task Force Report (2013)-also known as, <i>Report to the Texas Legislature Sexually Oriented Businesses and Human Trafficking: Associations, Challenges, and Approaches</i>
Training Manuals and Web-Based Trainings
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Introduction to Human Trafficking: A Guide for Texas Education Professionals (July 2014)</i> • <i>Introduction to Human Trafficking: A Guide for Criminal Justice Professionals (September 2013)</i> • The Task Force assisted in the development of two web-based trainings pursuant to House Bill 1272 (83rd Legislative Session). • <i>Texas Rise to the Challenge: An Introduction to Human Trafficking for Education Professionals</i> was published on the Texas Education Agency (TEA) website in October 2014. • Training for Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) staff was rolled out September 2, 2014.

“Be the One” Initiative

This remarkable training video represents my deep conviction to inform, educate, and empower Texans to prevent, recognize, and report human trafficking. ‘Be the One in the Fight Against Human Trafficking’ was created to enlist citizens from every walk of life to help Texas in its nationwide leadership role to combat and ultimately eliminate this horrific and dehumanizing crime.

Attorney General Ken Paxton

In January 2018, the OAG debuted an innovative digital training tool designed to educate all Texans on what human trafficking is, how to identify victims, and how to report suspected trafficking. “Be the One in the Fight Against Human Trafficking” challenges each Texan to recognize that they can and must be a part of the solution if Texas is to succeed in the fight against human trafficking. Attorney General Ken Paxton announced that all 4,000 staff at the Attorney General’s office would be required to view the video. He also challenged other state agencies to require it as well. The video was made available to all Texas state agencies in an effort to reach nearly 315,000 state employees.

In March 2018, the Office of the Governor (OOG) directed that all current staff and new staff would be required to view the video. In addition, the governor sent a letter calling on all state agencies to join in requiring their employees to do the same. To date, 66 agencies have met the governor’s challenge (requiring 100% of their current staff to view the film and new employees to do so within 60 days of hire) totaling 56,632 employees. Below is a table of participating agencies.

Participating State Agencies: Be the One Initiative

Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas	State Office of Administrative Hearings	Texas Department of Criminal Justice	Texas School for the Deaf
Commission on State Emergency Communications	Sunset Advisory Commission	Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs	Texas State Affordable Housing Corporation
Credit Union Department	Teacher Retirement System of Texas	Texas Department of Information Resources	Texas State Board of Chiropractic Examiners
Employees Retirement System of Texas	Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission	Texas Department of Insurance	Texas State Board of Dental Examiners
Executive Council of Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Examiners	Texas Appraiser Licensing and Certification Board	Texas Department of Motor Vehicles	Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists
Health Professions Council	Texas Board of Architectural Examiners	Texas Department of Public Safety	Texas State Board of Plumbing Examiners
Legislative Budget Board	Texas Board of Nursing	Texas Department of Savings and Mortgage Lending	Texas State Board of Public Accountancy
Legislative Reference Library	Texas Board of Professional Engineers	Texas Department of State Health Services	Texas State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
Office of Consumer Credit Commission	Texas Board of Professional Geoscientists	Texas Facilities Commission	Texas State Law Library
Office of Court Administration	Texas Board of Professional Land Surveying	Texas Historical Commission	Texas State Pension Review Board
Office of Public Insurance Counsel	Texas Bond Review Board	Texas Juvenile Justice Department	Texas State Securities Board
Office of Public Utility Counsel	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality	Texas Legislative Council	Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board
Office of the Attorney General	Texas Commission on Fire Protection	Texas Lottery Commission	Texas Veterans Commission
Office of the Governor	Texas Commission on Jail Standards	Texas Optometry Board	Texas Water Development Board
Office of the Secretary of State	Texas Commission on Law Enforcement	Texas Public Finance Authority	Workers' Compensation Division, Texas Department of Insurance
Public Utility Commission of Texas	Texas Commission on the Arts	Texas Racing Commission	
Railroad Commission	Texas Department of Agriculture	Texas Real Estate Commission	

Report on Task Force Collaborative Efforts

The Task Force was established to increase collaborative efforts across the state. This approach brings together local, state, and federal agencies and nongovernmental partners to work on a common goal – bringing an end to and addressing the effects of human trafficking in Texas. Texas must be equipped to rescue and care for victims of human trafficking, and to prosecute the traffickers who have exploited them. The efforts to address the effects of human trafficking range from developing networks of service providers to assist victims, to providing outreach and training on human trafficking.

Legislative recommendations to enhance Texas laws are also critical to this collaborative approach. The recommendations put forth by the Task Force and passed by the Texas Legislature over the past 10 years reflect the strong partnerships in place and the commitment to improving our response to trafficking. These sweeping legislative changes have kept Texas on the forefront in the fight against human trafficking.

Across the state, other initiatives and collaborations have been implemented that are changing the way the state responds to human trafficking. Many such efforts are outlined below. Unless otherwise noted, the efforts are for Fiscal Year 2018.

Children At Risk
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Children At Risk has been very active in combatting illicit massage businesses (IMB). These efforts include the creation of a map that plots the location of all IMBs reviewed on Rubmaps.com with an overlay that shows the location of all public schools in Texas. This data reveals that over 35,000 public school students attend a school within 1,000 feet of an IMB.• Project AWESOME (Attorneys Working to End Sexually-Exploitative Massage Establishments) a partnership between Children At Risk, the Harris County Attorney’s Office, and private law firms is also ongoing, and a new law firm has joined this pro bono effort to eliminate IMBs using nuisance and abatement actions.• Anti-demand work is also a mainstay of Children At Risk work. Prior to the seizure of Backpage.com we had over 500,000 buyer disruptions achieved through deterrent texts, Google AdWords, and cyber patrols.• Children At Risk is currently tracking buyer migration to new sites.• Children At Risk has also been active in helping Texas municipalities improve their ordinances related to hotels/motels, sexually oriented businesses (SOB), and massage establishments.

Children’s Advocacy Centers of Texas (CACTX)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• CACTX worked with the Office of the Governor’s Child Sex Trafficking Team (CSTT) and five local children’s advocacy centers (CACs) to plan and begin implementing a statewide response for child sex trafficking cases, which utilizes local CACs to facilitate the investigation of child sex trafficking cases between law enforcement, the Department of Family and Protective Services, and prosecution, as well as appropriate, trauma-informed services. The CSTT and CACTX have developed guidelines to provide programmatic direction for local CACs working in collaboration with multidisciplinary team (MDT) partners and community advocacy agencies in care coordination for child sex trafficking cases.• In Fiscal Year 2018 Harris, Tarrant, and Dallas Counties launched a care coordination response for child sex trafficking cases. The Dallas Children’s Advocacy Center serving Dallas County and Alliance for Children serving Tarrant County are the acting care coordinators for their respective regions. The Children’s Assessment Center, the CAC serving all of Harris County, is not the acting care coordinator for the region; however, it does provide a MDT response in all child sex trafficking cases. The following CACs are currently working on implementing a care coordination response: ChildSafe (Bexar County) and Center for Child Protection (Travis County).• In state Fiscal Year 2018, Texas CACs served nearly 58,000 children statewide. Of those 58,000 children, 34,000 children’s cases involved an allegation of child sexual abuse and over 200 of those children were identified as victims of child sex trafficking.

Court Appointed Special Advocates (Texas CASA)

- Texas CASA worked with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) to notify local programs about regional trainings on human trafficking.
- Numerous local CASA program staff attended the NCMEC human trafficking training in their region.
- Texas CASA staff participated in meetings and conference calls convened by the Governor's office to discuss possible legislation to combat human trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation.
- Texas CASA and local CASA program staff attended specialized training on human trafficking, such as the DFPS/HHSC summit in Houston.
- Texas CASA training staff developed and released their new CASA pre-service training which includes core elements pertaining to human trafficking.
- Local CASA programs have developed expertise on human trafficking and are working with the Office of the Governor on local initiatives. In particular, the Dallas CASA program has been working with the Governor's office and local partners to better serve trafficking victims and develop a CASA training curriculum that can be used statewide.
- Texas CASA disseminated a human trafficking video developed by the Office of Attorney General to the CASA network.

Department of State Health Services (DSHS)

DSHS has initiated a statewide public health awareness training program for state public health employees that focuses on identifying signs of sex trafficking and providing appropriate actions.

- Submitted Fiscal Year 2019 Operational Plan: Domestic Child and Adult Sex Trafficking to Regional and Local Health Operations. Plan was approved and selected for upcoming fiscal year.
- Finalized Regional Procedures and Guidelines Document for Employees Recognition and Response to Human Trafficking. This included local partner and law enforcement contact lists and identification of available resources within the region.
- Human Trafficking Recognition and Response Train-the-Trainer Course provided to other Public Health Regions (PHR). Training Curriculum, Power Point Presentations, and Regional Procedure Template were sent to all Public Health Regions to use in their respective areas.
- Provided "Be the One in the Fight Against Human Trafficking" in its entirety at the train-the-trainer event August 1, 2018, to 27 participants.
- Completed conference call with the Human Trafficking & Child Exploitation Task Force at the DFPS. Agencies worked together to compile an emergency contact list for use when Task Force members recovered a victim of human trafficking.
- Contacted Lubbock County Juvenile Justice Center regarding "Not a #Number" (a curriculum to prevent child trafficking). Request to provide presentation to at risk youths. Planning and coordination is ongoing.
- Participated in human trafficking events:
 - Attended the Department of Family Protective Services (DFPS) Inaugural Human Trafficking Summit in Houston.
 - Attended Human Trafficking Training Summit in Dallas.
 - Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking (DMST) Exhibitor table set up at World AIDS Day Conference in Lubbock for over 200 health care providers and professionals.
 - Attended a "Freedom for the 806" Coalition meeting. This Coalition involves partners and stakeholders interested in preventing human trafficking in the Panhandle.
 - Participated/Tabled at A21 Walk for Freedom Conference
 - Attended Sex Trafficking Allied Response Team Meeting in Lubbock
 - Participated in United Way meeting on child abuse, including child sex trafficking
 - Attended Texas Human Trafficking Prevention Task Force Statewide Meeting
- Facilitated monthly Human Rescue Coalition Meetings in Lubbock that included presentations from human trafficking professionals:
 - Presentation from DFPS on their response to DMST
 - Presented "Social Media Safety and Sex Trafficking"
- Gave human trafficking presentations and trainings:

- Presented "Confronting Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking (DMST) in Your Community" at Region 18 School Nurse Conference in Midland.
- Presented Human Trafficking Awareness program to Desk and Derrick Club (Energy Industry Association) in Pampa.
- Presented "Social Media Safety and Sex Trafficking to Lubbock Cooper School Counselors.
- Presented Human Trafficking Awareness program to Altus in Pampa.
- Collaborated with Lubbock Rape Crisis Center Voice of Hope to provide two-day Allied Response Sex Trafficking Summit in Lubbock.
- Presented DMST Red Flags and Resources for Region 16 School Counselors in Amarillo (March 2018).
- Conducted "Social Media Safety and Sex Trafficking" for 200 people at the Junior League of Lubbock in partnership with the Lubbock Medical Society & Voice of Hope.
- Collaborated with the Freedom for the 806 Coalition to provide basic Human Trafficking awareness program to local stakeholders. The McCain Institute participated and reported on their two-year study regarding the connection between labor trafficking and sex trafficking.
- Presented CHOSEN Anti-Trafficking Documentary to 140 students at Petersburg High School in rural Lubbock county.
- Presented "Somebody's Child: Commercial Sexual Exploitation" to Advance Practice Nursing Students at Covenant Hospital.
- Presented "Protect Your Child: Online Solicitation, Grooming, Sex Trafficking, and a True Cautionary Tale" to 50 School Counselors in collaboration with ESC 17 Behavior Education Specialists and local parent of trafficking survivors.
- Conducted a DMST presentation for the Texas Tech Hippocratic Medical Society for approximately 50 people.
- Conducted a DMST presentation for the Ladies' Group at the Second Baptist Church in Amarillo.
- Presented "Someone's Child: Commercial Sexual Exploitation: to over 50 county judges and commissioners.
- Presented DMST awareness for Randall County Juvenile justice center parenting class.
- Facilitated "Not a #Number" at Priority Intervention Academy campus Lubbock, A21 Faith group in Lubbock.
- Conducted a presentation on sex trafficking for healthcare providers at the Texas Nursing Students Association state conference.
- Presented "Family Violence and Trafficking" for over 60 Workforce & Childcare Workers.
- Presented DMST and Your Community to over 50 parents at Plainview Parent's Night.
- Provided training and technical assistance to college students seeking to establish. A student group at Lubbock Christian University "Students Ending Slavery".
- Provided training materials to Covenant Hospital in Lubbock regarding recognition of DMST.
- OAG provided DMST presentation in Amarillo. Hosted by Family Support Services of Amarillo and Cal Farley's Boy Ranch. PHR 1 staff provided support and training materials.

Harris County Sheriff's Office (HCSO)

- The HCSO mission is to focus on the recovery of juvenile and adult sex trafficking victims and the successful prosecution of the trafficker.
- The HCSO has dedicated personnel assigned to this effort with working relationships with the FBI Human Trafficking Squad and the Human Trafficking Rescue Alliance Task Force (HTRA). HTRA is partnered with the FBI, the Fort Bend County Sheriff's Office, the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office, Texas Department of Public Safety, Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission, the Houston Police Department, and the HCSO.
- The HCSO also works with Non-Government Organizations (NGO) such as The Landing, Free the Captives, YMCA, and other NGOs for assistance in helping the victim recover and leave the life of prostitution.
- The HCSO has been active in investigating and educating the public about Human Trafficking. The HTRA has rescued victims in proactive police investigations such as street operations, tips from NGOs and patrol call outs.
- The HCSO has two full-time deputies and one sergeant assigned to the HTRA.

- The HTRA and the HCSO Vice Unit has conducted numerous hotel operations that are always focused toward victim rescue and prosecution of the trafficker.
- In the focus on demand reduction, the HCSO Vice Unit has participated in the National Johns Suppression Initiative (NJSI) along with 30 other law enforcement agencies around the country in 15 states. The HCSO continues to lead in number of arrests during these operations.
- In the effort and focus on demand reduction, the HCSO Vice Unit's arrest totals are 123 male buyers versus 24 female prostitutes as of September 2018.
- The HCSO has one deputy investigator assigned to the Harris County District Attorney's Office in their Project 180 program. Project 180 allows female victims between the ages of 17-25 charged with prostitution to enter into a diversion program in exchange for cooperation and treatment to turn their life around. The DA investigator and HCSO investigator uses intel and analytical research to target sex traffickers (pimps) resulting in greater charges for these violent offenders. Within one month of this assignment, investigators charged and arrested four violent offenders for crimes ranging from Aggravated Promotion of prostitution, Trafficking of a Child to Engaging in Organized Criminal Activity.

Mosaic Family Services

- Since the beginning of its Services to Survivors of Human Trafficking program in 2001, Mosaic has served over 600 trafficked persons. The agency provides comprehensive case management, which includes crisis intervention, safety planning, client advocacy with law enforcement and the criminal justice system, and social services, interpretation/translation, transportation, emotional support and accompaniment on appointments. The agency also has a shelter for female clients, legal services, and counseling. Mosaic has had grants from the Office for Victims of Crime/Department of Justice, since 2003.
- In 2005, the agency was a founding member of the North Texas Anti-Trafficking Team, headed by the Office of the United States Attorney, Northern District of Texas, consisting of law enforcement personnel and service providers, and is the main point of contact for cases of human trafficking. The agency serves foreign-born and domestic, adults and minors, and male and female survivors of sex and labor trafficking. Mosaic works with federal and local law enforcement agencies to ensure services are provided to these trafficked persons.
- The agency has seen a continued increase in the number of clients served. This steady growth in referrals began in Fiscal Year 2015, and was followed by significant increases, through Fiscal Year 2018. Over 100 trafficked persons were served in Fiscal Year 2018; about one-third of these were survivors of labor trafficking, and the other survivors of sex trafficking. About half were referred by law enforcement and about half were either self-referrals or from members of the community.
- In addition to Mosaic's work to serve survivors, the agency has a grant from the Department of Health and Human Services to do outreach, training, and public education. Thousands of people were made aware of the reality of human trafficking through this program in Fiscal Year 2018.
- The agency also founded the North Texas Coalition Against Human Trafficking, a group of interested providers, including social service agencies, medical workers, religious groups, educators, and other members of the community, which meets monthly.

National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC)

- NCMEC continues to present overviews at conferences which provide NCMEC resources to child welfare and law enforcement professionals throughout the state. More information on human sex trafficking prevention trainings can be found at <https://www.ncmectx.org/trainings/>.
- 37,800 children and 1,900 parents were trained in online and real-world safety through NetSmartz
- Over 4,000 child welfare professionals and 600 law enforcement personnel were trained in the recognition and response to the sexual exploitation of children
- 5 law enforcement trainings scheduled for 2019 funded by the Texas Governor's Office:
 - January 9 and 10 - Harlingen
 - June 11 and 12 - Lubbock
 - July 10 and 11 - San Angelo

- July 24 and 25 - Galveston
- August 21 and 22 - Nacogdoches
- 4 child welfare trainings scheduled for 2019 funded by the Texas Governor's Office:
 - February 7 - Houston
 - March 7 - College Station
 - April 16 - Waco
 - June 13 - Lubbock
- Launching *Train the Trainer Credible Messenger Program* to any entity interested in adding a personal and online safety prevention education program to their curriculum

Office of the Attorney General (OAG)

The Human Trafficking and Transnational/Organized Crime (HTTOC) section of the OAG approaches the issue of human trafficking holistically, working on cases involving sex and labor trafficking, child and adult victims, and international and domestic trafficking. The team includes prosecutors, investigators, an analyst, a special projects manager as well as a victim advocate. Eradicating human trafficking in the state of Texas requires educating and mobilizing the public as well as spurring effective investigation and prosecution. The activities described below reflect a breadth of approach and dedication to tackling the crime from as many angles as possible.

- Until April 2018, Backpage.com was the single largest purveyor of adult sex ads in the nation and made more than 90% of its revenue through advertisements perpetuating the sale of people. Backpage.com was linked to hundreds of cases of human trafficking of both adults and children. In October 2016, HTTOC in partnership with California's Office of the Attorney General, raided the Dallas headquarters of Backpage.com. Law enforcement served a documentary and digital search warrant on the company and assisted in the arrest of Carl Ferrer, Backpage's Chief Executive Officer. In late 2016, HTTOC initiated its own criminal probe into the company. In April 2018, Carl Ferrer pled guilty to money laundering and also pled Backpage.com guilty to Trafficking of Persons and Engaging in Organized Criminal Activity in Nueces County, Texas. Texas was the only jurisdiction to require a plea to trafficking. As part of the plea agreement, Ferrer assisted Texas OAG, California OAG, and the federal authorities in shutting down Backpage in all 90 plus countries in which it was operating, agreed to testify against all pending defendants, turned over the identities of the top 3,000 buyers of Backpage.com advertisements, and is assisting in identifying all company and codefendant assets for seizure. Multiple additional defendants remain under investigation.
- HTTOC attorneys are involved in numerous human trafficking cases that have resulted in multiple felony convictions and over 300 years of prison time for traffickers in cities across Texas. The cases include prosecutions of adult and minor sex trafficking rings with domestic and international victims, illicit massage parlors, and labor traffickers of both children and adults. This calendar year HTTOC prosecutors have successfully prosecuted traffickers in Bexar, Jefferson, and Travis Counties. In addition, HTTOC initiated the first civil case under the Civil Racketeering Related to Trafficking of Persons statute.
- HTTOC team members continue to provide assistance and consultation to prosecutors, investigators, and fellow state and local agencies as requested on trafficking-related cases and inquiries. HTTOC team members continue to assist university and institute researchers across the country, mentor future leaders in the anti-trafficking movement, and provide direct assistance to victims of trafficking.
- HTTOC team members provide human trafficking training for law enforcement, prosecutors, judges, victim advocates, probation departments, and members of the public across Texas. In addition to training more than 20,000 people in person across Texas, HTTOC has completed work on a documentary training tool on human trafficking that is designed to equip all 315,000 state employees as well as the general public with an understanding of both sex and labor trafficking, the red flags for recognizing trafficking, and a protocol for reporting. The film, "Be the One in the Fight Against Human Trafficking," premiered and became available statewide beginning in January 2018. Since January, the film has been viewed in 49 states and 76 countries. On Vimeo alone, the film has reached more than 53,500 people, and this figure does not include the hundreds who have requested the DVD version, the school districts that are using the tool to train their staff or the state agencies that have committed to training their employees.
- In the fall of 2016, the University of Texas' Institute on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault published research indicating that at any given time Texas has upwards of 200,000 labor trafficking victims. This startling

statistic reinforced the need for the state to substantively address labor trafficking. Beginning in early 2017, HTOC partnered with the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) to train TWC front-line staff on the issue of trafficking. TWC centers provide critical job services and connect workers with advocates designed to protect their civil and human rights within the workplace. In addition, the Howard G. Buffett Foundation and the McCain Institute chose to begin their Initiative to Combat Modern Slavery in Texas in partnership with HTOC. The Initiative focuses on generating investigations and prosecutions into labor trafficking in agriculture. HTOC has provided training for law enforcement and prosecution in Edinburg, Lubbock, Laredo, and Pecos, Texas on behalf of the initiative.

- HTOC continues its partnership with Truckers Against Trafficking (TAT), a nationwide 501(c)(3) dedicated to educating, equipping, and mobilizing the trucking industry in the fight against trafficking. HTOC, TAT, and the Texas Trucking Association hosted five coalition builds in San Antonio, Houston, Tyler, Lubbock and El Paso, bringing together law enforcement and workers in the trucking industry for joint training and relationship building around the issue of human trafficking in their local communities. This fiscal year marked an expansion of the initiative to the oil and gas industry with builds held in Kennedy and Pecos, Texas, targeted at engaging one of Texas’ largest industries in the fight against trafficking.
- Anti-trafficking efforts around the state are coordinated by regional coalitions staffed by state, local, and federal law enforcement, victim serving organizations, advocacy groups, governmental agencies, local business leaders, and academics. HTOC team members play an active role in the Central Texas Coalition Against Trafficking including sitting on the steering committee and all working groups. In addition, HTOC team members are also members of and strive to work with and grow regional coalitions throughout the state.
- Finally, working hand in hand with the Texas Human Trafficking Prevention Task Force, HTOC team members help generate and then provide resource testimony and background information for the Task Force’s legislative recommendations for each Texas Legislative Session. The 85th session’s accomplishments included the creation of a Civil Investigative Demand, mandatory training for professional drivers, and enhanced penalties for those promoting prostitution among other things. In addition, HTOC team members assist the Task Force in hosting meetings, coordinating content and assisting in the fulfillment of Task Force legislative mandates. Since the 2017 session, the Statewide Task Force has hosted regional meetings in Edinburg, Lubbock, Laredo and Pecos, Texas, with additional meetings planned for Austin, Bell, and Jefferson Counties.

Office of the Governor (OOG)

- Governor Abbott’s Child Sex Trafficking Team (CSTT) continues to make progress on its mission to prevent victimization, help identify and recover victims, provide coordinated services to help survivors heal and thrive, and bring them justice.
- CSTT efforts to prevent victimization in Fiscal Year 2018 include:
 - Funding the Texas Alliance of Boys & Girls Clubs to increase protective factors and provide human trafficking prevention and awareness for at-risk children ages 8-18 through clubs across the state.
 - Partnering with the Texas Education Agency, Texas Association of School Boards, and Office of the Attorney General (OAG) to gather information on prevention curricula and make research-based, age-appropriate education available and accessible to schools for school staff, children and parents.
 - Partnering with the Secretary of State to enhance the Human Trafficking Prevention Business Partnership Program to engage more corporations in addressing human trafficking.
- CSTT efforts to improve victim identification in Fiscal Year 2018 include:
 - Implementing the Commercial Sexual Exploitation – Identification Tool (CSE-IT) in child-serving organizations and systems. CSTT selected the CSE-IT as the preferred screening tool for youth in Texas and began promoting its utilization by providing training and technical assistance to DFPS, TJJD, numerous county juvenile probation departments, and several child-serving agencies that have agreed to implement the tool.
 - Funding targeting training events for professionals through organizations such as the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children and United Against Human Trafficking.
 - Promoting widespread viewing of the OAG’s “Be the One in the Fight Against Human Trafficking” training documentary. On March 19, 2018, Governor Abbott implemented a requirement for current OOG staff to view the video within 120 days and for all new staff to view the video within 60 days of

hire. The governor also issued a challenge to all state agencies to implement the same requirements. To date, 66 agencies have confirmed that they have met the governor's "Be the One" challenge, representing approximately 56,632 state employees.

- o Enhancing the National Human Trafficking Hotline (Hotline) for Texas. Calls and texts to the Hotline are often the catalyst of an investigation and/or connecting a survivor to services. With a grant from OOG, the Hotline is enhancing its services for Texas. This includes raising awareness, strengthening its referral directory, educating callers about mandatory reporting and facilitating those reports, and enhancing protocols to share tips with local and state law enforcement and build intelligence on human trafficking in Texas.
- CSTT is facilitating collaborative and coordinated responses so that identified victims are recovered and provided a pathway out of their exploitation that is protective and empowering rather than punitive. Key components of this response include:
 - o Specialized CST Advocacy Programs: CST advocates are specifically trained to provide crisis intervention, ongoing case management, and a healthy, supportive long-term relationship for survivors under age 25. CSTT provides technical assistance and training on risk management to the CST advocacy agencies via Praesidium, an organization specializing in reducing risks to vulnerable youth and the agencies that serve them. During Fiscal Year 2018, CSTT provided funding for six advocacy agencies in 56 counties across the state. These agencies provided services to 430 new youth from October 1, 2017, to September 30, 2018, and include:
 - BCFS (26 counties in Central Texas; Harris and contiguous counties)
 - Voice of Hope (Lubbock and surrounding counties)
 - Traffick911 (Dallas/Fort Worth)
 - SAFE Alliance (Austin)
 - UnBound (Fort Worth)
 - YMCA International Services (Greater Houston).
 - o Care Coordination: To help survivors and their families access services, CSTT is partnering with the Children's Advocacy Centers of Texas to develop Care Coordination Teams (CCTs) across the state in the next several years, with the expectation that local children's advocacy centers (CACs) will act as care coordinating agencies in most counties. CCTs are made up of law enforcement, juvenile justice, child protection, and medical and behavioral health services. Facilitated by the care coordinating agency, each CCT staffs the cases of child sex trafficking survivors up to 18 years of age, regardless of system involvement, recovered in or domiciled in the CCT's jurisdiction. The CCT develops recommended service plans, and if the child's guardian authorizes, facilitates the child's access to services.
 - In Fiscal Year 2018, Harris, Tarrant, and Dallas Counties launched a care coordination response for child sex trafficking cases. The local CACs serve as the care coordinating agencies for Tarrant County and Dallas County, while Harris County Protective Services serves as the care coordinator for Harris County. Bexar County and Travis County have been engaged in ongoing efforts to develop care coordination teams and protocols, and CSTT continues to support and prepare other jurisdictions for this work with efforts prioritized based on both need (numbers of victims and potential victims) and readiness (existing collaboration and efforts).
- CSTT has established five regions for Texas: North, South, East, West, and Central. Each region will be supported by a CSTT Regional Administrator (RA), who will be working with public and private stakeholders to: develop and continuously improve the continuum of care for survivors; develop local care coordination teams and processes; and support prevention and justice activities. During Fiscal Year 2018, RAs were hired for the East, Central, and North Texas regions. As each region strengthens its continuum of care, a statewide network of victim-centered, trauma informed services will become available to meet the immediate and long-term rehabilitation and treatment needs of survivors.
- CSTT continues to monitor, support, and grow grant programs based on promising practices designed to build capacity for meeting the needs of child sex trafficking survivors across the state. Highlights of these specialized grant programs include:
 - o Emergency and Long-Term Residential Services: In Fiscal Year 2018, CSTT released a funding announcement and accepted applications for emergency and long-term residential services for child sex trafficking victims. These grants become active in Fiscal Year 2019.

- o Community-based drop-in centers for child sex trafficking victims that provide physical safety, services, opportunities to build healthy relationships, and case management. Youth will be able to access these centers on their own as well as be referred to these by law enforcement, probation officers, advocates and others. CSTT provided funding for six drop-in programs that served 547 youth from October 1, 2017, to September 30, 2018, and include:
 - Roy Maas Youth Alternatives' and Bexar County Juvenile Probation's Centro Seguro (San Antonio)
 - New Friends New Life's Youth Resource Center (Dallas)
 - Promise House's Destiny's House (Dallas)
 - SAFE CARES Drop In Center (Austin)
 - Central Texas Youth Services' Project HOPE (Killeen)
 - The Landing (Houston).
- o Other efforts to build capacity for serving this population include funding:
 - Specialized foster care programs with trauma-informed wraparound services and supports: Arrow Child & Family Ministries (Houston area) and El Paso Center for Children (El Paso).
 - DFPS Human Trafficking and Child Exploitation Team to build capacity within child welfare to prevent, identify, and provide services to victims in care.
 - County juvenile programs to coordinate and provide care for survivors.
 - Training and coaching for child welfare, juvenile justice, residential, and service providers to provide a trauma informed response to child sex trafficking victims and high-risk youth in Houston, San Antonio, Dallas, and El Paso through the Trust-Based Relational Intervention® program.
- CSTT also engages in efforts to bring justice for survivors by equipping the justice system with necessary resources and skills to hold exploiters accountable while empowering survivors. Activities supported in Fiscal Year 2018 include:
 - o Specialized prosecutors and support positions in Bexar County, Dallas County, and Harris County.
 - o Forensic Experiential Trauma Interview (FETI) training for law enforcement and CACs.
 - o National Center for Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ) training for Texas judges on addressing trafficking in their courts, systems, and communities.
 - o Project 180, a pilot project with Harris County District Attorney's Office that diverts young people (ages 18-24) arrested for prostitution to services; engages analysts and social workers to identify trafficking cases that were mistaken for prostitution cases; and investigates and prosecutes exploiters. Researchers at the University of Houston are evaluating the pilot and will be able to provide an evaluation in next year's report.

Office of the Secretary of State (SOS)

- The SOS has been working closely with the OOG Child Sex Trafficking Team to spread awareness of the Human Trafficking Prevention Business Partnership Program (Partnership) to prospective business entities and promote membership among entities in key industries affected by human trafficking.
- The SOS has worked with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) to spread awareness of the Partnership among members of the Border Trade Advisory Committee (BTAC), which includes key industry stakeholders in the realm of cross-border trade, transportation, and security.
- Additionally, the SOS has worked with the Governor's office and the Railroad Commission of Texas (RRC) to promote the Partnership among Texas energy leaders at a roundtable forum in the summer of 2018.
- Provided "Be the One in the Fight Against Human Trafficking" in its entirety to all 173 current employees in our agency.
- Internally, the SOS has re-launched its Partnership web page and developed an official logo for the program. In September, Secretary Pablos hosted a roundtable discussion with current and prospective partners to seek feedback on how the Partnership can be improved, and how state agencies and the legislature can work together to encourage and increase participation. Below is a full list of current partners, with the dates their applications were approved:
 - o Sabre GBLB, Inc., Southlake, TX (March 2, 2016)
 - o PCO Div II, Inc., Baytown, TX (April 27, 2016)
 - o EIS Office Solutions, Inc. dba Secor.cc, Houston, TX (December 29, 2016)

- o K.C.S. United Enterprise, LLC, Houston, TX (May 10, 2017)
- o Southern Brush, LLC, Spring, TX (July 12, 2017)
- o The Metochoi Group dba 3rd Millennium Group, San Antonio, TX (November 15, 2017)

Refugee Services of Texas (RST)

- The Survivors of Trafficking Empowerment Program (STEP) of Central Texas provides comprehensive case management services to all victims of human trafficking in Travis, Williamson, Hays, and Bell counties. The program has provided 24/7 response and served as the central point of contact for trafficking victims in Austin and surrounding counties since 2005. The program is funded by the Department of Justice, Office of Victims of Crime and the Department of Health and Human Services- Trafficking Victims Assistance Program.
- The 806 Anti-trafficking Collaborative of the Texas Panhandle and South Plains is funded by the Department of Justice, Office of Victims of Crime. This program commenced services January 2018, providing a 24/7 response in collaboration with Family Support Services of Amarillo and Voice of Hope in Lubbock. The project provides case management services to all victims of human trafficking in Moore, Potter, Randall, Hale, Lamb, Hockley, Lubbock, Lynn, and Garza counties.
- The Survivors of Trafficking Empowerment Program (STEP) of Rio Grande Valley (RGV) is currently funded by Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)-Trafficking Victims Assistance Program (TVAP). Since October 2017, STEP-RGV has been providing comprehensive case management services for adult and minor foreign national victims of trafficking in Hidalgo, Cameron and Starr county. STEP-RGV will expand services January 2019 to all victims of human trafficking, both US Citizens and Foreign nationals and will provide a 24/7 response to identified victims. The expanded program is funded by the Department of Justice Office of Victims of Crime to serve identified victims in Brooks, Cameron, Hidalgo, Jim Hogg, Starr, and Willacy Counties.
- The Survivors of Trafficking Empowerment Program (STEP) in Houston is funded by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)- Trafficking Victims Assistance Program (TVAP). This project commenced in January 2018 to serve adult and minor identified foreign national victims of human trafficking in Harris and surrounding counties.

Supreme Court of Texas Permanent Judicial Commission for Children, Youth and Families (Children's Commission)

- The Children's Commission is focused primarily on providing information to judges and attorneys responsible for child welfare cases to raise awareness of human trafficking as it impacts children involved with the child welfare system. The Children's Commission Child Protection Law Bench Book includes relevant legislation regarding human trafficking and a one-page checklist on human trafficking was added to the Bench Book as an additional resource for judges. Through Jurist in Residence correspondence, the Children's Commission also relays important information to judges hearing child welfare cases about the intersection of child welfare and human trafficking.
- The Children's Commission also participates in the state and national trainings on human trafficking to stay informed about successful strategies to combat trafficking and develop expertise to relay information to judges and attorneys, as needed.
- In addition to serving on the Human Trafficking Prevention Task Force, the Children's Commission also works with the Office of the Texas Governor's Child Sex Trafficking Team and the Office of Court Administration to develop strategies to improve judicial handling of child welfare cases where children or youth are at high risk of becoming trafficking victims.
- At present, the Children's Commission is coordinating with the Office of the Texas Governor's Sex Trafficking Team to plan a Texas-specific, judicially focused Domestic Child Sex Trafficking Institute. The Children's Commission will provide scholarships for judges and attorneys to participate in the training.

Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission (TABC)

- **Mandatory Human Trafficking Training for All TABC Employees:** All TABC employees were required to watch the Office of Attorney General's human trafficking awareness video "'Be the One in the Fight Against Human Trafficking'".
- **Issued two letters of support:**
 - **National Liquor Law Enforcement Agency (NLLEA):** TABC provided the NLLEA a letter of support in their effort to receive funding from a 2018 National Institute of Justice (NIJ) program for: "Research and Evaluation on Trafficking of Persons: Implementation and Evaluation of a Training Program for Beer Distributors and Alcohol Regulators to Enhance Identification and Reporting of Potential Trafficking Activities". If NLLEA is selected for the project, TABC will support by allowing an experienced agent to serve as a technical assistance provider to other states in developing their "Train the Trainer" materials. TABC will also provide human trafficking training to beer distributors in the State of Texas on a routine basis during the project and submit monthly reports that include data on the number of human trafficking reports received and any follow up action taken. TABC must also submit a final report at the end of the intervention period summarizing all actions to date and participate in site visits conducted by the study team.
 - **Refugee Services of Texas (RST):** TABC provided RST with a letter of support in their effort to receive funding for a 2018 Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) Comprehensive Services funding to support the expanded services of the RST Survivors of Trafficking Empowerment Program (STEP) in the Texas Rio Grande Valley (RGV). RST will take responsibility to lead the STEP RGV case management and service coordination efforts for the duration of the grant period. RST proposes to continue the provision of comprehensive services to all victims of human trafficking in addition to 24 hour on-call response to law enforcement and victim services departments as it continues to be a member of the Rio Grande Valley Anti-Human Trafficking Task Force and the local Human Trafficking Coalition. The proposed project intends to target Brooks, Cameron, Hidalgo, Jim Hogg, Starr and Willacy counties, an area that encompasses several major US/Mexico border cities such as Edinburg, McAllen, Harlingen, and Brownsville.
- **First Lady Cecilia Abbott Media Coverage:**
 - TABC has coordinated with the Office of the Governor to conduct a press release/media coverage of a joint public statement from TABC and the Texas First Lady on combating human trafficking in Texas.
- **Human Trafficking Awareness Training for Beer Distributors and Wholesalers:**
 - TABC began a pro-active initiative to educate Beer Distributors and Wholesalers on the signs of human trafficking. The beer distributor employees are inside licensed establishments frequently and may notice signs of human trafficking if they are educated on what to look for. They are also provided information on how to report possible human trafficking. Currently the program is voluntary; however, the vast majority of the industry has welcomed the free training and is participating.
 - As of July 11, 2018, the following training had been conducted or expected to be complete:
 - **Distribution Company Data:**
 1. Number of Companies with Distribution/Wholesale Licenses in Texas: 198
 2. Number of Distributor Facility Locations in Texas: 290
 - **Human Trafficking Training Data:**
 1. Total Number of Human Trafficking Trainings Conducted in Calendar Year 2018 (includes all scheduled trainings): 40
 2. Additional Human Trafficking Trainings Anticipated to be Completed in 2018 (based on company agreements to participate and their number of facilities): 52
 3. Potential Additional Human Trafficking Training in 2018 (based on companies who haven't yet agreed to participate but likely will): 19
 4. Total Number of Human Trafficking Trainings TABC Likely to Conduct in Calendar Year 2018: 111
- **Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) Networking:**
 - The TABC Special Investigations Unit (SIU) has been successful in identifying multiple Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO) around the state that provide support and services to victims of trafficking. One such

NGO sought out TABC for assistance and provided access to women who had made outcries of being trafficked in licensed bars. TABC joined forces with two of their task force partners (Department of Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) and the Texas Department of Public Safety - Criminal Intelligence Division) and is working to corroborate the allegations and identify all suspects.

- **Task Force Support:**

- The TABC SIU has successfully placed agents on various local, state and federal task forces around the state. Some of the task forces specifically focus on human trafficking, such as the Houston area Human Trafficking Rescue Alliance (HTRA) or the FBI International Human Trafficking Squad and the HSI Trafficking Task Force. Other Task Forces such as the Texas Anti-Gang centers (TAG) do not focus solely on human trafficking, but conduct concurrent investigations into gangs that may be involved in trafficking the victims, and therefore assist in dismantling the criminal organizations.

- **Training for Law Enforcement:**

- TABC has provided subject matter experts to help train law enforcement in the identification of victims inside licensed establishments and how to properly report allegations. TABC recently provided instruction on “Human Trafficking and Finding a Nexus to the Alcoholic Beverage Industry” at the 2018 Fusion Center Human Trafficking Training Event held on February 27, 2018. TABC presented at the Department of Family and Protective Services Human Trafficking Summit on August 22, 2018.

- **Human Trafficking Statistics:** (stats as of July 26, 2018)

- Since Fiscal Year 2014, the TABC SIU has had 101 investigations with allegations of human trafficking. They have cancelled and/or pursued legal action against the permits at 17 of those locations. Many of these were joint investigations with other law enforcement agencies. These investigations also included allegations of narcotics trafficking and/or prostitution, drink solicitation, or other violations. Many of the female employees from these bars were found to be undocumented foreign nationals and were interviewed by NGOs to determine if they were victims of human trafficking. None made an outcry, however, some of the investigations continue.

Activity Class	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18	Total
# of OCA Investigations with Human Trafficking Allegations	16	22	24	21	18	101
# of Closed OCA Investigatons Involving Human Trafficking	4	12	10	17	24	67
# of OCA Investigatons with Human Trafficking Allegations resulting in Cancellation or Referred to Legal for Settlement	1	3	1	7	5	17

Texas Association Against Sexual Assault (TAASA)

- Planned integrated and complimentary trainings incorporating trauma-informed investigative interviews and human trafficking investigations with law enforcement specialist for multi-disciplinary teams and coalitions.
- Provided continued training for medical and health care professionals statewide to develop comprehensive trauma-informed human trafficking training and response protocols to identify and assist victims of human trafficking in a health care setting.
- Provided technical assistance to Amarillo, Big Country (Abilene), East Texas (Beaumont) and El Paso human trafficking coalitions, establishing protocols and MOUs.
- Coordinated and implemented comprehensive immigrant services conference in conjunction with Lone Star Advocacy Project.
- Coordinated with Austin Police Department and Department of Public Safety (DPS) Human Trafficking division for law enforcement and victim services panel.
- Provided technical assistance and training to Travis County Sherriff’s Department in setting up specialized unit to investigate trafficking cases.
- Coordinated with Central Texas Coalition Against Human Trafficking (CTCAHT) to provide information about regional trafficking trends.
- Participated in training working group with CTCAHT, DPS and National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC).
- Coordinated with Refugee and Immigrant Center for Education and Legal Services to provide training and technical support for shelter and legal staff for trauma-informed trainings and services.

- Provided training to Homeland Security investigators and agents on trauma-informed investigations to gather information and evidence to prosecute their cases.
- Connected NCMEC with local law enforcement and service providers for DMST.
- Provided therapeutic supplies to CARES new specialized foster care program.
- Participated in Steering Committee for Immigrant Service Network of Austin and evaluation of values and deliverables.
- Coordinated with HT coalitions across the state for resource distribution, in collaboration with AFSSA and Refugee Services of Texas, for survivors entering transitional housing.
- Coordinated with regional labor trafficking resources from the Department of Labor and the EEOC in providing training to migrant workers about workplace exploitation.

Texas Council of Family Violence (TCFV)

- Due to the lack of specific programming serving human trafficking survivors in Texas, domestic violence programs receive referrals to serve these survivors or are already seeing them due to polyvictimization.
- TCFV, the state domestic violence coalition, is preparing resources and training to domestic violence program staff throughout the state on how to identify and serve survivors of labor and sex trafficking. This includes supporting intensive case management, collaboration with community partners, legal and law enforcement involvement, identification, technical assistance, and trauma-focused service and shelter provision.

Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS)

- The DFPS Human Trafficking (HT) Initiative is a grant funded by the Office of the Texas Governor (OOG). Initially established in June 2017, the grant extended into Fiscal Year 2018 and will conclude in May 2019. This grant allowed DFPS to establish the DFPS Human Trafficking and Child Exploitation (HTCE) Division. For the children and youth served by DFPS, the DFPS HTCE Division strives to:
 - Strengthen compliance with all federal and state human trafficking mandates,
 - Develop best practices in the prevention of trafficking, and
 - Improve DFPS capacity to identify, report, recover and restore victims of trafficking.
- In January 2018, DFPS HTCE Division partnered with the OAG and NCMEC to host a series of lunch-and-learns for Human Trafficking Awareness Month. DFPS hosted five lunch-and-learns and provided two presentations. One of the presentations was conducted by Toni McKinley, a counselor and survivor of sex trafficking. Approximately 370 professionals attended the events.
- In June 2018, DFPS began mandatory training for all staff to complete the “Be the One in the Fight Against Human Trafficking” training film that was produced by the OAG’s HTOC Sectopm. This training film provides DFPS staff an introduction to both labor and sex trafficking.
- All new Child Protective Services (CPS) direct delivery staff also receive Human Trafficking training as a part of their CPS Professional Development.
- DFPS investigates allegations of sex trafficking (SXTR) and/or labor trafficking (LBTR) when the alleged perpetrator is a person traditionally responsible for a child’s care, custody, or welfare, such as a family member or an adult living in the home of an alleged child victim. DFPS Statewide Intake (SWI) will ensure that a report of child trafficking not under CPS investigative jurisdiction is processed as an Information & Referral (I&R) to be sent to law enforcement.
- DFPS HTCE Division coordinated with WestCoast Children’s Clinic (WestCoast) to establish a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between DFPS and WestCoast for DFPS to utilize the Commercial Sexual Exploitation – Identification Tool (CSE-IT). The MOU was executed in May 2018.
- DFPS developed the first draft of the DFPS HT Response Protocol, which outlines the agency’s use of the CSE-IT and the expected response for three critical HT populations:
 - Human Trafficking Investigations are when the alleged perpetrator is a person traditionally responsible for a child’s care, custody, or welfare, such as a family member or an adult living in the home of an alleged child victim of sex trafficking or labor trafficking.
 - Youth at Risk are children 12 years of age or older, in DFPS conservatorship, with five or more placements.

- o Youth at High Risk are children in DFPS conservatorship, who are on runaway status or are otherwise missing.
- In early 2019, the DFPS Response Protocol will be implemented in Bexar, Dallas, Harris, Tarrant, and Travis Counties.
- DFPS Investigations and CPS staff have participated in the development of local Care Coordination Teams (CCTs) in communities identified by the OOG – Child Sex Trafficking Team. CCTs are working to establish local protocols to collaboratively investigate child sex trafficking cases as well as coordinate service provision for identified victims.
- DFPS and NCMEC began a review of the existing MOU between the parties. The MOU, which went into effect September 13, 2014, requires DFPS to immediately report to NCMEC when a child in care is missing to allow NCMEC to engage in efforts to locate the child. The MOU predates the passage of the federal Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act, enacted September 29, 2014, which in essence codified the agreement between DFPS and NCMEC. Following the review, DFPS and NCMEC updated the MOU as necessary to reflect current information, needs, practices, and collaborative efforts of the agencies. The updated MOU was signed into effect by both parties on September 25, 2018.
- DFPS HTCE and Special Investigations (SI) Divisions collaborated with NCMEC to present at their Spotlight On Exploitation trainings. This fiscal year's trainings were held in Beaumont, Longview, Wichita Falls, Del Rio, and Laredo.
- In FY 2018, DFPS HTCE Division began negotiations and technical assistance with eight OOG grantees seeking to enter into MOUs with DFPS to provide advocate services to victims of child trafficking.
- DFPS has local representatives on a variety of local Human Trafficking Task Forces and/or coalitions across the state. Some focus on community awareness and education while others focus on investigations and service delivery, and some do both.
- DFPS HTCE Division led the establishment of the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) Region VI Human Trafficking Work Group (Work Group). Representatives from child welfare, juvenile justice, attorney general offices, law enforcement, and nonprofits, as well as survivor leaders, from Texas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Louisiana have been identified and included in the Work Group. The goal of the Work Group is to collaborate with the other states in ACF Region VI to build strong alliances between our states in order to work together to address the needs of trafficked youth in our region. The DFPS HTCE Director is the Chair of the Work Group.
- DFPS HTCE Division and Regional Leadership began a collaborative effort with the El Paso Center for Children to develop community HT101 training/education curriculum as well as HT201 for professionals working with high-risk and identified victims of trafficking. DFPS Regional Leadership is also working with the El Paso Center for Children to establish more timely and inclusive communication and collaboration regarding child placement issues and options.
- DFPS is collaboratively working with Texas Health and Human Services (HHS) and Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) to identify services available to high-risk and identified victims of human trafficking and identify the existing gaps in service areas in order to collaboratively and strategically expand the continuum of care across the state.
- DFPS provides Preparation for Adult Living (PAL) program services to youth and young adults ages 16-21 through its PAL Life Skills Training, Adult Living Aftercare Services, and Aging-out seminars. HT training that has been regionally developed to utilize local and state resources and partners is provided to these youth and young adults engaged in PAL programs.
- Children and youth 3-17 years of age in DFPS conservatorship receive a Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths Assessment (CANS), Texas 2.0 version, which helps to assess and plan for a child's health and medical needs, including those associated with sexual exploitation/forced labor/human trafficking.
- DFPS HTCE Division presented at the 2018 Crimes Against Children's Conference.
- In August 2018, DFPS held the Inaugural DFPS Human Trafficking Summit in Houston, Texas. With almost 500 in attendance, the Summit garnered overwhelmingly positive feedback. The target audience included DFPS staff and key partners and stakeholders who assist in the fight against trafficking for the children and youth served by DFPS. Attendees ranged from advocate agencies, local and state law enforcement entities, city/county governments, other state agencies and other various systems. There were 16 attendees from out of state. Aside from the keynote address, 34 workshop sessions were offered by a variety of expert presenters

that included professionals and survivors of child trafficking. Topics encompassed identification, investigations, prosecution, types of trafficking, and victim treatment and services.

- The DFPS SI Division continues to provide its expertise in DFPS cases involving sexual exploitation and labor trafficking.

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR)

- **Reporting Human Trafficking:**

- Since commencing massage inspections in April 2018, TDLR Field Inspection staff and the strategic response coordinator made the following reports on suspected human trafficking:
 - four reports to the National Human Trafficking Hotline;
 - four reports to our local law enforcement partners;
 - one report to the Department of Labor; and
 - two reports to Refugee Services of Texas.
- TDLR staff coordinated with law enforcement to inspect and investigate ten facilities suspected of human trafficking.
- TDLR staff provided law enforcement with documents with detailed information on 20 establishments suspected of being illicit massage businesses.

- **Law Enforcement, Non-Governmental Organizations and Service Provider Collaborations:**

- Coordinated efforts on identified illicit massage businesses suspected of human trafficking in:
 - El Paso with the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS), the El Paso County Attorney's Office, the Federal Bureau of Investigations and Homeland Security Investigations;
 - Dallas with the Dallas Police Department, Dallas County Attorney's Office and Homeland Security Investigations;
 - Killeen with the Killeen Police Department, the Human Trafficking Hotline and Refugee Services of Texas;
 - Tarrant County with the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office;
 - Harris County with the Houston Police Department, the Human Trafficking Rescue Alliance and the Human Trafficking Hotline;
 - Austin with the Texas Attorney General's Office and the Austin Police Department;
 - Georgetown and Round Rock with the Georgetown and Round Rock Police Departments;
 - Longview with the Longview Police Department; and
 - Alvin with the Alvin Police Department.
- Coordinated effort on suspected labor trafficking of a licensee with the U.S. Department of Labor and Refugee Services of Texas.
- Collaboration with Polaris for staff training, data and research.

- **Public Outreach:**

- Development of public and internal human trafficking prevention webpages dedicated to training, awareness and resources.
 - Since the TDLR human trafficking page was created in March 2017, it has been viewed 7,011 times. During this time, visitors spent 14,606 minutes viewing the page, a combined total of 10 days, 3 hours, and 26 min.
- Use of TDLR's social media accounts to spread awareness of other governmental agency initiatives on human trafficking prevention.
 - Posting and sharing the:
 - OAG "Be the One in the Fight Against Human Trafficking" film;
 - OAG "End Human Trafficking" PSA; and
 - Secretary of State's Human Trafficking Prevention Business Partnership Program.
 - Providing information during human trafficking awareness month and World Day Against Human Trafficking.

- TDLR staffed a human trafficking awareness booth at the Sheriffs' Association of Texas 140th Annual Training Expo.
 - TDLR increased labor trafficking awareness during the Austin Mexican Consulate's Labor Rights Week. Efforts included:
 - Staffing a booth and meeting with visitors of the Mexican Consulate on TDLR's programs and human trafficking initiatives.
 - Presenting to partner agencies on TDLR's programs and initiatives.
 - Distributing TDLR licensing information at local businesses.
- TDLR field inspectors printed and provided cosmetology establishments with human trafficking awareness signs to post in the establishments.
- In conjunction with other state partners, TDLR's strategic response coordinator presented on illicit massage businesses and human trafficking at the Texas Human Trafficking Prevention Task Force regional meeting in Pecos, Texas.
- TDLR staff members regularly have one-on-one dialogue with licensees and the public on the signs of human trafficking and how it may intersect with their profession.
- **Agency Actions:**
 - TDLR hired a strategic response coordinator to serve as the human trafficking liaison and accelerate TDLR's human trafficking prevention efforts.
 - In accordance with HB 2552:
 - the creation and implementation of a human trafficking awareness sign for cosmetology establishments and the development of rules related to its posting; and
 - the creation of rules surrounding continuing education requirements on human trafficking awareness for cosmetologists.
 - TDLR Field Inspections staff participated in training sessions conducted by the OAG and the DPS to learn how to identify signs of human trafficking. Field Inspections staff conduct periodic, unscheduled, onsite inspections at various facilities throughout the state.
 - Commencement of massage facility inspections with employees trained in human trafficking identification.
 - TDLR developed and implemented training for field personnel specific to identifying signs of human trafficking in illicit massage business, which included the creation of a human trafficking screening guide used by field staff.
 - TDLR field personnel carry information cards with the human trafficking hotline phone number and important human trafficking identifiers.
 - TDLR's Customer Service Division Director coordinated with the strategic response coordinator to implement a Human Trafficking Awareness Week.
 - Staff members received daily informational emails with infographics on human trafficking red flags from the Office of the Attorney General and Polaris; and
 - the week ended with a human trafficking training and discussion on how human trafficking intersects with the employees.
 - Monitoring news stories related to human trafficking in TDLR's regulated programs and taking appropriate departmental action.
 - Development of software, identification of technology and acquisition of tools to assist in human trafficking identification, prevention and data tracking.
- **Be the One**
 - Attendance at the premiere of the OAG "Be the One in the Fight Against Human Trafficking" video.
 - TDLR made viewing the "Be the One" video mandatory for all leadership positions and for employees who may come across human trafficking related issues in the regular course of their duties.
 - More than 321 of TDLR FTEs have viewed the video — 100% compliance of those required to view the video and 71% of TDLR's total FTEs.

- Creation and award of TDLR's the Be the One certificate for employees who recognize and report human trafficking. The first recipient of this award is Jerod Bledsoe.
- **Conference Participation**
 - TDLR's strategic response coordinator, an investigator from the Enforcement Division, a field inspector and an attorney from TDLR's General Counsel Division attended the Human Trafficking and Social Justice Conference in Toledo, Ohio.
 - TDLR's strategic response coordinator attended the AACAT Human Trafficking Conference in San Antonio.
 - TDLR's strategic response coordinator attended the Heart of Texas Human Trafficking Coalition Labor Trafficking conference in Waco, Texas.
 - A local TDLR field inspector attended the World Day Against Human Trafficking Conference hosted by the Rio Grande Valley Anti-Trafficking Task Force.
- **Task Force Participation**
 - TDLR's strategic response coordinator is a co-facilitator of the Austin Labor Trafficking Task Force (ALTTF). The ALTTF is coordinating a labor trafficking summit in the Austin area on January 31, 2019.
 - Member of the Central Texas Human Trafficking Task Force-including local, state and federal partners in human trafficking prevention.
 - Member of the Texas Human Trafficking Prevention Task Force-state partners in human trafficking prevention.
 - Human Trafficking Rescue Alliance-Harris County/Houston.
 - El Paso focus group on human trafficking prevention.

Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS)

- DPS continues to investigate human trafficking crimes, intervene with children at risk for trafficking or other crimes and to provide comprehensive services to victims and their family members.
- The department trains relevant personnel in responding to human trafficking and crime against children incidents.
- In addition, DPS assists in identifying potential victims and locating missing children. Some examples include:
 - The Criminal Investigation Division (CID) continues to provide advanced human trafficking training to CID agents, which includes at least one agent at every duty station across the state.
 - All incoming CID Special Agents receive a basic class on human trafficking investigations and concepts during New Agent School.
 - Victim Services created a training course entitled Working with Crime Victims which includes information on trauma informed care, victim-centered approach, crime victims' rights, child placement best practices, and how to interact effectively with caregivers and guardians. This course is now included in CID New Agent School and CID First-Line Supervisor School.
 - The Interdiction for the Protection of Children (IPC) classes are continuously provided to DPS and other criminal justice agency personnel to help identify children who may be victims of crime, especially trafficking. During Fiscal Year 2018, DPS provided eleven IPC classes (542 students) and two IPC Train the Trainer classes in Texas. As of August 31, 2018, DPS has 22 certified IPC instructors.
 - DPS Victim Services Program and Criminal Investigation Division (CID) personnel continue to participate in the various regional human trafficking task force and coalitions as well as workgroups to aid in implementing the Office of the Governor's Regional Child Sex Trafficking Multi-Disciplinary Teams.
 - DPS Intelligence and Counterterrorism (ICT) Human Trafficking Unit receives National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) intake reports where the missing child has been flagged for being at risk for/or is a victim of human trafficking. DPS analysts review each report, gather additional information from other agencies, such as DFPS, and then disseminate the information as a lead to the appropriate regional CID personnel. CID personnel coordinate with local law enforcement agencies in pursuing the potential lead.
 - DPS CID and ICT personnel provide investigative and analytical support to DFPS in locating missing foster children.

- DPS personnel attended the OAG screening of the “Be the One in the Fight Against Human Trafficking” film. Department leadership promoted the video and encouraged employees to view it. The department uploaded the video into its on-line training system and completed required paperwork to provide TCOLE credit.

Texas Juvenile Justice Department (TJJD)

- TJJD began screening youth committed to state secure facilities for risk of human trafficking victimization beginning in December 2016. During Fiscal Year 2018, 735 unique youth were assessed with the screener.
- Between December 2016 and February 2018, most committed youth were also assessed with an enhanced sex trafficking screening tool administered by a mental health professional. During Fiscal Year 2018 (through February), 273 unique youth were assessed with the enhanced sex trafficking screening tool. Percentage-wise, this assessment identified some additional youth as confirmed victims and many more as high- or at-risk for victimization.
- Beginning in February 2018, TJJD switched from the enhanced sex trafficking screening tool to the Child Sexual Exploitation Identification Tool (CSE-IT). In Fiscal Year 2018 (beginning in February), 434 unique youth were assessed with the CSE-IT, which rates youth on a continuum of concern about their risk for child sexual exploitation (including human trafficking).
- TJJD began providing specialized treatment for victims of human trafficking in January 2017. During Fiscal Year 2018, 21 unique youth committed to TJJD participated in treatment, including receiving individual or group counseling for youth with identified trauma issues specific to being a victim of trafficking and/or participating in a specialized survivor group for sex trafficking victims. All treatment was provided by appropriately trained and qualified TJJD staff or contract care providers.

Texas Medical Association

Texas Medical Association coordinated with Travis County Medical Society to publish a CME (continuing medical education) article and presentation about human trafficking.

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD)

- All TPWD Game Wardens receive the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Human Trafficking Course after being commissioned and prior to graduating from the Game Warden Training Academy.
- TPWD has been working in the border region to achieve many goals, one of which is to deny, disrupt, and/or capture persons who are involved in human trafficking.
- In 2018, TPWD had over 30 special operations which included an emphasis on human trafficking disruption. Those operations involved over 300 Game Wardens from across the state, and resulted in numerous arrests for Trafficking of Persons.
- TPWD is working with the Texas Department of Public Safety to ensure Interdiction for Protection of Children (IPC) training is being taught at the Game Warden Training Center to Game Warden cadets and to field personnel and supervisors.

Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid (TRLA)

- In Fiscal Year 2018, TRLA provided comprehensive legal services to victims of sex and labor trafficking throughout its service area.
- TRLA attorneys and staff participated in anti-trafficking coalitions and working groups in different regions in the state, and conducted trafficking identification and remedies trainings in, among other locations, the Rio Grande Valley and Northwest Texas.
- TRLA also engaged in direct outreach and networking in South, West, and Northwest Texas with a primary focus on identification of labor trafficking.
- TRLA has continued its partnership with the Buffett McCain Institute Initiative to Combat Modern Slavery focused on labor trafficking of agricultural workers in South and Northwest Texas. TRLA was awarded an Equal Justice Works Crime Victims Justice Corps fellowship allowing the organization to host an anti-trafficking attorney in its San Antonio, Texas, office from 2018 to 2020.

Texas Workforce Commission (TWC)

- Since January 2010, TWC has been a member of the state’s Texas Human Trafficking Prevention Task Force.
- In our commitment to support the mission of the task force, TWC, in partnership with the Office of the Attorney General’s (OAG) Human Trafficking and Transnational/Organized Crime (HTTOC) Section, continues human trafficking awareness training started in 2016 for staff at the state’s Local Workforce Development Boards in areas that serve significant numbers of Migrant and Seasonal Farm Workers (MSFW). During Fiscal Year 2018, six trainings were held and well-received by 40 to 60 local workforce staff in each session, including the MSFW outreach workers who are trained on how to identify potential victims of human trafficking.
 - In September 2017, Francisco Cerda, the agency’s State Migrant and Seasonal Farm Worker (MSFW) Monitor Advocate, was the guest speaker at the Lubbock Regional Human Trafficking Task Force meeting and the Workforce Solutions South Plains CEO Martin Aguirre presented on services available to human trafficking victims.
 - In October 2017, Mr. Cerda spoke at the Texas Human Trafficking Prevention Task Force meeting in Edinburg and Workforce Solutions Lower Rio Grande CEO Frank Almaraz summarized the services workforce boards provide to human trafficking victims.
 - In January 2018, TWC partnered with Texas Rio Grande Legal Aide to provide human trafficking awareness and victim assistance training, as well as advocacy and civil remedies training to TWC staff in El Paso.
 - In April 2018, Mr. Cerda provided human trafficking awareness and victim assistance training to the South Plains Work Force Solutions staff using the “Be the One in the Fight Against Human Trafficking” video produced by the OAG.
 - In May 2018, Mr. Cerda provided human trafficking awareness and victim assistance training to the Middle Rio Grande Work Force Solutions staff using the “Be the One in the Fight Against Human Trafficking” video produced by the OAG.
 - In June 2018, TWC again partnered with Texas Rio Grande Legal Aide to provide human trafficking awareness and victim assistance training, as well as advocacy and civil remedies training to the Lower Rio Grande Workforce Solutions and Cameron County Workforce solutions staff.
- On November 30, 2017, TWC featured a very well received workshop entitled “Human Trafficking: Texas Workforce System Helping Victims,” featuring guest speaker, Kirsta Melton from the OAG’s Human Trafficking Section and Francisco Cerda, TWC State MSFW Monitor Advocate, at its 2017 Annual Texas Workforce Conference in Dallas, Texas.
- On January 18, 2018, several TWC leaders and staff attended the premiere showing of the OAG’s human trafficking training video, “Be the One in the Fight Against Human Trafficking.”
- On April 3, 2018, TWC hosted a Workforce Forum in Austin for about 100 attendees where Human Trafficking 101 – “Be the One in the Fight Against Human Trafficking” was presented by guest speaker Kirsta Melton, Deputy Criminal Chief, OAG’s HTTOC Section.
- In response to Governor Abbot’s challenge to state agencies to join the fight against human trafficking, TWC accepted the challenge with TWC leadership emailing a notice to all TWC employees on April 4, 2018, supporting Governor Abbot’s use of the training video produced by the OAG, “*Be the One in the Fight Against Human Trafficking*”, which highlights cases prosecuted in Texas and includes how to recognize and respond to red flags. All TWC employees were encouraged to view the training video available on TWC’s Training and Development homepage. To date, over 500 employees completed the training.
- In July 2018, the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, through their WorkforceGPS Update, nationally highlighted how TWC and the OAG’s partnership and outreach efforts were successful in combating Human Trafficking and sexual harassment of MSFWs and other vulnerable populations by raising employee and Workforce Center staff awareness through training on reporting, services, benefits and protections for victims.
- During the 85th Legislative Session, SB128 was passed, which requires TWC by rule to require each Career School or College, under TWC’s purview, that offer a commercial driver’s license training program to include education and training on the recognition and prevention of human trafficking. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board is required to do the same for public junior colleges offering such programs.

This legislation impacts 31 Texas Career Schools or Colleges that train an estimated 3,009 students a year to recognize, report and prevent human trafficking.

- TWC also provides Local Workforce Development Boards with regular reminders about how to help identify and prevent human trafficking. On June 21, 2018, TWC formalized guidance to TWC staff and the 28 Workforce Solutions Boards by publishing and distributing Texas Workforce Commission Letter WD 07-18, *Human Trafficking and the Role of the Local Workforce Development Boards*. This letter provides the 28 Local Workforce Development Boards (Boards) with information, guidance, and resources on human trafficking and on the Boards' role in identifying and assisting human trafficking victims.
- In addition to training, outreach and publishing guidance to assist front line staff in the 28 Board areas and 190 workforce solutions one-stop locations, TWC administers the Texas Child Labor Law, Chapter 51, Texas Labor Code, which serves to ensure that a child is not employed in an occupation or manner that is detrimental to the child's safety, health, or well-being. TWC investigates child labor complaints and conducts approximately 2,400 on-site compliance inspections of employers a year. All child labor investigators are trained in identifying and properly responding to any suspected human trafficking they might encounter.
- TWC also operates a Fraud, Waste, and Abuse Hotline (1-800-252-3242) and TWC.fraud@TWC.state.tx.us. TWC's policy is to refer any report of human trafficking received via this hotline to the appropriate law enforcement agency.
- TWC fully cooperates with and law enforcement during the conduct of labor trafficking investigations and assists as applicable and when resources allow.

United Against Human Trafficking (UAHT)

- UAHT continues to deliver in-person facilitated training programs for frontline professionals such as law enforcement, healthcare professionals, and social service providers. In 2017, UAHT trained 2,472 frontline professionals and reached over 6,297 community members through our public awareness presentations.
- UAHT implemented "Not a #Number," Love146's youth prevention curriculum, and UAHT Youth Awareness Workshop to 6,395 youth from 2017 – 2018.
- In 2017, UAHT developed a direct outreach program to strategically target known at-risk populations that are known to be vulnerable to traffickers. These populations include homeless and unstably housed individuals, those who have criminal justice or child welfare involvement, and those who are a part of the refugee and immigrant community. With natural disaster there is an increase in both labor and sex trafficking. For that reason, UAHT partnered with the City of Houston directly following Hurricane Harvey to conduct emergency response outreach to NRG and George R. Brown, going cot to cot disseminating human trafficking information and talking with individuals on how to stay safe. UAHT also increased efforts to reach day laborers and provide them with information about labor trafficking. UAHT disseminated protective equipment including gloves, masks and human trafficking resource to keep individuals safe. Since the launch, UAHT engaged 5,745 individuals through direct outreach and disseminated 3,751 Kits containing hygiene items and human trafficking resources and information.
- As a community unifier, UAHT continues to serve as the lead agency of the Houston Rescue & Restore Coalition (HRRC), which is made up of over 50 members from around the Houston area. HRRC's mission is to bring organizations and individuals together to strategically organize anti-human trafficking efforts. The coalition has existed since 2005 and a committee structure was formed in 2016. In 2017, the HRRC, began developing a Strategic Plan to guide the group's efforts through 2021. The plan was finalized in 2018 with coalition member input. The goal of the plan is to increase coordination among anti-human trafficking entities to serve trafficked persons and prevent further victimization in greater Houston. The following areas will be core pieces of the coalition's work:
 - *Coalition Engagement* – To unify a diverse group around a common goal, the coalition requires an enhanced structure that contains essential organization elements such as mission/vision/values and operations.
 - *Coalition Education* – To be agents of change, the members need to be educated on human trafficking and have common mechanisms for sharing news, information, and resources with one another.
 - *Outreach & Services for Trafficked Persons* – The HRRC is developing *Ethical Standards for Serving*

Trafficked Persons and creating a centralized service access point for victims and survivors of human trafficking that need assistance. This system will support the unification of information and resources to better support victims of human trafficking. It will also provide perspective on the scope of human trafficking in the Houston metropolitan area.

- *Advocacy & Legislation* – The coalition needs to be trained on current national and state legislation and advocates for enhanced legislation on a municipal and state level to address and mitigate the crime of human trafficking.
- *Survivor Leadership & Advocacy* – Survivor-leaders are integral to informing the on-going work of the coalition. The HRRC strives to empower local survivors of trafficking with opportunities for professional development, consultation, and public speaking.
- *Community Engagement* – The HRRC represents the community’s collective will to end human trafficking. To this end, the coalition members, as a union, sponsor awareness events such as the annual Human Trafficking Awareness Month in January.

Waco Police Department (WPD)

- The WPD collaboratively responds to and investigates reports of human trafficking within the Department and with other law enforcement agencies, the Department of Family and Protective Services, advocacy groups, counselors and social workers, and community partners. Much of this is done through the Heart of Texas Human Trafficking Coalition of which the WPD Crimes Against Children Unit (CACU) was a founding partner.
- The CACU utilizes recognized best practices to ensure successful case outcomes and prosecutions but also engages in a victim centered, trauma informed response. Members of the CACU stay abreast of current trends and issues regarding domestic minor sex trafficking through attending and providing training for others in the field.

YMCA International Services

- In 2004, the United States Attorney of the Southern District of Texas formed the Human Trafficking Rescue Alliance (HTRA), a multi-disciplinary human trafficking task force with the goal of implementing collaborative approaches to combat all forms of human trafficking in the Southern District of Texas (SDTX). To continue and enhance the work of the HTRA, the Houston Police Department (HPD) and the YMCA International Services (YMCA) received the Fiscal Year 2016 Enhanced Collaborative Model (ECM) to Combat Human Trafficking award. The overall funding goals are: 1) to identify victims of all types in the Houston Metro Area (HMA); 2) to investigate and prosecute all forms of trafficking crimes at the federal, state, and local levels; and 3) to address the individualized needs of victims through the provision of a comprehensive array of quality services. The objectives to fulfill these goals are: 1) to strengthen, enhance, and sustain the HTRA collaborative; 2) utilize data to make sound decisions on scope of human trafficking; 3) to increase identification of victims through the use of coordinated training and public awareness activities; 4) to conduct investigations of labor and sex cases on the federal, state, and local levels; 5) to conduct pro-active investigations of all types of trafficking on federal, state, and local levels; 6) to provide a comprehensive array of services to meet the individualized needs of all victims of trafficking; and 7) to evaluate the project for effectiveness.
- For Fiscal Year 2018, YMCA served 106 survivors of human trafficking through the Enhanced Collaborative Model funding, of these, 56 were newly identified victims. The breakdown of the new victims for foreign nationals was: six adult females – labor trafficking; eight adult females – sex trafficking, and four adult females – both sex and labor trafficking; three adult males – labor trafficking, and one minor male – labor trafficking. Of the U.S. Citizens/LPRs, the breakdown was: 17 adult females – sex trafficking; two adult females – both sex and labor trafficking; one female minor victim – labor trafficking, and 12 female minor victims - sex trafficking; one adult male – labor trafficking and one minor male – sex trafficking.
- YMCA received funding from the Governor’s Office to provide services to minor victims of sex trafficking during this period. With the exception of one male, the minors were all female. The Child Sex Trafficking Team officially kicked off June 25, 2018. Since that date and for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2018, the four advocates hired by YMCA engaged with 50 children of commercial sexual exploitation/trafficking. Thus, the total survivors served during 2018 was 156.

Statistical Summary of Human Trafficking Activities in Texas

The most recent prevalence numbers for human trafficking in Texas come from the December 2016 report by the University of Texas at Austin, School of Social Work, Institute on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault: *Human Trafficking by the Numbers: The Initial Benchmark of Prevalence and Economic Impact for Texas*. According to the report, in Texas it is estimated that at any given time “there are approximately 79,000 minor and youth victims of sex trafficking” and “234,000 workers who are victims of labor trafficking.”¹ Minor and youth sex trafficking has an estimated economic impact to the state of nearly \$6.6 billion while labor trafficking victims are exploited at an annual cost of almost \$600 million.²

The Task Force does not have statewide data collection capabilities. However, Task Force members do collect data that are relevant to their agencies. Under Article 60.02, Code of Criminal Procedure, the Texas Department of Public Safety is responsible for recording data and maintaining a database for the computerized criminal history system for the state. The database contains information regarding arrests, disposition, and other criminal history information maintained by DPS. From this system, some information can be gleaned related to human trafficking and compelling prostitution. The charts below provide data on the number of arrests and convictions for compelling prostitution and human trafficking.³ The data are in fiscal years with the exception of 2007, which covers only January 1, 2007, (the creation of the Task Force) through August 31, 2007. It should be noted that cases from recent years, especially 2016, may be ongoing, thus producing a relatively low number of convictions compared to prior years as of the date of this report.

Compelling Prostitution		
Year	Arrests	Convictions
2007	44	22
2008	41	9
2009	57	17
2010	54	21
2011	66	11
2012	63	23
2013	77	20
2014	126	32
2015	97	45
2016	140	34
2017	141	31

Human Trafficking		
Year	Arrests	Convictions
2007	34	12
2008	22	6
2009	10	7
2010	20	5
2011	34	6
2012	74	11
2013	87	13
2014	97	27
2015	98	21
2016	141	53
2017	127	43

¹ Busch-Armendariz, N.B., Nale, N.L., Kammer-Kerwick, M., Kellison, B., Torres, M.I.M., Cook Heffron, L., Nehme, J. (2016). *Human Trafficking by the Numbers: The Initial Benchmark of Prevalence and Economic Impact for Texas*. Austin, TX: Institute on Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault, The University of Texas at Austin, pg. 13.

² Ibid. This is not an annual incident rate.

³ Updates made to 2016 data. Source: Texas Department of Public Safety. All data by fiscal years. 2007 from January 1-August 31.

Legislative Recommendations

To date, the Task Force has made 70 recommendations to the legislature to address human trafficking, with 65 becoming law. The 14 recommendations below identify additional means to improve Texas' response to human trafficking, including but not limited to: enhanced penalties for traffickers, providing prosecutors with additional tools for prosecution, improving victim protections, providing remedies for commercial property tenants, and expanding occupational licensing and regulatory functions. The recommendations are the product of the collaborative efforts and unanimous approval of Task Force members.

1. Recommendation: Expand TDLR authority to conduct more comprehensive background checks under the Massage Therapy program.

Background:

Amend the statute so TDLR can conduct fingerprint background checks for both new applicants and existing massage therapists, massage instructors, massage schools, and massage establishment owners. Individuals with criminal histories may move from state to state to avoid detection. By performing fingerprint background checks, TDLR can perform a more comprehensive background check on all applicants and licensees.

Potential Legislative Change:

Amend Massage Therapy Code Chapter 455 to allow TDLR to conduct comprehensive criminal background checks.

2. Recommendation: Require posting of human trafficking awareness signs in licensed massage establishments and schools.

Background:

Human traffickers use massage therapy as a front to conduct criminal activity. By requiring establishments and schools to post informational signs regarding human trafficking, it brings additional awareness to the issue and works to combat modern day slavery.

Potential Legislative Change:

Amend Massage Therapy Code Chapter 455 to require posting of human trafficking awareness signs in licensed massage establishments and schools.

3. Recommendation: Require additional reporting by massage therapy schools to identify fraudulent schools and students.

Background:

Amend the statute to allow TDLR to issue student permits, standardize school reporting of hours, and determine examination eligibility. This change will provide TDLR with additional tools to detect fraudulent students and schools. By aligning this statute with the current successful practices used in the Barbering and Cosmetology programs, TDLR will be able to identify and track the progress of students and prevent fraud and abuse in the massage therapy profession.

Potential Legislative Change:

Amend Massage Therapy Code Chapter 455 to add tools for TDLR to identify fraudulent schools and students.

4. Recommendation: Remove five-year “sit-out” period for massage therapy licensees.

Background:

Amend the statute to remove the five-year “sit out” period for a licensee who has any violation of the Massage Therapy statute, which currently applies to even the most minor violation. The current statute does not allow for reasonable analysis of a licensee’s criminal history before making a determination on the license. The change would allow TDLR to administer the Massage Therapy program similarly to all other programs at TDLR, providing more streamlined evaluations and discretion while still ensuring that the agency can act quickly.

Potential Legislative Change:

Amend Massage Therapy Code Chapter 455 to allow for TDLR analysis of criminal history of licensee.

5. Recommendation: Provide TDLR with authority to act more effectively in instances of sexual violations by massage therapy licensees.

Background:

This provision clarifies that §455.251(b)(1) is an operation of law provision that requires the agency to expeditiously revoke a license for those who have been convicted of sexual offenses. This will provide TDLR with clear authority to act in instances of sexual violations by licensees. The change would allow TDLR to administer the Massage Therapy program similarly to all other programs at TDLR, providing for more streamlined evaluations and discretion while still ensuring that the agency can act quickly.

Potential Legislative Change:

Amend Massage Therapy Code Chapter 455 to provide TDLR with clear authority to act in instances of sexual violations by licensees.

6. Recommendation: Provide enforcement provisions in the massage therapy statute similar to other TDLR programs.

Background:

This provision will bring the current enforcement provisions for the Massage Therapy program in line with other TDLR programs and streamline enforcement provisions across all programs at TDLR. As a result, TDLR could administer the Massage Therapy program similarly to all other programs at TDLR, providing for more streamlined evaluations and discretion while still ensuring that the agency can act quickly.

Potential Legislative Change:

Amend Massage Therapy Code Chapter 455 to streamline TDLR enforcement provisions to match other TDLR programs.

7. Recommendation: Provide Rape Shield Law protections for human trafficking and child sexual abuse victims.

Background:

This new provision limits the defense’s ability to make the victim’s unrelated prior sexual history the issue in the defendant’s current case. The proposed provision adds human trafficking and child sexual abuse, such as sexual assault of a child, indecency with a child, etc., to the current list of protected offenses.

Potential Legislative Change:

Amend Texas Code of Criminal Procedure Chapter 38 to not allow evidence of previous sexual conduct in criminal cases involving victims of human trafficking and child sexual abuse.

8. Recommendation: Include adult sex trafficking and adult sex crimes in the list of offenses where evidence of uncharged crimes is allowable.

Background:

38.37 Sec. 1 currently allows prosecutors to offer evidence of uncharged crimes committed by the named defendant against the named victim in child trafficking, child physical and child sexual abuse cases to show the relationship between the defendant and the victim or the state of mind of the defendant or the victim. The proposed changes will add the adult parallels to the child crimes that are already covered by 38.37 Sec. 1 due to the similar nature of those crimes and the relevance of the uncharged conduct between the parties to the charged matter.

Potential Legislative Change:

Amend Code of Criminal Procedure Art. 38.37 Section 1 to allow evidence of uncharged crimes to be admitted in cases involving adult sex trafficking and adult sexual assault cases.

9. Recommendation: Provide tools to pursue state charges against online traffickers.

Background:

The April 2018 amendments to the Federal Communications Decency Act, with passage of FOSTA (Allow States and Victims to Fight Online Sex Trafficking Act) and SESTA (Stop Enabling Sex Traffickers Act), allow states to tackle sex trafficking on websites like Backpage where websites are promoting prostitution. Texas needs a new penal code section that mirrors the federal provision to allow us to pursue online conduct at the state level.

Potential Legislative Change:

Amend Texas Penal Code to include new language to effectuate federal provisions from FOSTA-SESTA at the state level.

10. Recommendation: Include continuous human trafficking as a stackable offense.

Background:

Currently the provision allows for stacking offenses for human trafficking under 20A.02 and compelling prostitution under 43.05 even when tried in a single indictment in single proceeding. Continuous human trafficking under 20A.03 is not included in the offenses that allow stacking.

Potential Legislative Change:

Amend Texas Penal Code §3.03 (a) 5 A to include continuous human trafficking under stackable offenses provision.

11. Recommendation: Make definition of “coercion” found in 20A.02(a-1) applicable to adult and child labor trafficking.

Background:

Legislative changes made during last session only applied the definition of “coercion” to adult sex trafficking under 20A.02(a)(3). This amendment would allow the provision to also apply to conduct under 20A.02(a)(4) and to adult and child labor trafficking under 20A.02 (a)(1), (2), (5), and (6).

Potential Legislative Change:

Amend Texas Penal Code §20A.02(a-1) to also include conduct under 20A.02(a)(4) and to adult and child labor trafficking under 20A.02 (a)(1), (2), (5), and (6).

12. Recommendation: Create new process to protect commercial lessees from operating in the vicinity of human trafficking.

Background:

This provision would allow commercial lessees to void leases if the lessor also leases to an unlicensed massage establishment within the same commercial vicinity. Illicit massage businesses (IMBs) are fronts for prostitution and sex trafficking. Because they are often cash-only businesses, they are also magnets for burglary and armed robbery. Over 35,000 Texas school children attend a school that is within 1000 feet of an IMB. Most IMBs occupy leased commercial space and many are adjacent to stores and restaurants frequented by families. Some are even in the same shopping centers or strip malls as day cares. These legitimate businesses need the ability to void their leases for their protection and the safety of their customers if the person or entity leasing to them also leases to an IMB within the same mall, strip mall, shopping center, or office building.

Potential Legislative Change:

Amend Chapter 93, Texas Property Code to allow commercial lessees to void leases where human trafficking occurs.

13. Recommendation: Enhance the nondisclosure process under Government Code Chapter 411 for victims of human trafficking.

Background:

These changes will streamline the process for human trafficking victims to request a nondisclosure of criminal history record information on the grounds that the person committed the offense solely as a victim of trafficking of persons. The changes will expand eligibility for non-disclosure to individuals who received jail time or who failed to complete probation, provide for consolidation of charges and include a form to petition the court without having to hire counsel.

Potential Legislative Change:

Amend Government Code, Chapter 411, §411.0728 to streamline the process and expand the eligibility provisions for certain victims of human trafficking seeking orders of nondisclosure.

14. Recommendation: Amend prostitution and related statutes to provide increased penalties for buyers and mandatory community supervision provisions for sellers.

Background:

The goal of these changes is two-fold: to decrease demand and to direct individuals at high risk of human trafficking to services. The changes will amend 43.02(c-1) to make 1st time purchasers of prostitution a Class A misdemeanor and 2nd time buyers a state jail felony, and 43.02 (c) to make 1st misdemeanor and 1st felony sellers of prostitution mandatory community supervision offenses and to require participation in commercially sexually exploited persons court programs if one exists in the area. The changes are designed to:

- Directly address demand by increasing penalties for buyers
- Remove sellers from jail/prison and give them multiple opportunities to access victim services
- Direct desired population to access commercially sexually exploited persons court programs where they will be given information about the non-disclosure process and other applicable services

Potential Legislative Change:

Amend Texas Penal Code §43.02(c-1) and §43.02(c) and related statutes to require mandatory community supervision provisions for sellers and to increase penalty for first time buyers.

Conclusion

Since the Task Force was created in 2009, Texas has taken monumental steps towards making our state inhospitable for human traffickers and providing much needed assistance for victims. By working with legislative partners to enhance Texas laws, the Task Force has created a strong legal framework to combat trafficking and provide protections for victims. Task force members and their partners also continue to build upon successful collaborative efforts towards preventing trafficking, protecting victims, and prosecuting offenders – further strengthening our state response. Because of these sustained efforts, Texas remains a national leader in the response to trafficking.

As we move forward, we must continue to evolve our efforts and work strategically to achieve our goals. Collaboration at all levels has been the cornerstone in this fight, but while traffickers continue exploiting victims in our state, the fight is long from over. We must remain dedicated in preventing the spread of this crime, protecting those most vulnerable, bringing down offenders, and continuing partnerships across all levels and disciplines if we are to extinguish this crime and its far-reaching effects.