

TEXAS
HUMAN
TRAFFICKING
PREVENTION **TASK**
 **FORCE**

Fiscal Year 2022 Report of Annual Activities

December 2022

Compiled by the Office of the Attorney General

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Executive Summary

The Texas Human Trafficking Prevention Task Force Report provides not only a historical record of past Texas Human Trafficking Prevention Task Force (Task Force) activities but recommendations on how to continue working as a state to fight human trafficking. The information in this report represents the work of Task Force members' anti-trafficking efforts from across the state.

The Task Force was formally created in 2009, with the Office of the Attorney General as the presiding officer, to address the growing crisis of human trafficking in the state (House Bill 4009 (81R)). The Task Force is comprised of both statutorily mandated members and appointed members, and it serves as a collaborative multidisciplinary body aimed at coordinating anti-human trafficking efforts across local, state, and federal levels.

In accordance with Section 402.035(g) of the Texas Government Code, the Task Force is required to submit a report to the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and the Legislature on Task Force activities, findings, and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, by December 1st of every even-numbered year.

The Texas Human Trafficking Prevention Task Force

Task Force Background

In 2007, the Texas Legislature passed House Bill 1121 which required the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) to issue a report regarding the laws on human trafficking. In response, the OAG published its first report on human trafficking in the State of Texas in 2008, *The Texas Response to Human Trafficking*. The report focused on the impact of Texas laws on trafficking prosecutions, investigations, and services for victims. It subsequently recommended the creation of a statewide multi-agency human trafficking task force.

In 2009, the 81st Texas Legislature formally created the Task Force to address the growing crisis of human trafficking in the state, with the OAG as the presiding officer (House Bill 4009 (81R)). Containing more than fifty member organizations, including state agencies, local law enforcement agencies, district attorney's offices, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), the Task Force has established an expanded network of local and regional efforts focused on educating the public to recognize human trafficking, identifying victims and directing them to services, and ensuring traffickers are effectively investigated and prosecuted.

The Task Force serves as a collaborative multidisciplinary body focused on coordinating anti-human trafficking efforts across local, state, and federal levels. It is a communication hub, drawing together state and regional coalitions and providing direction, consistent messaging, and sharing of best practices. The Task Force is required under Texas Government Code Section 402.035 to collect data, provide training, report to the Legislature, and develop legislative recommendations that will enhance the State's efforts to address the crime of human trafficking.

Task Force Members

The Texas Government Code Section 402.035 delineates the members of the Task Force as follows:

Mandatory Members

The following members, or their designees, are mandatory members: the Governor; the Attorney General; executive commissioner Health and Human Services Commission; commissioner Department of Family and Protective Services; commissioner Department of State Health Services; director of the Department of Public Safety; Texas Workforce Commission; Texas Department of Criminal Justice; Texas Juvenile Justice Department; Texas Education Agency; Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission; Parks and Wildlife Department; Supreme Court of Texas Permanent Judicial Commission for Children, Youth and Families; Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation; Office of Court Administration; Office of Secretary of State; and Texas Commission on Law Enforcement.

Appointed Members

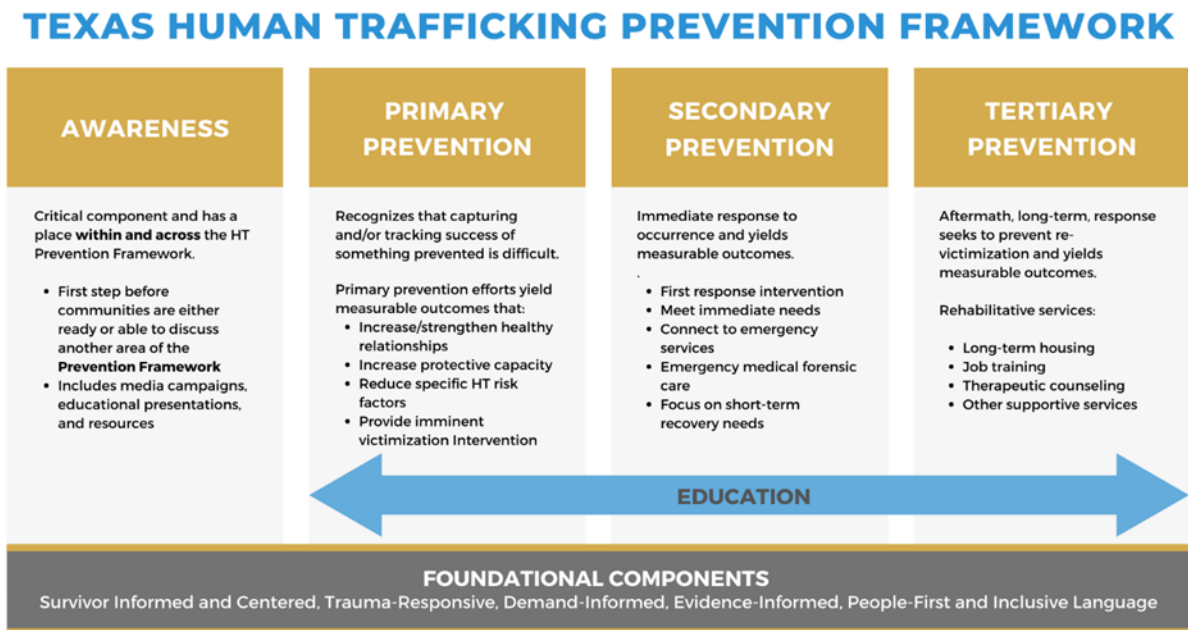
A chief public defender; an attorney representing the state; a hotel and motel association; a district and county attorneys association; a state police association; a statewide medical association; representatives of sheriff's departments; representatives of local law enforcement agencies affected by human trafficking; and representatives of nongovernmental entities engaged in the following: identifying human trafficking victims; providing legal or other services to human trafficking victims; participating in community outreach or public awareness efforts; providing or developing training on human trafficking prevention; or other prevention activities.

Task Force Working Groups

Prevent Working Group

The Prevent Working Group is comprised of members who work in victim services and prevention education and awareness. The goal of this group is to develop and promote initiatives that prevent human trafficking victimization before it occurs by identifying and providing prevention education and services to vulnerable populations, enhancing community awareness, and curbing the demand.

Since its inception in 2020, the Prevent Working Group has prioritized the development of the statewide Texas Human Trafficking Prevention Framework. Utilizing a public health model and the established categories of prevention (primary, secondary, and tertiary), partners in the fight against trafficking can effectively collaborate through this common framework, thus creating a solid foundation to maximize human trafficking outreach, education, and prevention services across the state. The Texas Human Trafficking Prevention Framework, pictured below, is a framework that will continue to be developed and utilized to inform prevention efforts.



Provide Support Working Group

The Provide Support Working Group is comprised of members who work in a wide range of victim service capacities. The goal of this group is to develop guidelines and coordinate resources to support survivors through trauma-informed and responsive services.

Through the work of the Provide Support Working Group, gaps and challenges in accessing and providing services and support have been identified, especially for those experiencing language and cultural barriers. This working group created a guide with resources to ensure that all trafficking survivors have access to services.

Protect Working Group

The Protect Working Group is comprised of various law enforcement agencies and professionals. The goal of this group is to develop recommendations and deliverables that increase the protection and recovery of human trafficking victims through collaborative responses and trauma-informed investigations.

The Protect Working Group assessed existing law enforcement trainings and determined that there is an increased need for training in the field of human trafficking. As a result, the OAG's Human Trafficking and Transnational Organized Crime Division, in collaboration with the Texas Department of Public Safety and the Task Force, created a targeted training on human trafficking for law enforcement. The training features subject matter experts who have hands-on experience in the field of human trafficking, including subfields such as familial trafficking, human trafficking and social media, and human trafficking investigative tactics. The training provides continuing education credits to law enforcement participants for free.

Prosecute Working Group

The Prosecute Working Group is made up of OAG prosecutors and elected district attorneys and assistant district attorneys from urban, suburban, and rural counties in Texas. The group's goal is to develop recommendations that increase and strengthen human trafficking prosecutions to ensure that offenders are held accountable. For example, during the 87th regular session, the Prosecute Working Group members served as a key resource to the Legislature on House Bill 1540, the omnibus human trafficking bill, which included the recommendation to make Texas the first state in the nation to punish sex buying of an adult as a felony. The Prosecute Working Group partners with the Protect and Provide Support Working Groups to evaluate and develop processes within the criminal justice system that are victim-centered and trauma-informed.

What is Human Trafficking?

Human Trafficking is a crime of exploitation that can occur in any industry and does not require physical movement or transportation of a victim from one location to another. It is often incorrectly conflated with human smuggling. Human smuggling is the illegal transportation of an individual across an international border. Trafficking occurs where there is labor or sexual exploitation by means of force, fraud, or coercion, or where there is commercial sexual exploitation of a child. In Texas, the elements of force, fraud, or coercion need not be proved in sex trafficking cases where the victim is younger than 18 years of age.

Human Trafficking in Texas

Historically ranked by the National Human Trafficking Hotline as number two in the nation for human trafficking case reports, Texas was again ranked second in 2020 for the number of trafficking cases reported.¹ 3,559 substantive contacts were made in Texas in 2020, resulting in 987 human trafficking case reports.² 739 of those reports were identified as sex trafficking cases, 116 were identified as labor trafficking cases, 56 were identified as sex and labor trafficking cases, and 76 were identified as cases of an unspecified nature.³

¹ *Hotline Statistics for 2020*, National Human Trafficking Hotline (2020), <https://humantraffickinghotline.org/states>.

² *Texas State Report for 2020*, National Human Trafficking Hotline (2020), <https://humantraffickinghotline.org/state/texas>.

³ *Id.*

Sex Trafficking

In 2021, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) received over 17,200 reports of possible sex trafficking.⁴ Additionally, of the more than 25,000 cases of children reported missing to NCMEC in 2021, it is estimated that one in six of those who were deemed runaways were likely victims of sex trafficking.⁵ An estimated 19 percent of the children reported as runaways from the care of child welfare were likely victims of child trafficking.⁶

Labor Trafficking

Labor trafficking occurs when someone causes another to perform labor or services through force, fraud, or coercion. The International Labour Organization (ILO) estimates that there are 27.6 million people in forced labor worldwide.⁷ The ILO reports that 23.6 million are exploited in the private sector, with 17.3 million in forced labor and 6.3 million in forced commercial sexual exploitation.⁸ Outcry and reporting of labor trafficking tend to be limited, making labor victimization challenging to identify and labor trafficking numbers difficult to estimate.

Statewide Human Trafficking Data

One of the most challenging aspects of combating human trafficking in a state as large as Texas is collecting accurate data. Regardless of the reporting mechanism, if trafficking is not correctly identified, it is not being reported properly. Often, trafficking is misclassified as one of the more easily identifiable crimes which are related to trafficking. Crimes such as sexual assault of a child or harboring of migrant workers are easily identified by law enforcement officers immediately on the scene. However, it may not be until later in the investigation that those cases are correctly identified as human trafficking cases. When law enforcement officers or prosecutors list human trafficking as one of the offenses for arrest or charge, Texas is more able to fully capture the scope of trafficking within the state and better allocate resources to address this crime.

⁴ *The Issues: Child Sex Trafficking, By the Numbers*, National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, <https://www.missingkids.org/theissues/trafficking#bythenumbers> (last visited on November 3, 2022).

⁵ *Id.*

⁶ *Id.*

⁷ *Global Estimates of Modern Slavery: Forced Labour and Forced Marriage*, International Labor Organization, September 12, 2022, https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_norm/---ipecc/documents/publication/wcms_854733.pdf (last visited on November 3, 2022).

⁸ *Id.*

Arrest Data

Statewide arrest data (Table 2) is provided by the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) Criminal Investigation Division and does not include federal human trafficking arrests.

Table 2. Statewide Arrests for Fiscal Years (FY) 2021 and 2022.

**The offense of Solicitation of Prostitution became effective on September 1, 2021 (House Bill 1540 (87R)).*

Offense	Texas Penal Code	FY 2021 Arrests	FY 2022 Arrests
Trafficking of Persons	20A.02	247	156
Trafficking of Persons: Continuous	20A.03	37	21
Aggravated Promotion of Prostitution	43.04	49	17
Compelling Prostitution	43.05	111	83
Solicitation of Prostitution	43.021	0	1746
Promotion of Prostitution	43.03	80	86
Aggravated Online Promotion of Prostitution	43.041	1	1
Online Promotion of Prostitution	43.031	10	5
Total		535	2115

Prosecution Data

Prosecution data (Figures 1, 2, and 3) is compiled from the Human Trafficking Case Reports and required to be filed with the Texas Office of Court Administration (OCA) pursuant to Texas Government Code, Section 71.0353. Federal prosecutions are not included in this data set.

Figure 1. Total Human Trafficking Cases Filed by Fiscal Year

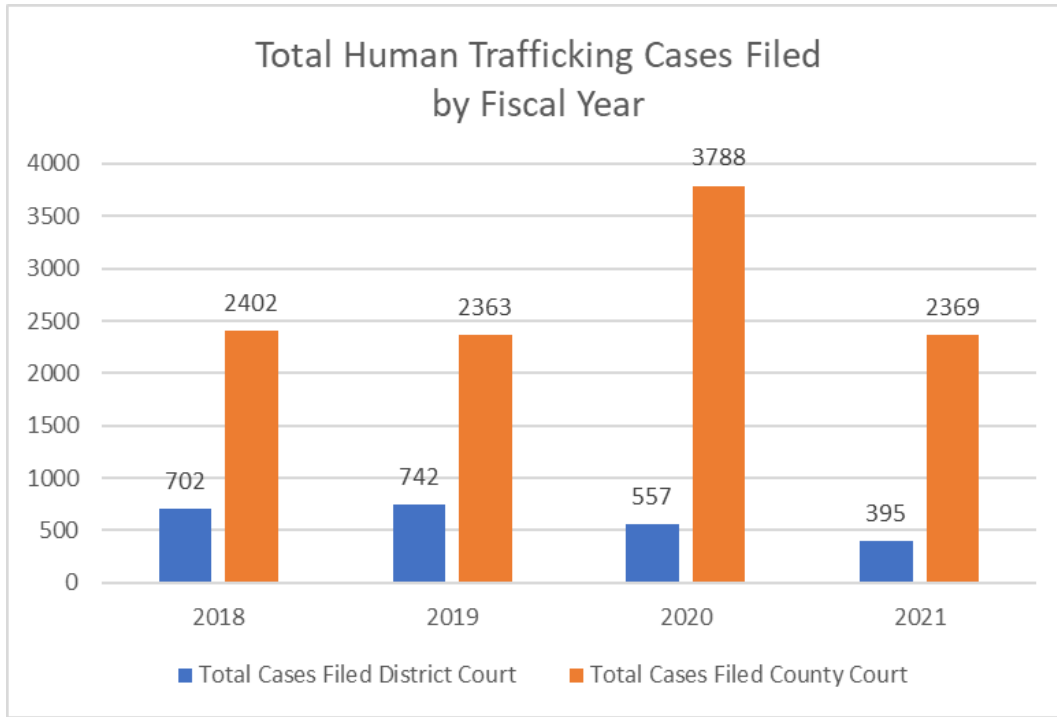


Figure 2. Total Human Trafficking Cases Filed in District Court by Region by Fiscal Year

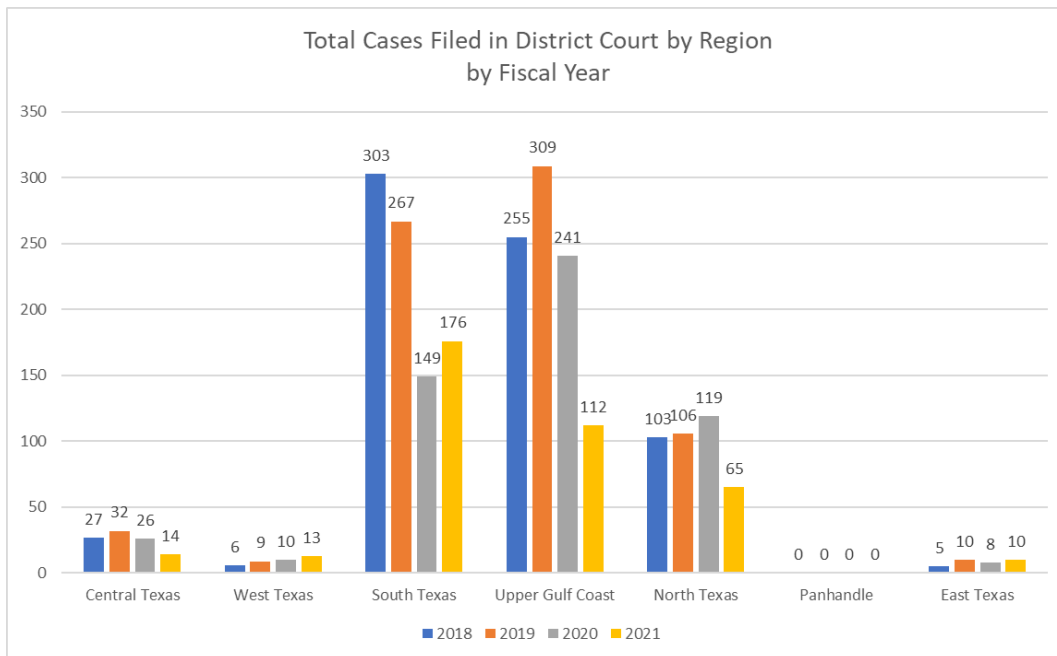
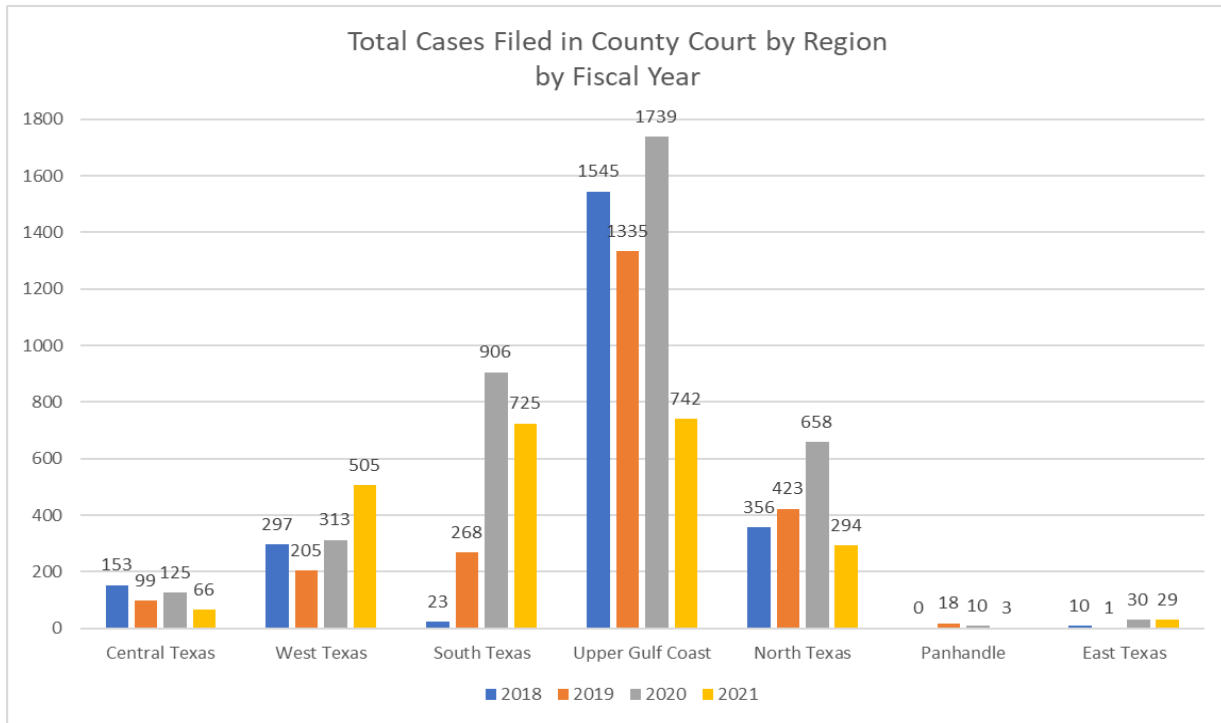


Figure 3. Total Human Trafficking Cases Filed in County Court by Region by Fiscal Year



Conviction Data

Conviction data (Tables 3, 4, 5, and 6) is provided by the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) and is current as of August 12, 2022.

Table 3. In Custody or On Parole for Human Trafficking as of August 31, 2019

	Human Trafficking (Controlling Offense)	Human Trafficking (NOT Controlling Offense)
In Custody	138	58
On Parole	10	4
Totals	148	62

Table 4. In Custody or On Parole for Human Trafficking as of August 31, 2020

	Human Trafficking (Controlling Offense)	Human Trafficking (NOT Controlling Offense)
In Custody	139	69
On Parole	5	0
Totals	144	69

Table 5. In Custody or On Parole for Human Trafficking as of August 31, 2021

	Human Trafficking (Controlling Offense)	Human Trafficking (NOT Controlling Offense)
In Custody	141	82
On Parole	4	2
Totals	145	84

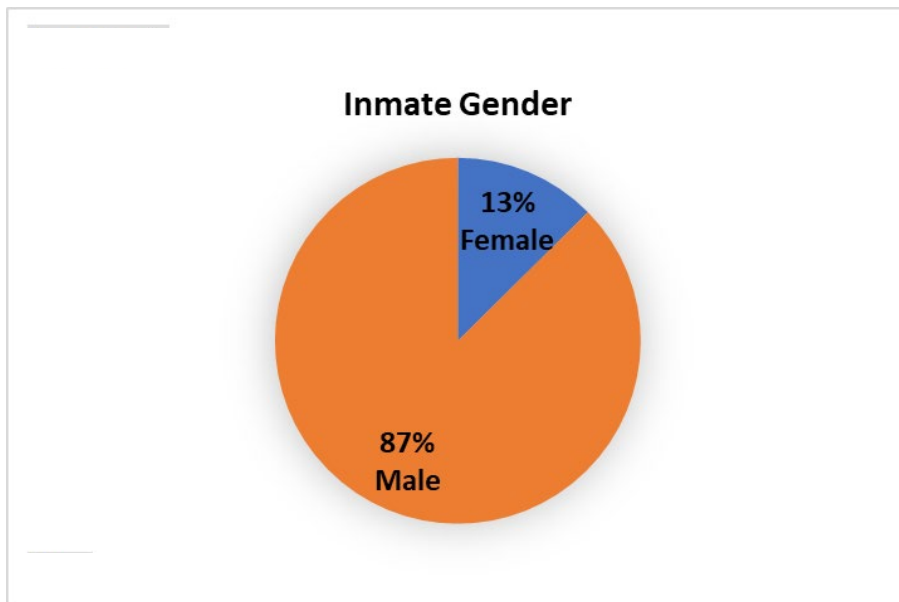
Table 6. In Custody or On Parole for Human Trafficking as of August 12, 2022

	Human Trafficking (Controlling Offense)	Human Trafficking (NOT Controlling Offense)
In Custody	155	91
On Parole	8	3
Totals	163	94

Inmate Demographics

Inmate demographic information (Figures 4, 5, and 6) is assembled by Lighthouse, a software platform developed by Allies Against Slavery. Lighthouse aggregates data from an Open Data Portal maintained by TDCJ. The data reflects individuals, at date of sentence, that were imprisoned for human trafficking offenses (Texas Penal Code, Chapter 20A) from FY 2017 to FY 2022 (through July 2022).⁹

Figure 4: Inmates by Gender (total: 119)



⁹ The data and visualizations in Lighthouse are provided as-is with no warranties. The information is intended to inform Lighthouse users about human trafficking; it is not intended to predict human trafficking cases, demonstrate the efficacy of solutions, or identify individual victims or survivors. © 2022 ALLIES AGAINST SLAVERY. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

Figure 5: Inmates by Age

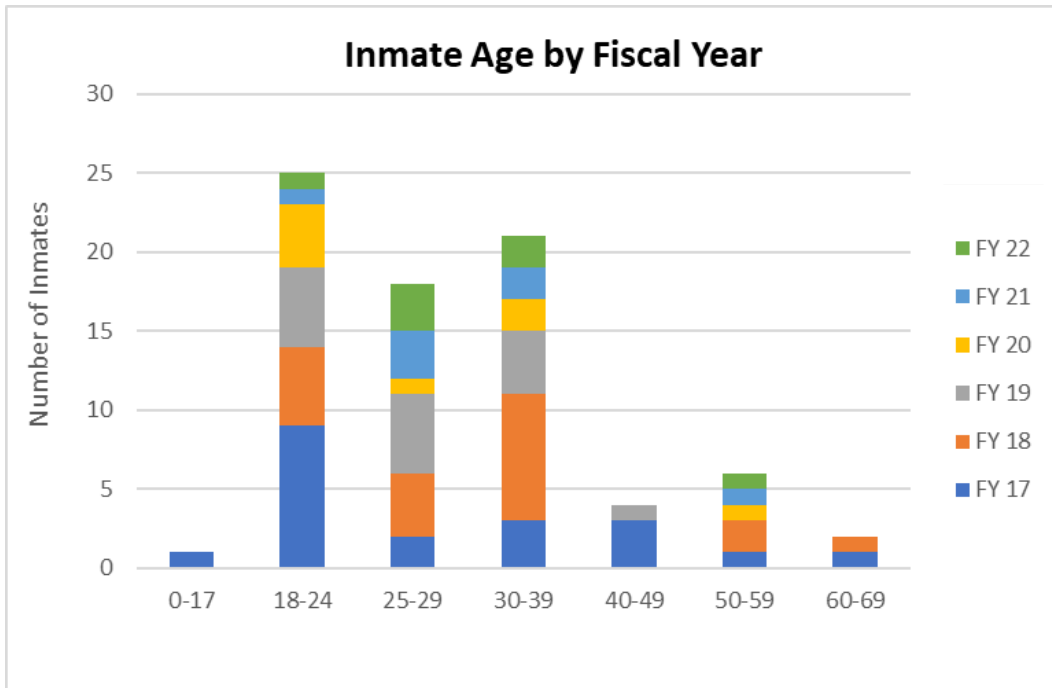
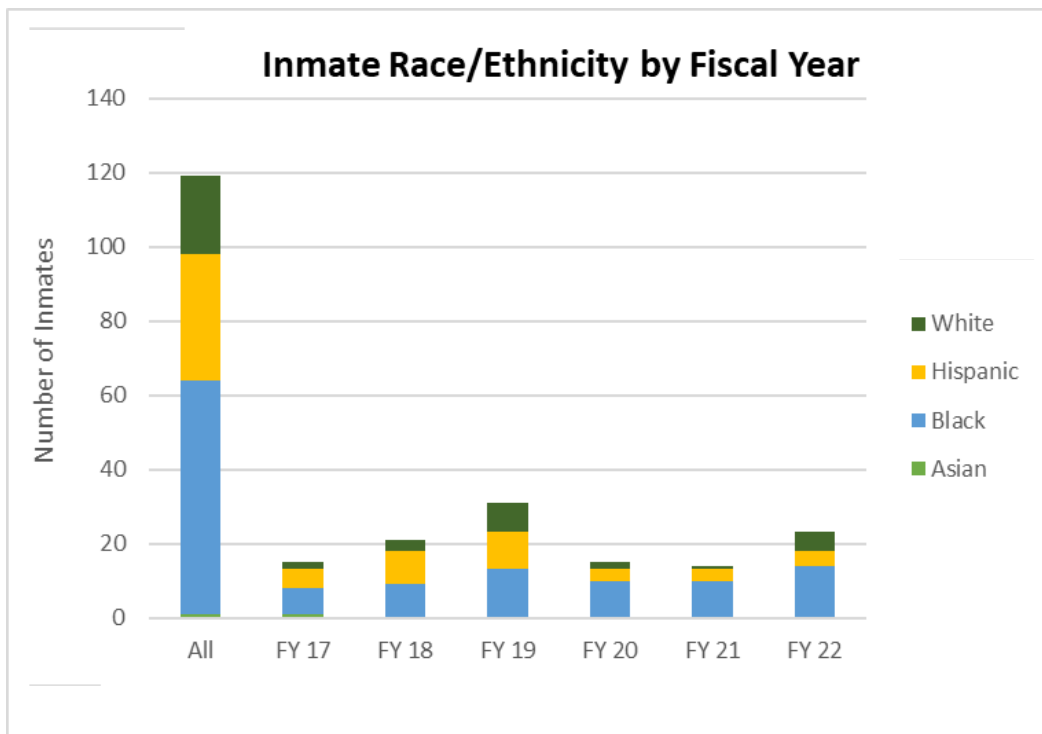


Figure 6: Inmates by Race/Ethnicity

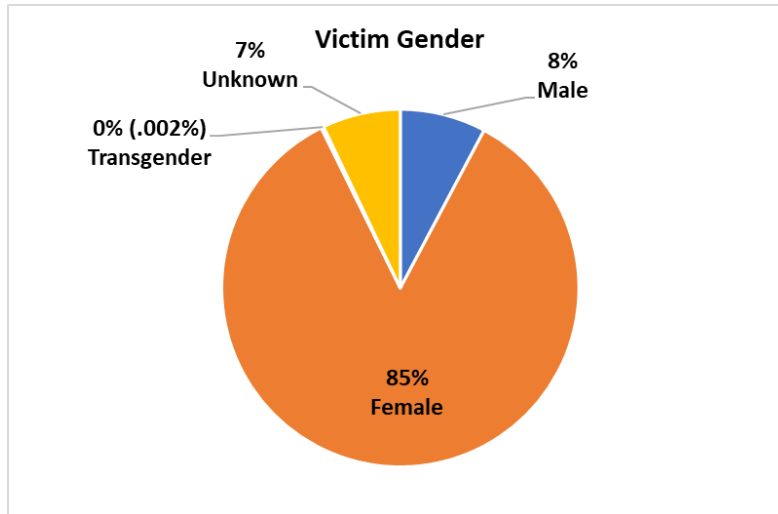


Victim Demographics

For FY 2020 and FY 2021, data provided pursuant to Code of Criminal Procedure Article 2.305 indicates the following about victim demographics for human trafficking-related cases.

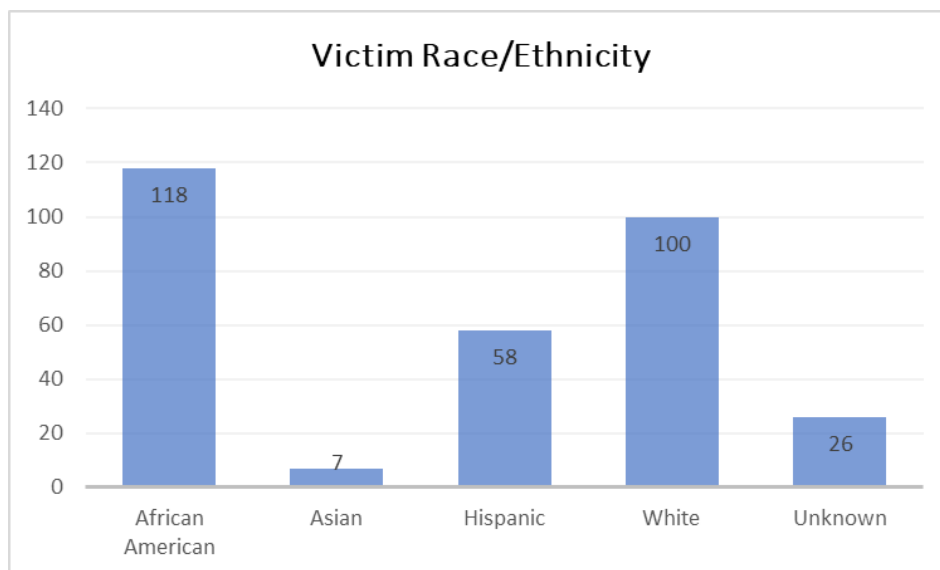
Victim age was reported on 389 victims with the following breakdown: minors (198 or 50%), adults (162 or 41.6%), and unknown (29 or 7.4%).

Figure 6: Victims by Gender



Gender was reported on 424 victims, and a majority were identified as female (360 or 85%), followed by male (33 or 8%), unknown (30 or 7%), and lastly, transgender (1 or .002%).

Figure 7: Victims by Race/Ethnicity



Race/ethnicity was reported on 309 victims with the following breakdown: African American (118 or 38.1%), Caucasian (100 or 32.3%), Hispanic (58 or 18.7%), Asian/Pacific Islander (7 or 2.2%), and unknown (26 or 8.4%).

Report on Regional Task Force and Coalition Activities

Members were asked to provide highlights for their organizations, and their submissions are below:

Austin 20
<p>Background:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Austin 20 is a non-profit, fundraising organization dedicated to providing restoration for victims of child sex-trafficking in Austin and surrounding areas. The A20 has raised funds since 2017 to support initiatives that create a continuum of care in the Austin area.• Nicole’s Place is an 8-bed residential treatment center in Austin that has served 25 girls over an 18-month period with metrics for both academics and social/emotional progress showing huge success. Residents that had previously been high flight risks and had self-harmed were thriving at Nicole’s Place. During the first year, residents were gaining two years of educational credit on average over a 3-4 month stay.

Coalition to Combat Human Trafficking (CCHT)
<p>Background:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• CCHT is a statewide organization combating both labor and sex trafficking with concentrated efforts along the Texas border and in smaller communities.• CCHT focuses its efforts on prevention, awareness, and education via trainings and resources, hosting workshops and conferences, and providing online webinars.• CCHT also works alongside partners to aid victims of human trafficking with medical and dental care, transportation vouchers, “New Beginnings” bags that include basic clothing and hygiene items, gift cards, educational needs, counseling services, legal services, and rental and utilities assistance. <p>Highlights:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• In 2021, CCHT distributed 11,405 items in the form of snack bags, hygiene kits, water bottles, and socks—all which contained trafficking information to help someone self-identify as a victim or prevent someone from becoming a victim.• Through June 2022, CCHT has provided 12 trainings to 600+ individuals in law enforcement, healthcare, social services, churches, schools, and the general public.• Through early August 2022, CCHT has assisted the most victims since its inception in 2015.• A three-minute Public Service Announcement, available in both English and Spanish, has been developed to provide a visual means of helping vulnerable at-risk individuals or possible victims.

Freedom in the 806 Anti-Trafficking Coalition
<p>Background:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Freedom in the 806 Anti-Trafficking Coalition was formed in 2012 by Family Support Services (FSS) to bring together professionals from area agencies to collaborate in the fight against human trafficking. Core team and start-up agencies included local, state, and federal law enforcement, prosecutors, victim service providers, school districts, governmental and NGOs, faith-based groups, and the local university. To date, the coalition has 163 active members. <p>Highlights 2021 to present:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Freedom in the 806 Anti-Trafficking Coalition continued its efforts in creating innovative awareness events and campaigns to generate and retain conversation on the issue of human trafficking in the Texas Panhandle. Through this, FSS and the Freedom in the 806 Anti-Trafficking Coalition:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Provided education to youth serving organizations, professionals, and community members locally and in surrounding 26 counties.

- Hosted events/special event trainings such as: Texas Blue Sand Project, Public Q&A with speaker and activist Brooke Axtell, Cover the City, and The True Story.
- Created local campaigns such as: What Love Is video; Your Body, Your Tattoo; Amarillo City Transit Awareness; 806 Shot.
- FSS worked to increase its trauma informed care by participating in Brigham Young University’s training on Motivational Interviewing for Human Trafficking Survivors and the continuation of this training’s Affinity Groups. This is now an integral part of our case management model.

Heart of Texas Human Trafficking Coalition (HOTHTC)

Background:

- The HOTHTC, located in Waco, is a multidisciplinary task force that seeks to support and encourage a collaborative effort among local and federal law enforcement, prosecutors, and victim service providers to end human trafficking in our community.

Highlights:

HOTHTC 2021 Victims Served: 107

Type of Trafficking	Sex Trafficking	Labor Trafficking	Sex & Labor Trafficking
# of Victims Served	102	4	1
Gender	Female	Male	Transgender
# of Victims Served	98	8	1
Adults/Youth	Adult	Youth	
# of Victims Served	72	35	

HOTHTC People Receiving Training 2021: 3,928

Type of Individual	Students	Professionals	Community Members
Totals	1,552	2,014	362

The Human Trafficking Rescue Alliance (HTRA)

Background:

- The HTRA of the Southern District of Texas is made up of 30-33 federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies working alongside 60-70 advocates who assist in the recovery of human trafficking victims. The HTRA mission is to identify, investigate, and address the needs of the victim in a more trauma informed approach. The HTRA is funded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance, 2019 Enhanced Collaborative Model (ECM) to Combat Human Trafficking.

North Texas Coalition Against Human Trafficking (NTCAHT)

Background:

- The NTCAHT is made up of over 40 partnering agencies in the North Texas area. Three years ago, the coalition was incorporated into a 501(c)(3) with a full board that heads up different committees that are leading human trafficking work in the North Texas area.

Highlights:

- In the past five years NTCAHT has raised over \$100,000 for educational scholarships and to provide emergency funds for survivors.
- NTCAHT created an annual award (Champion of Freedom Award) which showcases a person or organization that has done good work in the field of anti-trafficking for that year. Past award winners include Governor Greg Abbott, Dallas and Ft. Worth Police Departments, Earth X, and the Fraternal Order of Eagles.
- NTCAHT is the pilot location for Portland based Bridging the Gap, working to launch their anti-trafficking partner communication app platform.

The Rio Grande Valley Anti-Human Trafficking Taskforce

Background:

- Rio Grande Valley Anti-Human Trafficking Taskforce is spearheaded by the Hidalgo County Criminal District Attorney's Office. The Taskforce works in Starr, Cameron, Willacy, and Brooks to provide training, prevention education, and victim services to address human trafficking in the Rio Grande Valley region. The Taskforce is comprised of prosecutors, law enforcement agencies, forensic nurses, victim advocates, and community-based agencies.

South Texas Officers and Prosecutors (STOP) Human Trafficking Task Force (HTTF)

Background:

- The STOP HTTF is a multi-agency collaboration with the San Antonio Police Department (SAPD) and BCFS Health and Human Services Human Trafficking Interdiction Division. It is federally funded by a Department of Justice and is co-led by the U.S. Attorney's Office – Western District of Texas. The STOP HTTF jurisdictional area is a 12-county region, which includes the counties of Atascosa, Bandera, Bexar, Comal, Frio, Gillespie, Guadalupe, Karnes, Kendall, Kerr, Medina, and Wilson. STOP HTTF provides victims with information and referrals to trauma-informed, victim-centered organizations and human health services which provide support, medical care, restoration, and rehabilitation.

Highlights:

- The STOP HTTF is committed to facilitating strategic operations which protect and identify victims of human trafficking, while fully investigating all reports of human trafficking, and successfully prosecuting traffickers.
- One of the STOP HTTF objectives has been to enhance new partnerships with law enforcement and prosecution agencies, victim service providers, surrounding CSEY (Commercially Sexually Exploited Youth) care coordination teams, and other task forces and coalitions to improve services.
- Within this last year, STOP HTTF was able to fully execute a memorandum of understanding and protocols for a care coordination process for all human trafficking victims throughout the STOP HTTF 12-county jurisdictional area. This collaborative and comprehensive trauma-informed response focuses on adult sex trafficking victims (18+) and labor trafficking victims of all ages (minors and adults), while also focusing on child sex trafficking victims in the counties where CSEY care coordination is non-existent.

Report on Task Force Member Initiatives and Collaborations

Members were asked to provide highlights for their organizations, and their submissions are below:

Office of the Texas Attorney General (OAG)
<p>Highlights 2020 to present:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Since FY 2020, Human Trafficking and Transnational Organized Crime (HTTOC) Division staff have conducted 152 in-person and virtual trainings on human trafficking for approximately 13,604 people.• Since January 2022, assisted in disposing 23 cases for sentences totaling 212 years in prison and one life sentence.• Tried one of the first familial, child labor trafficking cases, resulting in a 99-year sentence for one defendant and a life sentence for the other.• Implemented human trafficking training programs for all hotel employees in Texas in accordance with House Bill 390 (87R).• Investigated and filed the first state civil cause of action against Austin Eco Bilingual School for labor trafficking seven victims over the course of six years (case pending).• Developed partnerships with local and state law enforcement agencies to close businesses that profit from trafficking, including the successful shut down of an unlicensed bar and strip club in Houston with known human trafficking connections in June 2022.• Planned and coordinated with local law enforcement to disrupt the illicit massage industry in Texas, notifying 34 landlords of potential illicit massage industries on their property, resulting in the closure of 17 illicit massage businesses.

Office of the Texas Governor (OOG)
<p>Highlights 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The OOG’s Child Sex Trafficking Team (CSTT), including its five Regional Advisors (North, South, East, West, and Central), engaged in various strategies to improve the response to child sex trafficking at both the state and local level.• CSTT Regional Advisors trained 661 individuals during FY 2021 to be users of the Commercial Sexual Exploitation-Identification Tool (CSE-IT). The CSE-IT is a research-based screening tool that helps improve early identification of commercially sexually exploited youth (CSEY). As of August 7, 2022, 80,348 CSE-IT screenings had been aggregated in Lighthouse. Over 9,300 screenings (11.7 percent) resulted in a score of “clear concern” for exploitation.• Supported the development of multi-disciplinary Care Coordination Teams (CCTs) in collaboration with Child Advocacy Centers of Texas (CACTX) and Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS). CCTs facilitate a child-centered, trauma-informed and coordinated response to the needs of identified victims. As of September 2022, CCTs had launched in 16 counties, representing over 50 percent of the Texas population.• Funded the expansion of CSEY Advocacy programs and provided training and technical assistance to these providers. Advocates provide immediate crisis management, supportive trust-based relationships, and long-term case management for survivors. During FY 2021, CSEY Advocates provided services to 1,371 unique survivors under the age of 25.• Supported the Can You See Me campaign in partnership with A21, First Lady Cecilia Abbott, and the Outdoor Advertising Association of Texas. The National Human Trafficking Hotline experienced a 33 percent increase in calls from Texas following this campaign.• Launched the Real Friends Don’t campaign with First Lady Cecilia Abbott, the McCain Institute, and the Outdoor Advertising Association of Texas. The campaign was featured on billboards in

over 70 Texas markets and aimed to empower parents to protect children from harmful content, grooming, or online exploitation.

- Raised awareness in faith communities through GRACE’s Week of Prayer. GRACE (Governor’s Response Against Child Exploitation) is a collaboration between the Texas Office of the First Lady, CSTT, DFPS, and a diverse group of faith leaders across Texas.
- Supported a variety of programs that provide age-appropriate, research-based prevention education as well as programs that promote key protective factors in the lives of youth.
- Funded CEASE (Cities Empowered Against Sexual Exploitation) Texas to launch a statewide anti-demand coalition and supported expansion of community-based cyber patrols to disrupt the online demand for commercial sex.
- Funded specialized investigators, prosecutors and support positions in various counties and state agencies.

Department of Public Safety (DPS)

Highlights 2021 to present:

- The Criminal Investigations Division (CID) opened 2,240 human trafficking-related investigations and made over 2,100 human trafficking arrests.
- DPS officers rescued more than 60 human trafficking victims as a result of Interdiction for the Protection of Children (IPC) traffic stops.
- In May 2021, CID in El Paso conducted Operation Lost Souls, a multi-agency joint operation to locate and recover missing children throughout El Paso County. The operation resulted in the location and recovery of 22 missing children, including two from Mexico and Puerto Rico; two from California and Oklahoma; and one child sex assault victim. The operation also led to the initiation of four child sex assault investigations and one human trafficking investigation.
- In May and October 2021, DPS conducted two Crimes Against Children patrol operations. As a result of the October patrol operation, 447 DPS troopers conducted 4,413 traffic stops, during which they reviewed the missing person status of 159 children via the National Crime Information Center and checked the sex offender registration of eight individuals.
- From September 2021 through August of 2022, after the implementation of House Bill 1540 (87R), which made purchasing sex a state jail felony, there have been 1746 arrests in Texas.
- From April 25, 2022 to April 28, 2022, CID Special Agents assigned to the Human Trafficking Unit and Homeland Security Investigations conducted Operation Lost Souls 2.0. The goal of the operation was to locate/recover children who have been reported missing in El Paso, County, Texas. The operation resulted in a total of 38 missing children being located/recovered.

Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC)

Highlights:

- HHSC’s Human Trafficking Resource Center (HTRC) assisted agency staff, external stakeholders, and people experiencing trafficking in finding resources. HTRC also serves as the liaison between stakeholders and agency programs on issues regarding human trafficking.
- HHSC partnered with Representative Ann Johnson, the Department of Information Resources, the Texas Comptroller’s Office, the Department of Motor Vehicles, OOG, DFPS, and DPS to create a donation account and multiple funding streams which will support a grant program to provide dedicated housing and treatment services to youth who have experienced human trafficking in accordance with House Bill 2633 (87R). A new Stop Human Trafficking donation account was established, and a new specialty license plate will be available in early 2023.
- Collaborated with the statewide group of providers and agencies on the State Adult Services Project (SASP) which seeks to address the gap in coordinated services for adult human trafficking survivors through networking, learning, and problem solving.

- Provided feedback to Dr. Jessica L. Peck, Dr. Jordan Greenbaum, and Dr. Hanni Stoklosa on the Journal of Human Trafficking Full article: Mandated Continuing Education Requirements for Health Care Professional State Licensure: The Texas Model (tandfonline.com).
- Approved over 90 human trafficking trainings for health care practitioners in accordance with House Bill 2059 (86R).
- HHSC’s HTRC website provided resources for health care and social service providers to use when assisting patients and clients who have experienced human trafficking. Included in these resources is the “HHSC Provider Guidebook: Services for Victims of Human Trafficking in Texas.”

Texas Alcohol and Beverage Commission (TABC)

Highlights:

- TABC recently combined several specialized units into one Investigations Bureau. The purview is to investigate organized criminal activity that has a nexus to the alcoholic beverage industry, including human trafficking. The Investigations Bureau consistently works with federal, state and local law enforcement agencies, and NGO’s.
- Since 2019, TABC has successfully taken administrative action against 23 establishments for allegations of human trafficking. Nearly 50 percent of those establishments had their permits canceled and had reported over 40.5 million dollars in revenue. TABC also led or participated in over fourteen-hundred operations targeting organized criminal activity. During these operations, agents arrested or assisted their task force partners with over eighteen-hundred arrests and encountered over 500 potential victims of human trafficking. The TABC Victim Services Coordinator has been successful in providing support to human trafficking victims found at TABC licensed locations and maintains contact with approximately 28 potential victims each month.
- TABC provides multiple educational courses on human trafficking:
 - TABC Online Advanced HT Course (3271)-available to all CPOs through TCOLE.
 - 3-Week Advanced Human Trafficking/Undercover School.
 - 3-Day Basic Human Trafficking/Undercover School.
 - Financial crimes course incorporating analytical support and focusing on a whole-of-agency approach to identifying indicators of human trafficking.

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR)

Highlights 2021:

- Partnered with over 65 law enforcement agencies to increase field operations in high-risk massage establishments and illicit massage businesses.
- Gained three new non-profit partners for victim services (Paso Del Norte Center of Hope, Open Door, and One Voice Home).
- Partnered with the Department of Labor to increase labor trafficking awareness and reports.
- Worked with the Department of Homeland Security’s localized trafficking units.
- Implemented Senate Bill 1831 (87R) the Julia Wells Act, which requires a human trafficking prevention course for all driver education courses.
- TDLR’s Anti-Trafficking Unit (ATU) identified over 1,000 potential high-risk massage establishments for human trafficking through continuing statewide investigative inspections.
- Increased victim-centered/trauma informed interviewing and potential human trafficking victim identification techniques used by ATU, field, and enforcement personnel as it relates to communication with potential human trafficking victims.

- ATU created a built in NGO partnership model for rapid response to potential human trafficking victim outcries.
- Approximately 141 ATU reports have been sent to TDLR enforcement prosecutors, OAG, and law enforcement partners for administrative civil and criminal review.
- Six dedicated TDLR Enforcement Prosecutors assigned to massage program with special attention and focus on reviewing for human trafficking and sexual misconduct.
- Launched TDLR-Law Enforcement Introduction and Training presentation in January to over 60 law enforcement agencies.

Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS)

Highlights:

- DFPS Light the Way End Human Trafficking - National Human Trafficking Prevention Month efforts included cross promotion of 2021 activities to over 80,000 email subscribers and over 2,000 faith-based partners.
- DFPS continued partnership with GRACE, a collaboration between the Office of the First Lady, OOG's CSTT, and a diverse group of faith leaders across Texas that work together to develop effective strategies to end human trafficking, such as the 2021 Week of Prayer to End human trafficking.
- Child welfare human trafficking policies were updated to strengthen referrals to established Care Coordination Teams and streamlined reporting times to law enforcement and statewide intake.
- DFPS Special Investigations Division partners with: 1) Child Protective Investigations on sex/labor trafficking investigations within DFPS's jurisdiction, 2) local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies in the investigation of human trafficking cases, 3) Child Protective Investigations staff for the expedient recovery of children/youth missing from DFPS care.
- DFPS HT Division coordinated, developed, and/or provided human trafficking training to over 17,217 individuals of which 14,951 were DFPS staff.
- DFPS continued collaboration with CSTT, CAC's, and local Children's Advocacy Centers in the development of Care Coordination Teams and partnership with Commercially Sexually Exploited Youth advocate agencies.
- HT Division leads the Administration for Children and Families Region VI Human Trafficking Workgroup that includes Texas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Arkansas, and New Mexico. The workgroup's goal is to optimize collaboration to conserve resources and minimize duplication of efforts as it relates to victims or those at risk of becoming victims up to age 24.

Texas Workforce Commission (TWC)

Highlights:

- TWC has partnered with the Texas Workforce Investment Council and the CSTT, at the Office of the Governor, to develop a pilot project to serve victims of sex trafficking ages 16-25, to deter repeat victimization and support victimized foster youth in accessing employment workforce services. The Texas Employment Empowerment Model for Disenfranchised Youth and Young Adults pilot will allow the hiring of a Training and Employment Navigator (Navigator). The goal of the Navigator is to develop a tailored process and experience to guide the participants through the workforce center processes to increase the chance of finding and maintaining employment.
- All four grants have been executed. The project anticipates serving 103 participants with training targets and employment goals. Specialized training for the Navigators will be held by the CSTT.
- TWC Migrant and Seasonal Farm Worker (MSFW) program monitors and facilitates outreach and delivery of employment and support services. TWC maintains a number of MSFW multilingual Workforce Solutions (WFS) offices in Texas. WFS office staff at these locations

receive recurring training on identifying human trafficking victims, what to do when labor trafficking is suspected, and identifying and engaging with community-based organizations that provide services to MSFW population and distribute literature regarding workers' employment rights and how to file a complaint.

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD)

Highlights:

- TPWD continues to work to prevent human trafficking by partnering with local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies, and by working closely with these agencies to identify new resources and trainings for TPWD officers.
- TPWD Game Wardens and Park Police Officers receive training to help identify possible human trafficking. Game Wardens and Park Police Officers are given training on the IPC. This training is mandated as part of the Field Training Program for all new officers.
- In May and October 2021, Game Wardens and Park Police Officers participated in the Crimes Against Children Patrol Operations. These operations were part of a DPS led IPC program with multiple law enforcement agencies participating throughout the state.

Texas Secretary of State (SOS) Texas Businesses Against Trafficking (TBAT)

Background:

- TBAT is a human trafficking prevention business partnership established by the 84th Legislature (House Bill 2511 (84R)) and implemented by the SOS in January 2016. The program recognizes businesses for taking steps to prevent and combat human trafficking in Texas. To date, there are nine partner-level and five associate-level businesses recognized as members of TBAT. Businesses may participate in TBAT at one of two levels: (1) partner or (2) associate. Partners must adopt a zero-tolerance policy towards human trafficking, take measures to ensure that the business's employees comply with the policy, and participate in a public awareness/education campaign. Businesses that have not yet adopted a zero-tolerance policy and other requirements of partner-level membership may participate in TBAT at the associate level. Additionally, businesses that participate are asked to help raise awareness of TBAT and share best practices with the SOS and other members of the program.

Highlights:

- In July 2022, Secretary of State John B. Scott promoted the TBAT partnership at the Texas Restaurant Show in Dallas to members of the Texas Restaurant Association.
- In an effort to highlight and increase visibility of the TBAT program, SOS encouraged TBAT partners and associates to participate in the University of Houston's Conference to Combat Human Trafficking held in September 2022.

Texas Department of Health Services (DSHS)

Background:

- DSHS continues to be active in the COVID-19 pandemic response and prevention. While the regional staff have been tasked with COVID-19-related activities, efforts to incorporate human trafficking education and awareness, wherever feasible, continued. Clinical staff were more informed about human trafficking and incorporated questions to help identify if red flags existed for the persons they served at the clinics.

Highlights 2021:

- For internal regional staff, annual and refresher trainings were performed to include components of human trafficking education on screening for red flags.
- Staff incorporated human trafficking awareness information during vaccination clinics.

- DSHS’s Office of Border Public Health developed and provided a bilingual human trafficking training approved for certification for community health workers and instructors.
- Human trafficking screening questions were incorporated into clinical practice in regional clinics across the state.
- Clinical staff were able to utilize the screening questions to identify survivor/potential survivor(s) of human trafficking and provide referral for additional services.
- Regional staff actively participate in human trafficking stakeholder group meetings and discussion groups ranging from community coalitions to local/county government agencies to other non-profit anti-human trafficking organizations.
- Texas DSHS also collaborates with HHSC’s Texas HTRC and Texas DFPS.

United States Attorney – Department of Justice (DOJ)

Background:

- The Department of Justice (DOJ) Western District of Texas, United States Attorney’s Office encompasses 68 counties in Texas—approximately 93,000 square miles—and an estimated population of 6.5 million. The mission of the United States Attorney and approximately 150 Assistant United States Attorneys, is to enforce the law and defend the interests of the United States, provide Federal leadership in preventing and controlling crime, seek just punishment for those guilty of unlawful behavior, and to administer and enforce the nation's laws to ensure fair and impartial administration of justice for all Americans.

Highlights:

- Since 2019 the efforts of the DOJ have provided the foundation and resources which continue to produce increased efforts in every aspect of combating human trafficking: sex and labor, adult, and child.
- In January 2022, the National Strategy for Combatting Human Trafficking was released, emphasizing the DOJ’s recognition of human trafficking as a major component of violent crime in the United States and the commitment of the DOJ to strategically reduce the pervasive presence of traffickers within our communities.

United State Department of Labor – Wage and Hour Division (WHD)

Background:

- The WHD’s mission is to promote and achieve compliance with labor standards to protect and enhance the welfare of the nation’s workforce. The WHD enforces federal minimum wage, overtime pay, recordkeeping, and child labor requirements of the Fair Labor Standards Act. WHD also enforces, among other laws, the Migrant and Seasonal Agricultural Worker Protection Act and a number of employment standards and worker protections as provided in several immigration related statutes. Additionally, WHD administers and enforces the prevailing wage requirements of the Davis-Bacon and related acts and the Service Contract Act and other statutes applicable to federal contracts for construction and for the provision of goods and services.

Highlights:

- In the Southwest Region of the WHD there have been seven investigations that revealed human trafficking situations.

Bexar County District Attorney

Highlights:

- Participated in the development of protocols for the STOP HTTF, expanding focus on identifying and providing services to adult victims of sex trafficking and all victims of labor trafficking in their 12-county region, and prosecuting those traffickers responsible for that exploitation.

Harris County District Attorney's Office (HCDAO)

Background:

- The HCDAO is comprised of 329 prosecutors, 90 investigators, and 277 support personnel who are dedicated to making our community safer through evidence-based prosecution. This means guaranteeing a fair process with the goal of obtaining a just result for the victim, the accused, and the community in every case.

Highlights 2021:

- Created a successful diversion program for sexually exploited persons, known as Project 180.
- 110 persons diverted from prostitution selling convictions post arrest.
- 262 dismissals for persons involved in prostitution selling.
- Negotiated a plea agreement on one defendant for nine trafficking convictions for 25 years in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.
- Trained over 60 law enforcement personnel during trainings at Crimestoppers Houston.
- 85 convictions for various trafficking offenders.
- 323 various charges on traffickers.

Highlights 2022:

- On July 2, HCDAO filed on a serial rapist of sexually exploited persons by charging him with four sexually violent offenses arising out of a tip gathered in a forensic interview of a diversion participant.
- Prosecutors trained hundreds of officers, advocates, and prosecutors in the following trainings: HPD Vice yearly trainings, HCDAO Advanced Trafficking investigations trainings, HCDAO Sexual Assault Advanced Investigations training, UAHT trainings for law enforcement, Crimes Against Women trainings, Texas District and County Attorneys Association Investigator training, OAG training on diversion, District Court Judges training in Harris County, Human Trafficking Summits, and Leadership College Command training.

San Antonio Police Department (SAPD)

Background:

- SAPD handles Trafficking of Persons investigations through the Special Victims Unit and the Human Exploitation Unit (covert unit) that handles various forms of prostitution. For the past several years SAPD has been a lead member of the STOP HTFF chaired by local Assistant United States Attorneys.

Highlights:

- In October of 2020 SAPD was awarded a federal grant to assist in expanding the STOP HTFF.
- With the help of the ECM grant, SAPD and other task force leaders expanded the care coordination program in Bexar County to adult victims of sex trafficking and to adult and minor victims of labor trafficking.
- SAPD and the STOP HTFF are currently working on devising a method to pursue financial crimes charges against persons involved in running illicit massage establishments and exploiting the persons working under them. Understanding that this is one of the most difficult problem areas in trafficking, SAPD hopes to come up with a successful plan of action.

Tarrant County Sheriff's Office

Highlights:

- Creation of the Tarrant County Human Trafficking Task Force, resulting in a collaborative effort by local, state, and federal law enforcement and prosecutors, victim service providers, and other organizations which enhance our organization in identifying and recovering trafficking victims, investigating and prosecuting traffickers and those who exploit victims, and ensuring a wide array of services are available to victims for their stabilization and restoration.

Waco Police Department

Highlights:

- Created a Criminal Intelligence Unit.
- Opened the Texas Anti-Gang Unit in McLennan County.
- Partnered with Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives to have a National Integrated Ballistic Information Network program.
- Creation of the Neighborhood Engagement Team.
- Increased our authorized strength to 279.

Texas A&M University, College of Nursing, Center of Excellence in Forensic Nursing

Highlights:

- Human Trafficking: Medical Response continuing education course offered for free online to nurses and physicians.
- Over 280 physician and nurse learners registered.

Allies Against Slavery

Highlights:

- Grew user base of Lighthouse which means more individuals are being screened and connected to care.
- Expanded care coordination metrics and functionality, empowering coordinators to work together more efficiently.
- Participated in the 87th Legislative Session, providing Lighthouse data as context and support for relevant legislation.
- Renewed partnership with OOG, ensuring continued development and distribution of Lighthouse including the analysis and visualization of law enforcement and demand data related to human trafficking.
- Expanded to Louisiana via partnership with the Louisiana Governor's office.
- Presented the 2021 Just Conference showcasing Lighthouse data and impact so far in Texas to a national audience.

A 2nd Cup

Highlights 2021 to present:

- Graduated three cohorts of virtual Brazen Table program, bringing total impact to 28 lives served.
- Growth of Brazen Table team to include a full-time Case Manager, a Program Director and a highly trained Culinary Instructor, ensuring all participants engaging in the Brazen Table program receive supportive, strengths-based wraparound care; high quality culinary training; and integrated support throughout the program.
- Provided over 100 hours of case management services, and over 700 hours of paid employment for program graduates.
- Increased A 2nd Cup's awareness and education offerings with the launch of a podcast and blog, along with the return of smaller, in person events.
- Hired six of A 2nd Cup's graduates to become permanent members of our team.
- Returned to in-person programming and increased the number of individuals trained through A 2nd Cup's economic empowerment programs to 41.
- Graduated 18 individuals from Brazen Table and provided internships to seven within A 2nd Cup's social enterprise operation.
- Prepared to launch the next track of programming, Brazen Barista, to target economic empowerment opportunities for youth and young adults.

3 Strands Global

Highlights 2021 to present:

- Fort Worth ISD is one of only eight school districts nationwide to receive the first Human Trafficking Youth Prevention Education (HTYPE) federal grant to implement the PROTECT Prevention Program.
- Launched the Navigator (aka, BRAVE, Best Practices and Responses to Victims of Exploitation) training program for the TWC's pilot workforce program for survivors of human trafficking and exploitation with the support of the OOG's CSTT.
- Awarded grant contract from the Texas Juvenile Justice Department (TJJD) to design and implement juvenile justice positive youth development training modules to train staff to understand how positive youth development and parole officer mental modules impact supervision of youth in the community.

Children's Advocacy Centers of Texas (CACTX)

Background:

- CACTX is the statewide membership association serving and representing all 71 children's advocacy centers across Texas. The organization was formed by a small group of executive directors who were establishing child advocacy centers (CACs) in the early 90s and who clearly saw that if they were ever going to realize their long-term vision – eventually ensuring that every child in the state of Texas would someday have access to the unique and vast array of CAC services – they would need a statewide association to support those efforts and to represent our interests with policy makers and other stakeholders in Austin, across the state, and in Washington.

Highlights 2021 to present:

- Collaborated with the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement to provide substantive updates to child abuse and sex trafficking curricula for law enforcement throughout Texas.
- Continued to partner with the OOG's CSTT to strategically collaborate, develop, and implement a statewide response to combat child sex trafficking. This includes our support of the 16 Care Coordination teams across the state that provide victims and survivors of human trafficking with a continuum of care.
- CSEY Protocol development in 16 CACs.

Cities Empowered Against Sexual Exploitation (CEASE)

Background:

- CEASE Texas is a project managed by Children at Risk and funded by OOG.

Highlights 2021 to present:

- Through the support of the OOG's CSTT and spearheaded by CHILDREN AT RISK, new volunteers were recruited and trained in El Paso, Houston, and Dallas.
- CEASE demand data was added to Allies Against Slavery's Lighthouse Platform, measuring ads for commercial sex across nine different counties.
- For 2022 Human Trafficking Awareness Month, a January 25th Facebook Live roundtable discussion was held on the importance of buyer accountability in the wake of the passage of House Bill 1540 (87R). In addition, a Buyer Accountability Briefer and Social Media toolkit were developed and released.
- Interviews were conducted with one city leader or veteran patroller from each of the established teams to supplement the Cyber Patrol Starter Kit with insights from the Texas teams on how best to engage buyers.
- In the fall of 2021 CEASE began holding quarterly statewide virtual Anti-Coalition meetings. At that time, a full steering committee was recruited, the coalition charter finalized, new members added to the member directory, and a resource repository launched.

Dallas Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)

Background:

- Dallas CASA volunteers serve youth in foster care by advocating in court for their best interests, with approximately 1,500 volunteers serving approximately 3,500 kids a year in Dallas County.

Highlights:

- Largest CASA program in the USA (900+).
- Served 100 percent of cases offered by the courts.
- Chad Frymire, Director of Public Policy, is Board President of the NTCAHT and their meetings are held at Dallas CASA.
- Created a 12-hour online and in-person CSEY training with grants from OOG, National CASA, and Texas CASA.
- First CASA involved in care coordination through OOG's initiative.

El Paso Cares

Background:

- El Paso Cares is a faith-based organization that has been serving the El Paso area since November 2018. It is a volunteer led organization that is funded entirely by individual private donations.

Highlights:

- Provides signage prepared by the OAG, HHSC, and TDLR to businesses, faith organizations, shelters, and other locations to equip the community to identify and respond if they suspect human trafficking or other exploitation. El Paso cares also gives education and training presentations on request.
- Supports survivors by connecting them with housing options, food, clothing, counseling, and employment training. Survivors are also provided a place for community by inviting them to join us for outings, church, bible studies, and meals.
- Partners with multiple local organizations involved in human trafficking. The organization's board consists of four members and meets quarterly.
- Provided support to over 50 survivors, led over 40 outreaches, presented seven trainings, and facilitated three Bible studies for survivors.

iEmpathize

Background:

- iEmpathize is an international human rights non-profit with the mission to end exploitation and human trafficking. iEmpathize is guided by survivor leaders and serves to educate and empower youth and adults. iEmpathize specializes in the production of original media and utilizes a curated library of educational multimedia to engage sector leaders whose work intersects with the issue of exploitation. Prioritizing empathy at its foundation, iEmpathize exists to equip adults to empower youth to eradicate child exploitation.

Highlights 2021 to present:

- The Apathy Effect Exhibit was part of a major first responders expo where iEmpathize promoted the Intersect Response Platform and the Sector-Strategic First Responders Program to national fire-station crews.
- Launched a new Survivor Leader Royalty Program, providing ongoing compensation to honor our survivor leaders for the shared impact they make in iEmpathize training videos.
- iEmpathize developed a partnership with Wynn Casino Hotel in Las Vegas in 2020 to develop a multi-sector training for all hotel and casino employees from the Wynn. The basic structure of this training will be used for all hotels and casinos.
- Developed a partnership with Cedar Sinai Hospital in Los Angeles to develop a healthcare media-based training that Cedar Sinai will be using for all their employees. iEmpathize will use the basic

structure of this healthcare training to be made available to everyone working in the healthcare space. The training is in post-production.

Magdalene House Austin

Background:

- Magdalene House Austin is a survivor-led community for adult women who have survived sex trafficking. The Magdalene House Austin community focuses on holistic healing that not only addresses recovery from trauma and addiction but also provides tools to thrive in the future. As women learn to live in a healthy community and take care of one another, they build lifelong friendships. While building community, they learn together how to create the lives they want for themselves by accessing therapy, completing and/or advancing their education, gaining vocational skills, and learning healthy relationship skills.

Highlights 2020 to present:

- Welcomed first two women into the Magdalene House Austin home in March 2020.
- COVID-19 lockdowns began, and a new plan was developed to continue the women's growth and healing.
- Welcomed six women into the home and graduated two.

Mosaic

Background:

- Mosaic is a safe haven for survivors of human trafficking in Dallas and surrounding North Texas area, providing trauma-informed and survivor-centered comprehensive services, including emergency safe shelter, transitional housing, case management, counseling, legal, economic empowerment, community education, and other support services. Mosaic provides services to survivors of all types of labor and sex trafficking, gender, and ages.

Highlights:

- Mosaic worked with over 125 survivors of human trafficking and their dependents.
- Mosaic partnered with community groups to conduct awareness efforts designed to reach vulnerable and at-risk community members, reaching over 2,900 people through online and social media platforms.
- Mosaic partnered with TDLR to offer social services to potential victims during massage business inspections.
- Mosaic partnered with a survivor advocate to develop a National Human Trafficking and Technical Assistance Center.
- Mosaic's outreach program reached over 4,200 at-risk persons by providing outreach in community clinic waiting rooms, consulate waiting areas, high-risk streets and neighborhoods, day labor centers, local schools, after-school programs, churches, juvenile detention centers, inmate programs, illicit massage businesses, low-income apartment complexes, online platforms, and other locations.
- Mosaic collaborated with Dallas County's District Attorney's Office facilitating the Healthy Options for Personal Empowerment class to mostly Chinese, Thai, and Korean women charged with prostitution, with services in over 30 languages.
- Mosaic staff have trained over 1,000 education professionals on human trafficking.

Paso Del Norte Center of Hope (PDNCOH)

Highlights:

- From September 2019 to July 2022, provided trauma-informed, person-centered services to 70 confirmed CSEY victims of human trafficking between the age of 10-23 and 48 confirmed adult victims of human trafficking age 24 or above.

- 215 identified at-risk youth were enrolled in our Community Youth Development program and provided with Social Emotional Learning and STEM classes on a weekly basis.
- 255 hours of training were provided by PDNCOH staff to members of the community on human trafficking awareness and prevention.
- 5,742 youth in El Paso schools received age-appropriate training on human trafficking.
- Signed an MOU with U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants under the Trafficking Victim Assistance Program (TVAP) to become a “TVAP Service Provider.”
- Signed an MOU with Communities in Schools of El Paso, Inc. to ensure a partnership for presentations, trainings, and services.
- The PDNCOH signed an agreement with Allies Against Slavery in 2021 to have full access to CSE-IT, and all members of staff are trained to use CSE-IT and to screen all CSEY clients.
- The PDNCOH hosted its first virtual Walk/5K in January 2021 due to COVID – “Shine a Light on Human Trafficking – Walk/5K” and with over 85 participants “virtually.”
- A 4-part human trafficking training for community healthcare workers was researched, created, and implemented by the PDNCOH staff, and the curriculum received certification by the DSHS through a partnership with the Office of Border Public Health Region 10. The modules were presented in both English and Spanish to community healthcare workers.

Project Protect Our Children

Highlights 2021:

- Project Protect Our Children’s Inaugural Youth Action Board brought human trafficking awareness to over 4,000 of their fellow students, school staff, and community members through events that they conceptualized, organized, and/or implemented for Human Trafficking Awareness Month. The Youth Action Board is a student led/driven club program made up of high school students that feel called to make a difference in the fight to end human trafficking. The program was conceptualized to engage, educate, and empower today’s youth to become part of the solution.
- Began implementing the PROTECT Human Trafficking Prevention Education and Training for K-12 Schools in Title 1 schools in Galveston County. PROTECT is the only K-12 human trafficking prevention curriculum currently available in Texas and Project Protect Our Children is the only nonprofit licensed to facilitate it.
- Launched the Youth Action Board In-A-Box, A Student Engagement Toolkit across Texas. The Toolkit provides the complete program plan with document templates and examples to bring the scalable, replicable club program to youth in your area. Project Protect Our Children wants to grow the youth-driven anti-human trafficking movement to create positive change and sustainable impact across Texas within our schools and communities.

Regional Victim Crisis Center (RVCC)

Background:

- The RVCC assists victims and survivors of sexual assault and other violence, working to prevent sexual assault and other violence through primary prevention. RVCC houses the Big Country Human Trafficking Coalition. Services include counseling, case management, advocacy, accompaniment, assistance with Crime Victims Compensation, and more. All services are free of charge.

Highlights 2020 to present:

- The RVCC was able to connect TDLR with local law enforcement to ensure they were on the same page concerning investigations.
- Established a relationship with Homeland Security.
- Established the Faith Based working group of our Big Country Human Trafficking Coalition.

- Trained our CAC and the Juvenile Justice & Probation Team on CSE-IT.
- Established a Care Coordination Team.
- Entered into a memorandum of understanding with DFPS.
- Assisted OOG with establishing CSEY services in the San Angelo area.

Texas Advocacy Project (TAP)

Background:

- TAP works to end dating and domestic violence, sexual assault, human trafficking, and stalking in Texas. TAP empowers survivors through free legal services and access to the justice system and advances prevention through public outreach and education. TAP can address individualized legal needs through criminal record relief clinics, trauma-informed trial prep, accessing public benefits, addressing credit issues and coerced debt and more. TAP does not operate on a waitlist, and unlike many legal service providers, does not have restrictions for services.

Highlights in 2021:

- Served nearly 11,000 survivors in 5,000 cases and provided trainings to over 5,500 individuals and 1,000 survivor services agencies.
- Trained over 150 School Resource Officers on dating violence in a workshop about keeping K-12 campuses safe.
- Transitioned all of our training modules over to “Teachable,” an online, on-demand, portal, ensuring domestic violence advocates have the legal training needed to help survivors.
- Sent 1,700 backpacks to children across Texas.
- Trained over 1,000 teens in schools on teen dating violence prevention.
- TAP’s Teen Ambassadors of Hope campaign recruited and trained 65 teen leaders.
- TAP Handbags for Hope campaign sent over 1,000 handbags, diaper bags, and hospital bags to agencies across Texas.

Texas Association Against Sexual Assault (TAASA)

Highlights 2021 to present:

- Provided curriculum development and specialized training to organizations seeking to implement a model of advocacy for human trafficking survivors. These trainings covered the dynamics of human trafficking, regional trends and resources, and an introduction to Care Coordination and CSEY advocacy models developed by the CSTT.
- Additionally, conducted integrated and complimentary trainings incorporating trauma-informed interviews and human trafficking investigations with law enforcement specialists. TAASA provided over 40 trainings to individuals and organizations across the state since 2021.
- Provided crisis intervention services, resources, referrals, and systems advocacy to over 50 agencies and organizations.
- Worked with the CSTT to help stakeholders implement Care Coordination, CSEY advocacy model, and CSE-IT.
- Coordinated with the CSTT’s five regional administrators to identify gaps in service and TAASA stakeholders best positioned to provide advocacy to human trafficking survivors.
- Developed and disseminated a stakeholder survey to capture service provision, problem areas, and possible solutions to human trafficking work conducted by TAASA membership organizations.
- Provided coordination and facilitation of Human Trafficking Survivor Leader Advisory Council.
- Participated in the Texas Human Trafficking Prevention Taskforce, Co-Chair Provide Support Working Group, Central Texas Coalition Against Human Trafficking, Adult and Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking Working Group, Policy Committee, Chair of National Crime Victim Rights Week

Central Texas Planning Committee, Co-Chair of Immigrant Services Network of Austin, and Co-Chair Best Practices for CSEY Residential Programs Committee.

- Co-Chair State Adult Services Project (SASP). Facilitated four SASP Convenings and created SASP Directory.
- Authored "Human Trafficking Resource Manual for Advocates, A Comprehensive Guide to Serving Trafficking Survivors at Texas Rape Crisis Centers and Domestic Violence Agencies."

Texas Municipal Police Association (TMPA)

Highlights:

- From September 2020 to August 2021, TMPA and its programs trained 310 law enforcement officers and criminal justice professionals to better identify, investigate, and respond to trafficking cases via the Sexual Assault Family Violence Investigator Course (SAFVIC)/human trafficking course. In addition, 977 law enforcement officers received human trafficking training in the SAFVIC 24-hour course, and 196 telecommunications professionals received human trafficking training in the 8-hour SAFVIC for Telecommunication Professionals course.
- TMPA participated in local and statewide human trafficking task force meetings and served as a guest speaker at a human trafficking event.

Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid

Highlights 2021:

- Conducted state-wide training on Civil Remedies and Immigration Relief for Trafficking Survivors at Refugee Services of Texas virtual conference “Combatting Trafficking in Cantinas and Other Sexually Explicit Businesses in the Rio Grande Valley,” attended by approximately 30 individuals.
- Conducted state-wide training for the TWC, “Human Trafficking: Identification and Remedies,” attended by 103 TWC staff and outreach workers.

Trinity Metro

Background:

- Trinity Metro is a transit agency that operates city buses and commuter railroads in Texas.

Highlights 2022:

- Started a stop human trafficking campaign.
- Currently working with Unbound to build training program to train transit bus and rail operators across Texas transit agencies.

Unbound Now

Background:

- Serves as the lead victim services agency for Enhanced Collaborative Model Task Forces in the Brazos Valley, Heart of Texas, and Tarrant County regions. Operates offices across Texas providing 24/7 advocacy services for survivors of human trafficking.

Highlights:

- Opened the Underground drop-in center for youth in Fort Worth in October 2020. The Underground is open 24/7 and includes a soft interview room.
- Partnership with the Fort Worth Independent School District on a three-year Human Trafficking Youth Prevention Education grant project through the Health and Human Services Office of Trafficking in Persons.
- Produced an online curriculum, “Sentinels,” for human trafficking prevention education.

- Received accreditation for its training for healthcare professionals, offering continuing education units for medical social workers and certified nurse education. The training has been approved for license renewal by HHSC.
- Training for the hotel and hospitality industry was approved by OAG.
- Opened The Reagan, a home for girls in foster care who have experienced abuse or exploitation.
- Launching an Early Intervention Program this fall to prevent human trafficking of high-risk youth.

United Against Human Trafficking (UAHT)

Highlights 2021:

- 64 trafficking survivors received wraparound case management service.
- 57 members enrolled in the Houston Rescue & Restore Coalition.
- 3,632 youth trained to stay safe - 20,885 community member trained to respond to human trafficking.
- All professional training workshops accredited for respective continuing education units, continuing medical education, continuing nursing education, continuing legal education, and continuing professional education.
- 29,942 vulnerable people received pamphlets with ways to access help. Stopping Sexual Exploitation (SSE): A Program for Men launched. SSE is the first multi-session education program for prostitution buyers. The curriculum was created by Organization for Prostitution Survivors and is the leading model for demand reduction efforts against sex trafficking in the United States.
- The Justice Series launched: A blend of performance art and panel discussion that explores how human trafficking disproportionately affects Black and Brown communities.
- 576 volunteer hours donated to the organization.

Human Trafficking Legislation

The Task Force has been integral in the enactment of anti-trafficking legislation over the years. Since 2010, the Task Force made 94 recommendations to the Texas Legislature to address human trafficking. Of the 94 recommendations made, 85 have become law. Anti-trafficking legislation enacted since the 2009 creation of the Task Force include:

YEAR	BILL	SUMMARY
2011	82(R) HB 2014	Added mandatory restitution for child trafficking victims, added certain trafficking-related reporting requirements, and added the trafficking of a child to the list of offenses for which bail could be revoked for a violation, for which a child safety zone could be established, and for which contraband could be seized.
2011	82(R) HB 2329	Provided for the confidentiality of certain information regarding trafficking victims and the enforcement of protective orders to protect trafficking victims.
2011	82(R) HB 3000	Established the felony offense of continuous trafficking of persons.
2011	82(R) SB 24	Enacted certain legislative changes recommended in the 2011 Texas Human Trafficking Prevention Task Force Report, including establishing separate definitions for sex trafficking and labor trafficking and adding human trafficking offenses to those for which registration as a sex offender is required.
2013	83(R) HB 8	Enacted the legislative changes recommended in the 2012 Texas Human Trafficking Prevention Task Force Report, including the resolution of conflicting protective order statutes and the inclusion of trafficking among the crimes eligible to receive reimbursement for relocation expenses pursuant to the state Crime Victims' Compensation Act.
2013	83(R) HB 1272	Continued the Human Trafficking Prevention Task Force and expanded its duties.
2013	83(R) HB 2725	Exempted from state public information disclosure law information maintained by a trafficking victims shelter and required the establishment of minimum standards for certain facilities that provide services to trafficking victims.
2013	83(R) HB 3241	Established a cause of action authorizing the state to bring suit against a person or enterprise for racketeering related to trafficking of persons.
2013	83(R) SB 92	Authorized a juvenile board to establish a trafficked persons program for the assistance, treatment, and rehabilitation of children who may be the victims of human trafficking.
2015	84(R) HB 10	Enacted the legislative changes recommended in the 2014 Texas Human Trafficking Prevention Task Force Report, including the establishment of the Child Sex Trafficking Team within OOG.
2015	84(R) HB 11	Established the Human Trafficking and Transnational Organized Crime Section within OAG.
2015	84(R) HB 188	Continued the Human Trafficking Prevention Task Force and expanded its membership and duties.
2015	84(R) HB 2455	Established a task force at the Office of Court Administration to promote uniformity in the collection and reporting of information on family violence, sexual assault, stalking, and human trafficking.
2017	85(R) HB 29	Enacted the legislative changes recommended in the 2016 Texas Human Trafficking Prevention Task Force Report, expanded the task force's

		membership, and made the task force permanent by repealing its expiration date.
2017	85(R) HB 2552	Set out measures to address and deter human trafficking, including the required display of human trafficking signs at abortion facilities, emergency rooms, and licensed cosmetology facilities.
2017	85(R) SB 128	Requires the inclusion of human trafficking education in the curriculum of commercial driver's license training programs offered by public junior colleges, career schools, and colleges, and certain requirements for commercial driver's licenses.
2019	86(R) HB 111	Requires that each school district and open-enrollment charter school implement policies and trainings regarding sexual abuse, sex trafficking, and other maltreatment of children.
2019	86(R) HB 292	Amends the Occupations Code to require the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement to require the inclusion of human trafficking training in the basic training curriculum of peace officers or reserve law enforcement officers.
2019	86(R) HB 403	Requires the training of the members of the board of trustees and the superintendent of an independent school district regarding sexual abuse, human trafficking, and other maltreatment of children.
2019	86(R) HB 1865	Amends the Occupations Code with new regulations for the massage therapy licenses and requires students of massage schools to obtain student permits.
2019	86(R) HB 2059	Amends the Occupations Code to require certain health care practitioners who provide direct patient care to complete a training course on identifying and assisting victims of human trafficking in order to obtain a registration permit or a license renewal.
2019	86(R) HB 2613	Requires the gross amount credited from the forfeiture of contraband relating to smuggling, trafficking, or prostitution-related offenses to be used to provide direct victim services or to cover the costs of a contract with a local nonprofit organization to provide direct services to crime victims.
2019	86(R) HB 2747	Amends the Occupations Code to prohibit a massage establishment from allowing any individual to reside on the premises of the establishment. The bill also requires each massage establishment and massage school to display a sign concerning services and assistance available to victims of human trafficking.
2019	86(R) HB 2758	Amends the Code of Criminal Procedure and the Health and Safety Code to make persons charged with certain trafficking and prostitution-related offenses ineligible for community supervision.
2019	86(R) HB 3091	Requires the confidentiality of the location or physical layout for family violence and human trafficking shelters and creates an offense for breaking this confidentiality.
2019	86(R) HB 3800	Amends the Code of Criminal Procedure to require law enforcement and prosecutors to report human trafficking cases to OAG. The bill also requires OAG to collaborate with a university in the collection and analysis of the information in the reports.
2019	86(R) SB 20	Strengthens prosecutions of human trafficking and related crimes by creating new offenses aimed at those who use the internet to promote prostitution. It provides protections for victims/vulnerable populations by addressing their need for services and legal protections.

2019	86(R) SB 72	Establishes the Human Trafficking Prevention Coordinating Council that will develop and implement a strategic plan to prevent human trafficking across the state.
2019	86(R) SB 781	Amends codes to regulations of child-care facilities and residential treatment centers. Includes information on human trafficking prevention.
2019	86(R) SB 1125	Amends the Code of Criminal Procedure to allow video teleconferencing to be used for forensic analyst testimonies in criminal proceedings under certain conditions.
2019	86(R) SB 1219	Requires the posting of English and Spanish human trafficking signs in buses, bus stops, trains, train stations, rest areas, and airports. The signs must include services available to victims, the National Human Trafficking Resource Center hotline number, and key indicators of human trafficking.
2019	86(R) SB 1258	Amends the Penal Code to apply to limited liability companies and other business entities.
2019	86(R) SB 1593	Amends the Transportation Code to require The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) to develop and make available to TxDOT employees training courses on the recognition and prevention of human trafficking and smuggling. TxDOT is required to collaborate with OAG to establish training content and to notify employees of the availability of the training on the date the employee begins employment.
2019	86(R) SB 1801	Allows victims of human trafficking or compelling prostitution more opportunities to obtain an order of nondisclosure. Allows for the consolidation of nondisclosure petitions in seeking relief.
2019	86(R) SB 1802	Increases the criminal penalties for crimes relating to certain human trafficking and prostitution offenses. Adds Aggravated Promotion of Prostitution to the list of offenses for which conviction or adjudication requires sex offender registration.
2021	87(R) HB 390	Amends the Business and Commerce Code to set out signage and annual employee training requirements relating to human trafficking awareness and prevention for operators of commercial lodging establishments (10 or more rooms). The bill requires establishments to provide OAG-approved training and the posting of signage (in both English and Spanish). The bill additionally grants OAG the authority to pursue civil remedies for non-compliance.
2021	87(R) HB 402	Authorizes the state's attorney or head of law enforcement to use funds forfeited as the result of an offence under Chapter 20A of the Penal Code to cover the costs of certain contracts for services to domestic victims of trafficking.
2021	87(R) HB 465	Amends the Code of Criminal Procedure and Government Code making an inmate serving a sentence for a continuous trafficking of persons offense involving a child victim ineligible for release on parole. Additionally, an inmate serving a sentence for a trafficking of persons offense involving a child victim is ineligible for release on parole unless the judgment in the case contains an affirmative finding specified by the bill, which requires the agreement of the attorney representing the State.
2021	87(R) HB 1005	Amends the Code of Criminal Procedure relating to the requisites of a bail bond and conditions of release on bond for those charged with human trafficking and prostitution-related crimes (i.e., defendant must include the address, identification number, and state of issuance as shown on a valid driver's license or ID card.). This bill also raises the age for which a victim

		is considered a child in human trafficking and child sex assault cases from under 14 to under 18 for bond conditions.
2021	87(R) HB 1540*	The “Omnibus Task Force Bill” strengthens existing statutory provisions by expanding protections at residential treatment centers. The bill makes drink solicitation a basis for denying Texas alcoholic beverage licenses and modified language in civil public nuisance and racketeering causes of actions. The bill also includes a new penal code section separating the offenses of selling and buying sex and makes Texas the first state to punish solicitation of commercial sex of an adult a felony.
2021	87(R) HB 2301	Allows victims of family violence, sexual assault or abuse, human trafficking, or stalking to seek name change from the court system if they can show they are participating in the OAG confidentiality program without disclosing their address of residence to the court.
2021	87(R) HB 3721	Requires that certain information for reporting suspicious activity to DPS be included on certain human trafficking signs or notices (in both English and Spanish).
2021	87(R) SB 315*	Prohibits sexually oriented businesses from hiring people under the age of 21 or allowing people under the age of 18 on the premises.
2021	87(R) SB 766	Requires sexually oriented businesses to participate in the federal national employment verification authorization program (E-verify) and to restrict employment under the age of 21 at those businesses.
2021	87(R) SB 957	Amends the Code of Criminal Procedure to prohibit the denial or reduction of compensation awarded through the crime victims’ compensation program on the basis of the claimant or victim not substantially cooperating with an appropriate law enforcement agency at the crime scene or hospital unless OAG finds that the claimant or victim subsequently continued to fail or refuse to substantially cooperate.
2021	87(R) SB 1831	Establishes “No Trafficking Zones” on school grounds, at school functions, school sponsored events, and within 1,000 feet of those areas. Signage is required that provides information necessary to report suspicious activity. Human trafficking signage requirements are also added to many state-regulated businesses such as cosmetology facilities, hospitals, and massage establishments. This bill also has a provision known as the “Julia Wells Act,” adding human trafficking prevention in the curriculum of driver education and driving safety courses.

*Items denoted with an asterisk are bills that incorporated Task Force recommendations for the 87th session. In the 87th session, the Task Force submitted ten recommendations and of those ten, nine became law: eight were incorporated into the House Bill 1540 omnibus bill and one was passed under Senate Bill 315.

Legislative Recommendations for the 88th Texas Legislative Session

In 2022, the Task Force proposed, discussed, and voted on the following Task Force Recommendations. Below are the 12 legislative recommendations that were unanimously passed by the Task Force for the Texas Legislature. These recommendations reflect the Task Force’s commitment to promote increased victim protections through investigative and prosecutorial tools that both increase identification of human traffickers pre-harm, and adequately punish human traffickers post-harm.

STATUTORY CLEAN-UP		
PROPOSAL	STATUTE	BACKGROUND
Add TEA as a Coordinating Council Member	Government Code Section 402.034	Having TEA on the council will maximize efficiencies across the state and enhance Coordinating Council efforts, especially given the many school-based legislative mandates that passed last session.
Move “no trafficking zones” to the correct statutory section	Penal Code Sections 43.02 and 43.021	This change will achieve the intended purpose of the statutory language under Penal Code Section 43.02(c-2).
Modify Penal Code Section 43.021(b)(2) to include “offers and agrees” language	Penal Code Section 43.021	This amendment would provide consistency between provisions and provide broader protections for victims.
Include continuous in Code of Criminal Procedure Article 38.37 extraneous conduct	Code of Criminal Procedure Article 38.37	This amendment would allow prosecutors to prove other offenses related to human trafficking in a trial for human trafficking.
INCREASING INVESTIGATIVE AND PROSECUTORIAL TOOLS		
PROPOSAL	STATUTE	BACKGROUND
Add child grooming protections	Add new section to Chapter 25 of Penal Code or expand	This change will allow law enforcement to prevent harm to child victims by giving authority for arrests of human trafficker’s pre-harm activity in order to minimize victimization where there is evidence of enticement and/or coercion.
Increase penalties for human traffickers that use excessive force	Penal Code Chapter 20A	This modification will both deter human traffickers from using serious force against victims while also adequately punishing those who do so.
Flag driver licenses for human trafficking	Code of Criminal Procedure Article 42.016	The differentiation between a sex offender and a human trafficker could assist law enforcement in identifying connections in cases across the state.
Allow outcry in all human trafficking prosecutions involving children	Code of Criminal Procedure Article 38.072	Due to the trauma of outcry and the trauma of testifying in court, allowing evidence of outcry in cases involving all child victims of human trafficking would assist prosecutions.
Allow certain evidence, including the nature of the relationship, for human trafficking prosecutions	Add new section to Code of Criminal Procedure Article 38.372, See HB 2794 (87R)	This gives prosecutors more tools to explain the relationship and history of human traffickers.
Modify Code of Criminal Procedure Article 2.305 to increase effectiveness of HB 3800 data collection efforts	Code of Criminal Procedure Article 2.305	Changes would allow for 1) better tracking of cases and suspects, 2) protection for ongoing investigation and victims, 3) more efficient use of state resources, and 4) more efficient tracking of compliance resulting in a more comprehensive data sample.
VICTIM PROTECTIONS		
PROPOSAL	STATUTE	BACKGROUND
Add protections for victims of human trafficking with significant disabilities	Penal Code Section 20A.02(7)	This amendment would protect adults with disabilities who are vulnerable to human trafficking, especially those with disabilities that affect their ability to assess safety or care for themselves without assistance.
Enhance child pornography sentences when multiple images are possessed or promoted	Penal Code Section 43.26	Often human trafficking prosecutions are unable to move forward but a prosecutor can still prove possession of child pornography. This change would give prosecutors more tools to enhance the punishment of traffickers in these situations.