Federal Anti-Trafficking Efforts

In 2013, the Federal Strategic Action Plan on Services for Victims of Human Trafficking in the United States was developed to increase the coordination, collaboration, and capacity of federal agencies in combatting human trafficking. The plan ensures that victims of trafficking have access to services through building capacity.

Department of Health and Human Services

Administration for Children & Families (ACF): Promotes the economic and social well-being of families, children, individuals and communities with partnerships, funding, guidance, training and technical assistance.

Office on Trafficking in Persons (OTIP): Responsible for the development of anti-trafficking strategies, policies, and programs to prevent human trafficking, build health and human service capacity to respond to human trafficking, increase victim identification and access to services, and strengthen health and well-being outcomes of survivors of human trafficking.

Reach OTIP by e-mail and phone:

- For general questions about OTIP, contact endtrafficking@acf.hhs.gov or 202-401-9200
- For certification for foreign adult victims of trafficking/information, contact trafficking@acf.hhs.gov or 202–401–5510
- For assistance for foreign child victims of trafficking, contact childtrafficking@acf.hhs.gov or 202–205–4582

Family and Youth Services Bureau (FYSB): Uses Domestic Demonstration Grants to develop and strengthen comprehensive victim-centered services model, which includes case management and direct victim response services for domestic victims of severe forms of human trafficking in the U.S. These grantees assess and build capacity to better identify and serve domestic victims of severe forms of human trafficking; foster collaborations and partnerships to enhance community response to human trafficking; and identify services needs for domestic victims of severe forms of human trafficking and improve access to services and benefits for which they are eligible.

Runaway and Homeless Youth Training and Technical Assistance (RHYTTAC): Training and technical assistance provider for all FYSB-funded runaway and homeless youth (RHY) grantees. The RHYTTAC website offers a Human Trafficking Resources List for RHY programs, as well as in-depth resources utilizing its HTR3 initiative.
**Domestic Violence Resource Network**: Funded by the Family Violence Prevention & Services Program. Examples of resources from the DVRN members:

- Article on trafficking
- Collection of webinars and trainings
- National Latino Network
- Webinar on Human Trafficking and the Experiences of Transgender Immigrant Latino Survivors
- Webinar on Seeing the Wendigo: Sex Trafficking Part 2 (American Indians and Sex Trafficking)
- Webinar on Trauma-Informed Approaches for Supporting Domestic Trafficking Survivors
- Webinar on Understanding Trafficking to Develop a Local Tribal Response

**Children’s Bureau (CB)**: Focuses on improving the lives of children and families through programs that reduce child abuse and neglect, increase the number of adoptions, and strengthen foster care. CB builds a broad overview of the crossover between the child welfare field and the work currently being done to prevent and respond to human trafficking of children and youth in the United States.

**Child Information Welfare Gateway**: Promotes the safety, permanency, and well-being of children, youth, and families by connecting child welfare, adoption, and related professionals as well as the public to information, resources, and tools covering topics on child welfare, child abuse and neglect, out-of-home care, adoption, and more. This site connects users to information and resources on a range of topics including human trafficking, and it supplies web-based information on all aspects of child welfare for professionals.

**Child Welfare Capacity Building Collaborative**: Raises awareness and provides resources to support the implementation of the Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act (P.L. 113-183) provisions. Signed into law on September 29, 2014, P.L. 113-183 amends the Title IV-E foster care program and presents new child welfare requirements on several provisions, including identifying, reporting, and determining appropriate services for child and youth victims of sex trafficking and youth at risk; and implementing a reasonable and prudent parent standard (RPPS) for foster parents and child care providers to promote developmentally appropriate activities and "normalcy" for children and youth in foster care.

**Centers for Disease Control (CDC)**: Works to protect America from health, safety and security threats, both foreign and in the U.S.

  **Division of Violence Prevention**: The CDC’s child maltreatment program is coordinated by the Division of Violence Prevention (DVP), within the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control (NCIPC). The mission of the division is to prevent violence-related injuries and deaths through surveillance, research and development, capacity building, communication and leadership. In pursuit of that mission, CDC's efforts to prevent child maltreatment focus on developing, evaluating, and disseminating evidence-based interventions that support safe, stable and nurturing relationships (SSNRs) for children.

**Health Resources Services Administration (HRSA)**: Works to improve health and achieve health equity through access to quality services, a skilled health workforce and innovative programs. HRSA's programs provide health care to people who are geographically isolated, or economically or medically vulnerable.
HRSA's Office of Women's Health: Coordinates women's health-related activities across the Health Resources Services Administration (HRSA) to reduce sex and gender-based disparities and support comprehensive, culturally competent, and quality health care. In support of this mission, OWH integrates women's health policy and programming across HRSA bureaus and offices; supports educational and informational dissemination efforts on topics related to women's health; encourages and supports a transformed health care delivery system that increases access to high quality, cost-effective health care, with particular focus on underserved women; and improves efficiency and effectiveness of operation.

Office of the Assistant Secretary of Health (OASH): Oversees 12 core public health offices — including the Office of the Surgeon General and the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps — as well as 10 regional health offices and 10 presidential and secretarial advisory committees.

Office on Women's Health: Provides national leadership and coordination to improve the health of women and girls through policy, education and model programs. Works to advance and coordinate a comprehensive women's health agenda throughout HHS to address health care prevention and service delivery, research, public and health care professional education, and career advancement for women in the health professions and in scientific careers. Collaborates with numerous government agencies, non-profit organizations, consumer groups, and associations of health care professionals. Focuses on women's health priorities to meet the sweeping demographic trends of the next century and to focus on the millions of underserved women in America.

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA): Funds services for individuals who have or are at risk for mental and substance abuse disorders. State substance abuse and mental health agencies administer these programs. All decisions regarding eligibility for services and types of treatment are made at the local and state levels, or by the provider.

National Child Traumatic Stress Network (NCTSN): Works to raise the standard of care and improve access to services for traumatized children, their families and communities throughout the United States. NCTSN works to accomplish its mission of serving the nation's traumatized children and their families by: 1) Raising public awareness of the scope and serious impact of child traumatic stress on the safety and healthy development of America's children and youth, and 2) Advancing a broad range of effective services and interventions by creating trauma-informed developmentally and culturally appropriate programs that improve the standard of care.

Department of Homeland Security

Immigration and Customs Enforcement: The HSI Victim Assistance Program coordinates services to help human trafficking victims, such as crisis intervention, counseling, and emotional support. Contact the HSI Victim Assistance Program at 1-866-872-4973.

United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS): Helps protect immigrant victims of human trafficking and other crimes by providing immigration relief. For questions about VAWA, U visas, or T visas, contact USCIS by e-mail or phone: hotlinefollowupl918l914.vsc@dhs.gov or 802-527-4888.
Office for Victims of Crime (OVC): Provides technical assistance to the Anti-Human Trafficking Task Forces, as well as victim services funding for foreign national victims of trafficking, and pilot sites for U.S. citizen minor victims of trafficking.

Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section (CEOS): Prosecutes cases of child pornography, sex trafficking of children, parental child abduction, and sex tourism.

Civil Rights Division: Human Trafficking Prosecution Unit (HTPU) consolidates the expertise of the nation’s top human trafficking prosecutors. HTPU prosecutors work with Assistant U.S. Attorneys and law enforcement agents to streamline investigations, ensure consistent application of trafficking statutes, and identify multijurisdictional trafficking networks. HTPU can provide victim assistance resources, legal guidance, and coordination between districts prosecuting overlapping criminal networks.

Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA): Anti-Human Trafficking Task Force Initiative funds collaborative law enforcement and non-governmental partner task forces nationwide.

Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS): The Human Trafficking Reporting System (HTRS), in conjunction with Northeastern University, tracks and analyzes human trafficking crimes reported by the Anti-Human Trafficking Task Forces.

National Institute of Justice (NIJ): Funds research on human trafficking in the U.S. and around the world.

Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP): Internet Crimes Against Children Task Forces (ICAC) investigates Internet-related crimes of child pornography and enticement, and implements a number of training and capacity-building initiatives related to the commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC).

Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI): Office of Victim Assistance (OVA) is responsible for ensuring that victims of crime are provided assistance to help them cope with the impact of the crime, as required by federal law and the Attorney General Guidelines on Victim and Witness Assistance. Contact the OVA program managers by phone: 202–324–1339.

Department of Labor

Bureau of International Labor Affairs (ILAB): Office of Child Labor, Forced Labor and Human Trafficking publishes reports on international child labor, forced labor and human trafficking and provides funding to combat international child labor.

Wage and Hour Division (WHD): Enforces federal labor laws including the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) and the Migrant and Seasonal Agricultural Workers Protection Act (AWPA) and assists with human trafficking investigations involving the violation of these laws.
Department of State

Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons (J/TIP): Conducts awareness-raising activities, diplomacy with other countries, and funding for international anti-trafficking initiatives. Publishes the annual Trafficking in Persons Report, which rates countries on their anti-trafficking efforts. Maintains a list of resources and information for individuals in the U.S. on a nonimmigrant work or travel visa.

Human Smuggling and Trafficking Center: A collaborative effort between the Department of State, Department of Justice, Department of Homeland Security and the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, and functions as a centralized information center for smuggling, human trafficking and national security.

Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC)

Enforces federal laws that make it illegal to discriminate against a job applicant or an employee because of the person's race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy), national origin, age (40 or older), disability or genetic information.

Department of Education

Provides resources for educators and administrators on combatting trafficking through school systems. Offers a Human Trafficking in America’s Schools resource and protocol (navigate guide online or download complete version at the website).

Department of Housing and Urban Development

Provides relevant links to laws, issue briefs, research, and other tools to assist homeless service providers in combating human trafficking.

For additional Federal agencies, visit http://www.state.gov/j/tip/response/usg/agencies/index.htm.