Panel 4: Addressing the Health Needs of Minors and Young Adults

This panel addresses challenges and strategies, including trauma-informed prevention, screening, and intervention, for serving children and youth who have experienced sex or labor trafficking.

Following the PowerPoint presentation is a list of resources suggested by the HHS Health and Human Trafficking Symposium moderators and panelists. The list includes a wide variety of resources, ranging from published research, fact sheets, and tools such as trainings and curriculum.
Addressing the Health Needs of Minors and Young Adult Survivors

Moderator/Panelists

- **Moderator:**
  - Dr. Resa Matthew, Division Director, Youth Development and Support, Family and Youth Services Bureau
- **Panelists:**
  - Suamhirs Prisano-Guzman, Survivor Advocate; Licensed Behavioral Psychologist; Senior Program Coordinator, IRC Seattle
  - Dr. Jordan Greenbaum, Child Abuse Physician and Medical Director, Child Protection Center, Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta
  - Sheila Clark, Chief of Programs, Sasha Bruce Youthwork
  - Tammy Sneed, Director, Gender Responsive Adolescent Services, Connecticut Department of Children and Families, Division of Adolescent and Juvenile Justice Services

Learning Objectives

- Describe the unique needs of minors and youth survivors.
- Define the important actors that should be involved in building a coordinated system of care for minors and youth.
- Explore different community-based partnerships and lessons they have learned in standardizing care for trafficked minors and connecting them with comprehensive services.

Dr. Resa Matthew, Division Director, Youth Development and Support, Family and Youth Services Bureau

Response at Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta

- Program for providing 24/7 medical evaluations
- Co-chair statewide multidisciplinary team
- Institute on Healthcare and Human Trafficking: resources, research, advocacy
Hospital Guidelines

Child Sex Trafficking Multidisciplinary Team
- Statewide participation
- Discuss services needed and challenges; exchange information
- Share resources
- Training

What’s the Weak Link in This Chain?
- Recognizing unidentified trafficked youth who seek medical care
- Short screening tool
  - Research based
  - Short, easy to use
  - 6 Questions:
    1. Drug/alcohol use in past 12 months
    2. History running away
    3. History with police
    4. History broken bones, knocked unconscious, cuts needing stitches
    5. History STI
    6. Number of sex partners
      \( \geq 2 \text{ "yes" answers } \Rightarrow \text{ positive screen} \)

Results
- 810 participants
- Prevalence child sex trafficking
  - 11.1%: Total sample
  - 13.2%: Emergency department sites
  - 6.3%: CACs
  - 16.4%: Teen clinics

Performance Measures
- Proportion of trafficked youth that screen (+) 83%–85%
- Likelihood that a negative screen means the youth is NOT a victim: 95%–98%
- Likelihood that a positive screen means the youth IS a victim: 13%–26%
- Positive screen requires additional questions to determine risk

Jordan Greenbaum, et al., 2018
Sasha Bruce Youthwork Approach

- Respite from the streets
- Individualized competency-based counseling through a trauma-informed approach
- Comprehensive, wraparound services to address all risk factors

Youth Served Between October 1, 2017–October 1, 2018

Challenges in the Work

**Internal to the Client**
- Prior victimization
- Physical and mental health needs
- Understanding of healthy relationships
- Isolation
- Fear of law enforcement
- Attachment to trafficker

**External Pressures**
- Peer pressure
- Lack of resources
- Social media/pop culture
- Family involvement
- Duty to report
- Different priorities of “helping” systems

Focused Approach for Trafficked Youth/Young Adults

- Safety
- Resources
- Therapeutic Counseling
- Alternative Pathways

- Social Media Campaign: #missingDCgirls Brought Attention to Need for Early Intervention Services for Youth Frequently Reported Missing
- Response: Collaborative and Innovative program that partnered government (DC Department of Human Services) and community-based provider (Sasha Bruce Youthwork) to establish the STEP Program (Strengthening Teens Enriching Parents)
- Core Components of Program: Safety Planning, Risk Reduction, Crisis Intervention, Case Management, & Therapeutic Family Support Services
MDT/Child Advocacy Center and Child Trafficking Cases

Child Advocacy Center and MDT Structure

Child Advocacy Center and MDT Structure for Cases

HART Task Force

Connecticut Curriculums

- Introduction to domestic minor sex trafficking (DMST) in Connecticut
- Introduction to human trafficking in Connecticut for law enforcement (POST certified)
- Introduction to DMST in Connecticut for emergency medical services (EMS)
- DMST of boys and male-bodied youth
- Human Trafficking Day 1—Understanding commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC) and DMST
- Human Trafficking Day 2—Working with youth at risk of CSEC/DMST as well as labor trafficking by helping staff understand and engage with child victims
- Fostering in the best and hardest of times: Helping foster parents care for high-risk kids and child victims of commercial sexual exploitation
- Youth awareness of DMST
- Youth prevention—Not a #Number (Love146 https://love146.org)

Training of Trainers (TOT)

- More than 15 training of trainers (TOT) courses
  - 2 full days each
  - Classroom teach back
  - Live teach back
  - 152 trainers statewide
  - 87 trainees to complete live teach back
  - Faculty meetings annually
    - Review what is working and what is not working
    - Newest research, data, etc.
    - Curriculum updates
  - HHS ACF pre- and post surveys

Referrals by Year
January 1, 2008 – December 31, 2017
n=846

- Number of Referrals
- Number of Boys
- Number of Girls
- Number of Transgendered
RESOURCES

PANEL 4: ADDRESSING THE TRAFFICKING NEEDS OF MINORS AND YOUNG ADULTS

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q1zeDYS3gWs&feature=youtu.be


