

When Help is Out of Reach

Collaborating to Address Trafficking in
Marginalized Communities



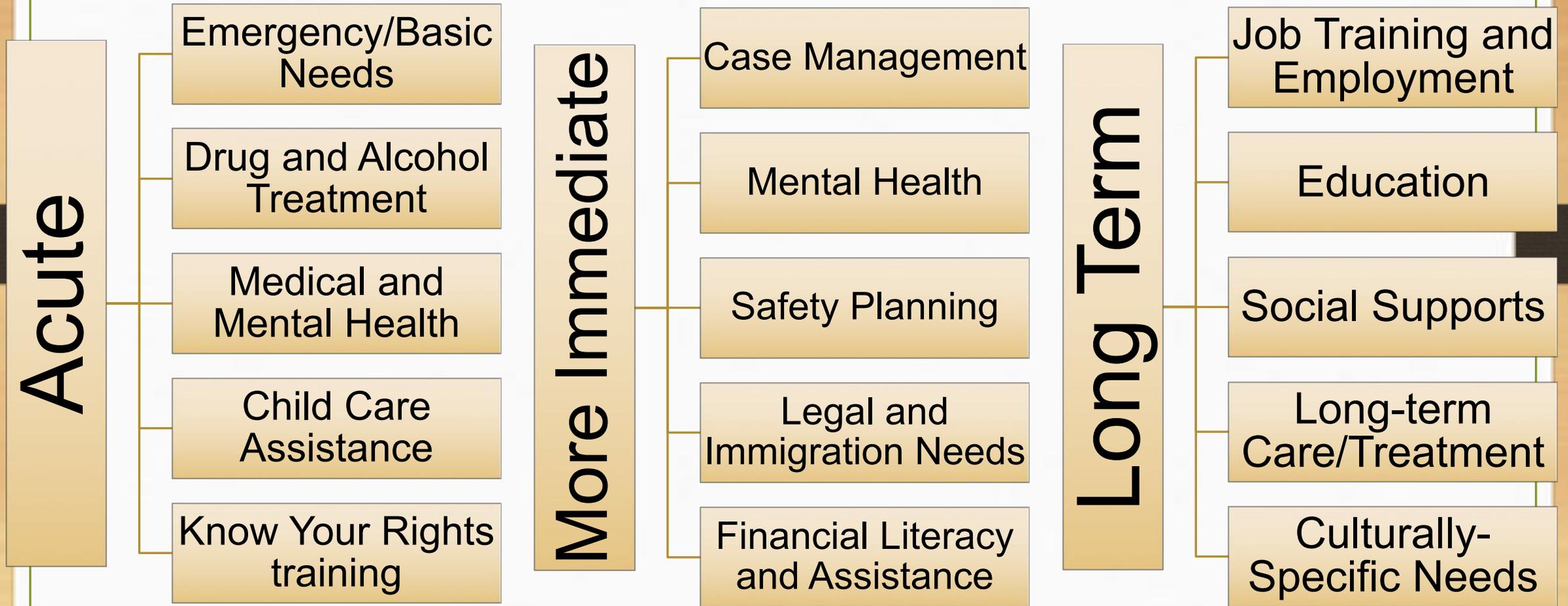
Training Objectives

At the end of this workshop, participants will be better able to:

- Identify how the needs of trafficking victims differ from other victims of crime.
- Provide a victim-centered response to underserved populations
- Identify necessary resources to ensure a holistic response and approach to survivors of trafficking.
- Identify collaborations and partnerships to further increase organizational capacity to provide victim-services and support.



Needs of Those Who Have Been Trafficked



Underserved and Marginalized Populations

Immigrants
and Refugees

Youth

LGBTQ

Males

Individuals
with
Disabilities

Mental Illness
and Substance
Use Disorders



Survivor Story

In India, 20 year old Lucy is recruited to work in an American household providing domestic help. She is promised \$1,000 per week and a 40-hour work week. Lucy enters the U.S. on a Visitor's Visa. When Lucy arrives in the U.S., the employers (a married couple with two small children) take her documents for safekeeping and tell Lucy that she is not allowed to go anywhere without them. Lucy is expected to perform child care and household chores 16 hours per day, 7 days per week. She is paid \$100 per week, some of which must be returned to her employers for lodging and food fees.



Immigrants and Refugees

Vulnerabilities

Limited culturally-specific services and resources

Social isolation, fear

Unaware of their rights, available services, or victimization

Communication barriers and limited language accessibility

High rates of discrimination and cultural-intolerance

Unique Considerations

Involve other professionals trained in immigration and culturally-specific services

Ensure a language access plan is in place and that interpretation services are available

Ensure resources and materials are available in multiple languages

Ensure staff and service-providers are trained in cultural-humility and that services are culturally-specific



A Sex Trafficking Survivor Shares Her Story

Youth

Vulnerabilities

Less likely to self-identify as being trafficked or provide information about their trafficker

Poverty, need for basic resources

Foster care/welfare system

Limited support systems and supervision

Homeless and runaway

Unique Considerations

Identify an appropriate guardian as well as familial/community support systems

Build partnerships with agencies that conduct street-based services, outreach, and alternative-living services

Identify and utilize key partnerships with Juvenile Justice, Child Protective Services, Child Advocacy Centers, etc.

Advocate for professionals trained in working with children and adolescents



LGBTQ

Vulnerabilities

High rates of homelessness and runaways

High rates of discrimination

Increased experiences of violence and trauma (current and/or history)

Social Isolation, withdrawal from support network

Feelings of rejection, shame, self-loathing

Unique Considerations

Ensure cultural-sensitivity among service providers through training, education, and increasing awareness

Clearly demonstrate that your agency is committed to providing services regardless of gender identity or sexual orientation

Increase accessibility of resources (ie. hang posters, distribute materials, etc.)



Males

Vulnerabilities

Less likely to self-identify or report their trafficking situation

Less likely to seek help and assistance

Limited resources and services available specific to males

Feelings of shame and self-loathing

Fear of rejection and disbelief

Unique Considerations

Build relationships and partnerships with agencies that provide male-focused services

Ensure gender sensitivity in all aspects of victim identification, advocacy, and service delivery

Be aware of heightened concerns for privacy, mental health, and victimization



Survivor Story

Joseph is a 45-year-old male with Down Syndrome. A family friend, Robert, offered him a room to stay, and a job at his local restaurant. Joseph moved into the home and began working at the restaurant. Robert deducted the cost of living from Joseph's wages and offered to assist in managing his disability benefits. Joseph agreed to this. After 8 months, Joseph's coworkers at the restaurant noticed that he looked very tired, and that he kept telling them how hard he's working to pay off his debt to Robert for his room and food. Joseph further confides that he hasn't received an income in a long time and has started doing all the housework and yardwork in addition to his daily 12-hour shift at the restaurant.



Individuals with Disabilities

Vulnerabilities

Reliance on others for basic needs, self-care, and medical needs

Residential placements (ie. Group homes, facilities, etc.)

Social security/disability benefits

Social isolation

Communication barriers

Lack of understanding of victimization

Unique Considerations

Build relationships and partnerships with agencies that provide disability services

Provide materials in alternate formats (ie. large print, Braille, CD-ROM) and languages

Increase accessibility of resources (ie. simple language, large print, symbols, pictures)

Speak directly with the survivor to determine what they need; be aware of non-verbal cues.



Ali

Individuals with Mental Illness and/or Substance Abuse

Vulnerabilities

Limited availability and access to mental health/substance use services

History of physical and/or sexual abuse

Co-occurrence of trauma, mental illness and substance use

Social Isolation, withdrawal from support network

Significant feelings of guilt, shame, self-loathing

Unique Considerations

Build relationships and partnerships with agencies that provide appropriate services

Ensure basic needs are met first

Identify and utilize a range of trauma-informed interventions and support strategies

Speak directly with the survivor to determine what they need; be aware of non-verbal cues.



Victim-Centered and Trauma-Informed Approach

Reduces re-traumatization

Builds on survivor's strengths

Gives priority to survivor's wishes, safety, and well-being in all matters and procedures

Connects survivors to specialized services

Considers poly-victimization and impact of trauma

Ensures compassionate and sensitive delivery of services

Prevents negative help-seeking experiences



The Making of a Girl



Key Components of an Effective Response

Understand the complexity of trafficking cases

Confidentiality

Language access

Identify and understand survivor needs

Safety

Individualized Planning

Long-term supports

Cultural and Population-specific



Collaborating to Address Trafficking



Health Care

- Medical Care
- Dental Services
- Health Screening

Social Services

- Shelter access
- Victim services
- Advocacy

Peer Support

- Building connections with others who have been trafficked
- Advocacy

Legal Services

- Legal counsel
- T visa application
- Criminal record expungement

Behavioral Health

- Substance use treatment
- Therapeutic counseling
- School counseling
- Behavioral health services



Improving Organizational Capacity to Reach Marginalized Communities

Collaboration

Trust

Likeability

Agency
Involvement and
Commitment

Competence

Policies and
Procedures

Funding



Ernesto Sirolli: Want to Help Someone?

North Carolina Dept. of Administration Council for Women and Youth Involvement

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