

## State Response to Human Trafficking

Hearing on Human Trafficking  
Senate Judiciary Committee

July 29, 2008

## State Response

- Two Major Responsibilities
  - Annual Human Trafficking Report
  - Statewide Human Trafficking Task Force

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## Statewide Human Trafficking Task Force

- Statutorily mandated in 2006 (§ 299A.79)
- Required Commissioner of Public Safety to develop:
  - Ways to train agencies, law enforcement and social services,
  - Increase public awareness, and develop
  - Procedures to enable state government to work with non-governmental organizations to prevent trafficking

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## Statewide Human Trafficking Task Force

- Per § 299A.7955 the commissioner created the Statewide Human Trafficking Task Force to:
  - advise the commissioner on a statewide assessment and plan to address and prevent trafficking in Minnesota
- Specifically the task force will:
  - Analyze data collection
  - Develop a training plan
  - Develop a public awareness initiative

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## Statewide Human Trafficking Task Force

- 22 legislatively mandated members
- Meets quarterly
  - First meeting in Sept. 28, 2006
  - Meetings are open to the public
- Sunsets in 2010

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## HT Report Requirements

- Minnesota Statutes section 299A.785 requires DPS to complete annual studies on the extent and type of human trafficking occurring in our state
- Annual study conducted by Danette Buskovick, Director, Statistical Analysis Center, Office of Justice Programs
- Due September 1<sup>st</sup> each year.

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## HT Report Requirements

- Specifically:
  - Numbers of arrests, prosecutions and successful convictions of traffickers and those committing trafficking related crimes
  - Number of victims, demographics, methods of recruitment and discovery
  - Trafficking routes and patterns, places of origin
  - Methods of transportation used in trafficking
  - Social factors that contribute to trafficking

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## Methodology

- 1<sup>st</sup> Report - 2006
  - In-depth interviews
  - Literature review
  - On-line survey of service providers
- 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Report – 2007 & 2008
  - On-line survey of service providers, police chiefs & county sheriffs, and nurses

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## 2008 Human Trafficking in Minnesota Legislative Report

- Preliminary data

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## Response Rates

- Service Providers (N = 111)
- Law Enforcement (N = 209)
- Nurses (N = 120)

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## Respondent Demographics

- Service Providers
  - 60% domestic violence
  - 54% sexual assault
  - 49% general crime
  - Respondents from all 87 counties
  - 48% received specialized training on human trafficking
  - 17% - very or extremely knowledgeable about human trafficking, 20% - not very knowledgeable

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## Respondent Demographics

- Law Enforcement
  - 149 police chiefs
  - 40 county sheriffs
  - 62% not trained on human trafficking issues
  - 5% have a person or unit dedicated to prostitution and related crimes
  - 3% have a person or unit dedicated to human trafficking and related crimes

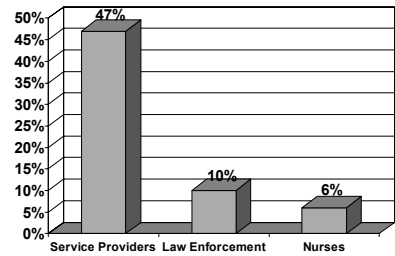
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## Respondent Demographics

- Nurses
  - 40 counties represented
  - 42% work in hospital (non-emergency)
  - Only 4 nurses report training on human trafficking
  - 52% - somewhat knowledgeable about human trafficking, 37% - not very or not at all knowledgeable

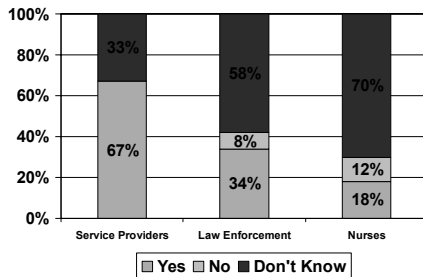
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## % who have worked with at least one victim of human trafficking or had at least one human trafficking investigation or arrest



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## A Growing Problem in Minnesota?



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## At the time of the survey...

- Service providers reported:
  - 5 male, 32 female, 2 child labor trafficking victims
  - 1 male, 210 female, 64 child sex trafficking victims
- Law enforcement respondents reported:
  - 29 active human trafficking investigations
    - 6 labor trafficking
    - 23 sex trafficking

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## Labor Trafficking

- 21 service providers have worked with labor trafficking victims
  - 6 report domestically trafficked victims
  - 14 report internationally trafficked victims
- 19 law enforcement respondents have had labor trafficking arrests or investigations
  - 6 report domestic labor arrests/investigations
  - 9 report international labor arrests/investigations
- 2 nurses reported treating a labor trafficking patient
  - 1 reported domestically trafficked patients
  - 0 reported internationally trafficked patients

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## Labor Trafficking

- 7 of the 19 law enforcement respondents with labor trafficking arrests or investigations have cases tied to gangs or gang activity
- 5 report labor arrests or investigations with child victims

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## Labor Trafficking

- Service providers and law enforcement report victims exploited in:
  - Domestic homes (i.e., as nannies, housekeepers, etc.)
  - Restaurants
  - Food processing
  - Agriculture
  - Factories

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## Labor Trafficking

- Service providers & law enforcement report domestic labor trafficking victims from:
  - Around Minnesota (Anoka County, Duluth, Hennepin County, Ramsey County, Wright County)
  - Around the Midwest (Chicago, Iowa, Wisconsin, South Dakota)
  - All over the United States (CA, CO, FL, GA, Las Vegas, NY, SC, San Francisco, TN, TX)

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## Labor Trafficking

- Service providers & law enforcement report international labor trafficking victims from:
  - Mexico (N = 8)
  - China (N = 4) & other Asian countries (Cambodia, Korea, Laos, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Vietnam)
  - South & Central America (Columbia, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Peru)
  - African countries (Cameroon, Somalia, Zambia)
  - Middle Eastern countries (United Arab Republic, Iran, Saudi Arabia)
  - Russia & Ukraine, Jamaica & Puerto Rico

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## Sex Trafficking

- 39 service providers have worked with sex trafficking victims
  - 23 reported domestically trafficked clients
  - 19 reported internationally trafficked clients
- 20 law enforcement respondents report sex trafficking arrests or investigations
  - 8 reported domestic arrests/investigations
  - 6 reported international arrests/investigations
- 4 nurses report treating sex trafficking patients
  - 1 reported domestically trafficked patients
  - 0 reported internationally trafficked patients

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## Sex Trafficking

- 8 of the 20 law enforcement respondents with sex trafficking arrests or investigations have cases tied to gangs
- 7 report cases/investigations with child victims

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## Sex Trafficking

- Services providers & law enforcement report victims exploited in:
  - Forced prostitution/escort services
  - Forced stripping
  - Forced pornography
  - Servile marriage

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## Sex Trafficking

- Service providers & law enforcement report domestic sex trafficking victims from across Minnesota and the United States:
  - Illinois/Chicago (N = 7)
  - Las Vegas/Nevada (N = 6)
  - Wisconsin (N = 4)
  - Minnesota (Hennepin, Anoka Dakota, Ramsey & Wright counties, Duluth, Faribault, Mankato, Minneapolis, Northfield, Rochester)
  - A variety of other states from Texas to California and Missouri to New York

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## Sex Trafficking

- Service providers & law enforcement report international sex trafficking victims from all over the world:
  - Mexico/Vera Cruz (N = 9)
  - China (N = 4)
  - Russia (N = 4)
  - Asia (Laos, Vietnam, Japan, Korea, Philippines, Taiwan, and Thailand)
  - Africa (Ethiopia, Nigeria, Somalia, Sudan, Togo, Zambia)
  - South & Central America (Columbia, Guatemala, Venezuela)

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## Final Comments

- These are preliminary findings – final report in September
- Report will also include information on:
  - Training needs
  - Needed/missing resources
  - Barriers to serving victims
  - Length of investigations
  - Experience with Native women & girls as victims

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