

Human Trafficking

Recognizing & Responding



JANUARY IS HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS MONTH



@theccaht



CCAHT

```
graph LR; A[Governor's Safety Planning Commission] --> B[Single Point of Contact Model (SPOC)]; B --> C[Tennessee Counter-Trafficking Alliance (TCTA)];
```

Governor's
Safety Planning
Commission

Single Point of
Contact Model
(SPOC)

Tennessee
Counter-
Trafficking
Alliance (TCTA)



RestoreCorps

Empower Survivors • Equip Communities • Change the System



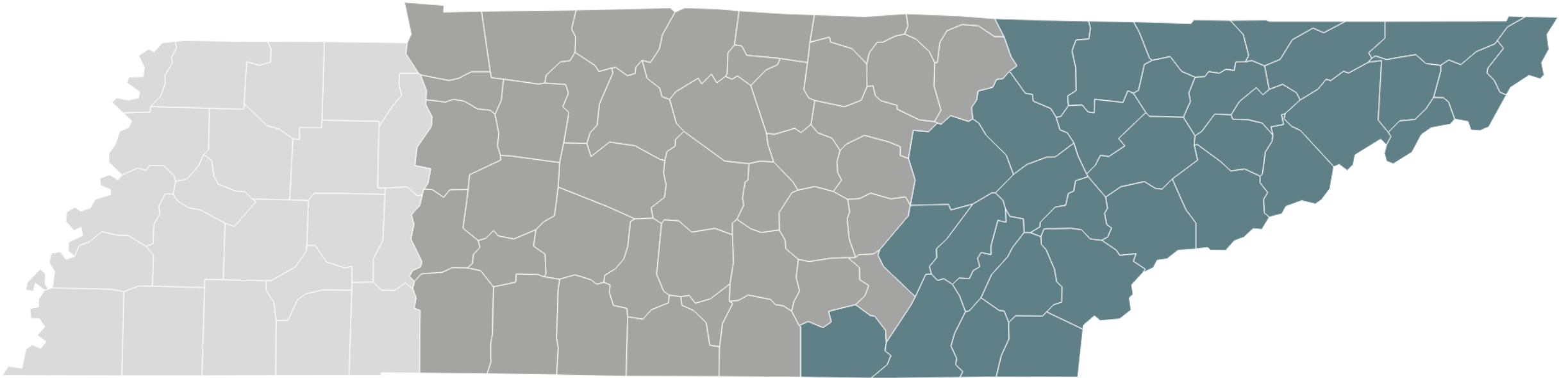
Ancora^{TN}

CCAHT

COMMUNITY COALITION
AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING

POWERING

grow
FREE
TENNESSEE



A white van is parked on a paved surface in front of a brick building and large green trees. The scene is dimly lit, possibly due to a filter or overcast weather. Overlaid on the center of the image is the text "Myth vs. Reality" in a dark teal, cursive script font.

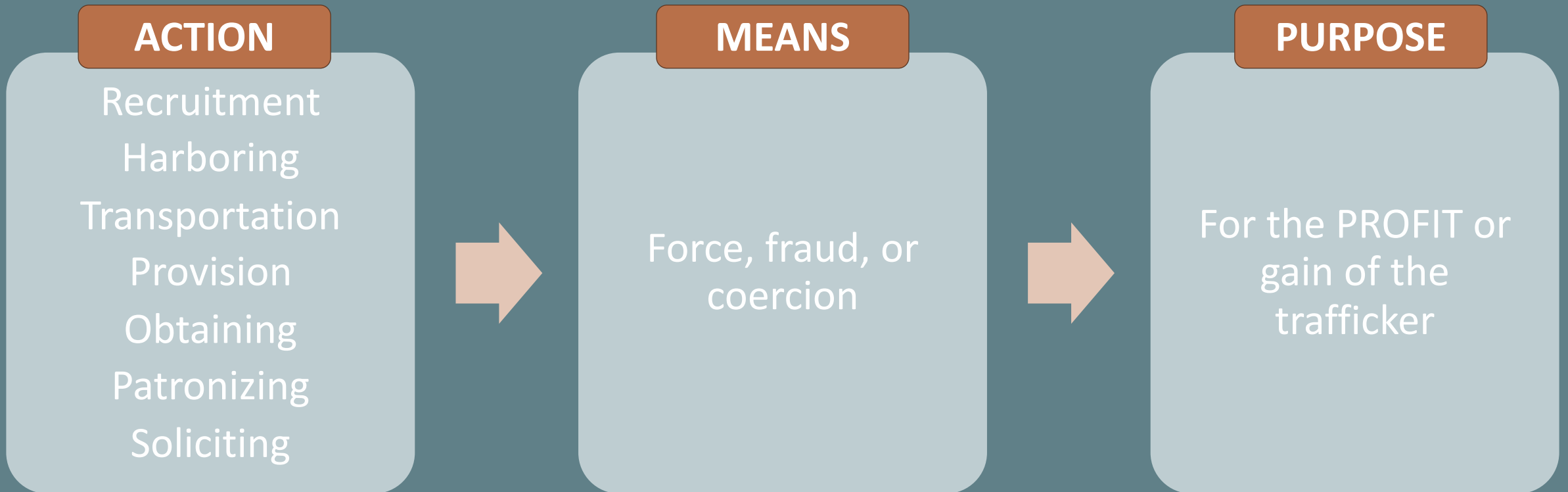
Myth vs. Reality

Realities

- Only 6% of victims of human trafficking are abducted.
- Over 90% are recruited/exploited by someone they know, trust, and/or love (family member, intimate partner, friend/acquaintance/ coworker, or employer) for both labor and sex trafficking.
- The top 5 methods used to compel victims to remain in the trafficking situation are economic abuse, emotional abuse, intimidation, isolation, and threats (only 14% are physically abused).
- Human trafficking is often confused with kidnapping/false imprisonment, human smuggling, domestic violence, sexual assault/battery, child abuse & neglect, prostitution, etc. HT may or may not include elements of those crimes.
- 95% of traffickers are U.S. citizens
- Human trafficking is about (1) vulnerabilities, (2) power & control, and (3) profit

What Is Human Trafficking?

The use of force, fraud, or coercion
to obtain some type of labor/services or commercial sex act





Does This Actually
Happen Here?

Findings Summary

- Much of what we know about how human trafficking happens and who is vulnerable remained the same during the pandemic. No substantial changes in these trends were observed during the January 2020-August 2022 timeframe.
- Trends that did change were specific to the identity of Hotline signalers and the rates of reporting of online sexual exploitation.

TOP NUMBERS

(1/1/2020-8/31/2022)

Total Trafficking Situations, by Form



Form of Trafficking	# of Situations
Labor	2,873
Sex	19,283
Sex and Labor ¹	1,005
Other/Not Specified ²	3,711
Grand total	26,872

Total Likely Trafficking Victims, by Form



Form of Trafficking	# of Likely Victims
Labor	9,735
Sex	27,370
Sex and Labor	1,862
Other/Not Specified	4,004
Grand Total	42,887³

¹ Situations where the form of trafficking is 'Sex and Labor' involve both indicators of commercial sex and labor by force, fraud, or coercion, or if there are indicators of commercial sex being performed by a minor alongside indicators of labor or services happening through force, fraud, or coercion.

² Situations where the form of trafficking is 'Other/Not Specified' typically occur when a law enforcement agent or service provider contacts the Trafficking Hotline for resources and referrals but does not disclose details about the trafficking situation due to confidentiality. This category also includes situations in which the person reporting the information references human trafficking but does not provide further detail regarding the presence of labor or commercial sex. These cases are often submitted to the Trafficking Hotline through anonymous online tip reports.

³ This count is non-cumulative, as individuals may be victimized in multiple situations.

Trafficking Victims During the COVID-19 Pandemic

Hotline data during the pandemic showed that victim demographics largely followed existing trends.



In situations of sex trafficking, 37% of potential victims were minors; in situations of labor trafficking, 9% of potential victims were minors.



In situations of sex trafficking, 80% of victims were female, and in situations of sex and labor trafficking, 66% of victims were female. In situations of labor trafficking where gender was identified, most victims were male.



In situations where the victims' race or ethnicity was known,⁴ Latino/a-identifying people comprised 82% of labor trafficking situations. In sex trafficking situations where the victims' race or ethnicity was known, victims were African American (21%), Asian (25%), Latino/a (20%), and White/Caucasian (32%).

Hotline data also showed that vulnerabilities to trafficking during the pandemic were similar to those reported prior to the the pandemic. In situations where vulnerabilities were known,⁵ the top five risk factors included:

TOP 5 RISK FACTORS/VULNERABILITIES

(1/1/2020-8/31/2022)

Labor Trafficking

Recent Migration/Relocation

Unaccompanied Foreign Minor⁶

Unstable Housing

Self-Reported Economic Hardship

Substance Use Concern

Sex Trafficking

Substance Use Concern

Unstable Housing

Runaway/Homeless Youth

Recent Migration/Relocation

Mental Health Concern

These risk factors are consistent with pre-pandemic data and highlight the need to address systemic issues that create vulnerability to trafficking, including but not limited to those mentioned here.

⁴ Race/ethnicity information was only provided for 26% of victims (n = 11,242).

⁵ Risk factors/vulnerabilities were known for 30% of victims (n = 12,852).

⁶ "Unaccompanied Foreign Minor" is selected as a risk factor or vulnerability when, prior to the start of exploitation relevant to the described trafficking situation, the victim or survivor could have ever been described as a youth under the age of 18 who entered the United States, without a parent, relative, or other responsible adult to care for them. Non-citizen children who enter the U.S. with relatives who are unable to care for them are still considered to be unaccompanied.

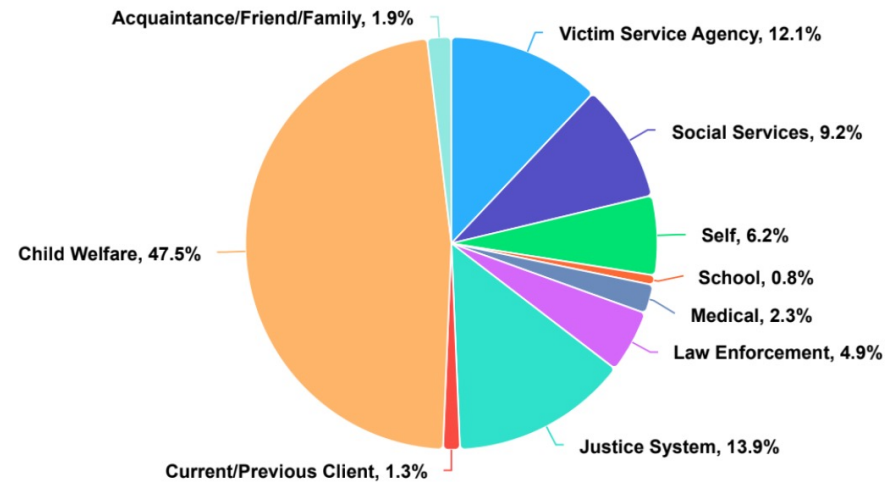


Tennessee Statistics

- Polaris received 525 hotline calls from Tennessee in 2021.
- TBI received 1,291 hotline tips in 2022.
- In 2023, CCAHT received 531 new referrals (213 youth).

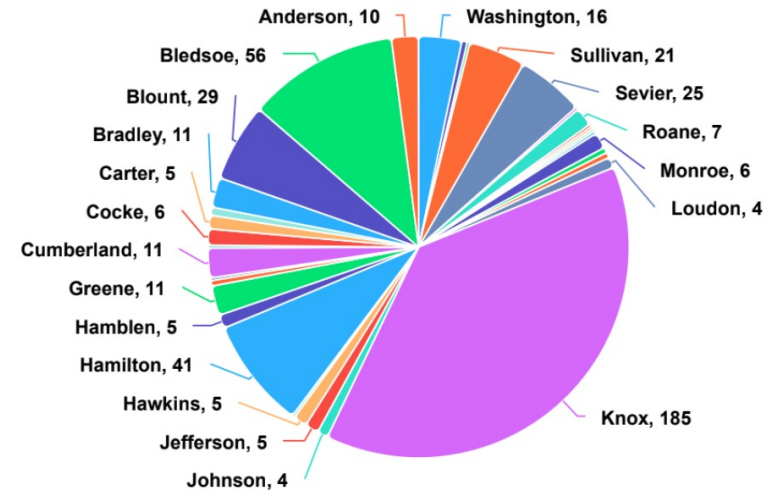
CCAHT 2023 Referrals

GFTN 2023 Referrals* by Source



**Based on data available at the time of contact.
This does not represent all referral sources in 2023.*

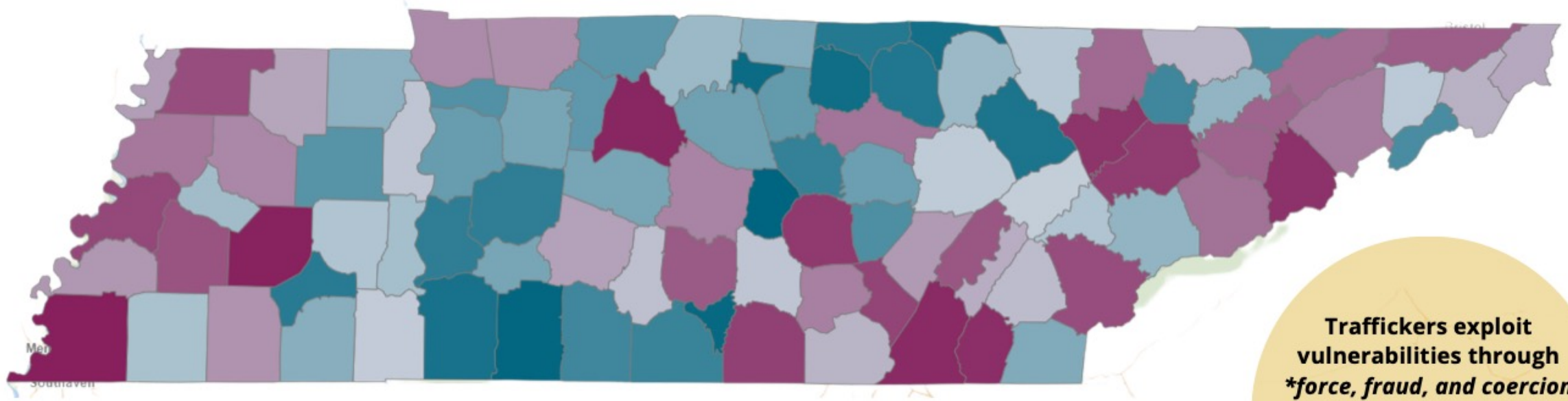
GFTN 2023 Referrals* by County



**Based on data available at the time of contact.
This does not represent all referrals in 2023.*

BY VPI SCORE

The **Vulnerable Population Index (VPI) score** is developed from a variety of publicly available data sources to help identify which counties have a prevalence of populations that are most at-risk of trafficking in Tennessee.*



*Those most at-risk of human trafficking in Tennessee:

- Individuals experiencing **homelessness**, especially runaway and homeless youth
- **Gang-Involved** Youth
- Youth in and aging out of **foster care**
- **Drug-endangered** children
- Refugees and recent **migrants**
- Those who have already suffered other types of **abuse or exploitation** (e.g. domestic violence and sexual assault)

The top 10 counties with the highest risk for human trafficking include:

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| #1 Shelby | #6 Cocke |
| #2 Madison | #7 Anderson |
| #3 Davidson | #8 Warren |
| #4 Hamilton | #9 Knox |
| #5 Bradley | #10 Franklin |

Traffickers exploit vulnerabilities through **force, fraud, and coercion* luring victims with promises of work, shelter, food, and support.

Labor Trafficking

Work or provide services without pay/little pay

The use of force, fraud, or coercion to make an individual...

Sex Trafficking

Engage in a commercial sex act(s)

"Commercial" – profit-oriented



Labor Trafficking

T.C.A. §39-13-308 – *Labor Trafficking*
T.C.A. § 39-13-307 – *Involuntary Servitude*

Recruits
Entices
Harbors
Transports
Provides
Obtains



Another person,
intending or
knowing that the
person will be
subjected to
involuntary
servitude



Causing serious bodily harm
Physically restraining
Abusing the law or legal
process
Destroying, etc.
government documents
Using blackmail
Controlling access to
substances
Controlling movements
through threats or violence

Sex Trafficking



T.C.A. §39-13-309 – *Sex Trafficking*

Recruits
Entices
Harbors
Transports
Provides
Purchases
Obtains



Another person for
the purpose of
providing a
commercial sex act



Causing serious bodily harm
Physically restraining
Abusing the law or legal
process
Destroying, etc.
government documents
Using blackmail
Controlling access to
substances

Familial

- Family member acts as the trafficker
- Most common form of sex trafficking in rural communities
- Often multi-generational
- Crime of opportunity; recruitment of victims is convenience-based; may only be advertised by word-of-mouth

Intimate Partner

- Someone outside the home/family
- Someone in a “relationship” with their victim
- Involves strategic, targeted exploitation of vulnerability(ies)



Who Is at Risk?

- Anyone with a vulnerability can be exploited
 - Human trafficking does not discriminate
- Vulnerabilities do not make someone deserving of being trafficked
 - Many vulnerabilities are outside of one's control

Vulnerabilities

Involvement with the child welfare or
juvenile justice systems

History of running away

Homelessness

Economic hardship

LGBTQ+

Immigrant or refugee status

History of physical or sexual abuse

Self or familial substance use or mental
health problems

Unmet intangible needs (*e.g.*, love,
affection, belonging, protection)

Low self-esteem/lack of identity

Lack of familial/relational/social
supports

Medical care

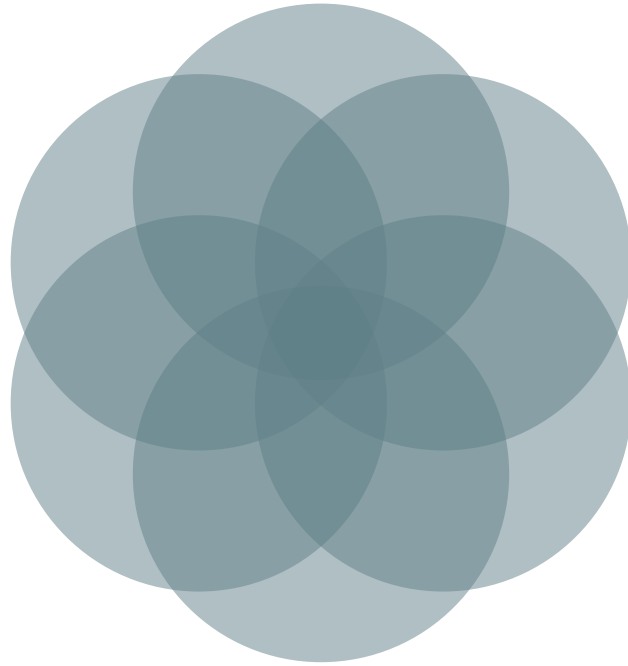
Emotional /
mental /
behavioral
health needs

Legal help

Food, housing,
transportation,
etc.

Child care

Education /
employment



Law
Enforcement

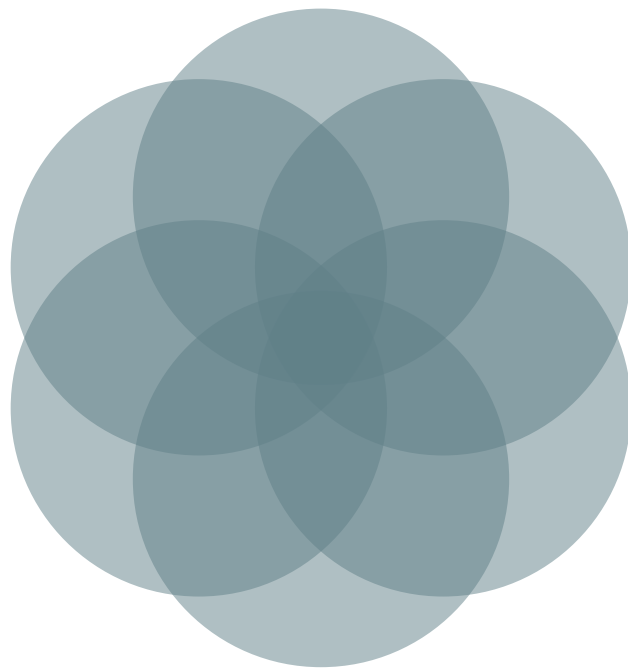
Medical
Professionals

Prosecutors

Schools

DCS

NGOs



Private-Sector Intersections

Tennessee Businesses Against Trafficking

T.C.A. § 38-1-101. Tennessee Businesses Against Trafficking

- a) The secretary of state shall establish and implement a program designated as the Tennessee Businesses Against Trafficking program to engage participating corporations and other private entities in voluntary efforts to identify, prevent, and combat human trafficking.
- b) The secretary of state shall present a certificate of recognition to a participating corporation or private entity to recognize the corporation's or entity's contributions to the efforts of federal, state, and local officials engaged in combatting human trafficking and prosecuting human trafficking crimes.
- c) A corporation or other private entity that participates in the program shall:
 - 1. Adopt a zero-tolerance policy toward human trafficking;
 - 2. Take measures to ensure that the corporation's or entity's employees comply with rules promulgated by the secretary of state's office related to the program;
 - 3. Participate in training and public awareness and education campaigns;
 - 4. Enhance awareness of and encourage participation in the program; and
 - 5. Share with the secretary of state best practices that are effective in combatting human trafficking.
- d) The secretary of state shall work collaboratively with other state agencies and advisory councils to promote the program.

CCAHT

Raise awareness about the issue of human trafficking

Train and equip primary responders regarding human trafficking

Oversee locally-focused, collaborative efforts through which counter-trafficking work can flourish

Chart a clear, restorative path for human trafficking survivors through our direct services program, Grow Free Tennessee



Grow Free TN

- Adult services

- Emergency Receiving Center
- Phoenix House
- Care coordination
- Therapy
- As You Are program

- Youth services

- Care coordination
- Therapy
- Psycho-education
- Foundations program
- Prevention education

What Can You Do to Help?

Refer

(create a safe space for survivors and provide support but connect to HT services)

Educate

(raise awareness, host trainings, engage in campaigns and initiatives etc.)

Advocate

(advocate for strengthened legislation and allocation of resources)

Prevent

(meet basic needs, address vulnerabilities, address demand for labor and sex)

Volunteer

(devote time and talents to local counter-trafficking organizations and initiatives)

Donate

(include local counter-trafficking organizations in charitable giving plans)

Make a Report

National Human Trafficking Hotline:

1-888-373-7888

TN Human Trafficking Hotline:

1-855-558-6484

TN Child Protective Services:

877-237-0004

CCAHT 24/7 Hotline:

865-292-0285

CCAHT

COMMUNITY COALITION
AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING

POWERING
grow
FREE
TENNESSEE



(865) 292-0285



info@ccaht.org



www.growfreetn.org



PO Box 20937
Knoxville, TN 37940