

Adult Advocacy
Centers

A Resource Guidebook for Human Trafficking Victims and Survivors with Disabilities

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Contents

Introduction 4

Acknowledgments 4

Disclaimer 4

Legal References 4

Types and Definitions of Human Trafficking 5

Types of Human Trafficking 5

Definitions of Human Trafficking 5

Statistics, Reporting and Victims and Survivors of Human Trafficking 7

Polaris and Human Trafficking Statistics 7

Reporting Human Trafficking 8

Victims and Survivors of Human Trafficking 8

Victims and Survivors of Human Trafficking with Disabilities 9

Resources for Human Trafficking Victims and Survivors 10

Nonprofit Organizations 10

State Departments and County Programs 16

Public Benefits 17

Federal Resources 18

National Resources 19

Planning for Safety 22

Safety Planning Resources 22

Internet Safety 23

Trauma and Mental Health Resources for Victims and Survivors of Human Trafficking 24

Trauma 24

Trauma Bonding 25

How Trauma Works in the Brain 25

Manifestation of Trauma and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder 26

Mental Health Resources 27

Prosecuting Human Traffickers and Supporting Victims and Survivors 28

Ohio Organizations Involved in Prosecuting Human Traffickers 28

Federal Organizations Involved in Prosecuting Human Traffickers 29

Criminal Justice Resources for Victims and Survivors of Human Trafficking 31

Legal Advocacy Organizations 31

Forensic Interviews 32

Protection Orders 32

Reasonable Accommodations 33

Courts with Specialized Dockets for Victims and Survivors of Human Trafficking 34

Safe Harbor, Expungement and Record Sealing 35

Legal Aid 37

Marsy's Law 40

Ohio's Victims of Crime Compensation Program 40

Private Right to Sue 42

Human Trafficking Initiatives 43

Ohio Human Trafficking Initiatives 43

Federal Human Trafficking Initiatives and Acts 44

Conclusion and Additional Resources 46

References 47

Glossary 50





Introduction

Human trafficking is pervasive and profoundly impacts people's lives. Human trafficking often involves physical and emotional abuse, rape and psychological trauma to victims and survivors (Canfield, 2020).

The Adult Advocacy Centers (AACs) created this guidebook to highlight information for victims and survivors with disabilities. The focus on disabilities is due to the disproportionate risk of trafficking for individuals with disabilities and the common use of manipulation, control, devaluation, abuse, rape, assault and theft by traffickers, which results in significant psychological harm to victims and survivors (Daire, 2021).

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Disclaimer

This guide is intended to be informational only. It is not designed to be legal guidance or a substitution for legal advice. The AACs cannot guarantee the continued accuracy of the referenced information, websites or statements. The information provided was accurate at the time of publication but is subject to change. Individuals and organizations are encouraged to contact the AACs to contribute information or to report any inaccuracies. It is the goal of the AACs to continually update resource materials with the help of the many experts working toward justice for victims and survivors of human trafficking.

Legal References

The content of this publication includes state and federal law. Examples of pertinent Ohio Revised Code (ORC) and the United States Code (USC) provisions are referenced throughout this publication. This guidebook should be considered a general source of information and should not be considered a substitute for legal advice.



Types and Definitions of Human Trafficking

Types of Human Trafficking

There are many forms of human trafficking, including sex trafficking, labor trafficking, bonded labor or debt bondage, domestic servitude, and unlawful recruitment and use of child soldiers. This guidebook will focus on sex and labor trafficking, as they are the most common forms of human trafficking and the most common forms of trafficking perpetrated against people with disabilities.

Definitions of Human Trafficking

Under U.S. federal law, severe forms of human trafficking in persons include both sex trafficking and labor trafficking, according to the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) definition.

Sex trafficking is the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, obtaining, patronizing or soliciting of a person for the purposes of a commercial sex act, in which the commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such an act has not attained 18 years of age (22 USC §7102).

Labor trafficking is the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision or obtaining of a person for labor or services through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purposes of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage or slavery (22 USC § 7102).

Ohio's laws regarding human trafficking are similar to the federal laws cited above and are codi-

fied in ORC §2905.32. It is important to note that Ohio's law no longer differentiates between victims and survivors who are 16 and 17 years old. This change means that no one under the age of 18 is required to show fraud, force or coercion. This is also true for victims and survivors with disabilities.

Another way to visualize the definitions of human trafficking is through the Action-Means-Purpose (AMP) model (listed below), which was created by Polaris. A trafficker takes an Action, through a specific Means for a specific Purpose:

Action	A trafficker induces, recruits, harbors, transports, provides or obtains ...
Means	...through force, fraud or coercion* ...
Purpose	...commercial sex (sex trafficking) or labor/services (labor trafficking).

*Due to increased risk factors and vulnerabilities, force, fraud, and coercion do not have to be proven if a victim of human trafficking is a minor or has a disability (Polaris, 2019).



Statistics, Reporting and Victims and Survivors of Human Trafficking

Human trafficking statistics are generated from reports, and because victims and survivors face physical and emotional violence, it is likely that many incidents of human trafficking go unreported. Due to underreporting, it is likely that any statistics related to human trafficking underestimate actual incidents. National and state statistics that report information and resources for victims and survivors of human trafficking are listed below.

Polaris and Human Trafficking Statistics

Polaris is a nonprofit, nongovernmental organization that works to prevent human trafficking. Polaris operates the National Human Trafficking Hotline and collects non-identifying statistics regarding the calls they receive (National Human Trafficking Hotline, 2021).

Ohio and national statistics for 2019 from the Polaris' National Human Trafficking Hotline are listed below. However, it is important to understand that there are many ways to report human trafficking, so the numbers of victims and survivors of human trafficking are difficult to collect. The data does not include statistics for human trafficking gathered by other means within the state or nationally.

Calls to the National Human Trafficking Hotline

Ohio

1,178 contacts

450 human trafficking cases reported

United States

48,326 contacts

11,500 human trafficking cases reported

(Polaris, 2020)

Reporting Human Trafficking

As mentioned above, the National Human Trafficking Hotline is operated by Polaris and has anti-human-trafficking advocates available to take reports of potential human trafficking 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

Information provided to the National Human Trafficking Hotline is confidential, and individuals can choose to remain anonymous. Interpreters are available by phone to provide translation in more than 200 languages (Polaris, 2019). Contact information for Polaris' National Human Trafficking Hotline is listed below.

National Human Trafficking Hotline

Phone: 1-888-373-7888

Text: 233733 (BeFree)

Website: humantraffickinghotline.org

Webchat: humantraffickinghotline.org/chat

Phone number for Deaf and hard of hearing people: 711 - *This free national access number can connect callers to Telecommunications Relay Services.*

Email: help@humantraffickinghotline.org

Submit an Online Tip: humantraffickinghotline.org/report-trafficking

Safety Planning Information: humantraffickinghotline.org/faqs/safety-planning-information

Confidentiality Policy: humantraffickinghotline.org/confidentiality-policy

Victims and Survivors of Human Trafficking

The data collected for the 2020 Global Report on Trafficking in Persons shows that in 2018 approximately 50,000 human trafficking victims were detected and reported by 148 countries (United Nations, 2020). Many victims and survivors of human trafficking, especially those with

disabilities, do not see justice because their traffickers are not prosecuted (Marcelo, 2019). The section below reviews the scope of the problem and identifies potential resources.

Victims and Survivors of Human Trafficking with Disabilities

Local, national and international studies regarding human trafficking typically do not include a screening process to identify the presence of a victim's disability (Omole, 2016). Although data is sparse, a few reports recognize that having a disability places an individual at an increased risk of criminal victimization (Carpenter & Gates, 2016). Additionally, people with disabilities experienced violent victimization, such as rape, sexual assault, and aggravated assault, three times more frequently than people without disabilities (Bureau of Justice, 2017).



Resources for Human Trafficking Victims and Survivors

There are many organizations and programs doing work to support victims and survivors of human trafficking. These organizations may play a vital role in providing needed assistance and aiding in an individual's trauma recovery journey. Below is a list of resources available to Ohioans, including nonprofit organizations, state programs, public benefits, federal resources and national resources.

Nonprofit Organizations

Adult Advocacy Centers (AACs)

The vision of the AACs is to serve crime victims and survivors with disabilities. AACs staff are expertly trained to meet the needs of crime victims with disabilities in a holistic and comprehensive manner. The AACs offer forensic interviews and provide disability-related services with accommodations and program modifications, as needed.

Website: adultadvocacycenters.org

Anti-Human-Trafficking Coalitions

Ohio's Anti-Human-Trafficking Coalitions advocates for victims and survivors of human trafficking. A list of Coalitions in Ohio may be found using the following website.

Website: humantrafficking.ohio.gov/coalitions.html

Buckeye Region Anti-Violence Network (BRAVO)

BRAVO serves the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender communities. The organization provides individual and community programs for victims and survivors of intimate partner violence and sexual assault.

Phone: 866-86-BRAVO

Website: bravo.equitashealth.org

Cleveland Rape Crisis Center (CRCC)

CRCC supports survivors of sexual abuse and rape, promotes healing and prevention, and advocates for social change.

Address: 2937 W. 25th St., 2nd floor, Cleveland, OH 44113

Phone: 216-619-6194

24-Hour Crisis and Support Hotline: 216-619-6192 or 440-423-2020

24-Hour Sex Trafficking Advocacy and Recovery (STAR) Hotline: 855-431-7827

Website: clevelandrapecrisis.org

Collaborative to End Human Trafficking (CEHT)

CEHT's mission is to educate and advocate for the prevention and abolition of human trafficking while connecting services on behalf of victims and survivors of human trafficking.

Address: 24600 Center Ridge Road, Suite 225 Cleveland, OH 44145

Phone: 440-872-6500

Email: info@collabtoendht.org

Website: collabtoendht.org/contact.html

Crime Victim Services (CVS) of Allen and Putnam Counties

CVS is a comprehensive victim service provider, serving Allen and Putnam Counties in Ohio. CVS provides comprehensive victim services, operating programs that specifically address the needs of survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault and human trafficking.

Allen County Phone: 419-222-8666 or 877-867-7273

Allen County Email: lima@crimevictimservices.org

Putnam County Phone: 419-523-1111 or 877-274-7471

Putnam County Email: ottawa@crimevictimservices.org

Website: crimevictimservices.org/contact.html

Domestic Violence Shelters in Ohio

Action Ohio maintains a website that lists domestic violence (DV) shelters in Ohio, local contact information, local hotline numbers and a county map.

Website: actionohio.org/ohiodvshelter.htm

Freedom a la Cart

Freedom a la Cart created a 24-month life skills training and workforce development program that includes case management, job coaching, social connection, trauma counseling and financial literacy. Over 100 victims and survivors of human trafficking have participated in this program.

Address: 5000 Arlington Centre Blvd., Columbus, OH 43220

Phone: 614-992-3252

Website: freedomalacart.org

Homeless Shelter Directory

A list of Ohio shelters can be found on the website. Many are emergency shelters with general homeless shelters and some transitional housing opportunities. Please call the shelter first as some have long waiting lists.

Website: homelesshelterdirectory.org/ohio.html

Lucas County Human Trafficking Coalition

The Lucas County Human Trafficking Coalition covers Lucas, Wood, Ottawa, Sandusky and Seneca Counties. The coalition is comprised of health care, social services, law enforcement, government agencies, churches, citizens, and victims and survivors of human trafficking.

Contact Form: lchtc.org/contact-us

Website: lchtc.org/about-lchtc

Off the Streets Cincinnati Union Bethel (CUB)

Off the Streets is an evidence-based program that uses a culturally sensitive, trauma-responsive model to help victims and survivors find safety, recovery and empowerment. Comprehensive case management services may include direct services (short-term housing, mental health screening, therapy, counseling, health screening and medical care).

Address: 2401 Reading Road, Cincinnati, OH 45202

Phone: 513-768-6900

Email: info@cubcincy.org

Website: cubcincy.org/how-we-help-2/off-the-streets

Ohio Alliance to End Sexual Violence (OAESV)

The OAESV serves as Ohio's rape crisis coalition and is focused on preventing sexual violence and relationship violence among pre-teens and teens in Ohio.

Address: 6111 Oak Tree Blvd., Suite 140, Independence, OH 44131

Phone: 888-886-8388

Website: oaesv.org

Ohio Sexual Violence Helpline

The Ohio Sexual Violence Helpline is a 24/7 confidential resource providing advocacy and support for individuals experiencing sexual violence across Ohio. The helpline is staffed by trained advocates who provide confidential emotional support, crisis response, and information about options and local resources available to victims and survivors.

24/7 Helpline: 844-OHIO.HELP

Email: OhioSVHelpline@ohiohealth.com

Website: ohiosexualviolencehelpline.com

Out of Darkness

Out of Darkness is an anti-human-trafficking outreach and rescue organization for adult women victims of commercial sexual exploitation. Through weekly outreach, they offer hope and encouragement to women on the streets. Out of Darkness has a drop-in community center that has a community garden and lessons based on strength, identity and goal setting, as well as needed items, such as toiletries, a shared meal and connections to local resources.

Address: P.O. Box 1112, Westerville, OH 43086

Phone: 614-600-2154

Email: columbusoh@outofdarkness.org

Website: outofdarknesscolumbusoh.org

Reaching for the Shining Starz

This program provides hygiene bags, meals and basic clothing to women in the Columbus area who are caught in addiction, homelessness and human trafficking.

Address: P.O. Box 23402, Columbus, OH 43222

Contact Form: theshiningstarz.org/contact-us

Website: theshiningstarz.org

Renee Jones Empowerment Center (RJEC) and Project Red Cord

RJEC focuses on advocacy and support for victims and survivors of human trafficking. Staff and volunteers help victims and survivors of human trafficking to rebuild their lives by providing free life skills coaching, benefit identification, support groups, group therapy, journal writing and art therapy.

Address: 3764 Pearl Road, Suite #200, Cleveland, OH 44109

Phone: 216-417-0823 (limited hours of operation)

Contact Form: rjecempower.org/contact-us

Website: rjecempower.org

Safe at Home

Safe at Home is a program that helps victims and survivors of human trafficking and members of their households to shield their personal information from public records and provide a safe and secure way to participate in voting. Qualifying victims and survivors are assigned a substitute address designated by the Secretary of State's office. Organizations with application assistants, who can help victims and survivors with this process, are listed on the website.

Website: sos.state.oh.us/secretary-office/office-initiatives/safe-at-home

Salvation Army Central Ohio Area

The Salvation Army in Central Ohio serves as a primary victim services provider, offering a 24-hour response to calls from the National Human Trafficking Hotline, 24-hour emergency response to assist victims, long-term comprehensive case management, weekly street outreach, a weekly drop-in center for women trafficked in the sex industry (call to assure availability), and trauma and addiction groups to aid in healing.

Central Administrative Office Address: 966 East Main St., Columbus, OH 43205

Phone: 800-SAL-ARMY or 614-221-6561

Website: easternusa.salvationarmy.org/southwest-ohio/central-ohio

Sexual Assault Response Network of Central Ohio (SARNCO)

SARNCO provides services at OhioHealth Emergency Departments and other local facilities in central Ohio. Trained volunteer and staff advocates provide emotional support, crisis intervention and community resource information through the 24-hour sexual assault helpline to victims and survivors of sexual assault.

24/7 Helpline: 614-267-7020

Website: ohiohealth.com/community-health/sarnco

She Has A Name

An organization that teaches job skills and offers educational support to survivors of human trafficking.

Address: 345 East Second Ave., Columbus, OH 43201

Phone: 614-636-0421

Website: shehasaname.org

Survivor Advocacy Outreach Program (SAOP)

SAOP provides services to victims and survivors in Meigs, Perry, Athens, Gallia, Hocking, Morgan and Vinton counties. The organization operates a hotline that works toward resolving crises, providing emotional support, connecting the victim or survivor with needed resources and services in their communities, and advocacy.

Address: 77 East State St., Athens, OH 45701

24/7 Crisis Hotline: 740-591-4266

Website: saopseoh.org

Survivor's Ink

This organization offers scholarships to survivors of human trafficking and sexual exploitation to have their physical scars, markings and brandings covered or removed.

Address: P.O. Box 44001, Columbus, OH 43204

Website: survivorsink.org

Survivor's Scholarship Application: survivorsink.org/apply

SWITCH National Anti-Human Trafficking Network

SWITCH is part of a national network that provides support, resources and assistance with housing to victims and survivors of human trafficking, street prostitution, the homeless and vulnerable youth.

Address: 178 West Schrock Road, Suite B, Westerville, OH 43081

Phone: 614-285-4433

Website: jointheswitch.org

Victim Assistance Program

This program provides assistance with crisis intervention, advocacy and educational services.

Address: 137 South Main St., Suite 300, Akron, OH 44308

24-Hour Hotline: 330-376-0040

Website: victimassistanceprogram.org/our-services

YMCA Northwest Ohio Sexual Assault Services

The YMCA of Northwest Ohio offers confidential help through their YWCA Rape Crisis Center Hotline 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Address: 1018 Jefferson Ave., Toledo, OH 43604

24/7 Hotline: 419-241-7273 or toll-free 866-557-7273

Website: ywcanwo.org/what-were-doing/sexual-assault-services

YWCA of Van Wert (through referral)

The YMCA of Van Wert is the primary comprehensive supportive living program serving Van Wert and the surrounding region. The organization provides safe, stable, supportive housing and intensive case management for women and families.

Address: 408 E. Main St., Van Wert, OH 45891

Phone: 419-238-6639

Fax: 419-232-6361

Website: ywcavanwert.org/homepage/victim-services

211 - United Way

Calling 211 is the gateway that connects people with community resources in Ohio. By dialing three numbers you can find ways to get help.

Phone: 211

Website: 211.org

State Departments and County Programs

Bureau of Criminal Investigations (BCI) Tip Line

The tip line is maintained by BCI and allows individuals to submit a law enforcement tip. Callers should be aware that any information provided to the Attorney General is considered a public record. Individuals can file anonymously by using the BCI's website and writing "anonymous" in the required fields and entering "000-000-0000" as the phone number.

Phone: 800-282-3784

Tip Line: 855-224-6446 (Any information provided is considered public record)

Website: ohioattorneygeneral.gov/Individuals-and-Families/Victims/Submit-a-Tip/BCI-Investigations

Governor's Ohio Human Trafficking Task Force

The Ohio Governor's Human Trafficking Task Force was formed to consolidate the resources available in Ohio to identify victims, create a coordinated law enforcement system, investigate and prosecute human trafficking crimes, and provide the services and treatment needed for victims and survivors of human trafficking.

Website: humantrafficking.ohio.gov/index.html

Ohio County Boards of Developmental Disabilities

Ohio's County Boards of Developmental Disabilities provide assessments, service planning, and service coordination to adults and children with developmental disabilities, as well as providing oversight and assistance to service providers. The link below will direct you to the contact information for your local county board of developmental disabilities.

Website: dodd.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/dodd/county-boards/all-county-boards-resources/4-find-your-county-board

Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD)

DODD is responsible for assuring that reports of human trafficking take place through mandatory reporting laws, in cooperation with local county boards of developmental disabilities. Reports of human trafficking require an administrative investigation in order to identify the cause and contributing factors, and provide support and resources to victims, survivors and families to reduce the likelihood of recurrence.

Website: dodd.ohio.gov

Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS)

OhioMHAS believes that everyone deserves access to safe, decent and affordable housing options. Many options and resources are provided on OhioMHAS's website to help find housing for individuals with mental illness or past substance use disorder.

Website: mha.ohio.gov/Families-Children-and-Adults/For-Adults/Housing-Assistance

Public Benefits

Medicaid

Individuals with low income, pregnant people, infants, children, older adults and individuals with disabilities may qualify for Medicaid coverage in Ohio. Even if you are not sure that you will qualify for coverage, you should still apply.

Website: medicaid.gov/about-us/contact-us/index.html

Public Housing Agencies

Use the following links to find information about public housing agencies in Ohio or to complete an application for public housing or housing choice vouchers (Section 8).

Website: [hud.gov/program_offices/public_indian_housing/pha/contacts](https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/public_indian_housing/pha/contacts)

Website: [hud.gov/states/ohio/renting/hawebsites](https://www.hud.gov/states/ohio/renting/hawebsites)

Public Housing Program (HUD)

HUD is responsible for national policy and programs that address housing needs in the U.S.

Website to find your local Public Housing Agency (PHA): [hud.gov/program_offices/public_indian_housing/pha/contacts](https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/public_indian_housing/pha/contacts)

Website for HUD's Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ): [hud.gov/program_offices/public_indian_housing/systems/pic/haprofiles/faq](https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/public_indian_housing/systems/pic/haprofiles/faq)

Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC)

WIC helps income-eligible pregnant and breastfeeding people, people who recently had a baby, infants and children up to five years of age who are at health risk due to inadequate nutrition.

Phone: 800-755-4769

Website: odh.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/odh/know-our-programs/Women-Infants-Children/welcome-to-women-infants-and-children-wic

Federal Resources

FBI Office for Victim Assistance Program (VAP)

For federally prosecuted human trafficking cases, the FBI has a Victim Assistance Program. This program provides a victim specialist to ensure that victims are identified, notified of their rights and receive assistance to cope with the impact of a crime.

Address: 935 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, D.C., 20535

Phone: 877-236-8947

Website: [fbi.gov/file-repository/fbi-victim-assistance-program.pdf/view](https://www.fbi.gov/file-repository/fbi-victim-assistance-program.pdf/view)

Federal Trade Commission (FTC)

The FTC conducts investigations, sues companies and people that violate the law, and educates consumers and businesses about their rights and responsibilities.

Phone: 877-382-4357

TTY: 866-653-4261

Website: [ftc.gov/faq/consumer-protection/submit-consumer-complaint-ftc](https://www.ftc.gov/faq/consumer-protection/submit-consumer-complaint-ftc)

Office on Violence Against Women (OVW)

The OVW provides federal leadership in developing the nation's capacity to reduce violence against women and administer justice for and strengthen service to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking.

Phone: 202-307-6026

Website: [justice.gov/ovw](https://www.justice.gov/ovw)

Wage and Hour Division (WHD) of the US Department of Labor

WHD is responsible for enforcing federal labor laws.

Phone: 866-487-9243

TTY: 877-889-5627

Contact Form: webapps.dol.gov/contactwhd/Default.aspx

Website to Find the Nearest Office: dol.gov/agencies/whd/contact/local-offices

How to File a Complaint: dol.gov/agencies/whd/contact/complaints

National Resources

Feeding America

Feeding America is a nationwide network of food banks. It secures and distributes meals through local food pantries and meal programs throughout the United States. You can use the website to locate a food pantry in your area.

Address: 161 North Clark St., Suite 700, Chicago, IL 60601

Phone: 800-771-2303

Website: <https://www.feedingamerica.org/find-your-local-foodbank>

National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Helpline

NAMI's helpline is open Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. ET. Helpline volunteers are available to answer questions, offer support and provide practical next steps. Volunteers are experienced, well-trained and able to provide guidance. This is a free, nationwide peer-support service.

Phone: 800-950-6264

Email: info@nami.org

Website: nami.org/Home

National Center for Victims of Crime (NCVC)

The mission of the National Center for Victims of Crime is to forge a national commitment to help victims of crime rebuild their lives, with a dedication to serving individuals, families and communities harmed by crime.

Phone: 202-467-8700

Website: victimsofcrime.org

National Coalition for the Homeless

The National Coalition for the Homeless is a national network of people who are currently experiencing or who have experienced homelessness. The mission of the coalition is to end and prevent homelessness while ensuring the immediate needs of those experiencing homelessness are met and their civil rights are respected and protected.

Phone: 202-462-4822

Website: nationalhomeless.org

National Domestic Violence (DV) Hotline

The National DV confidential hotline is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. The hotline provides tools and supports to help victims and survivors of domestic violence.

Phone: 800-799-7233 (SAFE)

TTY: 800-787-3224

Website: thehotline.org

National Hunger Hotline, U.S. Department of Agriculture

Call the National Hunger Hotline to speak to a representative who will help find food resources, such as meal sites, food banks and other local social services. The hotline operates from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. ET.

Phone: 866-3-HUNGRY

Website: fns.usda.gov/partnerships/national-hunger-clearinghouse

National Sexual Assault Hotline/Rape Abuse & Incest National Network (RAINN)

The National Sexual Assault Hotline is a confidential service. However, most states do have laws that require local staff to contact authorities in certain situations, such as when a child or adult is in danger. Callers are connected to a trained staff member from a sexual assault service provider in their area.

Phone: 800-656-4673

Chat: hotline.rainn.org/online

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline

The Lifeline is a national network of local crisis centers that provides free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 800-273-8255

Website: suicidepreventionlifeline.org

Relink

Relink allows victims and survivors to search for human trafficking resources and services in a specific county.

Hours: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday

Address: 1755 Enterprise Parkway, Suite 400, Twinsburg, OH 44097

Phone: 844-467-3777 or 216-762-0591

Email: info@relink.org

Website: needs.relink.org

Victim Connect Resource Center

The Victim Connect Resource Center is a referral helpline where crime victims can learn about their rights and options confidentially and compassionately.

Phone: 855-484-2846

Website: victimconnect.org



Planning for Safety

Human traffickers use force, fraud or coercion to exploit victims and survivors. Creating a safety plan and practicing internet safety can be helpful in preventing human trafficking. It can also keep a victim or survivor of human trafficking from being retraumatized.

Safety Planning Resources

The National Human Trafficking Hotline recommends the creation of a safety plan. A safety plan is a personalized document that helps a person plan for what to do if they are in an unsafe situation or believe they will be in an unsafe situation.

Specialized safety planning tools are available for victims and survivors of human trafficking with disabilities. The Adult Advocacy Centers (AACs) created two safety planning guidebooks: a self-directed safety plan, for people to fill it out on their own, and an assisted safety plan, for those who would like help from a friend, family member or other trusted individual. These forms are available on the AACs' website and the links to these plans are listed below.

Self-Directed Safety Plan

Document: adultadvocacycenters.org/assets/documents/safety_planning_guidebook_self-directed.pdf

Assisted Safety Plan

Document: adultadvocacycenters.org/assets/documents/safety_planning_guidebook_assisted.pdf

Love is Respect

Love is Respect is a non-profit organization that also provides safety planning resources, information about healthy relationships, and 24/7 access to trained advocates who can offer support, education and advocacy to teens and young adults. All services are free and confidential. Contact information for this organization is listed below.

Address: P.O. Box 90249, Austin, TX 78709

Phone: 866-331-9474 or 800-787-3224 (TTY)

Text: Text "LOVEIS" to 22522

Chat: loveisrespect.org/get-help

Website: loveisrespect.org

Internet Safety

Taking precautions while using the internet is another important safety measure. Many human traffickers use the internet as a recruitment tool. The recruitment techniques used by traffickers may include expressing love and admiration for the victim or survivor or promising highly paid employment (Dixon, 2013). Computers can track information, such as websites you have visited and emails you have sent. If you are in danger, try to use a safe computer that the person you fear cannot access. Helpful instructions that may aid in internet safety may be found on the Ohio Secretary of State's website at ohiosos.gov/secretary-office/office-initiatives/safe-at-home/victims/#:~:text=Safe%20at%20Home%20is%20an,work%20address%20from%20public%20records.

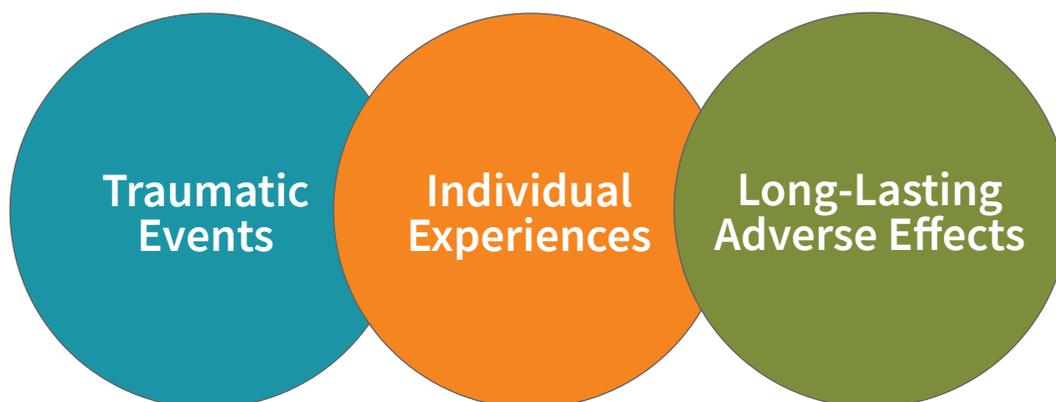


Trauma and Mental Health Resources for Victims and Survivors of Human Trafficking

Many victims and survivors of human trafficking experience severe and repeated trauma. This complex trauma may manifest as depression, anxiety, self-hatred, dissociation, substance abuse and other medical conditions. Victims and survivors exposed to this type of trauma may also be at an increased risk for self-destructive behavior, heightened risk-taking and re-victimization (Kunstle, 2020). Overviews of trauma, trauma bonding, how trauma works in the brain, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, and mental health resources for victims and survivors of human trafficking are listed below.

Trauma

Trauma results from an event, series of actions or set of circumstances that are experienced by an individual as physically or emotionally harmful and that result in lasting physical, social, emotional or spiritual adverse effects on an individual's well-being (SAMHSA, 2014). The U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration (SAMHSA) developed the model below to explain trauma as an intersection of traumatic events, individual experiences and long-lasting adverse effects.



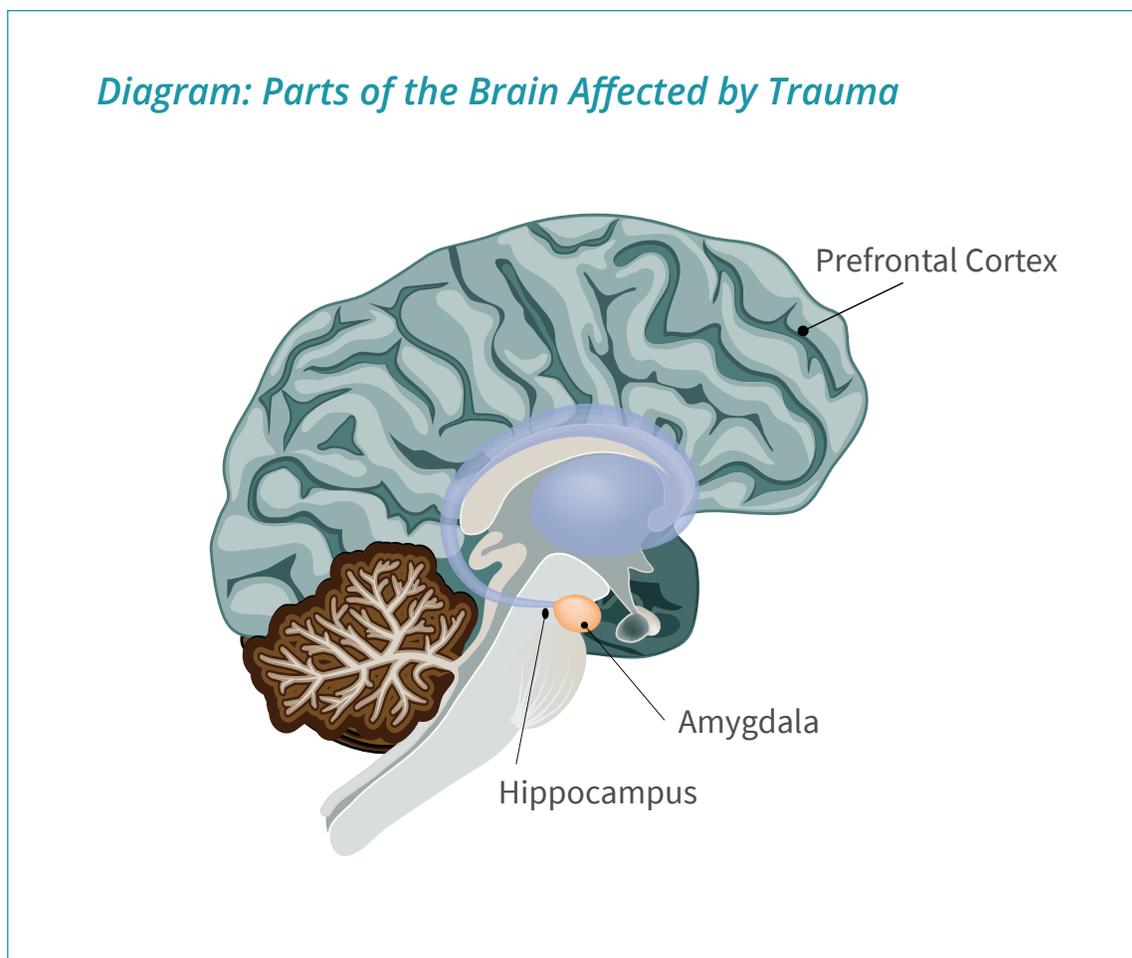
(SAMHSA, 2014)

Trauma Bonding

Trauma bonding is a response to abuse that occurs when a victim of human trafficking forms an unhealthy and sympathetic attachment to their trafficker. Trauma bonding is the product of cycles of abuse perpetrated by a trafficker, using the victim's emotional and physical needs as leverage. Traffickers often use a system of rewards and punishments to foster this bond. Traffickers' strategies may include starvation, rape, beatings, confinement, forced drug use, shame and threats of violence. This bond allows the trafficker to continue their control and exploitation (United States Department of State, 2020) (Young, 2019).

How Trauma Works in the Brain

Repeated incidents of trauma, such as those experienced by victims and survivors of human trafficking, may negatively affect the way the brain can process information. For example, exposure to trauma can result in the brain becoming numb to decrease the psychological impact of repeated traumatic incidents. The amygdala, hippocampus and prefrontal cortex are the parts of the brain that are most affected by trauma (U.S. Department of State, 2020).



A summary of the effect of trauma in the brain is listed below.

- **Amygdala**

- Responsible for emotions, survival, instincts and memory
- Recognizes and gathers information to determine threats
- Triggers “fight, flight or freeze” response
- Responds with fear if there is a perceived threat
- Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) causes the amygdala to become hyperactive, leading to chronic stress, hypervigilance, hyperarousal and difficulty sleeping

- **Hippocampus**

- Part of the limbic system in the brain
- Involved in learning and memory
- Situations that are similar to a trauma experience may activate a fight-or-flight response because the traumatized brain has difficulty differentiating between past and present situations (McLaughlin, 2014)

- **Prefrontal Cortex (PFC)**

- Regulates emotion and rational thought
- After trauma, the PFC may not be able to rationalize and regulate fear and other emotions (Thatcher, 2019)

Manifestation of Trauma and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder

The manifestations of trauma can include physical and mental health problems, fatigue, weight loss, neurological symptoms, depression and anxiety. Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) is one of the most common repercussions of being a victim or survivor of human trafficking. PTSD is a mental health issue that some people develop after experiencing or witnessing a threatening event, like combat, a natural disaster, a car accident or sexual assault (U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, 2019). PTSD can result in the brain being stuck in danger mode, causing a person to perceive potential threats, even when no actual threat is present. The effects of human trafficking are significant and may manifest as anxiety, panic disorder, depression, substance abuse and eating disorders. Symptoms of PTSD may include nightmares, intrusive thoughts, flashbacks, panic attacks and an exacerbated startle response (Gans, 2020).

Mental Health Resources

To receive referrals for treatment and service providers in your area, a good place to start is calling your local Anti-Human-Trafficking Coalition. Contact information for your local coalition may be found at humantrafficking.ohio.gov/coalitions.html (Human Trafficking Taskforce, 2020). Below is a list of additional organizations that may be able to help.

COMPASS Rape Crisis and Counseling Center for Mahoning and Trumbull Counties

COMPASS counseling services are available at no cost to survivors of sexual violence.

Mahoning County Office Phone: 300-782-5664

Trumbull County Office Phone: 330-394-9090

Website: compassfamily.org/compass-counseling-services

Love is Respect

Love is Respect is a non-profit organization that also provides safety planning resources, information about healthy relationships, and 24/7 access to trained advocates who can offer support, education and advocacy to teens and young adults. All services are free and confidential. Contact information for this organization is listed below.

Address: P.O. Box 90249, Austin, TX 78709

Phone: 866-331-9474 or 800-787-3224 (TTY)

Text: Text "LOVEIS" to 22522

Chat: loveisrespect.org/get-help

Website: loveisrespect.org

Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS)

OhioMHAS oversees a variety of programs to address and meet the mental health needs of Ohioans.

Address: 30 East Broad St., 36th Floor, Columbus, OH 43215

Phone: 614-466-2596

Email: questions@mha.ohio.gov

The Wellness Project

The wellness project is a series of online personal self-care practices provided by the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services. These practices were created to renew your energy, calm your mind and enhance resilience.

Website: mha.ohio.gov/Families-Children-and-Adults/For-Adults/The-Wellness-Project



Prosecuting Human Traffickers and Supporting Victims and Survivors

Due to the complex nature of human trafficking, local, state and federal organizations all play a role in the prosecution of these crimes.

Ohio Organizations Involved in Prosecuting Human Traffickers

In Ohio, the prosecution of human trafficking, on a non-federal level, is granted to county prosecutors and the Ohio Attorney General's Office. Several additional Ohio organizations may assist with the prosecution of human trafficking and are listed below (NCSL, 2018).

Ohio Governor's Human Trafficking Task Force

The Governor's Human Trafficking Task Force was formed to marshal the resources of the state of Ohio to coordinate efforts to identify victims, create a coordinated law enforcement system to investigate and prosecute human trafficking crimes, and provide the services and treatment necessary for victims to regain control of their lives.

Website: humantrafficking.ohio.gov/index.html

Ohio County Prosecutors

Ohio county prosecutors are attorneys who enforce justice and are the voice for victims in their county. They prosecute adults alleged to have committed felony crimes and, in some counties, adult misdemeanors. Prosecutors also prosecute juvenile cases when there is an alleged delinquent act.

Roster of Elected Prosecutors in Ohio: ohiopa.org/roster.html

Map of Ohio County Prosecutors: ohiopa.org/yourprosecutor.html

Ohio State Highway Patrol (OSHP)

OSHP troopers are trained to identify signs of human trafficking during routine traffic stops. Troopers have also partnered with Truckers Against to increase awareness and training regarding human trafficking activity that occurs at truck stops.

Address: Ohio State Highway Patrol, P.O. Box 182074, Columbus, OH 43218-2074

Phone: #677 or 614-466-2660

Patrol Post by County: statepatrol.ohio.gov/contact.aspx

Federal Organizations Involved in Prosecuting Human Traffickers

At the federal level, the prosecution of human traffickers falls under the jurisdiction of the Department of Justice (DOJ). Although the DOJ is instrumental in prosecution, several other federal agencies also have significant responsibilities related to investigating human trafficking and are listed below.

Department of Homeland Security Investigations (HSI)

HSI is an office of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and is responsible for investigating human trafficking, arresting traffickers and protecting victims. The toll-free hotline can be used to report suspected human trafficking to federal law enforcement.

Report Suspected Human Trafficking: 202-282-8000

Toll-Free Hotline: 866-347-2423

Website: ice.gov/about-ice/homeland-security-investigations

Department of Homeland Security, Center for Countering Human Trafficking

This center is the U.S. government's first integrated law enforcement operations center focused on human trafficking. The center is based in Washington and is led by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

Toll-Free ICE Tip Line to Identify a Victim: 866-347-2423

TTY: 802-872-6196

ICE Tip Form: ice.gov/webform/ice-tip-form

Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)

The FBI is a component of the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ). The agency's efforts to investigate human trafficking are coordinated by the Civil Rights Unit (CRU) and the Violent Crimes Against Children Section. The CRU investigates forced labor, sex trafficking and the sexual exploitation of foreign minors. The FBI investigates sex trafficking, labor trafficking and domestic servitude (FBI, 2021).

Online Tips Form: fbi.gov/tips

Local FBI Field Offices: fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices

FBI Human Trafficking Website: fbi.gov/investigate/violent-crime/human-trafficking

Office of Inspector General (OIG)

The OIG is a component of the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL). The OIG conducts criminal, civil and administrative investigations and works with other law enforcement partners on human trafficking matters.

Online Complaint Form: tips.oig.hhs.gov

United States Attorney's Offices (USAOs)

There are 94 districts with presidentially appointed United States attorneys. The USAO prosecutes all forms of human trafficking.

Main Switchboard and Department Comment Line: 202-353-1555

U.S. Attorneys Listing: justice.gov/usao/us-attorneys-listing

United States Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division - Human Trafficking Prosecution Unit (HTPU)

In 2007 the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice (DOJ) created the HTPU. This unit was created to consolidate national expertise to investigate and prosecute human trafficking cases. The HTPU is a specialized prosecution unit within the Criminal Section of the Civil Rights Division (DOJ, 2021).

Phone: 202-514-3847

Website: justice.gov/crt/human-trafficking-prosecution-unit-htpu



Criminal Justice Resources for Victims and Survivors of Human Trafficking

In addition to legal aid (full listing on page 37 of this guidebook) and the state and federal resources listed previously, there are several other organizations that may be helpful for victims and survivors of human trafficking while working with the criminal justice system. Examples of these resources are listed below.

Legal Advocacy Organizations

Ohio Victim Witness Association (OVWA)

The OVWA provides technical assistance for victims, witnesses and advocates.

Address: 90 Northwoods Blvd. B6, Columbus, OH 43235

OVWA Helpline: 614-787-9000

Website: ovwa.org

Ohio Crime Victim Justice Center (OCVJC)

The OCVJC's mission is to ensure that crime victims are treated with fairness and respect during the criminal justice process. The OCVJC provides representation at no cost to enforce the rights of crime victims in Ohio (OCVJC, 2020).

Address: P.O. Box 369, Powell, OH 43065

Phone: 614-848-8500

Website: ocvjc.org

Forensic Interviews

The Adult Advocacy Centers (AACs) are a non-profit organization that serves adults with disabilities who are alleged victims, survivors or witnesses of a crime. The AACs employ forensic interviewers. Forensic interviewers are expertly and professionally trained to conduct interviews with crime victims in a respectful and holistic manner. Contact information for the AACs is listed below.

Email: contact@adultadvocacycenters.org

Website: adultadvocacycenters.org

Facebook: facebook.com/adultadvocacycenters

Protection Orders

In some situations, victims and survivors of human trafficking may meet the criteria for a protection order. Temporary Protection Orders (TPOs) and Civil Protection Orders (CPOs) are two types of orders that are issued by judges that can restrict a person from coming near someone or contacting them and others named in the order. Unfortunately having a protection order cannot guarantee that victims and survivors will be safe (FindLaw, 2020).

A TPO is issued by a criminal court and is ordered for criminal cases, typically during the arraignment. A TPO can prohibit the defendant from contact the victim or survivor and prohibit a defendant from entering the victim or survivor's home, school or place of employment. A TPO remains in effect only while the criminal case is pending (SEOLS, 2019).

A CPO is issued by a Common Pleas or Domestic Relations Court. A CPO can only be ordered after the person, called a petitioner, files a petition with the court alleging that their family member, household member or romantic partner caused, attempted to cause or threatened bodily harm. A CPO can offer the same protections as a TPO but can also address the use of shared property (such as a car and a home), custody, child visitation and other related matters. A CPO may remain in effect for up to five years (SEOLS, 2019).

If you are not considered a household or family member according to Ohio law, you may still request a protection order if any of the following charges are filed on your behalf:

- Felonious assault
- Aggravated assault
- Assault
- Aggravated menacing
- Menacing by stalking
- Aggravated trespassing (WomensLaw.org, 2021)

If you need a protection order and do not have an attorney, you can contact the National Domestic Violence Hotline (NDVH) or your local legal aid office (a full directory of legal aid offices is listed on page 37 of this guidebook). Contact information for the NDVH is listed on page 32.

National Domestic Violence Hotline

Phone: 800-799-7233

Website: [thehotline.org](https://www.thehotline.org)

The Supreme Court of Ohio created a guidebook, *Protection Orders in Ohio*, that provides important details about Ohio's protection orders and can be accessed at supremecourt.ohio.gov/JCS/domesticViolence/publications/DRresourceGuide.pdf (The Supreme Court of Ohio, 2014).

If a protection order is granted, and the alleged trafficker violates the order's terms, this violation should be reported to law enforcement immediately. Reporting violations alerts law enforcement to potential safety threats and risks for the alleged victim (The City of Columbus, 2020).

Reasonable Accommodations

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requires that reasonable accommodations are provided to people with disabilities, including human trafficking victims and survivors with disabilities. The ADA is outlined in 42 U.S.C. §12101 and prohibits discrimination against people with disabilities in several areas, including employment, transportation, public accommodations, communications and access to state and local government programs and services. To be protected by the ADA, a person must:

- Have a disability, which is defined in the ADA as a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities,
- Have a history or record of such an impairment, or
- Be perceived by others as having such an impairment.

A reasonable accommodation is when assistance is provided to individuals with disabilities that allows them to take part in an activity. For example, a victim or survivor of human trafficking who has anxiety may be permitted to have a trusted person present during their testimony. If you need an accommodation, you should meet with a law enforcement officer or the prosecutor to discuss what you need. Examples of other reasonable accommodations are listed below.

- Sensory items in the courtroom
- Service animals
- Remote testimony
- Additional time to understand and process information
- Interpreters
- Communication devices
- Communication using pictures
- Ability to answer questions with yes and no responses
- Materials in large print

- Drawing in place of vocal responses
- Braille materials
- Wand metal detectors as opposed to walk-through detectors (for individuals using durable medical equipment for mobility)
- Accessible facilities for people with mobility issues (Job Accommodation Network, 2020).

Courts with Specialized Dockets for Victims and Survivors of Human Trafficking

Several courts in Ohio have created specialized dockets for victims and survivors of human trafficking. These courts offer an alternative to traditional criminal case processing to address the needs of victims of human trafficking. They are not available in every county in Ohio. Below is a summary of courts in Ohio that have created these specialized dockets.

Three courts are in the process of being certified by the Ohio Supreme Court to have specialized dockets:

- Franklin County Juvenile Court
- Akron Municipal Court
- Youngstown Municipal Court

The following courts have been certified by the Ohio Supreme Court to have specialized dockets:

- Franklin County Municipal Court – CATCH Court
- Hamilton County Municipal Court – CHANGE Court
- Cleveland Municipal Court – FLY (Freedom Lives in You) Program
- Summit County Juvenile Court – Restore Court (youth only) (Sukosd, 2020)

CATCH Court/Franklin County

Changing Actions to Change Habits (CATCH) court was created in Franklin County's Municipal Court as a diversion program for individuals who have been charged with prostitution, solicitation, loitering to solicit and other offenses related to human trafficking. CATCH court allows defendants to receive referrals for treatment as opposed to jail time. The program provides educational and employment resources, counseling and assistance with housing. It focuses on referrals to appropriate addiction and mental health programs, and social services that focus on healthy lifestyles. This program includes strict guidelines and is aimed at helping individuals end unhealthy relationships. Individuals wanting to transfer their case to an Ohio CATCH court are encouraged to request the transfer as early in their criminal case as possible (Romanoff, 2015).

Address: 375 S. High St., Columbus, OH 43215

Phone: 614-645-8214

CHANGE Court/Hamilton County

Changing Habits and Setting New Goals is Empowering (CHANGE) court in Hamilton County's Municipal Court is a judge-supervised treatment program for those charged with prostitution and related offenses. CHANGE court is voluntary and includes regular court appearances before the CHANGE court judge. Participants will work with a team of professionals to improve their life and work skills, optimizing the likelihood that they will stay out of the criminal justice system in the future. This program includes strict guidelines, and individuals must be Ohio residents (Hamilton County Courts, 2016).

Phone: 513-768-6906 or 513-702-2897

Website: hamiltoncountycourts.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/change-court.pdf

FLY Program/Cleveland Municipal Court

The Freedom Lives in You (FLY) program was started in 2014 as an alternative to traditional criminal case processing to address the needs of adult victims of human trafficking. The FLY program works to promote awareness of and education about human trafficking for judges, lawyers, court personnel, advocates and service providers. A screening process was developed to assist the court with identifying trafficking victims. In partnership with the Hitchcock Center for Women, the program provides gender-specific and trauma-responsive recovery for participants of the Human Trafficking docket in Cleveland's Municipal Court (Cleveland Municipal Court, 2014).

Phone: 216-664-4779

Website: clevelandmunicipalcourt.org/judicial-services/court-programs-services/human-trafficking-docket

Restore Court/Summit County Juvenile Court

The mission of Restore Court is to empower youth who are victims and survivors of human trafficking, and those who are at high risk, by providing access to supports and services that include mentoring, counseling, case management, supervision and accountability. Every youth and family in the Restore Court program is paired with a caseworker who provides case management services and linkage to community resources (Summit County Juvenile Court, 2021).

Phone: 330-643-2900

Website: juvenilecourt.summitoh.net/index.php/restore-court

Safe Harbor, Expungement and Record Sealing

The Safe Harbor Law (H.B. 262) was codified in ORC §2953.38 (Expungement of Certain Crimes for Victims of Human Trafficking) and ORC §2953.521 (Application for Order to Expunge Records), creating a path for victims and survivors of human trafficking to seal or expunge their criminal records. Sealing hides criminal records from most people, whereas expungement destroys and permanently deletes criminal records (The University of Akron School of Law, 2021).

Expungement is a complicated process with many requirements and can only be granted for offenses that result from human trafficking, both convictions and non-convictions. Victims and survivors of human trafficking can apply to expunge their record. Below is an abbreviated outline of the process.

1. To apply, individuals must have been subjected to involuntary servitude or compelled to engage in sexual activities for hire through force, fear, duress, intimidation or fraud.
2. An application can be made even if no one has been convicted for victimizing the applicant.
3. Applications must be filed in the sentencing court for each offense.
4. Applicants must pass the interest test, meaning the court determines if expunging the applicant's records outweighs any legitimate needs of the government to maintain the record.
5. There is a \$50 application fee that can be waived if a poverty affidavit is successfully submitted.
6. The prosecutor will review the application and may have objections.
7. A hearing will be held to consider the application, any objections made by the prosecutor and the requirements for expungement.
8. The court will grant or deny the application (Ohio Justice and Policy Center, 2018).

Additional information and detail regarding safe harbor, expungement and record sealing may found using the resources listed below.

Ohio Justice & Policy Center

Publication: *Who Can Apply for Safe Harbor Expungement? A Guide for Ohio's Human Trafficking Survivors*

Link: ohiojpc.org/2020/07/06/record-sealing-ohio-faqs

The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland

Publication: *How to Get Your Criminal Record Sealed*

Link: lasclev.org/expungementbrochure

Advocating Opportunity

Publication: *Fifty-State Survey Safe Harbor Laws and Expungement, Sealing, and Vacatur Provisions with Related Statutes, Pertaining to Trafficked Persons*

Link: cdpsdocs.state.co.us/ovp/Human_Trafficking/Fifty-State-Survey-Safe-Harbor-Laws-and-Expungement-Sealing-and-Vacatur-Provisions-with-Related-Statutes-for-Trafficked-Persons.pdf

In addition to the Legal Aid offices listed below, the following organizations also may be able to help individuals seeking to expunge or seal their records:

The Ohio Justice and Policy Center (OJPC)

The OJPC may be able to help victims and survivors of human trafficking who are seeking to expunge their records. OJPC is currently not accepting walk-ins (OJPC, 2021).

Address: 215 East 9th St., Suite #601, Cincinnati, OH 45202

Phone: 513-421-1108

Email: contact@ohiojpc.org

Website: ohiojpc.org

Survivor Advocacy Outreach Program (SAOP)

SAOP may be able to assist individuals who qualify with applying for free legal assistance, assistance with Civil Protection Orders (CPOs) and Temporary Protection Orders (TOPs) for individuals in Athens, Gallia, Hocking, Meigs, Morgan, Perry and Vinton Counties.

24/7 Crisis Hotline: 740-591-4266

Website: saopseoh.org

Legal Aid

You may be able to get legal assistance, including help in completing an application for record expungement, by contacting legal aid. The chart below lists contact information for the legal aid offices in Ohio.

The Legal Aid Society of Columbus

Serving Franklin and Madison counties

Address: 1108 City Park Ave., Columbus, OH 43206

Phone: 614-224-8374

Website: columbuslegalaid.org/contact-us

The Legal Aid Society of Columbus

Serving Delaware, Marion, Morrow and Union counties

Address: 150 Oak St., Marion, OH 43302

Phone: 740-383-2161 or 800-301-2411

Website: columbuslegalaid.org/contact-us

Legal Aid Society of Cleveland

Serving Ashtabula, Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake and Loraine counties

Address: 1223 W. Sixth St., Cleveland, OH 44113

Phone: 216-687-1900 or 888-817-3777

Website: lasclev.org

Community Legal Aid

Serving Columbiana, Mahoning, Medina, Portage, Stark, Summit, Trumbull and Wayne counties

Legal Aid Helpline: 800-998-9454 (limited hours)

Online Application: <https://www.communitylegalaid.org/apply>

Website: communitylegalaid.org

Legal Aid of Western Ohio & Advocates for Basic Legal Equality, Inc.

Serving Allen, Ashland, Auglaize, Champaign, Clark, Crawford, Erie, Darke, Defiance, Fulton, Greene, Hancock, Hardin, Henry, Huron, Logan, Lucas, Mercer, Miami, Montgomery, Ottawa, Paulding, Preble, Putnam, Richland, Sandusky, Seneca, Shelby, VanWert, Williams, Wood and Wyandot counties

Address: 525 Jefferson Ave., Toledo, OH 43604

Phone: 419-724-0460 or 888-534-1432

Online Application: legalaidline.lawolaw.org/apply-legal-help

Southeastern Ohio Legal Services (SEOLS) - Athens Office

Serving Athens, Gallia, Meigs, Morgan, Noble, Vinton and Washington counties

Address: 964 East State St., Athens, OH 45701

Phone: 740-594-3558 or 800-686-3669

Email: athens@seols.org

Website: seols.org/contact

Southeastern Ohio Legal Services (SEOLS) - Chillicothe Office

Serving Fairfield, Fayette, Hocking, Jackson, Pickaway, Pike and Ross counties

Address: 73 E. Water St., Chillicothe, OH 45601

Phone: 740-773-0012 or 800-686-3668

Email: chillicothe@seols.org

Website: seols.org/contact

Southeastern Ohio Legal Services (SEOLS) - Newark Office

Serving Knox, Licking, Muskingum and Perry counties

Address: 15 W. Locust Ave., Suite A, Newark, OH 43055

Phone: 740-345-0850 or 888-831-9412

Email: newark@seols.org

Website: seols.org/contact

Southeastern Ohio Legal Services (SEOLS) - New Philadelphia Office

Serving Coshocton, Guernsey, Holmes and Tuscarawas counties

Address: 255 2nd St. NE, Suite D, New Philadelphia, OH 44663

Phone: 330-339-3998 or 800-686-3670

Email: newphiladelphia@seols.org

Website: seols.org/contact

Southeastern Ohio Legal Services (SEOLS) - Portsmouth Office

Serving Adams, Lawrence and Scioto counties

Address: 800 Gallia St., Suite 700, Portsmouth, OH 45662

Phone: 740-354-7563 or 800-837-2508

Email: portsmouth@seols.org

Website: seols.org/contact

Southeastern Ohio Legal Services (SEOLS) - Steubenville Office

Serving Belmont, Carroll, Harrison, Jefferson and Monroe counties

Address: 100 North 3rd St., Steubenville, OH 43952

Phone: 740-283-4781 or 800-837-4781

Email: steubenville@seols.org

Website: seols.org/contact

Legal Aid Society of Southwest Ohio

Serving Brown, Butler, Clermont, Clinton, Hamilton, Highland and Warren counties

Address: 215 E. 9th St., Suite 500, Cincinnati, OH 45202

Phone: 513-241-9400 or 800-582-2682

Website: lasswo.org

Marsy's Law

Marsy's Law gives Ohio's crime victims, including victims and survivors of human trafficking, specific constitutional rights in the criminal justice process. A summary of these rights are listed below.

- The right to be treated with respect, fairness and dignity throughout the criminal justice process.
- The right to information about the rights and services available to victims.
- The right to reasonable and timely notice of all public proceedings.
- The right to be present at court proceedings and provide input to a prosecutor before a plea deal is struck.
- The right to be heard at pleas or sentence proceedings or any process that may grant an offender's release.
- The right to restitution. Marsy's Law provides that victims are entitled to restitution and courts are required to order restitution, not to exceed a victim's actual losses. Victims must still prove that their losses (Marsy's Law for Ohio, 2021)

Ohio Crime Victims' Rights: Helping Crime Victims Rebuild Their Lives is a publication created by the Ohio Attorney General. It contains additional information and may be accessed at ohioattorneygeneral.gov/Files/Publications-Files/Publications-for-Victims/Picking-Up-the-Pieces-A-Guide-to-Helping-Crime-Vic.aspx.

Ohio's Victims of Crime Compensation Program

ORC §5101.87 created a compensation fund for victims of crime. The Ohio Victims of Crime Compensation Program is administered by the Ohio Attorney General and may help victims and survivors of crime with certain out-of-pocket expenses caused when a person has been physically injured, emotionally harmed or killed by violent criminal acts. Victims and survivors of human trafficking may qualify for this program. Please be aware that the program has many restrictions. Information and a link to the program's application can be found below.

Phone Number for Program Information: 614-466-5610 or 800-582-2846

Phone Number for Specific Case Information: 800-582-2877

Guidelines for the Crime Victims Compensation Program: ohioattorneygeneral.gov/Individuals-and-Families/Victims/Apply-for-Victims-Compensation/Crime-Victims-Compensation-Guidelines

Application for Compensation: ohioattorneygeneral.gov/Files/Individuals-and-Families/Victims/Crime-Victim-Comp-Form.aspx

Some circumstances can make an individual ineligible for victim compensation. This includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- The presence of a felony conviction, child endangering or domestic violence conviction, within 10 years prior to the crime or while the claim is pending.
- Engagement in a felony offense of violence or felony drug trafficking, within 10 years prior to the crime or while the claim is pending.
- Anyone who, at the time of the crime, engaged in felony drug possession (Ohio Attorney General, 2021).

In summary, in order for an application for financial assistance to be considered, all of the items listed below must be met:

- The crime was reported to law enforcement.
- The victim cooperated with law enforcement's requests.
- The victim has not committed a criminal act that caused or contributed to the injuries.
- The applicant is a victim, the dependent of a homicide victim or responsible for some of the victim's expenses (Ohio Attorney General, 2021).

As this assistance is to be used as a last resort, the victim is only eligible if the incurred expenses are not fully covered by other sources.

Below is a list of programs that may help victims and survivors when applying for crime victim compensation, depending on where the victim lives.

Victims Services Directory

This directory was created by the Ohio Attorney General and includes many victim services programs that may be able to help with applying for crime victim compensation.

Website: ohioattorneygeneral.gov/Individuals-and-Families/Victims/Victim-Services-Directory?page=20

Victim/Witness Assistance

The victim/witness assistance program under the Lucas County Prosecutor's Office may be able to help victims file for compensation through the Ohio Attorney General's Victims of Crime Compensation Program. Restrictions may apply.

Address: 700 Adams St., 3rd Floor, Toledo, OH 43604

Phone: 419-213-4591

Website: co.lucas.oh.us/3150/VictimWitness-Assistance

Survivor Advocacy Outreach Program (SAOP)

SAOP's advocates are trained by the Ohio Attorney General's Office to help survivors file compensation claims. Contact them to see if you are eligible for assistance.

Phone: 800-582-2877

Website: saopseoh.org

Private Right to Sue

Since human traffickers may not always be criminally prosecuted, a victim or survivor of human trafficking may also seek justice by suing them in court as another way to hold their traffickers financially responsible. Specifically, an individual who is a victim of a violation of Title 18 U.S.C. Chapter 77 (Peonage, Slavery and Trafficking in Persons) may bring a civil action against the perpetrator in district court to recover damages and reasonable attorney fees (Levy, 2018). Per 18 U.S.C. § 1595(c), the statute of limitations for a private right of action is 10 years or 10 years after the victim turned 18, if the offense occurred when the victim was a minor.



Human Trafficking Initiatives

Ohio Human Trafficking Initiatives

Ohio has several initiatives in place to prosecute traffickers and help individuals who are victims and survivors of human trafficking. A summary of these initiatives is listed below.

Anti-Human Trafficking Coalitions

There are currently 21 anti-human-trafficking coalitions in Ohio. Anti-trafficking coalitions are encouraged to follow a model that promotes a local response to protect victims and at-risk individuals, prosecute offenders, and seek to foster community partnership and awareness that is essential to preventing human trafficking. Ohio's coalitions perform a variety of work, including community outreach, direct services, training, working with law enforcement, and providing referrals to needed services. Not all areas of Ohio have a coalition. Individuals living in an area that does not have an anti-human trafficking task force may contact the Governor's Ohio Human Trafficking Task Force. A map listing the current coalitions in Ohio can be found on their website.

Website: humantrafficking.ohio.gov/coalitions.html

Governor's Ohio Human Trafficking Task Force

The Governor's Ohio Human Trafficking Task Force was created to effectively identify and provide needed services to victims and to create a coordinated law enforcement response (Human Trafficking Task Force, 2020). The Human Trafficking Task Force interacts with Ohio's Anti-Human-Trafficking Coalitions.

Website: humantrafficking.ohio.gov/about.html#:~:text=The%20Governor's%20Ohio%20Human%20Trafficking,treatment%20necessary%20for%20victims%20to

Organized Crime Investigations Commission (OOCIC)

The OOCIC was created in 1986 and focuses some of its efforts and resources on fighting human trafficking. The OOCIC consists of the Ohio attorney general, two chiefs of police, two county sheriffs, and two county prosecutors and is tasked with fighting organized crime throughout Ohio.

OOCIC Phone: 614-277-1000

Attorney General Office's Help Center: 800-282-0515

Website: ohioattorneygeneral.gov/About-AG/Service-Divisions/Organized-Crime-Investigations-Commission

Ohio Attorney General's Human Trafficking Initiative

The Ohio's Attorney General's Office created the Human Trafficking Initiative to build awareness, empower Ohioans and strengthen victim services throughout Ohio.

Email: HTI@ohioattorneygeneral.gov

Website: ohioattorneygeneral.gov/HumanTrafficking

Federal Human Trafficking Initiatives and Acts

The federal government has several initiatives in place to prosecute human traffickers and help victims and survivors. A summary of these federal initiatives is listed below.

Homeland Security Blue Campaign

The Blue Campaign was launched in 2010 as a national public awareness effort to educate the public, law enforcement and other agency partners to recognize and respond to human trafficking. The Blue Campaign provides materials, social media, professional speakers and a newsletter (Homeland Security, 2020).

Website: dhs.gov/blue-campaign

The Anti-Trafficking Coordination Team (ACT) Initiative

The ACT initiative builds human trafficking enforcement efforts and enhances access to specialized human trafficking subject matter experts, leads and intelligence. Each team develops and implements a strategic action plan, which leads to high-impact federal investigations and prosecutions (FBI, 2021).

Factsheet: <https://www.justice.gov/opa/file/623176/download>

The Enhanced Collaborative Model Human Trafficking Program

This multi-agency task force initiative is funded through the Department of Justice's Office for Victims of Crime and Bureau of Justice Assistance. This program supports the development and enhancement of multi-disciplinary human trafficking task forces that implement collaborative approaches to combat all forms of human trafficking (FBI, 2021).

Report and Program Overview: bja.ojp.gov/sites/g/files/xyckuh186/files/Publications/ECM-Program-Performance-Update-Report-FY16-18.pdf

Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA)

The TVPA can be a critical tool for litigation. The TVPA is based on a three-pronged approach to fighting sex trafficking: prevention, prosecution and protection. The TVPA was initially passed in 2000 and was the first comprehensive federal law to address trafficking in persons. The TVPA has been reauthorized five times, most recently in 2019.

Legislation Text: govinfo.gov/content/pkg/BILLS-115s1862enr/pdf/BILLS-115s1862enr.pdf

Crime Victims' Rights Act (CVRA)

The CVRA is part of the United States Justice for All Act of 2004. This legislation applies to all victims of crime, including victims of human trafficking, and is codified in 18 USC 3771. The Act provides the following rights to victims in federal criminal cases:

- The right to be treated with fairness and respect for the victim's dignity and privacy
- The right to be reasonably protected from the accused
- The right to be heard at public proceedings

Legislation Text: [law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/18/3771](https://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/18/3771)



Conclusion and Additional Resources

It is the hope of the AACs that this guidebook includes helpful information and resources for victims and survivors of human trafficking, especially those with disabilities. In addition to the information contained in this guidebook, there are many websites, blogs, podcasts and publications that may assist victims and survivors on their trauma journey. Some of these free resources are listed below.

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- Dr. Celia Williams. Emancipation Nation (EN) Podcast is devoted to providing advocates and those who want to be advocates with ways to competently fight various forms of human trafficking. celiawilliamson.com/emancipation-nation
- Patchwork Podcast. The Office on Violence Against Women (OVW). Patchwork is a podcast from the Department of Justice's Office on Violence Against Women and focuses of issues related to domestic violence. podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/patchwork/id1527107274
- Ending Human Trafficking (EHT) Blog, endinghumantrafficking.org/blog, and Podcast, endinghumantrafficking.org/podcast. The EHT blog and podcast focus on listeners coming together to accomplish the mission of building a global community that works together to end human exploitation.

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Glossary

- Bottom:** The person who recruits and supervises others for the human trafficker to manage.
- Branded:** A tattoo or mark to show that the victim or survivor of human trafficking is owned by the trafficker.
- Caught a Case:** When a pimp, victim or survivor is arrested and charged with a crime.
- Coercion:** Threats of harm, restraint, psychological manipulation, document confiscation or shame used to compel a person to perform certain acts.
- Commercial Sex Act:** Under the TVPA, any sex act on account of which anything of value is exchanged.
- Debt Bondage:** Work that is performed in exchange for a debt that can never be repaid.
- Force:** Physical restraint, physical harm, sexual assault and physical assault.
- Fraud:** False promises made to deceive another person.
- Gorilla Pimp:** A pimp who controls his victims almost entirely through physical violence and force (which can include rape or gang rape).
- Grooming:** A process of using physical, emotional and psychological abuse to break a person's will and remove personal boundaries for the purposes of exploitation.
- Involuntary Servitude:** A form of forced labor involving domestic workers in private residences. Such an environment, which often socially isolates domestic workers, is conducive to exploitation because authorities cannot inspect private property as easily as formal workplaces.
- John Schools:** A program for individuals arrested for soliciting a commercial sex act. Typically, attending John School will result in criminal charges being dropped for the buyer.
- Labor Trafficking:** The recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud or coercion, for the purpose of involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage or slavery.
- Pimp:** A person who controls and financially benefits from the commercial sexual exploitation of another person. The relationship may be abusive and possessive, with the pimp using techniques like psychological intimidation, manipulation, starvation, rape, confinement, threats of violence toward the victim/survivor or their family, forced drug use or shame for purposes of control.
- Quota:** The amount a survivor of human trafficking must earn per day.
- Romeo Pimp:** One who prides himself on controlling others, primarily through psychological manipulation. Although he may shower his victims with affection and gifts (especially during the recruitment phase), the threat of violence is always present.
- Sex Trafficking:** The recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, obtaining, patronizing or soliciting of a person for the purpose of a commercial sex act, in which the commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such act has not attained 18 years of age.

Squaring Up: Attempting to escape human trafficking.

Track, Stroll or Blade: An area in which individuals walk for purposes of solicitation of commercial sex acts.

The Life: The culture of human trafficking, including the hierarchy and rules.

Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA): The first comprehensive federal law to address human trafficking. The law provided a three-pronged approach to combating human trafficking: prevention, through public awareness programs and a monitoring and sanctions program led by the Department of State; protection, through a visa and services for foreign national victims; and prosecution, through new federal crimes. This legislation was reauthorized in 2003, 2005 and 2008.

Trick, John or Buyer: Buyers of commercial sex acts.

Victim Services: Trauma-responsive services provided to victims and survivors of human trafficking. These services may include referrals, counseling, group counseling, support services and crisis intervention.



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