MEMORANDUM

November 2, 2017

TO: Public Safety and Health and Human Services Committee

FROM: Susan J. Farag, Legislative Analyst

SUBJECT: Briefing: Human Trafficking

Those expected for this worksession:

Assistant Chief Laura Lanham, Montgomery County Police Department (Investigative Services)
Assistant Chief Russ Hamill, MCPD (Management Services)
Nadja Cabello, Director for Trauma Services, Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)
Debbie Feinstein, Chief, Special Victims Division, State’s Attorney’s Office
Andrea Powell, Executive Director, FAIR Girls
Jodi Finkelstein, Executive Director, Commission for Women
Heidi Alvarez, M.A., Director of Social Services, SAFE Center
Jessica Volz, BSN, RN, FNE A/P, Shady Grove Medical Center

Additional County and community stakeholders will also be present to assist in answering any questions the Committee may have.

BACKGROUND

Today, the Joint Committee will be briefed by government and community stakeholders on the issue of human trafficking within the County. They will provide information in an effort to define the magnitude of the problem, identify the services currently available for human trafficking victims, and determine whether additional County resources are needed to address this issue.
SCOPE OF THE PROBLEM

Attempting to determine the number of trafficking survivors in the County can be difficult. Depending on their individual circumstances, they are seen by a variety of government agencies and community service providers. At times, survivors are also reluctant to self-identify. The following data have been provided by government and community entities that have contact with individuals who have been trafficked.

**MCPD:** MCPD advises that it has not had any contact with victims of labor trafficking. Rather, all individuals have been involved in sex trafficking. In 2014, MCPD had two verified adult victims and no verified juvenile victims. In 2015, this number increased to 11 adult victims and one juvenile victim. In 2016, it had 10 adult victims and three juvenile victims. MCPD reports that all identified victims of human trafficking have been females, with one exception, which was the one juvenile male victim in 2015.

MCPD’s arrest numbers for those responsible for trafficking others have increased substantially in the past three years, from three cases in 2014 to 29 cases in 2016.

Most of the human trafficking investigations have centered around hotels in Silver Spring, Gaithersburg, and Rockville. MCPD initiates most investigations through monitoring backpage.com and other escort-friendly websites. It also receives complaints from hotel managers. The Vice Unit does not have any incidents of direct or indirect gang involvement in human trafficking over the past three years.

**HHS:** HHS has seen 11 victims of sex trafficking since FY15, and eight victims of labor trafficking during the same time period.

**FAIR Girls:** FAIR Girls is a private organization that provides direct services and emergency housing to young women and girls who are survivors of human trafficking. FAIR Girls advises that from 2014-2016, over 50% of its clients were referred from Maryland and trafficked in both Prince George’s and Montgomery counties. Within the last 18 months, they have seen an increase in the need for services in Montgomery County. During the first six months of 2017, FAIR Girls received two adult victims of sex trafficking and one minor victim of labor exploitation. FAIR Girls provided services in 2016 to four Maryland victims of sex trafficking and one Maryland victim of labor exploitation.

SERVICES PROVIDED

In the County, human trafficking survivors are referred to the Crisis Center, where case management staff provide a full crisis assessment, both psychological and situational. Clients are then referred for services as needed. Victims of human trafficking may be referred to Trauma Services and/or the Betty Ann Kranhke Domestic Violence Shelter. HHS indicates that it provided shelter to four individuals.
HOUSING

FAIR Girls offers the Vida Home, located in Washington, DC, for sex trafficking survivors. It provides transitional housing for young women, ages 18 to 26. Individuals may stay up to 90 days, during which time they are connected to intensive case management, therapeutic services, and life skills workshops. The house has six beds, but provides housing for approximately 50 survivors each year.

In Montgomery County, identified victims are sometimes placed at the Betty Ann Kranhke Domestic Violence Shelter. HHS indicates that this placement at times can be challenging, if the survivor is not yet ready to “leave the life.” On occasion, some survivors attempt to recruit other residents for sex work, and sometimes bring men that can pose a risk near the facility.

The Department of Correction and Rehabilitation (DOCR) also identifies victims of human trafficking who have been incarcerated. All individuals who have been arrested go through an initial intake interview at the Montgomery County Correctional Facility (MCCF). During this process, an individual may identify as a victim of human trafficking. If the individual is interested in receiving assistance, the MCCF counselor as well as an onsite MCCF Human Trafficking Task Force member works with the Commission for Women to assist the victim. If the individual does not reveal this status, the individual will continue through the judicial process.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING PREVENTION COMMITTEE

Last month, The Council passed Bill 27-17, which extends the work of the Montgomery County Human Trafficking Task Force. The new Committee is permanent, and is staffed by the Commission for Women. The new Committee is part of the County government charged with recommending best strategies to combat human trafficking.

STATE LEVEL EFFORTS

Chapter 91 of 2015 established the Workgroup to Study the Safe Harbor Policy for Youth Victims of Human Trafficking. The workgroup issued its findings and recommendations in December 2015. Among its recommendations included providing legal immunity to victims of human trafficking under the age of 18, providing training and other resources to local entities that provide services to trafficked youth, and requiring a three-year plan from state entities to provide a victim-centered statewide response for youth victims of human trafficking.

https://static1.squarespace.com/static/53d105bae4b009be345a11ba/t/56d7e165f85082043e3c2950c1456980326547/Workgroup+to+Study+Safe+Harbor+Final+Report.pdf
One new State law that went into effect October 1, 2017, requires specific police training about victims of human trafficking, including services, support, and appropriate treatment. MCPD advises that human trafficking is already covered during the initial Police Academy training for all new officers. The PSTA has also scheduled a one-hour training block on human trafficking for the upcoming 2018 in-service police training for all sworn officers. The Vice Unit has also created and disseminated an informational bulletin titled “Human Trafficking, Prostitution, and the Hotel Industry,” to hotels in the County. This bulletin alerts hotels to the signs of trafficking and the investigative steps that the Vice Unit will take on their respective properties.

RECOMMENDED ENHANCED RESOURCES

HHS advises that it has housing challenges for all types of victims with low income, especially domestic violence victims transitioning out of the domestic violence shelter. It recommends two types of shelters for human trafficking survivors:

- A regional confidential location, which is somewhat isolated, with case management and therapy supports to assist sex trafficking workers to adapt to a new life; and
- For sex trafficking victims who are not yet ready to “leave the life,” create a safe drop-in center where they can come to rest, sleep, eat a warm meal, shower, and change, exchange needles, and have a nurse who can check for sexually transmitted infections as well as provide appropriate medication to minimize health risks to themselves and the community.

FAIR Girls has identified specific needs in the County as well, including:

- Emergency and long-term shelter and housing;
- Crisis response and case management;
- Enhanced law enforcement partnerships; and
- Supporting safe harbor legislation.

DISCUSSION ISSUES

1. Do stakeholders feel there is an accurate assessment as to the scope of the problem within Montgomery County? If not, what steps can be taken to get a more accurate count of victims of human trafficking?
2. MCPD’s “verified victims” numbers are smaller than actual cases worked. What is the definition of “verified,” and what steps does MCPD go through to make that determination?
3. For survivors who have been arrested and are moving through judicial process, is there any procedure in place to drop or reduce charges? The State Safe Harbor Policy for Youth workgroup recommended immunity for victims under the age of 18. What are the benefits and challenges of extending immunity to all victims, regardless of age?
4. Shady Grove Hospital also provides shelter to victims of human trafficking, under certain circumstances. What is the nature of the housing, and when is it provided?
5. Are victims ever housed in psychiatric treatment beds/facilities? If so, under what circumstances? If additional community housing were available, would this help minimize the use of psychiatric placements?

This packet contains

| MCPD response to questions | 1-3 |
| HHS response to questions | 4-6 |
| FAIR Girls response to questions | 7-12 |
| DOCR overview of intake process and referral to services | 13-14 |
| Polaris Issue Brief: Safe Harbor | 15-16 |
| “Human Trafficking Occurring in DC’s Backyard,” WTOP, August 11, 2017 | 17-18 |
| “Leggett to Join County Councilmembers and Advocates to Sign Bill 27-17” | 19 |
1) What data do you have on human trafficking activity in the County? (broken down by sex trafficking and labor trafficking). What is the number of human trafficking victims known to the County in each of 2014, 2015, 2016?

All human trafficking cases investigated by the MCPD since 2014 have involved sex trafficking. There have been no labor trafficking complaints received during this time period – in the past these type of cases have been investigated as Extortion cases and are generally investigated by Homeland Security or another appropriate Federal investigative agency.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cases worked</th>
<th>Arrest/Warrants</th>
<th>Sex/Labor</th>
<th>Victim Sex</th>
<th>Verified Adult Victims</th>
<th>Verified Juvenile Victims</th>
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<tr>
<td>2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>Sex (all)</td>
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<td>Sex (all)</td>
<td>Female (all)</td>
<td>2</td>
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2) Do you have data on how many victims are men, women, transgender women, transgender men?

All of the identified victims of human trafficking in Vice cases have been females, with one exception. One juvenile male victim was identified in the specified time frame.

3) How many arrests are made for individuals who are trafficking others?

Refer to the data contained in charts above and below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Caseload Closure for 2016 (29 cases)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 - closed exceptionally. Turned over to other jurisdiction</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 - open cases</td>
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<td>2 - cases unfounded</td>
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<td>3 - cases involving same investigation = 1 individual charged</td>
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<td>3 – cases involving same investigation = 2 individuals charged</td>
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<td>2 – case involving same investigation = 1 individual charged</td>
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<td>6 – cases resulting in 8 individuals charged</td>
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<thead>
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<th>Caseload Closure for 2015 (18 cases)</th>
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<td>1 – Tipsoft closed exceptionally. Insufficient corroboration info</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 - closed exceptionally. Insufficient corroboration info</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 - open cases</td>
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<td>14 – cases closed by arrest</td>
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<tr>
<th>Caseload Closure for 2014 (3 cases)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 - closed exceptionally. Turned over to other jurisdiction</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 – closed by arrest</td>
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</table>
4) Are there any patterns in the Country regarding these activities? Certain businesses? Use of Backpage.com? Other? Gang-related?

The majority of the human trafficking investigations have centered around hotels located in the County. More specifically, hotels in downtown Silver Spring, Gaithersburg and Rockville. Most investigations are initiated through the monitoring of backpage.com and other escort friendly websites, or through complaints received from hotel managers. The MCPD Vice Unit has not investigated any human trafficking case with direct/indirect gang involvement during the specified time frame.

5) Once you identify a person as a victim of human trafficking, to whom do you refer them? Or what other services or information do you provide?

Once a victim is identified who is in need of services, the unit will offer the opportunity to receive services through the Crisis Center. The unit has placed a victim in contact with FAIR Girls. A very small percentage of those identified victims are initially willing to accept the services of the Crisis Center, or a Non-Governmental Organization (NGO), such as FAIR Girls.

6) I was researching something else, and saw this as one of the new laws that went into effect October 1. Could you add something to your responses regarding whatever training, etc. we do here in the County? Were we already doing something? Thanks!

Police and human trafficking: Requires specific police training about victims of human trafficking, including services, support and appropriate treatment. (HB1279)

Training on the topic of human trafficking is covered during initial Police Academy training for all new officers. The PSTA has also scheduled a one-hour training block on human Trafficking for the upcoming 2018 In-Service police training for all sworn officers.

When applicable, the MCPD Vice unit create posts to disseminate information on the departments Web Board regarding current trends. The unit has also created and disseminated an informational bulletin titled "Human Trafficking, Prostitution and the Hotel Industry" to Montgomery County hotels. The bulletin briefs the hotels on the signs of trafficking and the investigative steps which are taken by the Vice Unit for investigations occurring on their respective properties.
Farag, Susan

From: Cabello, Nadja
Sent: Monday, October 30, 2017 12:44 PM
To: Farag, Susan
Subject: FW: Human Trafficking Victims Trauma Services Response due October 30th

Ms. Farag,

Please see below the responses from Trauma Services reference Human Trafficking. I was also hoping if you had the data from MCPD if you could share that data with me I would be appreciative.

Thanks,

Nadja

Nadja S.P. Cabello, L.C.S. W.C.
Director for Trauma Services
Victim Assistance and Sexual Assault Program (VASAP)
and Abused Persons Program (APP)

www.vasap.org
https://www.facebook.com/VASAPofMontgomeryCountyMD

1301 Piccard Drive
Rockville, Maryland 20850

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From: Cabello, Nadja
Sent: Monday, October 30, 2017 11:34 AM
To: Bennett, Teresa <
Subject: Human Trafficking Victims Trauma Services Response due October 30th

Terri,

Here are my responses. It is due today back to Susan Farag of the County Council. Please let me know next steps.

Thanks,

Nadja

HHS:

1) Once someone is identified as the victim of human trafficking, how is outreach, services, and (potentially) placement handled? Crisis Center, Shady Grove Hospital, Betty Ann Krunchke shelter, etc.?

Answer:

A. If a human trafficking victim self identifies either directly to Trauma Services he/she is called for a brief telephone intake by a therapist and invited to come in for a full clinical assessment appointment and possibly assigned to a therapist for ongoing therapy services.
B. If a human trafficking victim walks in or is brought to the Crisis Center by a partner, a clinician will see her for a clinical assessment, evaluate options and referrals/triage to either Trauma Services, Betty Ann Kranhke DV shelter if appropriate and other referrals as needed.

2) How many identified victims of human trafficking do you assist each year? (past three years)
Answer:
Sex Trafficking Victims: FY15-2 FY16-1 FY17-6 FY18 (July 2017 – September 2017) – 2 Total: 11
Labor Trafficking Victims: FY15-3 FY16-3 FY17-2 FY18 (July 2017- September 2017) – 0 Total: 8

3) Of these, how many needed shelter or transitional housing? Do housing needs vary between victims of sex trafficking and victims of labor trafficking?
Answer:
We provided shelter to 4 sex trafficking victims.

4) Do you have data on how many were housed through county programs, vs. private placement with organizations like Fair Girls, Vida House, or Salvation Army?
Answer:
We do not have the data on how many victims were housed through other programs.

5) What housing or other services challenges do you have?
Answer:
We have housing challenges for all types of victims with low income, especially domestic violence victims transitioning out of BAK DV shelter.
It has also been challenging to provide safe shelter at BAK for sex trafficking workers who are not ready to leave the sex trafficking trade. These clients, if they are not ready to “leave the life”, pose a safety risk to other women in the shelter as they start to recruit young adult dv victims for sex work and bring men that can pose risk near the confidential facility.
We recommend two types of shelters for human trafficking victims, especially sex trafficking:
A. A Regional confidential location which is somewhat isolated with case management and therapy supports to assist sex trafficking workers to adapt to a new life.
B. For sex trafficking victims who are not yet ready to leave the life, create a safe drop in center where they can come to rest, sleep, eat a warm meal, take a shower and change, exchange needles, and have a nurse that can check for sexually transmitted diseases and provide appropriate medication to minimize health risks to themselves and the community. There are such facilities in Washington D.C. that can serve as models.

Plaza S.P. Capello, L.C.S.W.C.
Director for Trauma Services
Victim Assistance and Sexual Assault Program (VASAP)
and Abused Persons Program (APP)

www.vasap.org
https://www.facebook.com/VASAPofMontgomeryCountyMD

1301 Piccard Drive
Rockville, Maryland 20850
FAIR Girls

Statement in of need for Survivors of Human Trafficking in Montgomery County

Contact:
Andrea Powell, Founder & Executive Director
FAIR Girls
202-520-9777
apowell@fairgirls.org

FAIR Girls provides direct services and emergency housing to young women and girls who are survivors of all forms of human trafficking. To date, FAIR Girls has served more than 1,000 girls aged 8 to 26. While approximately ninety percent of FAIR Girls' clients are American citizens, FAIR Girls does serve foreign national clients from as far away as Bosnia, Serbia, Nigeria, Iran, Russia, St. Lucia, México, Guatemala, El Salvador, and Jamaica. Eighty-two percent of FAIR Girls' clients have experienced homelessness and seventy-two percent are enmeshed in the child welfare system in some form.

FAIR Girls offers emergency and long-term case management, a 24-hour crisis hotline, court advocacy, a drop-in center, leadership and advocacy training, and individual and group counseling to all of our young women clients aged 10 to 24. To date, 45% of FAIR Girls' clients are recovered by law enforcement while the remaining are identified by trained social work, educational, and medical professionals or the National Human Trafficking Hotline.

FAIR Girls' Vida Home is the only safe home that exclusively serves young women survivors of sex trafficking and labor trafficking, ages 18 to 26, in the nation's capital region. From 2014 – 2016, more than 50% of FAIR Girls clients were referred from Maryland and trafficked in both Prince George's and Montgomery County; however, FAIR Girls has undoubtedly seen a dramatic increase in the request for direct services specifically in Montgomery County within the past 18 months. From January to June 30, 2017, FAIR Girls received two adult victims of sex trafficking and 1 minor victim of
labor exploitation. FAIR Girls continued to provide services to young women identified in 2016 from Maryland as victims of sex trafficking (4) and labor exploitation (1).

Online sex ads for minors and exploited women have become commonplace for areas such as Rockville, Gaithersburg, and Silver Spring, Maryland. These numbers nightly swell into the 100s in the region and thus we know that we are not reaching so many young women and girls who need us.

Additionally, local media outlets and law enforcement responses mirror this concern after MS-13 gang members have been linked to a rash of kidnappings in Maryland of young girls and even the violent murder of a teen in Montgomery County. A CBS local news story from February 2017 cited that “Recent murders have been largely in Montgomery County, including a teenager stabbed more than 40 times. In Montgomery County alone there were six murders linked to MS-13 last year.” In recent years, MS-13 and other gangs have expanded their criminal enterprises to include the selling of young women and girls into sex trafficking and exploiting other victims into labor trafficking. Furthermore, these gangs use drugs to control their victims, thus making it harder for victims to escape. This growing body of victims remain in the shadows, silenced and suffering, right here in Montgomery County.

In order to keep at-risk young adults and minors safe, it is imperative to understand and tackle gang-controlled human trafficking. Specialized trafficking resources and safe interventions that are culturally competent and survivor-centered can help youth escape these exploitive situations and prevent a dangerous cycle of violence.

Currently, Montgomery County has extremely limited trafficking specific services for survivors or for youth that are vulnerable to becoming exploited through trafficking. Resource gaps, including crisis response, case management, emergency housing, financial assistance for basic needs, and legal aid for trafficking victims, is creating an ideal environment in the region for traffickers to target vulnerable youth that are desperate to meet their basic needs – such as safety, shelter and food resources. Further, many trafficked youth - even after being identified as such - are forced to reside in the County’s psychiatric units and detention centers for lack of safe housing and direct services. Having specialized trafficking services would allow trafficking victims to return to a community alongside their families, if appropriate, and support systems to begin their long healing process.

Montgomery County must partner with organizations offering trafficking specific services and make interventions for these trafficking victims a top priority in the next fiscal year. This endeavor will not only intervene on behalf of specific victims and their families, but ensure the public safety and quality of life for all residents.

Despite the fact that the Vida Home only has six beds at a time to offer these victims, approximately fifty survivors walk thru the doors of our Vida Home each year. At our Vida Home, young women survivors receive access to 24/7 care including a warm bed, access to counseling and survivor support groups, personal growth and leadership skills
training, meals and basic necessities, and access to safe transportation to and from work, school, and our drop-in center.

The young women at FAIR Girls' Vida Home are four times more likely to find and retain employment than those without housing. Survivors of trafficking who receive immediate, intensive specialized trafficking services and housing are 80% more likely to be in school or employed within sixty days of exiting their trafficking situation. Thus, to break the cycle of human trafficking, we must be able to offer victims timely, geographically appropriate, specialized services.

Based on the experience of providing direct services for over ten years, FAIR Girls recognizes the specialized needs of human trafficking survivors and the resources that advocates must have to effectively combat the scourge of this modern day slavery in Montgomery County:

• **Emergency and Long-Term Shelter and Housing:** To date, FAIR Girls has offered over 100 young women safe housing in the nation's capital. However, there remains a dire need for safe transitional and long-term housing in Montgomery County that is trauma informed and specifically serves survivors of human trafficking.

  **Need:** FAIR Girls recommends that this housing be tailored to the needs of adult women aged 18 to 26 who are the largest demographic of survivors identified in Montgomery County.

• **Crisis Response and Case Management:** Human trafficking is an abusive cycle of exploitation and torture. On average, victims of human trafficking experience four years of exploitation and abuse prior to being identified or assisted. Counseling and case management, including job assistance, are critical components to the restoration process and a survivor remaining free of exploitation.

  **Need:** Montgomery County needs to be a full time case management program located within the county to address the growing needs of trafficking survivors immediately when they are identified. This is best done with a 24/7 crisis response team and a bilingual licensed clinical social worker that can provide counseling and intensive case management.

**Enhanced Law Enforcement Partnerships:** Historically, FAIR Girls has received the majority of our referrals from specially trained law enforcement partners, as they are often a survivor's first point of contact. That said, our current Montgomery County based clients are predominantly referred to us by either medical facilities or self-referrals. Through our participation in the Montgomery County Human Trafficking Task Force, including the victim services

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1 Based on FAIR Girls 2014-2016 client data reports generated by EMPOWER, FAIR Girls online client tracking data based powered by Salesforce
and legislative subcommittees, FAIR Girls has begun the process of reaching out to law enforcement partners in the county to offer our services.

**Need:** Montgomery County needs to devote additional resources to law enforcement partners to increase specialized training and resources for officers and detectives to better support victim recovery and referral to appropriate services. FAIR Girls would like to continue to partner with law enforcement in Montgomery County to effectuate this.

**Policy Focus - Supporting Safe Harbor:** FAIR Girls, alongside many Maryland-based advocates, is working with legislators on the state level to support Safe Harbor, a piece of legislation that at its core protects minor victims of sex trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation from prosecution for charges of prostitution and solicitation. FAIR Girls has actively been a part of the implementation of similar legislation in the District of Columbia over the last few years. Based on this experience we know that the passage of this critical legislation will result in more minor trafficking victims being found and referred to appropriate, specialized trafficking services. FAIR Girls believes this legislation can only truly be effective if those specialized trafficking services are available and funded in each county in Maryland to ensure rescued minors are connected to long-term counseling, housing, and services that will break the cycle of exploitation in their lives.

**Need:** FAIR Girls recommends that the Montgomery County delegation to the Maryland State Senate and House of Delegates not only support the passage of Safe Harbor legislation this legislative session but also ensure that it appropriately funded to ensure implementation is not thwarted by lack of resources for direct services.

**A Case Study in Progress:**

*In October 2016, FAIR Girls survivor Miranda* ran from her home in Germantown, Maryland fleeing chronic family sexual abuse—including rape from the ages of seven to ten years old. Miranda was 17 and within 24 hours a trafficker approached her in Rockville, Maryland. Noting that she was cold outside, he lured her to a nearby hotel and offered her a “safe” place to stay on a couch for the night, while mentioning that he knew people in the area that would give her a job and help her start over. Unfortunately, these people exploited her trust and need for shelter and then trafficked her for labor, while keeping her in situations where she was sexually exploited. Once she was safely recovered and reached out to FAIR Girls for support, she was connected to legal services, job preparation resources, financial assistance and individualized counseling. She remains committed to thriving in her community in Germantown, but also faces severe barriers to finding safe housing that understands the complex trauma for trafficking survivors and does not place her at risk for retraumatization and exploitation. Because of this, she struggles bouncing back and forth in abusive relationships with*
family and intimate partners that offer to help her with housing and basic needs, but continue to exploit her in return. In the long-term, she dreams of staying in Germantown where she has found a church community that has helped her through her emotional healing. She wants to work in childcare and become an advocate for other survivors and vulnerable youth.

Success Stories:

Mia* was 17 when her trafficker lured her from a foster group home into sex trafficking. At 18, Mia was arrested for prostitution in Montgomery County where she was then later referred to a local shelter for battered women. Shortly afterwards, Mia reached out to FAIR Girls and moved into our emergency home for young women survivors of human trafficking. In nine months of receiving housing and intensive counseling and direct services, Mia enrolled in college and has two part time jobs and her own apartment.

Roseanna* was 17 when she was identified as a victim of human trafficking after attempting to end her life. A local medical treatment facility referred Roseanna to FAIR Girls after she identified that she did not feel safe returning home in Montgomery County. Despite suffering from severe trauma and fears of future abuse, Roseanna worked with FAIR Girls to enroll in high school and obtain a job. She is now working toward attending community college and is a star jewelry designer in FAIR Girls' JewelGirls therapeutic arts and income generation program.

FAIR Girls In the News:

"At the heart of this Backpage fight, as well as almost all fights on behalf of human trafficking victims, is recognizing that these survivors need and deserve holistic justice. After the Senate hearing, the owners and senior management of Backpage walked out of the room free to return to their lives, business as usual, while the victims of sex trafficking must carry the vestiges of their abuse and trafficking with them always."

-CNN: The fight against sex trafficking is bigger than Backpage. By Andrea Powell 01/19/2017

"Jail or juvenile detention is no place for a victim of sex trafficking. Instead, survivors need services, housing, and real job and educational opportunities. Senator Gillibrand's legislation is critical to restoring the lives of survivors who are caught in the broad net cast to catch sex traffickers. Survivors should be treated with dignity while we continue to hold the real criminals, the traffickers, accountable."


"What has been portrayed as an epidemic of missing girls is really a series of systemic injustices that play out in the lives of thousands of children in D.C. and around the country. Sex trafficking has a color in the national capital region. We must together be brave enough to say why."

- "The Color of Sex Trafficking: A Statement on Race, Class, and Sex Trafficking in the Nation’s Capital" co-authored by Erin Andrews, Hannah De Martini, Andrea Powell and Survivor Advocates Alona Sid and Tutu Scott 02/15/2017

"Both Andrea Powell, the executive director of FAIR Girls, and Lisa Goldblatt Grace, director of My Life My Choice, two groups which fight trafficking and help its victims, agreed with Lee and Snyder about the underlying problems of trafficking. But they said Backpage is not helping. Powell said FAIR asked Backpage to require age verification for its advertisers, and submit ads to
law enforcement in advance, but they refused. "Be a positive force," Powell has told Backpage. "They chose not to." - "Under attack, Backpage.com has its supporters as anti-trafficking tool. But many differ." by Tom Jackman, Washington Post 07/18/2017

www.fairgirls.org
@FAIR_Girls
Green, Robert

Wed 11/1/2017 2:12 PM
Inbox
To: Farag, Susan <Susan.Farag@montgomerycountymd.gov>
FYI.

ROBERT L. GREEN
Director, Montgomery County Department of Correction and Rehabilitation

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Begin forwarded message:

From: Rojas, Donna
Date: November 1, 2017
To: "Green, Robert"
Cc: "Davis, Karalynn"
Subject: RE: Joint HHS/PS Committee Briefing on Justice Reinvestment Act

Good Afternoon Director Green,

As you requested from Counselor Stafford and I, here is the write up regarding how human trafficking victims are handled at MCCF.

I've provided a visual if you need that as well.

The Montgomery County Correctional Facility handles human trafficking victims as follows:

- Individual is arrested (for human trafficking, prostitution, etc.)
- The Counselor does an initial intake/interview (as is done with all female inmates) at MCCF to review charges. During the intake/interview process, it may be revealed that the individual is a victim of Human Trafficking.
- If the individual is interested in receiving assistance the counselor and onsite MCCF Human Trafficking Task Force member works in collaboration with the Executive Director of the Commission for Women to assist the victim.
- If they do not identify or it is not revealed, the individual will continue through their court proceeding process, etc.
MCCF Human Trafficking Victim Flow

- Individual is Arrested
- Intake/Meeting with Counselor to review Charges
- Individual identifies as a victim of Human Trafficking
- Counselor continues to assist victim in collaboration with Commission for Women who works with various agencies to assist the victim.

Thank you.

Counsel Report

Donna M. Rust, CCDH, OWDS
MCCF AFC Program Specialist
Montgomery County Correctional Facility
WorkSource Montgomery - American Job Center
22060 Wheeler Lane, Rockville, MD 20843
Child victims of human trafficking are forced, induced, or coerced into providing labor, services, or commercial sex. A trafficked child may be compelled to engage in illegal activities such as prostitution or the selling of drugs, and instead of being treated as victims, many are treated as criminals and are prosecuted accordingly. Arrest and prosecution can further traumatize the victim as well as leave him or her with a profound distrust of law enforcement, which can prevent victims from seeking assistance. Furthermore, the criminal record that results from being prosecuted can act as a barrier to future employment and other opportunities. Thus, it is necessary for states to enact laws that both protect and assist children that have been exploited for labor or sex. The laws that provide this type of protection are called safe harbor laws.

**What a Safe Harbor Law Does**

Safe harbor laws were developed by states to address inconsistencies with how children that are exploited for commercial sex are treated. Under federal law, a child under eighteen that is induced into providing commercial sex is a victim of trafficking and must be treated as such. State laws criminalize adults that have sex with children under statutory rape laws, however these laws were not consistently applied in cases where the adult purchased sex. The result was children, recognized under both state and federal law as victims of a crime, were arrested and convicted of prostitution. Safe harbor laws are intended to address the inconsistent treatment of children and ensure that these victims were provided with services.

Fundamentally, safe harbor laws have two components: legal protection and provision of services. The legal protection component provides immunity from prosecution for certain types of offenses because the child was induced or compelled to commit the offense or an established diversion program that affords a means for charges to be dismissed if the child completes a specialized services program. The services component of safe harbor requires that specialized services be made available to survivors. Services should include medical and psychological treatment, emergency and long-term housing, education assistance, job training, language assistance, and legal services. Ultimately, both components are necessary to reduce trauma and provide a path to recovery.

**Current Safe Harbor Policy**

Thirty-four states have passed safe harbor laws, many of which vary significantly. Most states that have passed safe harbor legislation have limited the scope of the protections to children that have been commercially sexually exploited (CSEC). This means that safe harbor provisions are applicable only to children that have engaged in commercial sex, thus the legal protections offered apply to prostitution and prostitution-related crimes. More recently, a growing number of states are including non-commercial sex, non-violent crimes in their version of safe harbor for minor trafficking victims.

Most state safe harbor laws define a “minor” by specifying a maximum age under which a victim will be decriminalized. Such provisions reflect the presumption that minors who have participated in criminal activity have done so as a result of having been exploited and sexually abused. The most protective age-based statutes for minors have adopted immunity for children under the age of eighteen for prostitution, promoting prostitution, or other non-violent offenses if the offense was committed as a direct result of being a victim of human trafficking. In a less protective approach, some other states only provide immunity for children under a certain age (typically fourteen or fifteen) or for first time offenders. CSEC victims who do not receive immunity are diverted from criminal proceedings to a services program and charges against the child are dismissed when he or she successfully completes the program.
Most states provide services to CSEC victims through the state child welfare system. Typically, children identified as a victim of commercial sexual exploitation are designated as a child in need of supervision or a dependent child, allowing the state child welfare system to intervene and provide assistance to the child. In other states the agency that oversees juvenile justice is designated to provide assistance to victims of CSEC.

**Policy Considerations**

One of the key safe harbor considerations is whether a state will create immunity from prosecution or create a diversion program. Although experts disagree on which model is best, Polaris believes that the combination of immunity and services provides the most legal protection and goes the furthest to ensure a victim of CSEC is entitled to the benefits of a victim. The determination to pursue immunity versus diversion will likely influence other considerations states must make when drafting safe harbor laws, including the most appropriate agency to provide services and the facilities used to provide housing and care.

The preference for immunity is reflected in recent action taken by the Uniform Law Commission (ULC) and the American Bar Association (ABA). In 2011, the ABA House of Delegates passed a resolution urging states not to charge child trafficking victims with prostitution and related offenses but to instead provide services. In 2013, the ULC released the Uniform Act on Prevention of and Remedies for Human Trafficking (Uniform Act). This guide for state legislators provides language drafted and adopted by lawyers from across the country that can serve as a basis for state legislation. The Uniform Act clearly and unequivocally recommends the immunity model for child victims of trafficking. The ABA House of Delegates endorsed the Uniform Act shortly after it was adopted.

Language from the Uniform Act on Prevention of and Remedies for Human Trafficking (Act):

Section 15. Immunity of a Minor

(a) An individual who was a minor at the time of the offense is not criminally liable or subject to [juvenile delinquency proceeding] for [prostitution] and [insert other non-violent offenses] committed as a direct result of being a victim of human trafficking.

The Uniform Act also broadens the scope of safe harbor to protect not only children who have been commercially sexually exploited, but also recognizes that child victims of labor trafficking are forced to commit crimes during the course of their exploitation and should be provided with the same protections as victims of CSEC.

Safe harbor legislation can be complex to draft due to the number of state entities involved in a successful safe harbor plan and because there are differing opinions on the best way to provide services. Polaris is eager to support the evolving best practices in this area of anti-trafficking law.

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For additional information or assistance, please contact Polaris at policy@polarisproject.org
Human trafficking occurring in DC’s backyard

By Kate Ryan | @KateRyanWTOP
August 11, 2017 4:48 am

ROCKVILLE, Md. — Human trafficking is a global problem — with a local impact in Montgomery County.

And on Thursday, the county’s Human Trafficking Task Force and a State Department delegation discussed the challenges human trafficking raises.

Representatives from 19 countries — including Paraguay, India, Tanzania and the Czech Republic — heard from county leaders on the shared problems of dealing with human trafficking, including detecting trafficking operation rings and how to assist trafficking victims.

It’s often hard for residents to believe that trafficking could be happening right in their own backyards, said Jodi Finkelstein, executive director of the Commission for Women. Her ride-alongs with Montgomery County police, she said, were eye-opening.

“I don’t want to say I was surprised by it, because I had some idea what to expect,” she said. But she said she left those ride-along shifts thinking, “Wow, we need to be doing a lot more to help not only law enforcement, but the victims.”

It’s difficult to say how widespread the problem of human trafficking is on both the global and local level, Finkelstein said. “Because it is so underreported, I can’t say we had X-number of victims,” she said.

But local police have become “phenomenal” partners, she said, in trying to detect trafficking operations and to make arrests.

Human trafficking is a universal problem, and no one in isolation is going to solve it, said Debbie Feinstein, chief of the county state’s attorney’s office’s special victims division.

“We all have to work together and have so much to learn from each other,” she said.
Feinstein explained how federal agencies, the state of Maryland and Montgomery County work together to investigate and prosecute trafficking operations. Among the tools traffickers use are apps such as Kik that allow traffickers and their victims to communicate without detection.

“They provide challenges because the messages are exchanged and they literally disappear,” she said, whereas communications shared on other apps have allowed law enforcement to successfully prosecute trafficking organizations.

Montgomery County Councilmember Tom Hucker, who serves on the council’s Public Safety Committee, said human trafficking is the third-largest criminal enterprise in the world. He was happy to see the delegation visit the county.

“We have to have important partnerships, and we’ll have some friends in 19 countries now that we can be in touch with to share strategies and best practices,” he said.

Feinstein added, “We want to believe it doesn’t happen, but we aren’t immune to it here in Montgomery County, and human trafficking relies on individuals putting their head in the sand and not wanting to see what may be going on.”

She urged residents who see things that seem out of place or suspicious to contact police. “We all need to be aware and report things when we have concerns,” she said.

For more information, visit Montgomery County’s Department of Health and Human Services website (https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/hhs-program/BHCS/VASAP/VASAPTraffick.html) and an online resources guide (https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/cfw/resources/files/Montgomery_CountyUPDATEDRESOURCE_DIRECTORY.pdf) from the county’s Human Trafficking Task Force.

Victims can find help at the county’s Victim Assistance and Sexual Assault Program (http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/hhs-program/bhcs/vasap/vasapindex.html).

Or call police at 911 or the Montgomery County Abused Persons Program at 240-777-4673.

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IN OTHER NEWS:

Is this 'Peace Cross' a tribute to veterans or a violation of the First Amendment?
For Immediate Release: Tuesday, October 17, 2017

Leggett to Join County Councilmembers and Advocates to Sign Bill 27-17 to Establish the Human Trafficking Prevention Committee

Thursday, October 19, 2017; 3 p.m.
County Executive Conference Room, 2nd Floor
101 Monroe Street, Rockville

Montgomery County Executive Isiah Leggett will join County Councilmembers, the Montgomery County Commission for Women and members of the Human Trafficking Task Force to sign into law Bill 27-17. This will extend the work of the task force by creating the Human Trafficking Prevention Committee (HTPC).

Leggett created a Montgomery County Human Trafficking Task Force in 2014 to increase understanding of the issue in Montgomery County and develop coordinated strategies for response and prevention. The goals of the Human Trafficking Task Force: increasing identification and prosecution of human trafficking; eliminating human trafficking; and, improving identification of and services for human trafficking victims, will now be addressed through the HTPC. The Commission for Women provides resources and staffing.

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The Victim Services Subcommittee of the Montgomery County Human Trafficking Task Force has compiled a resource directory to assist government agencies, providers, and members of the public in serving survivors of trafficking. The following directory is a list of organizations and agencies that are actively involved in either victim services or public awareness activities to address human trafficking in Montgomery County.

For more information on the Montgomery County Human Trafficking Task Force please call: (240) 777-8300
Montgomery County Human Trafficking Task Force

2016-2017 Resource Guide

In County Services: PAGE 1 – PAGE 4
State Programs that service Montgomery County: PAGE 4 – PAGE 10
National Services: PAGE 10

Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services
Abused Persons Program/Victim Assistance and Sexual Assault Program
1301 Piccard Drive
Rockville, MD 20850
240.777.1355
www.vasap.org

Manager, Trauma Services: Nadja Soares Pereira Cabello, LCSW-C
Nadja.Cabello@montgomerycountymd.gov
240.777.4210

Abused Persons Program: The program provides crisis and ongoing counseling, shelter, support, and advocacy services to victims of partner-related domestic abuse (domestic violence) and their families. Customers in need may also access services via the county's Crisis Center.

Victim Assistance and Sexual Assault Program: The Victim Assistance and Sexual Assault Program (VASAP) assists victims of crimes such as, rape/sexual assault, human trafficking, homicide, driving while intoxicated, carjacking, torture, hate crimes, arson, larceny, robbery, auto theft, and vandalism. The program provides information and referral, advocacy, crisis and ongoing counseling, support, and compensation services for victims of crimes committed in Montgomery County or crime victims who live in Montgomery County. Assistance is also provided to the victims’ families and significant others. Staff also works to educate the public about issues related to sexual assault and rape, human trafficking, and labor servitude in addition to other issues. Speakers are available to participate in meetings and forums geared to public education.

Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services
Child Sexual Abuse and Fatalities Investigations

Larissa Royal, LCSW-C
Child Welfare Services Supervisor
7300 Calhoun Place Suite 400
Rockville, Maryland 20855

The mission of the department is to: protect children, preserve families, strengthen communities, ensure permanency and well-being for every abused and neglected child in Montgomery County.
Adventist Behavioral Health
Forensic Medical Unit located at Shady Grove Medical Center
9901 Medical Center Dr.
Rockville, Maryland 20850
240.826.6225

Director: Heidi Bresee, CRNP, PPNP-BC, FNE A/P,
hbresee@ahm.com
Coordinator: Jessica Volz BSN, RN, FNE A/P,
jvolz@ahm.com

The Forensic Medical Unit, located at Shady Grove Medical Center is dedicated to providing confidential care to men, women, children and families who are victims of sexual assault, abuse, neglect and human trafficking with a continuum of specialized services. Through community partnerships, the Forensic Medical Unit raises awareness, provides services and educates community members about physical and sexual violence.

Ayuda
6925B Willow Street NW
Washington, DC 20012
www.ayuda.com

Program Coordinator: Amanda Persad, LGSW
amanda@ayuda.com
202.552.3602

Ayuda is the Washington, D.C. Metropolitan area’s leading provider of multilingual legal and social services assistance for low-income immigrants in the areas of human trafficking, immigration, domestic violence, and family law. Ayuda’s human trafficking program offers comprehensive case management and legal representation to any foreign-born persons trafficked for the purpose of forced labor or commercial sex who reside in Maryland, Washington, D.C., and Virginia. Ayuda assists trafficking survivors to secure basic needs, including housing, food, clothing, access to medical and mental health services, and connecting to community resources. Services include:
1. Legal and social services for human trafficking survivors in Maryland, Washington, D.C., and Virginia.
2. Immigration consultations (call for days/times/fees if any).
3. Community presentations and trainings for service providers and community members.

Montgomery County Human Trafficking Task Force

Task Force Chair: Bobbe Mintz
240.777.8333
cfwinfo@montgomerycountymd.org
http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/cfw

In 2014 County Executive Ike Leggett created the Montgomery County Human Trafficking Task Force. The purpose of the task force is to increase understanding of the issue in Montgomery County and to develop interagency coordination of strategies for response and prevention. Overarching goals include:

1. Increasing the identification and prosecution of all parties supporting the organized crime of human trafficking to include traffickers, suppliers, transporters, advertisers, and demand elements.
2. Elimination of human trafficking and
3. Improving identification of and services for human trafficking victims
Montgomery County Police Department, Vice and Intelligence Unit

Sargent David Papalia
David.Papalia@montgomerycountymd.gov

The Vice and Intelligence Unit handles intelligence gathering for the department and is responsible for identifying threats to our community. Two investigators are assigned to the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF) to investigate both international and domestic terrorism. The unit also investigates all gambling, prostitution and human trafficking cases.

University of Maryland Support, Advocacy, Freedom, and Empowerment Center for Survivors of Human Trafficking (SAFE) Center
5245 Greenbelt Rd. Box 107
College Park, MD 20740
umd safecenter.org
301-314-7233 (SAFE)
safecenter@umd.edu

Director: Susan Esserman, esserman@umd.edu
Deputy Director: Laura Ardito, lardito@umd.edu
Social Services Director: Heidi Alvarez, alvarezh@umd.edu

The University of Maryland SAFE Center's mission is to provide survivor-centered and trauma-informed legal, social, and economic empowerment services to domestic and foreign national survivors of all forms of human trafficking. The SAFE Center also aims to help prevent trafficking and better serve survivors by contributing to research and policy development in this field, and by collaboratively engaging in state and local legislative advocacy efforts. The Center is initially focused on Prince George's and Montgomery Counties, with a longer term focus on the state of Maryland, but we will serve survivors of human trafficking from any location.

The SAFE Center is an initiative of the University of Maryland, Baltimore and the University of Maryland, College Park through its formal collaborative program for innovation, University of Maryland: MPowering the State.

FAIR Girls

24-Hour Crisis Line: 1-855-900-3247
www.fairgirls.org

Meredith Torr
Maryland Outreach & Prevention Education Program Manager
meredith@fairgirls.org
(202) 607-0726

1. Case Management & Crisis Response (Prince George's County & Washington, DC): FAIR Girls provides crisis intervention, court advocacy, and comprehensive case management services to domestic and foreign-born sex and labor trafficked youth, who identify as a female, and are between the ages of 10 and 27.

2. Prevention Education (Maryland): Tell Your Friends (TYF) is a four module, multimedia prevention education curriculum taught in middle and high school classrooms, after-school programs, youth shelters, and group homes. TYF is an interactive, age-appropriate curriculum for adolescents and young adults that defines human trafficking, identifies risk factors teens & young adults may face, discusses healthy and
unhealthy relationships, and provides students with a locally-based resource guide that may be used to contact FAIR Girls and a variety low-barrier support services.

3. **Transitional Housing (Washington, DC):** FAIR Girls Vida Home transitional housing for adult survivors of human trafficking who identify as female. Survivors can stay up to 90 days, and are connected with intensive case management, therapeutic services, and life-skills workshops.

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**Federal Bureau of Investigation, Victim Assistance Program**

Barbara Gaskins-Wallace, Victim Specialist  
Barbara.gaskinswallace@ic.fbi.gov  
410.277.6644

The mission of the Office for Victim Assistance (OVA) is to ensure victims of crime investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) are afforded the opportunity to receive services and notifications as required by the law, and which will improve their ability to cope with the impact of the crime. Your Victim Specialist can also refer you to other types of programs and services, such as emergency housing, counseling, medical assistance, support groups, and credit counseling. At your request, the FBI can notify your employer and/or creditor for you, if your victimization causes you to be absent from work or affects your ability to make timely payments to creditors. The Victim Specialist will serve as the point of contact between you and the FBI.

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**Maryland Department of Human Resources**

In-Home Policy Analyst: Diane Banchiere, LCSW-C  
diane.banchiere@maryland.gov  
410.767.7423

The Maryland Department of Human Resources receives all reports of child sex trafficking and has partnered in a five year grant with the University of Maryland to address human trafficking in Maryland. All Child Welfare staff will be trained in identifying and appropriately responding to sex trafficked victims as part of their mandatory core training. Screening of all youth both in out-of-home placement as well as those receiving in-home services will be screened through the use of the CANS and CANS-F to identify youth who may be at risk of trafficking. Youth identified as at risk will receive further screening as well as appropriate prevention services. DHR currently has identified two providers (Arrow Project and Children's Home) who are able to provide diagnostic placement services for youth who are referred as trafficking victims. There are two years left of funding available.
Maryland Human Trafficking Task Force (MHTTF)
www.mdhumantrafficking.org

The Maryland U.S. Attorney’s Office makes it a priority to combat human trafficking. The U.S. Attorney’s Office’s goal is to work with state, federal, and private agencies to discover and rescue victims of human trafficking while identifying and prosecuting offenders.

Ayn Ducao, Assistant U.S. Attorney, USAO / Chair, MHTTF
Email: Ayn.Ducao@usdoj.gov

Homeland Security Investigations – Victim Assistance

Victim Specialist: Susan Ritter, Victim Specialist
Susan.Ritter@dhs.gov
443.810.9230
www.ice.gov

Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) investigates allegations of human trafficking of both foreign and United States born victims and works closely with other federal, state, and local law enforcement partners to further these investigations. HSI also maintains attaché offices in forty-seven countries which can be utilized to assist in the investigation of transnational criminal organizations involved in human trafficking. HSI recognizes that severe consequences of human trafficking continue even after the perpetrators have been arrested and held accountable. HSI’s Victim Assistance Program helps coordinate services to help human trafficking victims, such as crisis intervention, counseling and emotional support both during and after the investigative process.
Kennedy Krieger Institute, The Center for Child and Family Traumatic Stress
707 N Broadway, Baltimore, MD 21205
443.923.5980

Monica Beltran, LSCW-C
Beltran@kennedykrieger.org
443.923.5950 (direct)

The Center for Child and Family Traumatic Stress is located at the Kennedy Krieger Institute Fairmount Campus and provides mental health evaluation and treatment services to children, adolescents, and families who experience or may be at-risk for trauma through physical abuse, sexual abuse, neglect, and domestic and community violence.

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Kids in Need of Defense (KIND)
1800 N. Charles Street, Suite 810, The Walbert Building, Baltimore, MD 21201
(443) 470-9437

Supervising Attorney for Pro Bono Programs: Jennifer E. Jaimes
jjaimes@supportkind.org
443.499.2565

Pro Bono Coordinating Attorney: K. Brooke Welch
bwelch@supportkind.org
443.219.7755

KIND's mission is to ensure legal representation for unaccompanied minors in immigration proceedings. KIND provides direct representation of these children, as well as placement with pro bono attorneys. KIND focuses on immigration humanitarian remedies, including Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS), asylum, T Visa (trafficking) and U Visa (crime victims).

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Maryland Coalition Against Sexual Assault

Executive Director: Lisae Jordan, Esquire
Lisae.Jordan.esq@gmail.com
301.328.7023
www.mcasa.org

The Maryland Coalition Against Sexual Assault's (MCASA) mission is to help prevent sexual assault, advocate for accessible, compassionate care for survivors of sexual violence, and work to hold offenders accountable. MCASA works on the following areas that connect with anti-trafficking efforts in Maryland: public policy, education, community outreach, technical assistance, and legal services (see Sexual Assault Legal Institute).
Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene,  
Suicide and Violence Prevention Behavioral Health Administration

State Coordinator: Brandon Johnson,  
brandon.johnson@maryland.gov  
410.402.8313

Behavioral Health Administration (BHA) serves as a liaison for victims of human trafficking to receive services from the Core Service Agencies across the state. BHA personnel are also available to provide specific mental health, substance-related disorder, and trauma-focused trainings and presentations to adults who serve young victims of human trafficking.

Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence  
4601 Presidents Dr #370, Lanham, MD 20706  
301.429.3601  
Director of Training and Services: Erin Boguski, MS,  
eboguski@mnadv.org

Amber Guthrie, MA, Project Manager of Coalition Training and Technical Assistance  
aguthrie@mnadv.org

Training and technical assistance on trauma-informed services, overlap of dating and trafficking, confidentiality, housing, referrals to domestic violence/sexual assault programs, and organizational readiness. MNADV also provides free workshops and conferences. For upcoming trainings, events, activities, and initiatives, visit mnadv.org.

Sexual Assault Legal Institute  
Director: Lisae Jordan, Esquire  
Lisae.Jordan.esq@gmail.com  
301.565.2277 / 877.496.SALI (toll free)  
www.mcasa.org (click on Legal Services - SALI under “For Survivors”)  

The Sexual Assault Legal Institute (SALI) provides direct legal services for survivors of sexual assault and abuse, and legal training and technical assistance for rape crisis centers and other professionals working with survivors. SALI is a statewide program and serves both children and adults. It is part of the Maryland Coalition Against Sexual Assault (MCASA). Available Resources include:

1. Legal services for survivors for any legal issue related to the sexual assault/abuse, including peace orders/protective orders, immigration (including U and T visas), employment, education, civil rights, family law, crime victim rights, and other matters.

2. Training and technical assistance for programs working with survivors, including presentations on civil legal needs of sexual assault survivors, sexual crimes and victim rights in the criminal justice system, and legal issues for sexual crimes victims who are under 18.

3. Input into MCASA's public policy advocacy, including advocating before the Maryland General Assembly.
Tahirih Justice Center

410.999.1900 Baltimore (those in need of legal representation and services should call on Tuesday between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.)
www.tahirih.org/services/

The Tahirih Justice Center works to protect immigrant women and girls from gender-based violence through legal services, advocacy, and public education programs. With an office located in Baltimore City, they provide free immigration legal services to women and girls who are foreign-born survivors of sex and labor trafficking and who reside throughout the state of Maryland.

University of Baltimore School of Law Human Trafficking Prevention Project
Supervising Attorney: Jessica Emerson, LMSW, Esq.
jemerson@ubalt.edu
410.837.5709

The Human Trafficking Prevention Project is a new clinical program within the Civil Advocacy Clinic at the University of Baltimore School of Law. The HTPP focuses on reducing the collateral consequences of criminal justice involvement for survivors of human trafficking and those populations most vulnerable to exploitation. Student attorneys will represent survivors of sex trafficking seeking to vacate their prostitution convictions under Maryland's 2011 "vacating convictions" law, as well as provide representation for anyone with a history of involvement in the commercial sex industry in expungement and shielding cases under Maryland's recently enacted "Second Chance Act," which allows for the shielding of certain non-violent misdemeanor convictions. Services are free of charge and provided regardless of age, race, ethnicity, biological/assigned sex, immigration status, sexual orientation, or gender identity. HTPP offers the following services:

1. Legal services for individuals with histories of involvement in the commercial sex industry in vacating, expunging, or shielding prostitution and other related charges on their criminal records.

2. Training and technical assistance on the availability of post-conviction relief within the state of Maryland, as well as on working with survivors of trauma.

3. Input on state or federal legislation that impacts survivors of trafficking and those at greatest risk, with a focus on human rights and harm reduction principles.
The Child Sex Trafficking Victims Initiative, University of Maryland School of Social Work

Principal Investigator: Nadine Finigan-Carr, PhD
nfinigan-carr@ssw.umaryland.edu

Clinical Research Specialist: Amelia Rubenstein, LCSW-C
arubenstein@ssw.umaryland.edu

DHR Liaison: Diane Banchiere, LCSW-C
Diane.banchiere@maryland.gov

The University of Maryland, School of Social Work (UMSSW), in partnership with the Maryland Department of Human Resources (DHR), has received funding from the Children's Bureau to address the issue of sex trafficking within the child welfare population. This 60-month project builds infrastructure capacity between state and local child welfare agencies and victim services providers to ensure that trafficked youth and children at risk of exploitation have access to an array of comprehensive, high-quality services. UMSSW serves as the lead agency responsible for project management and evaluation. The work of the Child Sex Trafficking Victims Initiative (CSTVI) focuses on three priorities:

1. Improving victim identification through implementation of a statewide screening tool to identify trafficked youth and children at high risk of exploitation;

2. Enhancing victim response through training and technical assistance equip child welfare professionals with the knowledge and skills needed to effectively assist survivors; and

3. Ensuring every victim receives comprehensive, trauma-informed care by building capacity among service providers and targeting existing gaps in resources. For professionals and agencies working with children and young adults, CSTVI offers training and technical assistance on identification and response to child sex trafficking, as well as individual case consultation and specialized referrals. For more information or to request assistance, please contact the CSTVI staff listed above.

The Women's Law Center of Maryland, Inc.
Legal Director: Laure Ruth
lruth@wlcmd.org
410.321.8761
www.wlcmd.org

The Women's Law Center was established in 1971 to promote justice and fairness for women. It advocates for the protection and expansion of women's legal rights through legal assistance to individuals and strategic initiatives to achieve systemic change. Available resources include:

1. The Trafficking Victims Post-Conviction Advocacy Project (TVPCAP) refers survivors of sex trafficking seeking to vacate prostitution convictions arising from having been trafficked to a panel of trained private attorneys to assist them with their vacatur cases.

2. The Multi-Ethnic Domestic Violence Project (MEDOVI) provides free immigration legal service to Maryland residents who are foreign-born victims of domestic violence, human sex trafficking and/or sexual assault. Contact: Suzanne Bailey, Esquire / Project Director at 410.396.3294 or via email at: sbailey@wlcmd.org and Denise Lopez Robinson, Legal Advocate at 410.396.3294 or via email at: drobinson@wlcmd.org).

3. The Protective Order Advocacy and Representation Project (POARP) assist victims in Baltimore City, Baltimore County, and Carroll County to obtain civil orders of protection against their abuser.
4. The Family Law Hotline provides basic information about Maryland family law to help callers understand their rights and legal options. The hotline is staffed by an attorney Monday through Friday from 9:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.

**National Center for Missing & Exploited Children**

699 Prince Street  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314-3175

24-hour call center: 1-800-THE-LOST (1-800-843-5678)  
Phone: 703-224-2150

Established in 1984, the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children® (NCMEC) is the leading nonprofit organization in the U.S. working with law enforcement, families, and the professionals who serve them on issues related to missing and sexually exploited children. As part of its Congressional authorization, NCMEC has created a unique public and private partnership to build a coordinated, national response to the problem of missing and sexually exploited children, establish a missing children hotline and serve as the national clearinghouse for information related to these issues.

NCMEC plays a vital role in the Innocence Lost National Initiative by being a clearinghouse for information obtained from the public and Electronic Service Providers about children being exploited through sex trafficking; providing analytical and technical assistance services to law enforcement investigating these cases; and dedicating case management support for missing children victimized through sex trafficking.

NCMEC operates the CyberTipline, which receives leads and tips regarding suspected crimes of sexual exploitation committed against children. This includes exploitation of a child by traffickers, children being sold for sex online, and other forms of child sexual exploitation.

To report a missing child or request assistance with a case involving child sex trafficking please call 1.800.THE.LOST or if you have information regarding possible online child sexual exploitation, please make a report at www.cybertipline.com.

**National Human Trafficking Resource Center**

NHTRC 24-Hour Hotline: 1.888.3737.888  
NHTRC SMS Text Line: 233733 (BEFREE)  
nhtrc@polarisproject.org  
www.traffickingresourcecenter.org

The National Human Trafficking Resource Center (NHTRC) works to improve the national response to protect victims of human trafficking in the United States. NHTRC is a national, toll-free hotline, available to answer calls, texts, and emails, from anywhere in the country, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, every day of the year. The NHTRC takes reports of potential cases of human trafficking, connects callers with anti-trafficking resources in their area, and provides training, technical assistance, general information or specific anti-trafficking resources. Contact the NHTRC to report a tip; to connect with anti-trafficking resources in your area; or to request training and technical assistance, general information or specific anti-trafficking resources. The NHTRC is operated by Polaris Project and funded by the Department of Health and Human Services and other supporters.