
HART Monthly Newsletter

July 2024

Program Updates

Summer is in full swing here at HART, and we are excited to share a few updates with you all! We have 21 newly minted Anti-Trafficking Trainers within our law enforcement community, just in time for the World Day Against Trafficking. This month we are challenging each member of our community to share at least one anti-trafficking resource with someone in their network and to share a social media post in honor of the day on July 30th. Just copy and paste the post below into your LinkedIn, Twitter, Facebook, or Instagram and share your support with our community. In observance of World Day Against Trafficking in Persons, Blue Campaign will be hosting Human Trafficking 101 webinars in both [English](#) and [Spanish](#). These Webinars are a great resource for you to share with people who are unfamiliar with this important topic. Our community needs advocates like you!



🌐 World Day Against Trafficking in Persons 🌐

Today, we recognize the importance of raising awareness and taking action against human trafficking. This pervasive issue affects millions of lives globally, and it is our collective responsibility to combat it.

Join the Connecticut Human Anti-Trafficking Response Team in our mission to combat this serious issue throughout our state.

Let's come together to make a difference. Here are ways you can help:

Call to Action:

- 📖 Educate yourself and others about the signs of human trafficking.
- 💛 Support organizations that provide services to survivors.
- 🗣️ Advocate for policies that protect and empower victims.
- 🙋‍♀️ Volunteer your time or donate resources to anti-trafficking efforts.

Every action counts. Join us in the fight to end human trafficking and support those affected by this heinous crime. Together, we can create a world where everyone is free and safe.

#EndHumanTrafficking #WorldDayAgainstTrafficking #SupportSurvivors
#CTHumanAntiTraffickingResponseTeam #Advocacy #HumanRights

Funding Opportunities



STOP (Services, Training, Officers, and Prosecutors) Violence Against Women Formula Grant Program ([LINK](#))

OVC FY24 Meeting the Basic Needs of Crime Victims in Underserved Communities. Closing Date: 08/01, Grants.gov Deadline: 07/29. ([LINK](#))



How to apply for funding through the Office for Victims of Crime ([LINK](#))

Resources

Children Missing From Care: Sound Policy and Practice Recommendations, NCMEC ([LINK](#))

Safe Harbor Laws: Reducing criminalization of Human trafficking Victims ([LINK](#))

National SOGIE Center: Promoting the Wellbeing of LGBTQ+ People and Their Families. ([LINK](#))

Resources to Prevent, Identify, and Respond to Child Labor and Child Labor Trafficking:

- SOAR for School Based Professionals ([LINK](#))
- SOAR for Working with Foreign National Minors who have Experienced Trafficking ([LINK](#))
- Working with Unaccompanied Children ([LINK](#))
- DOL YouthRules Campaign ([LINK](#))
-

Girls Not Brides interactive child marriage learning resource tool. ([LINK](#))

Trafficking Response Guide for School Resource Officers. Department of Homeland Security. ([LINK](#))

Audiobooks Available to Help Young Survivors of Human Trafficking through OJP:

- [Jamie's Story](#) follows a young individual who identifies as nonbinary and serves as a victim witness in a sex trafficking case.
- [Sergio's Story](#) describes the experience of a young boy who was a victim of labor trafficking and is part of a federal case.
- [Zoe's Story](#) shares the experiences of a young girl who was sex trafficked and presents in court as a defendant
- What's Going On? Your Rights and Who You'll Meet ([LINK](#))

Developing Standards of Care for Anti-Trafficking Providers ([LINK](#))

Financial Sextortion

FBI: 'Financial sextortion' of teens is a 'rapidly escalating threat.' How parents can protect their kids ([LINK](#))

Sextortion: A Growing Threat Preying Upon Our Nation's Teens. Reports of sextortion from Oct 2021 to March 2023 involved at least 12,600 victims—primarily boys—and led to at least 20 suicides. ([LINK](#))

The Financially Motivated Sextortion Threat, FBI warns about dangers of online schemes targeting young adults and minors ([LINK](#))

Interactive Video Demonstrates the Perils of Financial Sextortion: No Escape Room ([LINK](#))

EVENT: Financial Exploitation Virtual Listening Session, National Center for Victims of Crime. Date: 07/25. Time: 1:30–3:00PM. ([LINK](#))

Training and Events

Increasing Access to Transformative Justice in Exploitative Structures: A Webinar Series 07/16, 07/30, and 08/27, 2-3:30 PM EST ([LINK](#))

Center for Countering Human Trafficking Continued Presence Webinar for Law Enforcement 07/24, 3:30-4:30PM ([Spanish](#)) and 07/30, 3:30-4:30PM ([English](#))

Financial Exploitation Virtual Listening Session, National Center for Victims of Crime 07/25, 1:30-3PM. ([LINK](#))

Following the Evidence in Child Abuse and Child Exploitation Cases 07/24-07/25 ([LINK](#))

DHHS Activating Connections: mobilizing Communities to Prevent Human Trafficking 07/30 12-5PM ([LINK](#))

Responding to Sextortion Related Offenses Against Children 08/8, 11 AM-7 PM EST ([LINK](#))

Multidisciplinary Team Facilitator Peer Forums with OJJDP 08/15, 2-3:30 PM EST ([LINK](#))

Request for Public Comment: Proposed Information Collection Activity; Legal and Advocacy Services for Unaccompanied Children 8/19 ([LINK](#))

Presenting Evidence in Child Forensic Interviews (Prerequisite to: Child Sex Trafficking: Forensic Interview Training) 08/20-08/21, 10AM - 5PM ([LINK](#))

Child Sex Trafficking: From Suspicion to Disclosure 09/24, 11 AM-6 PM ([LINK](#))

Join Shared Hope International for the Annual JuST (Juvenile Sex Trafficking) Conference 10/22-10/24 ([LINK](#)) Due to budgetary restraints, attendance must be self-funded.

Building Effective Public Awareness & Outreach Efforts for the Transportation Industry U.S. DOT and DHHS 07/31, 3-4:30 PM ([LINK](#))

National Multidisciplinary Institute on Child Sex Trafficking, Reno, NV 08/19-08/21 ([LINK](#))

Internet, Social Media, and Gaming

Take it Down. Free service that can help you remove or stop the online sharing of sexually explicit images or videos taken of you when you were under 18 years old. ([LINK](#))

Victim, Survivor & Family Support through NCMEC ([LINK](#))

Making a Difference: How to Measure Digital Safety Effectively to Reduce Risks Online. ([LINK](#))

White House Task Force to Address Online Harassment and Abuse: Final Report and Blueprint. ([LINK](#))

Online Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation: Current and Emerging Threats. OHCHR. ([LINK](#))

Existing and Emerging Sexually Exploitative Practices against Children in the Digital Environment. ICMEC. ([LINK](#))

Into the Cloud", NCMEC's online safety program designed for children 10 and under. [English](#) and [Spanish](#)

NetSmartz presentations for middle schoolers, high schoolers and guardians in [English](#) and [Spanish](#).

Understanding the Risks of Sexual Cyberbullying by The Activate Center ([LINK](#))

Reports and Studies

COVID Has Taken Its Toll on Us": The Pervasive Effects of COVID-19 on Programs Supporting Native People Who Have Experienced Human Trafficking. ([LINK](#))

Artificial Intelligence's Ability to Detect Online Predators. Thesis. ([LINK](#))

CSAM Sentencing Enhancements 50-State Comparison ([LINK](#))

Zero Abuse Project 2023 Annual Report ([LINK](#))

Special Report on Social Media and Mental Health. [New York City]. Vasan, Ashwin. , New York City. Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. 2024 ([LINK](#))

U.S. Department of State 2024 Trafficking in Persons Report ([LINK](#))

A National Strategy to Prevent Youth Homelessness, Chapin Hill ([LINK](#))



Articles

Homeland Security: Global Human Trafficking Operation Leads to 219 Arrests and 1,374 Victims Rescued ([LINK](#))

Good Greek Moving and Storage & Place of Hope Launch Groundbreaking Anti-Trafficking Partnership ([LINK](#))

Caged by a Marriage: How Child Marriages in the United States are Enabled by Our Immigration System. (Article in Drake Law Review). ([LINK](#))

daho will join the other 29 states and DC who have made it clear that children engaged in commercial sex are victims of sex trafficking, not prostitution offenders. ([LINK](#))

Pennsylvania passed legislation that amended the definition of trafficking to eliminate the third-party control requirement. ([LINK](#))

Virginia passed legislation to support Safe Harbor response and establish multidisciplinary teams. ([LINK](#))

Washington passed SB 6006 that allows victims to access civil orders of protection from their traffickers, eliminates the statute of limitation for sex trafficking prosecutions, and allows victims to testify using CCTV. ([LINK](#))

Adult film star Austin Wolf arrested on child pornography charges. ([LINK](#))

US: U.S. Marshals Find 200 Missing Children Across the Nation During Operation We Will Find You 2 ([LINK](#))

Student Says Snapchat Enabled Teacher's Abuse. Supreme Court Won't Hear His Case ([LINK](#))

DHHS Recognizes 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline Efforts in Connecticut ([LINK](#))

A growing number of parents are refusing to give their children smartphones, CNBC ([LINK](#))

Housing provider for unaccompanied migrant children engaged in sexual abuse and harassment ([LINK](#))

To request training for your organization, please email **DCFHART@ct.gov**

For any questions or upcoming events, please contact:

Tammy Sneed, Director, Office of Human Trafficking Services and Director, CT Human Anti-trafficking Response Team (HART) at **tammy.sneed@ct.gov**

For newsletter suggestions, please contact the HART Intern:

Desaree Edwards at **desaree.edwards@ct.gov**



Traffickers leverage technology to exploit individuals for human trafficking.

Traffickers can...

Use social media to find and exploit individuals in vulnerable situations



Advertise fraudulent job opportunities



Use encrypted apps to communicate



Share sexually explicit digital content and livestream abuse



Use ride sharing apps to arrange travel and maintain control over someone's movements



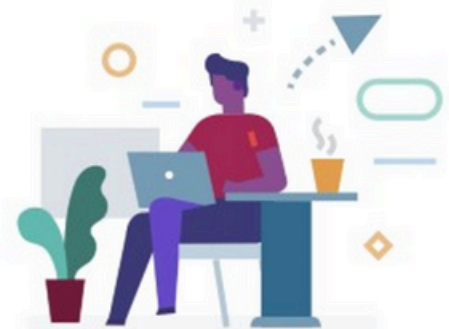
Move criminal transactions through anonymized financial platforms



Use digital surveillance to monitor movements



Traffickers turned to the **Internet**, resulting in online platforms being reported as the **top recruitment location for labor and sex trafficking** in 2020.



Facebook

125% ↑

compared to the previous year



Instagram

95% ↑

compared to the previous year



Chat Rooms

36% ↑

compared to the previous year



Other Mobile Apps

60% ↑

compared to the previous year

Recent analysis of hotline data shows a

22% ↑

increase in online recruitment
in 2020³ as compared to the previous year.

LIVESTREAM

Activating Connections:

Mobilizing communities to prevent human trafficking

JOIN US:

July 30, 2024 | 12:00pm - 5:00pm ET



INTRODUCING

Professional Pathways



Physical & Mental Health



Prevention



Law Enforcement, Legal, and Policy



Service Providers



Multidisciplinary Teams



Research & Lived Experience

JUST ²⁰₂₄
PHOENIX

OCTOBER 22-24
ARIZONA GRAND RESORT

SAVE \$100
BEFORE 7/31



Get a Pizza Kit or Meal Deal and Help Support NCMEC!

Little Caesars Fundraising

40th NATIONAL CENTER FOR MISSING & EXPLOITED CHILDREN
CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF HOPE

[Purchase Now](#)

[Make a purchase or Donation and Help Support NCMEC](#)



NATIONAL COUNCIL OF
JUVENILE AND FAMILY COURT JUDGES

National Multidisciplinary Institute on Child Sex Trafficking



August 19-21, 2024



The Nugget Casino Resort
Reno/Sparks, Nevada

Travel Scholarships Available

The National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ) has opened registration for the National Multidisciplinary Institute on Child Sex Trafficking (NMICST) which will take place in Reno/Sparks, NV on August 19-21, 2024 (2.5 days).

This interactive training uses hypothetical case scenarios, small group discussion, and “mini” lectures to provide new and experienced court teams with the tools they need to develop or enhance their ability to identify children who are being trafficked or are at risk for victimization. Participating teams will also learn effective intervention strategies that respond to the individualized needs of each victim and a stronger sense of their court and community roles to help prevent and end child sex trafficking.

[Register](#)