

# Substance Use, Human Trafficking, and Trauma

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# Faces of Human Trafficking

- <https://ovc.ojp.gov/media/video/3571>

# Kristina Bailey

- Anti-Trafficking Program Supervisor for the International Rescue Committee Tallahassee
- Serving ALL survivors of sex and labor trafficking with client-centered, trauma-informed, comprehensive case management
  - Leon, Gadsden, Jefferson, Wakulla, Liberty, Franklin, Taylor, Gulf, Calhoun, and Bay Counties
  - IRC & STAC – Tallahassee Anti-Trafficking Services Program
  - IRC – Tallahassee Anti-Trafficking Housing Program



# Crossover of Human Trafficking and Substance Misuse

- Recruitment through substance use
- Family member trafficker
- Control through substance addiction
- Substance misuse as a coping mechanism
- Substance misuse in recovery from trauma



# Robin Silberman

- Survivor Mentor - Open Doors Outreach Network
- Serve sex trafficked children and young adults ages 10-24, both suspected and verified victims and survivors of sex trafficking
  - Franklin, Liberty, Gadsden, Leon, Wakulla, Jefferson, Madison, and Taylor counties.
  - 24/7 hotline and offer survivor-centered care.



# Substance Misuse and Trauma

- Trauma and substance use – a two way path
- Substance use and the effects on the brain
- Self-medicating for PTSD and other mental health disorders
- Looking for comfort
- Importance of trauma therapy



# Graciela Marquina

- Community Resource Advocate with the Survive and Thrive Advocacy Center
- Serving survivors alongside Kristina with IRC, but STAC also serves those at-risk of trafficking

# “Drug Endangered Children”

- Children that experience a wide range of abuse and neglect because of the substance misuse, manufacture, or trafficking.
- <https://www.wpbf.com/article/human-trafficking-florida-girl-mother-ten-dollars/30718931#>



# Sober House Video

- <https://www.nbcnews.com/leftfield/video/fake-drug-treatment-centers-exploit-addicts-for-insurance-fraud-and-sex-trafficking-1106469443635>

# Sober House Video Discussion

- If one of the women in the video came to STAC for support, what would STAC do?
- What are the community resources here?
- What if it was a male who came looking for support?
- What if it was someone who identifies as LGBTQ?
- What would IRC do? What about WCL/ODON?



# Action Steps

*Care for providers, Advocacy, Community Resources*

## Responses and Resources do you do if you suspect trafficking?

Florida DCF Abuse Hotline

**1-800-96-ABUSE (children and vulnerable adults)**

National Human Trafficking Resource Center / Hotline

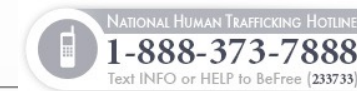
**1-888-373-7888**

STAC – Local resources and info

**850-597-2080 (talk and text)**

If emergency call law enforcement!

## What



## Who to Call?

# Resources and Action

- 911 if in danger – follow institutional protocols
- Office for Victims of Crime, USDOJ. Substance abuse needs <https://www.ovcttac.gov/taskforceguide/eguide/4-supporting-victims/44-comprehensive-victim-services/mental-health-needs/substance-abuse-needs/>
- Addicted to You: Drug Addiction as a Means of Coercion, *Trafficking Matters*. <https://www.traffickingmatters.com/addicted-to-you-drug-addiction-as-a-means-of-coercion/>
- NECAT Webinar (2018): The Intersection of Substance Use Disorders and Trafficking: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FVsz7qe1sfo&t=15s>
- Youth Screening Study: <https://aspe.hhs.gov/system/files/pdf/257786/Pretesting.pdf>
- National Human Trafficking Hotline
  - 888-3737-888 or text “befree”
- STAC Directory: [www.surviveandthriveadvocacy.org](http://www.surviveandthriveadvocacy.org)



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