

**CONNECTING THE DOTS.**  
Strengthening Communities. Preventing Trafficking.

# 2025

## Human Trafficking Prevention Month Toolkit

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES



ADMINISTRATION FOR  
**CHILDREN & FAMILIES**  
Office on Trafficking in Persons

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# INTRODUCTION



January is Human Trafficking Prevention Month, a presidentially designated observance that raises awareness about human trafficking and empowers the public to take action to prevent and respond to it.

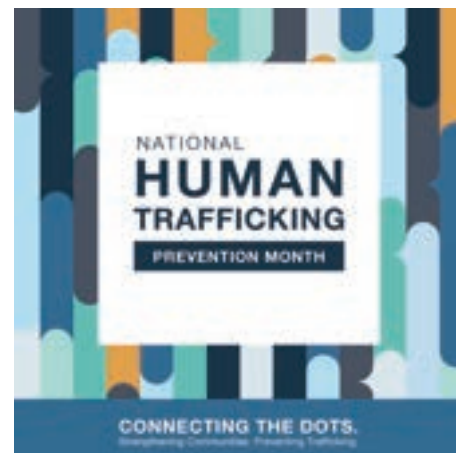
This toolkit is designed to educate and equip individuals and organizations with the tools they need to share resources, raise awareness, and foster meaningful connections to prevent human trafficking. It is structured around four key focus weeks to ensure clear messaging and effective resource-sharing. Throughout the month of January, we encourage you to engage with the provided resources to amplify your impact and help prevent trafficking.

## Human Trafficking Prevention Month 2025: Connecting the Dots. Strengthening Communities. Preventing Trafficking.

The theme for Human Trafficking Prevention Month 2025 highlights the importance of a holistic approach to preventing human trafficking, recognizing its intersection with other forms of violence and social issues.

Connecting the dots between human trafficking, online harassment and abuse, interpersonal violence, and other forms of violence can disrupt multiple forms of exploitation. Understanding the role of economic mobility, the desire for connection, technology, and market dynamics can prevent some of the most predictable recruitment schemes of human trafficking. Building healthy relationships and strengthening the resilience of communities and industries can protect against vulnerabilities leading to human trafficking.

This theme calls for collective action to strengthen prevention at every level: individual, relational, community, and societal. Our goal is to prevent exploitation before it occurs. It encourages cross-sector collaboration, including partnerships with individuals who have experienced trafficking. Together, we can strengthen our efforts to keep everyone safe from human trafficking.



### Goals

- Raise awareness about human trafficking.
- Educate individuals and organizations about the roles they can play in preventing and responding to human trafficking.
- Emphasize interconnections between human trafficking and other forms of violence and the importance of strengthening community and industry resilience to protect against human trafficking.
- Increase reporting of human trafficking situations and improve referrals to support services.

# Focus Weeks

This toolkit is organized into five key focus weeks. The first week introduces Human Trafficking Prevention Month and provides foundational information about trafficking. Weeks two through five build on this by connecting the dots between human trafficking and other forms of violence and social issues. These weeks also offer strategies for strengthening communities by addressing known risks and increasing protective factors.

Throughout the month, we will offer information and resources to help individuals and organizations take meaningful action to prevent trafficking.

## **Week 1: January 1–5, 2025**

Introduction to Human Trafficking Prevention Month

## **Week 2: January 6–12, 2025**

- Connecting the Dots: Human Trafficking and Labor Exploitation
- Strengthening Communities Through Strong Workplace Policies and Practices

## **Week 3: January 13–19, 2025**

- Connecting the Dots: Human Trafficking and Emergency and Other Transitional Experiences
- Strengthening Communities by Enhancing Access to Services

## **Week 4: January 20–26, 2025**

- Connecting the Dots: Human Trafficking and Online Harassment and Abuse
- Strengthening Communities Through Family and Social Connectedness

## **Week 5: January 27–31, 2025**

- Connecting the Dots: Human Trafficking and Interpersonal Violence
- Strengthening Communities Through Economic Mobility

**Are you working on a factor that isn't discussed here?**

Please add to the conversation online and tag #Partner2Prevent so others can learn about the work you are doing.



ADMINISTRATION FOR  
**CHILDREN & FAMILIES**  
Office on Trafficking in Persons

# STAY CONNECTED

Follow us on social media for new resources  
and events throughout January.



[Office on Trafficking in Persons](#)



[Administration for Children and Families](#)



[@ACF\\_gov](#)



[@ACFHHS](#)

## ListServ

Stay up to date. [Subscribe](#) to the Office on Trafficking in Persons (OTIP) listserv.

# RESOURCES

## Sample Proclamation

A proclamation is an official announcement signed by a government official, such as a mayor or governor, to recognize an initiative or observance for the purpose of raising awareness or celebrating a significant milestone.

[This sample proclamation](#) for Human Trafficking Prevention Month 2025 can be customized and signed by your state, local, Tribal or territorial government official. Securing a proclamation designating January as National Human Trafficking Prevention Month in your community can help raise awareness and inspire action.



## Events Calendar

A number of Federal agencies, technical assistance centers, and funding recipients host events during Human Trafficking Prevention Month. We encourage you to participate in this year's events and spread the word about these opportunities to your networks.

Visit the OTIP website throughout January for updates to the [Federal interagency calendar of events](#).

## Sample Newsletter Content

### **Human Trafficking Prevention Month: Connecting the Dots. Strengthening Communities. Preventing Trafficking.**

January 2025 marks Human Trafficking Prevention Month. This year's theme highlights the importance of a holistic approach to prevent trafficking. It recognizes the critical intersection of trafficking with other forms of violence and social issues.

By connecting the dots between human trafficking, online harassment and abuse, interpersonal violence, and other forms of abuse, we can disrupt multiple forms of exploitation. Understanding factors like

economic mobility, the desire for connection, technology, and market dynamics helps prevent predictable recruitment schemes. Building healthy relationships and strengthening the resilience of communities and industries can reduce vulnerabilities and protect against trafficking.

This Human Trafficking Prevention Month calls for collective action to strengthen prevention at every level—individual, relational, community and societal. By addressing root causes, reducing risks, and increasing protective factors, we can prevent exploitation before it starts. We encourage cross-sector collaboration, including partnerships with those who have lived experience, to develop effective, community-driven solutions. Together, we can strengthen our collective efforts to keep everyone safe from human trafficking.

Stay informed and engaged throughout January by visiting the [Office on Trafficking in Persons' website](#) for news, resources and events.



## Sample Website Content

### **Human Trafficking Prevention Month: Connecting the Dots. Strengthening Communities. Preventing Trafficking.**

January 2025 marks Human Trafficking Prevention Month. This year's theme focuses on a holistic approach to prevent trafficking by recognizing its connections to other forms of violence and abuse, such as labor exploitation, online harassment and abuse, and interpersonal violence. By understanding factors such as economic mobility, the desire for connection, technology, and market dynamics, we can identify and disrupt recruitment schemes while reducing vulnerabilities.

This month calls for collective action to strengthen prevention at every level: individual, relational, community and societal. By addressing root causes, strengthening relationships, and fostering collaboration across sectors, we can prevent exploitation before it begins.

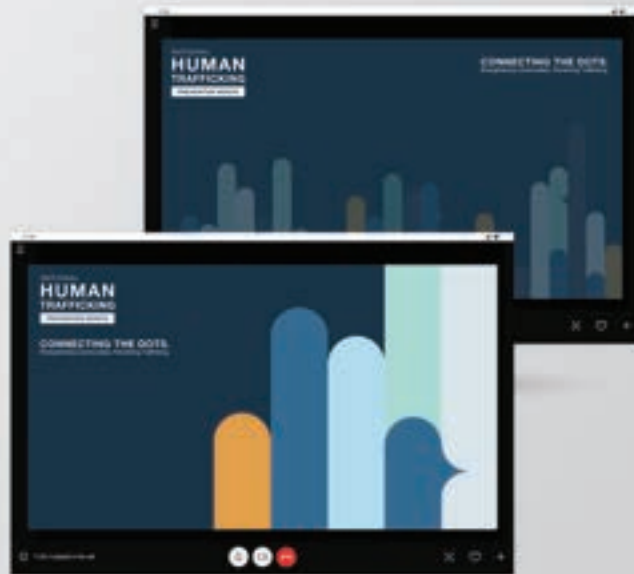
Stay informed and engaged throughout January by visiting the [Office on Trafficking in Persons website](#) for news, resources and events.

## Virtual Meeting Backgrounds

Download our [virtual meeting backgrounds](#) for Zoom or Microsoft Teams to feature Human Trafficking Prevention Month throughout January.

## PowerPoint Presentation Template

Hosting a virtual meeting or presentation related to Human Trafficking Prevention Month? A [PowerPoint template](#) is available. Use your images or access our [free image library](#).



# Social Media Resources

## Graphics

[Social media graphics](#), including an editable template, are available. Use the graphics we provide or customize them for your community by including your logo or images or selecting an alternate photo from our [free image library](#).

## Content

We have curated a collection of social media posts and resources to raise awareness and offer actionable steps to prevent human trafficking. Content is available in the Weekly Content section to follow.

## Hashtags

Help spread awareness of human trafficking by using the #Partner2Prevent hashtag. Additional hashtags are provided. We recommend including no more than two per post.

### Primary Hashtag

#Partner2Prevent

### Secondary Hashtags

- #EndTrafficking
- #HumanTrafficking
- #ForcedLabor



## Week 1: January 1–5, 2025

To mark the beginning of Human Trafficking Prevention Month, the following content is designed for individuals from all backgrounds to learn about human trafficking and discover how they can contribute toward its prevention.

### What You Can Do to Strengthen Communities and Prevent Human Trafficking

- Encourage your state, local, Tribal or territorial government to [proclaim](#) January 2025 as Human Trafficking Prevention Month.
- [Learn](#) how human trafficking happens in the United States.
- Complete free, on-demand, and accredited training through our [SOAR to Health and Wellness National Training Program](#).
- Share resources from the [Look Beneath the Surface](#) public awareness and outreach campaign in your local area.
- Ask your elected [representatives](#) what they are doing to stop human trafficking. Inform them about what your community needs.
- Locate local [anti-trafficking organizations](#) and ask them how you can help.

### Resources



#### SOAR Online

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' [SOAR Online](#) program offers a series of accredited, on-demand training modules that professionals can complete at their convenience. These modules are designed to help identify individuals at risk of or currently experiencing human trafficking and connect them with essential resources. SOAR Online includes modules that:

- Are tailored to various professional audiences, such as healthcare providers, social workers, and those working in schools, disaster response, and procurement.



- Focus on key topics like trauma-informed care, cultural considerations, universal education and screening, and safety planning.
- Address the unique needs of specific groups, such as Indigenous communities, foreign national minors, children and youth who are system-involved, and individuals with substance use or co-occurring disorders.

Most modules offer continuing education and continuing medical education credits.

#### Look Beneath the Surface Outreach Materials

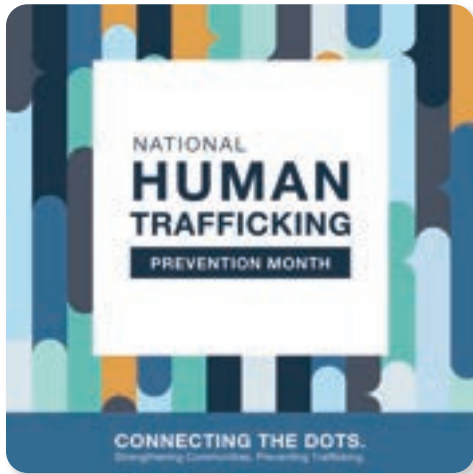
The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' [Look Beneath the Surface campaign](#) is a national public awareness and outreach campaign that provides people who are at risk or experiencing human trafficking with information about human trafficking, how to identify potential human trafficking schemes, and how to access support. Resources also promote help-seeking behavior by reducing barriers to seeking help and destigmatizing human trafficking.

The campaign also empowers professionals to help identify individuals who may be experiencing trafficking and connect them with services through the [National Human Trafficking Hotline](#).

[Outreach materials and resources](#) are available online, with select printed materials [available for order](#) in limited quantities.

WEEKLY CONTENT

## Social Media Content



January is Human Trafficking Prevention Month. Together, we can strengthen our communities and prevent human trafficking. Explore resources and events and learn how to get involved: [acf.hhs.gov/otip/human-trafficking-prevention-month](https://acf.hhs.gov/otip/human-trafficking-prevention-month) #Partner2Prevent #EndTrafficking



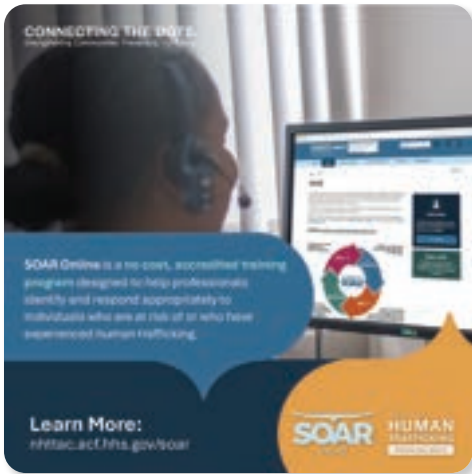
Human trafficking impacts individuals, families and communities across the United States. Here are 10 things you can do to help #EndTrafficking: [acf.hhs.gov/otip/about/ways-endtrafficking](https://acf.hhs.gov/otip/about/ways-endtrafficking) #Partner2Prevent



Real gifts don't need to be paid back. Gifts don't come with strings attached. No one has the right to force you to work or have sex to repay them or show gratitude. Help is available: [acf.hhs.gov/otip/look/help](https://acf.hhs.gov/otip/look/help) #EndTrafficking



If you or someone you know is being forced to work or have sex for money, food, a place to live, or anything else: help is available. The National Human Trafficking Hotline provides free, confidential help 24/7: [humantraffickinghotline.org](https://humantraffickinghotline.org) #EndTrafficking

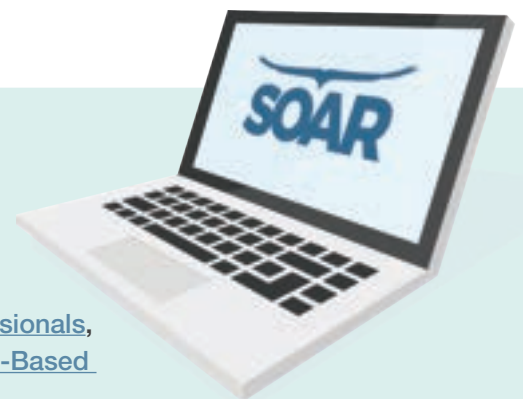


January is Human Trafficking Prevention Month. Learn how to identify and respond to people who are at risk or who have experienced human trafficking. SOAR Online trainings are available on demand: [nhtac.acf.hhs.gov/soar/soar-for-individuals/soar-online](https://nhtac.acf.hhs.gov/soar/soar-for-individuals/soar-online) #Partner2Prevent #EndTrafficking



The National Human Trafficking Prevention Framework is a comprehensive resource that helps organizations, communities and governments to strengthen their efforts in preventing human trafficking. Building on decades of violence prevention work, it integrates research, best practices, and the expertise of survivors and allied professionals. Review the framework for actionable insights on improving prevention strategies and promoting health and safety for all: [acf.hhs.gov/otip/report/national-human-trafficking-prevention-framework](https://acf.hhs.gov/otip/report/national-human-trafficking-prevention-framework) #Partner2Prevent #EndTrafficking

Are you working with a specific professional audience? You can link directly to SOAR trainings designed for specific audiences: [Child Welfare Professionals](#), [Disaster Management Professionals](#), [Health, Behavioral Health, and Public Health Professionals](#), [Procurement Professionals](#), [Social Workers](#), [School-Based Professionals](#), and [Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners](#).



## Week 2: January 6–12, 2025

Communities thrive when all individuals are treated with fairness, dignity, and respect. Addressing labor exploitation and human trafficking is essential to building stronger, more resilient communities. By improving workplace policies, promoting ethical business practices, and enhancing workforce protections, we can prevent both trafficking and labor exploitation. These actions not only safeguard workers but also foster healthier environments where everyone can succeed. Through collective action, we can disrupt harmful labor practices and lay the groundwork for a future free from exploitation and trafficking.

### Connecting the Dots: Human Trafficking and Labor Exploitation

The [Joint Forced Labor Working Group \(JFLWG\)](#), launched in 2023, is a public-private partnership led by the Administration for Children and Families and Northwell Health, New York's largest healthcare provider. The JFLWG includes Federal agencies, healthcare organizations, distributors, workers' rights advocates, survivors of trafficking, and subject matter experts. The group focuses on creating tools and resources to help the healthcare and public health sectors prevent, identify and address forced labor in supply chains.

In October 2024, the [JFLWG released its first guidance](#), jointly endorsed by public and private sectors, offering considerations to mitigate forced labor risks associated with public health and healthcare procurement. Additional resources, including free online training for healthcare procurement professionals, are available on [the JFLWG webpage](#).

### What You Can Do To Strengthen Communities Through Strong Workplace Policies and Practices

- Think before you buy. Learn which [goods may be produced with child or forced labor](#) and find out where your clothes, food and other purchases come from by checking information available on the company's website or using the [Responsible Sourcing Tool](#).
- Encourage companies to take action against human trafficking in their workplaces and supply chains by following the [United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights](#) and [Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development's guidance on responsible business conduct](#).
- Implement [sector-specific guidance](#) to mitigate the risk of forced labor in healthcare and public health supply chains and institutionalize [training for procurement professionals in healthcare systems](#).
- Review your organization's policies and practices for alignment with [U.S. labor standards](#) and [anti-forced labor laws](#). Regularly [provide information to workers about their rights](#) and how to report if their rights are being violated.
- Host an all-staff [training on human trafficking](#).
- Participate in [#WearBlueDay](#) on January 11 to raise awareness about human trafficking. Encourage friends, family and colleagues to participate as well!





## Resources

### Learn

- [Fact Sheet: Labor Trafficking and Other Labor Abuse in Houston's Construction Industry](#)
- [Information Memorandum: Federal Authorities Related to Demand for Human Trafficking](#)
- [Information Memorandum: Federal Cases Involving Forced Labor of Health Professionals](#)
- [Information Memorandum: Labor Trafficking and Related Exploitation in the Global Care Chain](#)
- [Report: Measuring Human Trafficking Prevalence in Construction: A Field Test of Multiple Estimation Methods](#)
- [Report: Risk and Protective Factors for Experiencing Labor Trafficking and Other Labor Abuse in the Construction Industry](#)
- [SOAR Online Training: SOAR for Procurement Professionals in Healthcare Systems](#)
- [Webinar: Strategies to Support Farmworkers Experiencing IPV or Human Trafficking](#)

### Take Action

- [Fact Sheet: Building a Healthy, Productive Workforce](#)
- [Farmworker Safety Card Tool](#)
- [Forced Labor Risk in Supply Chains: Considerations for the Healthcare and Public Health Sector](#)
- [Infographic: Considerations for the Health Sector on Forced Labor Risk in Supply Chains](#)
- [The U.S. Surgeon General's Framework for Workplace Mental Health & Well-Being](#)

## Social Media Content

### Public Awareness and Outreach



You have the right to live and work safely. No one has the right to force you to work or have sex for money, food, a place to stay, or anything else. Help is available: [acf.hhs.gov/otip/look/help](https://www.acf.hhs.gov/otip/look/help) #EndTrafficking

### Human Trafficking Awareness Day (1/11)



Today is #WearBlueDay! Join us in raising awareness about human trafficking. Share your photo by using the hashtag #WearBlueDay. Learn more: [dhs.gov/blue-campaign/wearblueday](https://dhs.gov/blue-campaign/wearblueday) #EndTrafficking

### Training



Forced labor is a pressing issue in healthcare supply chains and contracted labor. Protect your healthcare system by understanding and addressing these risks. The SOAR for Procurement Professionals training is a free, on-demand course designed for healthcare leaders committed to building a safe, ethical and sustainable supply chain. Take the training now: [train.org/main/course/1112251/details](https://train.org/main/course/1112251/details) #EndTrafficking #EthicalSupplyChains #HealthcareLeadership

### Workplace Policies and Practices



Think before you buy. Learn which products may be made with child or forced labor. Check the company's website or use [ResponsibleSourcingTool.org](https://ResponsibleSourcingTool.org) to trace where your clothes, food and other purchases come from. Make informed choices to support ethical sourcing. [dol.gov/agencies/ilab/reports/child-labor/list-of-goods](https://dol.gov/agencies/ilab/reports/child-labor/list-of-goods) #EndTrafficking





The International Labor Organization estimates that 27.6 million people are in #ForcedLabor globally across various industries. These considerations from the Joint Forced Labor Working Group can help mitigate the risk of and remediate forced labor and related exploitation throughout healthcare and public health supply chains: [acf.hhs.gov/otip/report/flwg-health-supply-chains](https://www.acf.hhs.gov/otip/report/flwg-health-supply-chains) #Partner2Prevent



Nearly 83% of people in the United States have experienced some form of trauma in their lifetime. In the workplace, this can show up in many ways—from burnout and absenteeism to decreased performance. Fostering a trauma-informed environment where staff feel safe and supported is crucial for their well-being and success. By addressing trauma and its effects, we can create a healthier, more productive workplace. Learn more: [nhtta.acf.hhs.gov/resource/fact-sheet-building-healthy-productive-workforce](https://nhtta.acf.hhs.gov/resource/fact-sheet-building-healthy-productive-workforce) #EndTrafficking #HR



To prevent human trafficking, we must ensure equitable labor conditions, promote best practices, and uphold child labor and forced labor laws. Learn how criminal prosecution holds offenders accountable, how health professionals who've experienced trafficking pursue justice through civil litigation, and how Federal courts address forced labor cases in healthcare settings. Together, we can create safer environments and protect workers from exploitation. [acf.hhs.gov/otip/policy-guidance/federal-cases-involving-forced-labor-health-professionals](https://www.acf.hhs.gov/otip/policy-guidance/federal-cases-involving-forced-labor-health-professionals) #Partner2Prevent #EndTrafficking

## Week 3: January 13–19, 2025

Emergencies and other experiences like disasters, homelessness and transitions from child welfare or justice systems increase individuals' vulnerability to trafficking. Access to essential resources, such as housing, healthcare and food, is crucial to protecting populations at increased risk. Traffickers exploit moments of urgency or uncertainty, such as after natural disasters or when leaving care. Connecting individuals with critical services and offering anticipatory guidance can help reduce these risks. Strengthening support at the individual, family, and community levels fosters long-term safety and stability.

### Connecting the Dots: Human Trafficking and Emergency and Other Transitional Experiences

The Administration for Children and Families, through the Office on Trafficking in Persons (OTIP) and Office of Human Services Emergency Preparedness and Response, is committed to preventing human trafficking during and after natural disasters. Disasters amplify trafficking risks, particularly for displaced, underserved, and rural populations. Research has shown that traffickers take advantage of increased vulnerabilities, often posing as aid workers or offering fraudulent employment opportunities. Companies and government agencies can strengthen their due diligence practices of screening for and preventing labor trafficking through procurement practices during disaster recovery (e.g., debris removal or construction).

To address this, OTIP provides [training and resources](#) to help disaster responders incorporate human trafficking prevention and response into their emergency preparedness efforts. Through its [Look Beneath the Surface](#) public awareness and outreach campaign, the Department of Health and Human Services educates [individuals and communities affected by an emergency or disaster](#) to recognize potential trafficking schemes and access help when needed. By enhancing access to services and fostering community preparedness, we can prevent trafficking and support resilient recovery.



### What You Can Do To Strengthen Communities by Enhancing Access to Services

- Volunteer or donate goods to your local food bank or shelter.
- Tap into your skills and networks.
  - Are you a teacher or school administrator? Create a [human trafficking school safety protocol](#).
  - Work in a hospital emergency room, urgent care center, substance use clinic, or mental health center? Read the [Core Competencies for Human Trafficking Response in Health Care and Behavioral Health Systems](#).
  - Are you an attorney? Consider providing pro bono services.
  - Work in disaster management and response? [Make a plan](#) to mitigate trafficking during and after the next disaster.
- Host an all-staff training focused on supporting individuals experiencing an emergency or other transitional experience.
  - [Disaster Management: Preventing and Responding to Human Trafficking](#)
  - [Human Trafficking Screening for Child Welfare Professionals](#)

- [Responding to Foreign National Minors Who Experience Trafficking](#)
- [Responding to Human Trafficking Through the Child Welfare System](#)
- [Safety Planning and Multidisciplinary Response for Child Welfare Professionals](#)
- [Working with Foreign National Minors Who Have Experienced Trafficking](#)
- [Create a safety plan for your family](#) in the event of a natural disaster or emergency. Encourage others in your community to do the same!
- Share [hotlines](#), [information](#) and [resources](#) on how families can identify and access services or benefits they may be eligible for.



## Resources

### Learn

- [Fact Sheet: Labor Trafficking in Construction During the Recovery and Reconstruction from a Natural Disaster](#)
- [Quick Reference Guide for Disaster Management Professionals](#)
- [SOAR Online: SOAR Disaster Management — Preventing and Responding to Human Trafficking](#)
- [Toolkit: Intimate Partner Violence, Homelessness, and Behavioral Health](#)
- [Webinar: Innovations in Mobile Health to Increase Health Access for Domestic Violence and Human Trafficking Survivors](#)

### Take Action

- [Fact Sheets: Human Trafficking Programming During Disasters and Emergencies](#)
- [Fact Sheets: What Disaster Responders Need to Know and What Disaster Responders Need to Do](#)
- [Human Trafficking Prevention: Strategies for Runaway and Homeless Youth Settings](#)
- [Information Memo: Responding to Human Trafficking Among Children and Youth in Foster Care and Missing From Foster Care](#)
- [Look Beneath the Surface: Resources for Individuals Affected by an Emergency or Disaster](#)
- [Look Beneath the Surface: Resources for Individuals From Ukraine](#)
- [Report: Core Competencies for Human Trafficking Response in Health Care and Behavioral Health Systems](#)
- [Webpage: Children and Families Experiencing Homelessness](#)



## Social Media Content

### Public Awareness and Outreach



Sometimes people are in unsafe situations because of limited options. No matter your situation, no one has the right to force you to work or have sex for money, food, a place to live, or anything else. Help is available: [acf.hhs.gov/otip/look/help](https://www.acf.hhs.gov/otip/look/help) #EndTrafficking



Are you or someone you know from Ukraine and living in the United States? Although many people offering help have good intentions, some may try to take advantage during a crisis. It's important to understand your rights while in the United States and know that help is available when you need it: [acf.hhs.gov/otip/outreach-material/uniting-ukraine](https://www.acf.hhs.gov/otip/outreach-material/uniting-ukraine) #EndTrafficking



DYK? Trafficking situations are often identified by people who know the person being exploited. You can #Partner2Prevent by understanding what situations to look for among your family, students, tenants, patients, coworkers, etc.: [humantraffickinghotline.org/human-trafficking/recognizing-signs](https://www.humantraffickinghotline.org/human-trafficking/recognizing-signs) #EndTrafficking



Where you're headed matters. That's why we're with you every step of the way, and available to listen 24/7. When you reach out, you decide what to share, and we won't judge. Our trained team is ready to listen, support and guide you. Whether by phone, chat, email or forum, we're just a message away. Call 1-800-RUNAWAY now or visit our website to get confidential help. We're here whenever you need us. Learn more: [1800runaway.org](https://www.1800runaway.org)

## Training



Disaster management professionals play a critical role in preventing and responding to human trafficking during emergencies. This 30-minute, on-demand training equips participants with the tools and strategies needed to prevent, identify and respond to trafficking, both during and after crises. Start preparing today: [acf.hhs.gov/otip/training-technical-assistance/webinar-disaster-management-preventing-and-responding-human](https://acf.hhs.gov/otip/training-technical-assistance/webinar-disaster-management-preventing-and-responding-human) #Partner2Prevent #Preparedness #EndTrafficking



Are you a child welfare professional working with young people who are missing from care or experiencing homelessness? The SOAR microlearning on human trafficking screening is a valuable resource to help you implement trauma-informed, culturally responsive strategies to screen youth for potential trafficking experiences. Access the course now: [train.org/main/course/1115161/details](https://train.org/main/course/1115161/details) #Partner2Prevent #EndTrafficking

## Emergencies and Other Transitional Experiences



In both the immediate aftermath and during the rebuilding process, individuals and communities face increased risk of human trafficking. Ensuring access to safe resources and support is crucial in preventing trafficking during these times. Learn how you can help strengthen your community's disaster response and better prepare to protect those at risk: [acf.hhs.gov/otip/outreach-material/qr-guide-disaster-mngmt-prof](https://acf.hhs.gov/otip/outreach-material/qr-guide-disaster-mngmt-prof) #Partner2Prevent #EndTrafficking



Is your community prepared to act against human trafficking? Learn how to assess efforts in your community and develop sustainable strategies based on level of readiness: [nhtac.acf.hhs.gov/resource/toolkit-human-trafficking-community-readiness-guide](https://nhtac.acf.hhs.gov/resource/toolkit-human-trafficking-community-readiness-guide) #Partner2Prevent #EndTrafficking



Do you work with children and youth at risk of trafficking? The SOAR Safety Planning and Multidisciplinary Response microlearning can help. This free, 30-minute course guides you in creating safety plans, identifying risks, and coordinating a trauma-informed, multidisciplinary community response. Equip yourself with the tools to reduce trafficking risks and better support youth. Access the course now: [train.org/main/course/1115166/details](https://train.org/main/course/1115166/details) #Partner2Prevent #EndTrafficking



Child welfare professionals play a crucial role in preventing, identifying and responding to trafficking. To support these efforts, the Office on Trafficking in Persons has released a Toolkit for Responding to Human Trafficking Through the Child Welfare System. Learn more: [acf.hhs.gov/otip/toolkit/toolkit-responding-human-trafficking-through-child-welfare-system](https://www.acf.hhs.gov/otip/toolkit/toolkit-responding-human-trafficking-through-child-welfare-system) #Partner2Prevent #EndTrafficking

# VOICES OF FREEDOM

## AN ORAL HISTORY OF EFFORTS TO ADDRESS HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Voices of Freedom, a collaborative initiative between the Office on Trafficking in Persons, the Administration for Native Americans, and StoryCorps, records, preserves and shares the stories of survivors of trafficking and allied professionals.

With over 100 conversations recorded by more than 170 participants, Voices of Freedom is an ongoing collection of stories from people who have informed, shaped and contributed to the successes of the anti-trafficking field over the past two decades.

### Want to Add Your Voice to the Archive?

In honor of Human Trafficking Prevention Month, we're inviting stories on the power of prevention, partnership and community building. [Visit our website](#) to learn more about sharing your story.

### Sample Social Media

Voices of Freedom captures and shares the powerful stories of trafficking survivors and allied professionals. This Human Trafficking Prevention Month, share your perspective on how we can strengthen communities to prevent human trafficking. Learn more: [acf.hhs.gov/otip/partnerships/voices](https://acf.hhs.gov/otip/partnerships/voices).  
#Partner2Prevent #EndTrafficking



ADMINISTRATION FOR  
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Office on Trafficking in Persons

## Week 4: January 20–26, 2025

Traffickers increasingly exploit online platforms to recruit and manipulate individuals, particularly youth seeking connection and support. Education, outreach and support. Education, outreach and collective action are essential to creating safer digital spaces. Proactive strategies, such as online education, after-school programs, and family engagement, help reduce the risk of online abuse. Strong family and social connections are vital in preventing trafficking by offering support and fostering open communication. Leveraging technology for anti-trafficking education and services strengthens outreach efforts and helps build the resilience of individuals and communities to prevent technology-facilitated exploitation and abuse.

### Connecting the Dots: Human Trafficking and Online Harassment and Abuse

The Administration for Children and Families' Office on Trafficking in Persons (OTIP) addresses the intersection of human trafficking and online harassment through a number of collaborative initiatives. Through the Human Trafficking Youth Prevention Education Demonstration Program, OTIP funds local education agencies to educate staff and students, helping them recognize vulnerabilities and online recruitment schemes. Additionally, OTIP provides resources such as an [information memorandum](#) on technology's misuse in trafficking and an [infographic](#) detailing how traffickers use technology.

OTIP also engages individuals with lived experience through [listening sessions](#) and initiatives like the [Human Trafficking Leadership Academy](#) to shape prevention and response strategies. These efforts focus on trauma-informed, person-centered strategies approaches to prevent trafficking and support survivors.

### What You Can Do to Strengthen Communities Through Family and Social Connectedness

- [Talk to your children or students](#) about healthy media habits and common scenarios involving technology, social media and video games.
- Take the [Surgeon General's 5-for-5 Connection Challenge](#).
- Teach children and youth about [healthy relationships](#).
- Mentor and support children, youth, and/or parents and caregivers in your community.
- Consider becoming a [foster parent](#).



## Resources

### Learn

- [Blog: Technology's Complicated Relationship With Human Trafficking](#)
- [Center of Excellence on Social Media and Youth Mental Health](#)
- [Fireside Chat: Addressing Trafficking and Protecting Youth from Online Harassment and Abuse](#)
- [Infographic: Technology-Facilitated Human Trafficking](#)
- [Information Memorandum: Addressing Online Harassment and Abuse in Technology-Facilitated Human Trafficking](#)

### Take Action

- [Advisory: Social Media and Youth Mental Health](#)
- [CyberTipline: Report Child Sexual Exploitation](#)
- [Fact Sheet: Social Media, Online Safety, and Youth Mental Health](#)
- [Newsletter: Positive Parenting Building Healthy Relationships With Your Kids](#)
- [Parent, Family, and Community Engagement Framework](#)
- [Report: HTLA Class 8 Report on Engagement Strategies to Increase Youth Awareness and Resilience Against Online Exploitation and Abuse](#)
- [Report: Online Health and Safety for Children and Youth—Best Practices for Families and Guidance for Industry](#)
- [Tip Sheet: Building Healthy Relationships with Media: Essential Skills for Children 10 and Younger](#)
- [Tip Sheet: Conversation Starters for Families of Tweens and Teens](#)
- [Tip Sheet: Social Media Use and Mental Health](#)
- [Toolkit: Your Healthiest Self Social Wellness](#)
- [Website: Is Your Explicit Content Out There?](#)
- [Website: Take it Down](#)



## Social Media Content

### Family and Social Connectedness



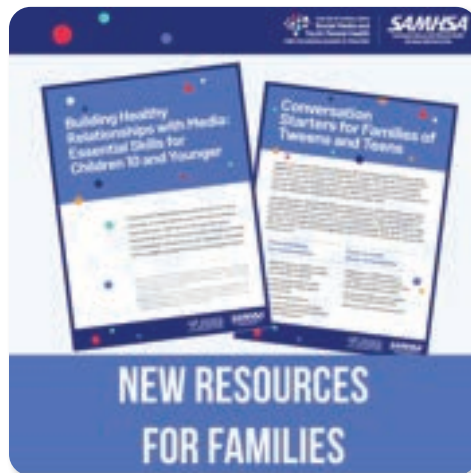
Social connection can create healthier communities and prevent risk factors to human trafficking. Learn how to improve social connection in your community with this interactive advisory from the U.S. Surgeon General. [hhs.gov/surgeongeneral/priorities/connection/index.html#explore](https://www.hhs.gov/surgeongeneral/priorities/connection/index.html#explore) #EndTrafficking



Social media use by young people is nearly universal, but evidence shows social media presents a meaningful risk of harm to youth. Learn how you can take action based on your role to make social media safer for youth: [hhs.gov/surgeongeneral/priorities/youth-mental-health/social-media/index.html](https://www.hhs.gov/surgeongeneral/priorities/youth-mental-health/social-media/index.html) #Partner2Prevent



Parents and caregivers have an important role in keeping kids safe online. Learn how you can create a family media plan to help establish healthy technology boundaries at home—including social media use: [healthychildren.org/English/fmp/Pages/MediaPlan.aspx](https://www.healthychildren.org/English/fmp/Pages/MediaPlan.aspx) #Partner2Prevent



Wondering how to talk to your children or students about social media? The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration-funded Center of Excellence on Social Media and Youth Mental Health has resources that provide timely guidance for youth on how to use digital media and manage their presence online: [samhsa.gov/kids-online-health-safety-task-force/kohs-report-safe-internet-use](https://www.samhsa.gov/kids-online-health-safety-task-force/kohs-report-safe-internet-use) #Partner2Prevent

## Online Harassment and Abuse



To prevent #HumanTrafficking, we need to understand the tactics traffickers use. Learn how traffickers abuse technology to exploit people: [acf.hhs.gov/otip/infographic/technology-facilitated-human-trafficking-infographic](https://www.acf.hhs.gov/otip/infographic/technology-facilitated-human-trafficking-infographic) #EndTrafficking



Human Trafficking Leadership Academy fellows addressed outreach and engagement strategies to protect youth against online harassment and abuse. Check out this Fireside Chat to learn more about their findings and perspectives: [acf.hhs.gov/otip/training-technical-assistance/otip-hosts-fireside-chat-addressing-trafficking-and-protecting](https://www.acf.hhs.gov/otip/training-technical-assistance/otip-hosts-fireside-chat-addressing-trafficking-and-protecting) #EndTrafficking



Traffickers use social media, video games, virtual chatrooms, and other digital platforms to find and exploit young people. This short two-part video series for parents and caregivers explains more: [dhs.gov/medialibrary/collections/50401](https://www.dhs.gov/medialibrary/collections/50401) #Partner2Prevent #EndTrafficking #BlueCampaign



Every child deserves a safe childhood. If you come across something online that looks like a nude or sexual image of a child, an online conversation with a child about sex, or another form of child sexual exploitation, report it to the CyberTipline at [report.cybertip.org](https://report.cybertip.org) #Partner2Prevent #EndTrafficking



Having nude images online can be frightening and overwhelming, but help is available. Take it Down is a free service that can help remove or stop the online sharing of nude, partially nude, or sexually explicit images or videos taken of children under the age of 18. Learn how it works: [takeitdown.ncmec.org](https://takeitdown.ncmec.org) #EndTrafficking



In 2023, there were more than 36 million reports of online child sexual exploitation and abuse made to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. Know2Protect is working to protect children and educate children, youth, and families about this critical issue. Together We Can Stop Online Child Exploitation™. Visit [know2protect.gov](https://know2protect.gov) to learn more. #OnlineSafety

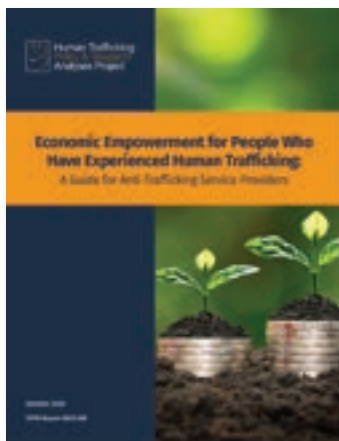
## Week 5: January 27-31, 2025

Economic stability is essential for preventing human trafficking and other forms of interpersonal violence and fostering safe, healthy communities. Stable housing, reliable income, and access to resources reduce vulnerability and provide opportunities for lasting well-being. Secure, affordable housing is a key resource in protecting individuals from trafficking and interpersonal violence. It supports economic mobility by enabling access to healthcare, education, and employment, which in turn promotes stability and quality of life. Strengthening access to these resources empowers individuals to build resilience, prevent exploitation, and break the cycle of violence and abuse.

### Connecting the Dots: Human Trafficking and Interpersonal Violence

The Administration for Children and Families' Office on Trafficking in Persons (OTIP) has developed key partnerships across the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to better understand and respond to the connection between interpersonal violence and human trafficking. Through these collaborations, OTIP has advanced initiatives that support survivors and reduce risks, with a strong focus on promoting economic mobility.

A [supplemental publication](#) in [Public Health Reports](#) examines the impact of COVID-19 on trends in violence, risk factors, and help-seeking behaviors, offering valuable insights for refining response strategies. To foster economic empowerment, OTIP has collaborated with the [Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation](#) to create resources such as the [Economic Empowerment Guide for Anti-Trafficking Service Providers](#) and the infographic [Understanding Key Concepts of Economic Empowerment infographic](#). These tools help organizations develop effective programs that support individuals who have experienced trafficking.



OTIP has also released resources like the fact sheet [Expanding Anti-Trafficking Services](#) and the information memorandum [Federal Housing and Economic Mobility Resources](#). These materials aim to raise awareness of federally funded benefits and services available to individuals facing economic instability, providing practical guidance for both survivors and service providers.

### What You Can Do To Strengthen Communities Through Economic Mobility

- Offer [financial literacy programs](#) to empower individuals with knowledge about managing finances, budgeting, saving and credit.
- Help individuals and families in your community [navigate access to benefits and services they may be eligible for](#).
- Provide or encourage local businesses to provide skill development programs and access to [career opportunities](#) for individuals who have experienced or are at risk of experiencing interpersonal violence and/or human trafficking.
- Support small business development, microloans, and entrepreneurship training.
- Support, provide, and/or help families access safe, flexible childcare options.
- Help individuals who have experienced trafficking [request](#) that adverse information related to their trafficking experience be removed from their credit report.
- Offer legal services for those experiencing violence, including support with housing, family law, securing protective orders, and pursuing [vacatur/expungement](#).

## Resources

### Learn

- [Blog: Fair Credit Reporting Act Used To Counter Financial Exploitation](#)
- [Brief: Understanding Key Concepts of Economic Empowerment for People Who Have Experienced Human Trafficking](#)
- [Information Memorandum: Federal Housing and Economic Mobility Resources](#)
- [Journal: COVID-19, Stay-at-Home Orders, and Interpersonal Violence: Findings and Implications for Emergency Response Efforts](#)
- [Webinar: Understanding Harm Reduction Approaches To Address Intimate Partner Violence, Human Trafficking, Exploitation, and Homelessness in Health Centers](#)
- [Website: Addressing Intimate Partner Violence and Human Trafficking in Communities](#)
- [Information Memorandum: Leveraging Criminal Record Relief to Improve Public Health Outcomes for Individuals Who Have Experienced Trafficking](#)
- [Preventing and Responding to IPV: An Implementation Framework for HRSA-Supported Settings of Care](#)
- [Report: Economic Empowerment for People Who Have Experienced Human Trafficking: A Guide for Anti-Trafficking Service Providers](#)
- [Toolkit: Family Economic Mobility](#)
- [Toolkit: Housing and Economic Mobility](#)
- [Webinar: Economic Empowerment for People Who Have Experienced Human Trafficking](#)
- [Webinar: Health Centers and Patient Violence Prevention](#)

### Take Action

- [Fact Sheet: Expanding Anti-Trafficking Services: Do You Know About the Benefits and Services in Your Community](#)



## Social Media Content

### Intimate Partner Violence



Health centers are key to violence prevention. Health Partners on IPV + Exploitation works with health centers to support those at risk of experiencing or surviving intimate partner violence, human trafficking and exploitation and to bolster prevention efforts. Learn more: [healthpartnersipve.org](http://healthpartnersipve.org) #Partner2Prevent #EndTrafficking



The Office on Trafficking in Persons-sponsored supplement “COVID-19, Stay-at-Home Orders, and Interpersonal Violence: Findings and Implications for Emergency Response Efforts” is now available in Public Health Reports, the official journal of the Office of the Surgeon General and U.S. Public Health Service! Don't miss this insightful introductory article from the guest editors: [journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/00333549241300239](http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/00333549241300239) #Partner2Prevent #PublicHealthReports



Join Public Health Reports and the Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health on February 5, 2025, for A Meet the Authors Webinar on “Adapting to Adversity: Transforming Interpersonal Violence Interventions for Youth and Adults Based on COVID-19 Insights.” The panel will explore how research findings can shape the development of more adaptive, technologically integrated, and culturally responsive strategies for combating interpersonal violence across healthcare settings and community contexts, potentially revolutionizing service delivery in our post-pandemic world. Register at [aspph.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_J2m3wep1SiGFyYQtcfR0xw](https://aspph.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_J2m3wep1SiGFyYQtcfR0xw) #Partner2Prevent #PublicHealthReports

### Economic Mobility



People who experience trafficking often face significant challenges in achieving financial stability. Access to services like food assistance, housing support, and job training is crucial for recovery. Learn more about the programs available in your community: [acf.hhs.gov/otip/fact-sheet/expanding-anti-trafficking-services-do-you-know-about-benefits-and-services-your](http://acf.hhs.gov/otip/fact-sheet/expanding-anti-trafficking-services-do-you-know-about-benefits-and-services-your) #Partner2Prevent #EndTrafficking



Access to financial support and safe and sustainable employment are often cited as top needs among those who have experienced human trafficking. Learn more about federally funded programs, training and other resources to increase access for people who have experienced human trafficking: [acf.hhs.gov/otip/policy-guidance/federal-housing-and-economic-mobility-resources-information-memorandum](https://acf.hhs.gov/otip/policy-guidance/federal-housing-and-economic-mobility-resources-information-memorandum). #Partner2Prevent #EndTrafficking



Economic empowerment is essential. This guide for service providers shares recommendations for building and expanding programming to increase access to economic mobility for individuals who have experienced human trafficking: [acf.hhs.gov/opre/report/economic-empowerment-people-who-have-experienced-human-trafficking-guide-anti](https://acf.hhs.gov/opre/report/economic-empowerment-people-who-have-experienced-human-trafficking-guide-anti). #Partner2Prevent #EndTrafficking



Economic stability is a core element of recovery among people who have experienced trafficking. Find out how the Fair Credit Reporting Act can be used to enhance economic mobility for survivors: [acf.hhs.gov/otip/blog/2024/10/fair-credit-reporting-act-used-counter-financial-exploitation](https://acf.hhs.gov/otip/blog/2024/10/fair-credit-reporting-act-used-counter-financial-exploitation) #Partner2Prevent #EndTrafficking



For many people who have experienced trafficking, criminal records resulting from their exploitation create barriers to accessing essential services and opportunities. Learn how record relief can break down these barriers and improve long-term well-being: [acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/otip/Criminal-Record-Relief-Trafficking-IM.pdf](https://acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/otip/Criminal-Record-Relief-Trafficking-IM.pdf) #Partner2Prevent #EndTrafficking

# ABOUT THE NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING HOTLINE

The [National Human Trafficking Hotline](#) connects individuals who have experienced human trafficking with critical support services that help them stay safe. People who have experienced trafficking, those who have concerns about someone they know, or those who believe they have witnessed a trafficking situation can communicate with a trained advocate for support, safety planning, crisis intervention, and urgent and non-urgent referrals.



Call: 1-888-373-7888



Text: 233733 (BEFREE)



Live Chat | TTY: 711



The confidential toll-free phone, text line, and online chat are available from anywhere in the United States, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Help is available in English, Spanish and more than 200 additional languages through an on-call interpreter.

## Have more questions?

Visit the [Hotline's website](#) to learn more about human trafficking, view [hotline statistics](#), and [get tips on how to build a safety plan](#).



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*The Hotline is partially funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services through the Administration for Children and Families Office on Trafficking in Persons.*





# **CONNECTING THE DOTS.**

Strengthening Communities. Preventing Trafficking.

NATIONAL  
**HUMAN  
TRAFFICKING**  
PREVENTION MONTH



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