SOUTH BAY Coalition to End Human Trafficking

Spreading the seeds of hope

SOUTH BAY COALITION TO END HUMAN TRAFFICKING 2022 ANNUAL

REPORT FISCAL YEAR

JULY 2021-JUNE 2022

SOUTHBAYENDTRAFFICKING.ORG

SOUTH BAY COALITION TO END HUMAN TRAFFICKING

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SOUTH BAY Coalition to End Human Trafficking

Spreading the seeds of hope

A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

In FY 22, the South Bay Coalition to End Human Trafficking continued to build capacity across sectors. A primary focus has been on building law enforcement capacity and ensuring survivors of trafficking are not criminalized. Collaborative efforts resulted in receiving the Office for Victims of Crime Enhanced Collaborative Taskforce Model Grant, which puts together a comprehensive plan for capacity building with law enforcement agencies and providing services across Santa Clara County.

There is increased focus on promoting best practices and policies that support a survivor-centered, trauma informed approach. Coalition members met with local policy makers, government agencies, and state-level legislators to push for institutionalizing these practices. Coalition agencies continue to recognize intersections with trafficking, moving away from dichotomies such as labor vs. sex trafficking, or commercial sexual exploitation vs. sexual assault. The approach is follows a person-first model for services.

Pandemic related vulnerabilities continue to impact communities. Agencies have adjusted to new methods of engagement, but outreach is a gap that agencies are working to address. Workgroups are looking at ways of increasing accessibility, and addressing more nuanced issues, such as substance use and trafficking, or the major gaps in housing needs for survivors of all forms of gender-based violence.

In partnership,

18hr ann

Sharan Dhanoa

FY 2022 IMPACT AT A GLANCE

397 survivors received services from Coalition VSPs

Of 397, 246 were sexually exploited children or at risk of exploitation

> 85 survivors received legal services from Coalition L SPs



Over 3,000 reached through antitrafficking awareness events

ANNUAL REPORT - PURPOSE

The Annual Report is intended to provide Coalition members and partners with an overview of anti-trafficking efforts the Coalition has been involved with in the past year. The report focuses on fiscal year 2022, looking at data and trends from July 2021 through June 2022, except where noted. This report highlights trends, gaps, notable accomplishments, areas of engagement, and areas where the Coalition is building capacity to identify and serve survivors of trafficking. Data provided in this report was submitted by active Coalition member agencies only and does not include all providers in the County. In order to show collective impact, agencies may combine data, but caveats are noted. Agencies submitting data are respectively credited. Citations of data should appropriately credit respective agencies.

FY 2022 COALITION MEMBERSHIP



AWARENESS & CAPACITY BUILDING



South Bay Coalition to End Human Trafficking YouTube Video Published January 2022

CULTIVATING SELF-SUFFICIENCY IN THE ANTI-TRAFFICKING MOVEMENT

January 2022

The focus in 2022 was on developing more opportunities for economic self-sufficiency for survivors. This online conference included workshops that focused on programs providing workforce development opportunities, financial management, promoting entrepreneurship, and understanding core components of economic self-sufficiency. An important component of the conference was a survivor only track hosted in the evening with stipends available for participants through a grant with SNJM. Survivors were given a life coaching session, tips and strategies for financial management, resume building tools, and understanding how to use various computer programs such as Microsoft Office Suite and Canva.

COALITION EVENTS JULY 1, 2021- JUNE 30, 2022 TOTAL ATTENDEES: OVER 3,000



NOTABLE PRESENTATIONS:

- National Coalition of 100 Black Women on HT 101
- City of San Jose Proclamation "Human Trafficking Awareness Day"
- "Shifting the Mindset" WSIN Law Enforcement Conference
- Stanford University Human Trafficking Class
- Santa Clara County Judges & Court Staff
- Global Supply Chains and Human Trafficking
- UC Berkeley Student Anti-Trafficking Club "HT 101 and criminalization of survivors"
- VTA Transit Workers Training

TOPICS COVERED

- Human Trafficking 101
- Trafficking in the Bay Area
- CSEC 101, 102
- Criminalization of Survivors
- Illicit Massage Businesses
- Intersections w/Gender-Based Violence
- Wage Theft
- Immigration
- Civil Remedies
- Labor Trafficking
- International Law
- Know Your Rights
- Available Services
- Case Management
- Health Care
- Employment Rights
- Economic Empowerment



OUTREACH & TRAINING COMMITTEE

If you happened to fly out of San Jose Airport in the past year, you may have noticed last year's billboard campaign focused on raising awareness in Asian Pacific Islander communities on display in the restrooms. The partnership initiated by San Jose Police Department and Mineta Airport encourages survivors to seek support for exploitation, assault and trafficking in seven languages – English, Korean, Hindi, Chinese, Tagalog, Spanish, and Vietnamese.

Coalition member Maitri also produced a podcast focused on human trafficking and the South Asian community, including input from Detective Sohal and Director Sharan Dhanoa, both members of the South Asian community.



South Bay Coalitio

End Human Trafficking

NO TRAFFICK AHEAD (NTA)



No Traffick Ahead (NTA) is a regional committee of the Coalition. In Fall of 2021 the Coalition presented at a community event in Vallejo and has implemented ReportJohn.org in that jurisdiction to provide community members with a means of addressing commercial sexual exploitation that they see on the street.

The Coalition has focused on written advocacy with a literature review on the intersection of substance use and commercial sexual exploitation, a literature review of housing for CSEC, a memo on housing needs for survivors of human trafficking, and a memo on housing needs for survivors of genderbased violence.



The Coalition sponsored Beloved: an Insistence, an artivist movement led by Regina Evans in Oakland.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

The Legislative Committee has been active meeting with state representatives to ensure they learn about the work of the Coalition, members' values and priorities, and upcoming legislation impacting survivors. A Legislative Packet was developed and distributed to representatives. The Coalition has also prioritized advocating for survivors wrongly criminalized. Lastly, a bill tracker was provided to members to give easy access to information to members on upcoming legislation and ways to get involved.

ADVOCACY SERVICE PROVIDER UPDATES

The Coalition Advocacy Service Providers (ASPs) are committed to providing intersectional, comprehensive support from crisis to stability and sustainability to human trafficking survivors identified by law enforcement agencies, governmental organizations, and community-based organizations. The following statistics provide an overview of the survivors served by Coalition ASPs: AACI, Community Solutions, and YWCA Golden Gate Silicon Valley during the period of July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022. During this time period, Coalition ASPs provided crisis intervention and comprehensive advocacy and support services to 397 survivors, compared to 362 survivors served in FY 20/21.

GENDER, AGE, ETHNICITY, LANGUAGE & COUNTRY OF ORIGIN

FEMALE

Def: of, relating to, or being the sex that typically has the capacity to bear young or produce eggs. Having a gender identity that is the opposite of male.

MALE

Def: of, relating to, or being the sex that typically has the capacity to produce relatively small, usually motile gametes which fertilize the eggs of a female. Having a gender identity that is the opposite of female.

42

TRANSGENDER

Def: of, relating to, or being a person whose gender identity differs from the sex the person had or was identified as having at birth. A person whose sense of personal identity and gender does not correspond with the sex assigned to them at birth.

8

GENDER NON-CONFORMING

Def: exhibiting behavioral, cultural, or psychological traits that do not correspond with the traits typically associated with one's sex. A person whose behavior or appearance does not conform to prevailing cultural and social expectations about what is appropriate to their gender.

6

UNKNOWN

These are individuals who did not share, or did not wish for their gender information to be known.

11

330

Of the 397 survivors served, roughly 83% identified as female, 11% as male, 2% as gender nonconforming, 2% as transgender, and 3% did not disclose their gender identification.

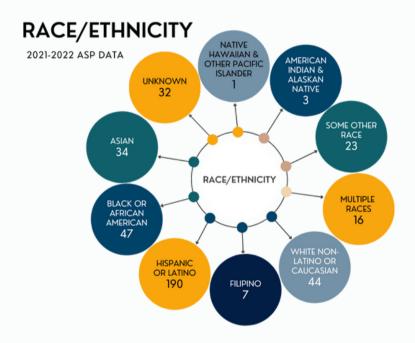
In recent years, the majority of human trafficking clients served by ASPs have been US born minor female survivors of sex trafficking. For the first time in a few years, ASPs served more adult female survivors than minor female survivors during FY 21/22.

Commercial sexual exploitation of children and youth continues to present a significant public health issue in the United States. Sadly, over 70% of commercially sexually exploited children have a prior history of child sexual abuse; and over 60% of sex trafficking victims are girls, women, or female identifying youth of color. Because girls and female identifying youth of color represent the majority of child and youth sex trafficking victims, it is critical that we put in place culturally responsive sex trafficking prevention and intervention programs aimed at increasing protective factors and support for at risk girls and female identifying youth.

GENDER, AGE, ETHNICITY, LANGUAGE & COUNTRY OF ORIGIN 6

Of the 397 individuals served, a combined total of 246 were minors or transitional age youth (TAY) (ages 18-25) that were either confirmed or at risk of commercial sex trafficking. One hundred and fifty-three (153) were under the age of 18 and the remaining 93 were TAY.



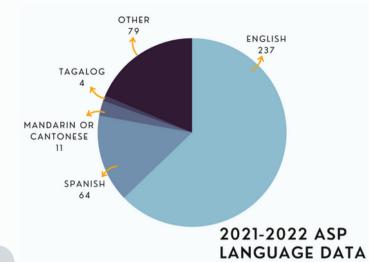


Hispanic or Latinx individuals were the largest ethnic group served by Coalition ASPs in FY22, representing about 48% of clients (190); followed by 12% (47) Black/African American. 11% (44)White/Caucasian, 10% (49) as some other race or more than one, 9% (34) Asian, 8% (32) did not disclose, 2% (7) Filipino, and 1% (3) was American Indian Alaska Native. African and American/Black individuals represent less than 3% of Santa Clara County residents, according to the 2019 U.S. Census, and yet continue to be disproportionately impacted bv sex trafficking.

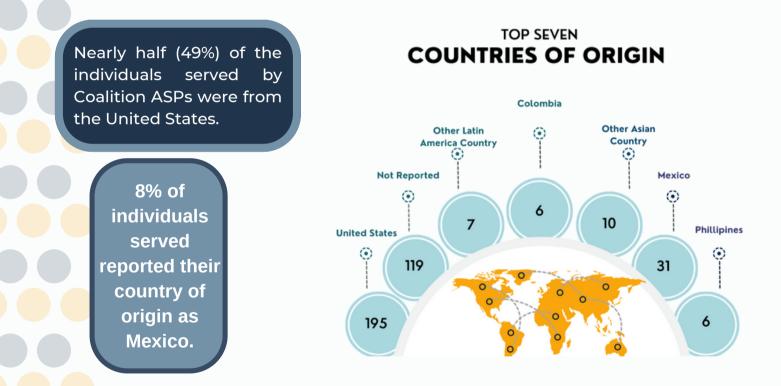
Individuals of the BIPOC community make up a disproportionate percentage of victims of trafficking.

*This data does not include data from Maitri, an organization serving primarily South Asian women who have experienced intersectional domestic violence and human trafficking.

GENDER, AGE, ETHNICITY, LANGUAGE & COUNTRY OF ORIGIN 7



The primary languages spoken by clients were English with 237 (60%), Spanish 64 (16%), Mandarin or Cantonese 11 (3%), Tagalog four (1%), and two (>1%) Korean or Southeast Asian language. Seventy-nine (20%) reported speaking languages other than those tracked by ASPs.



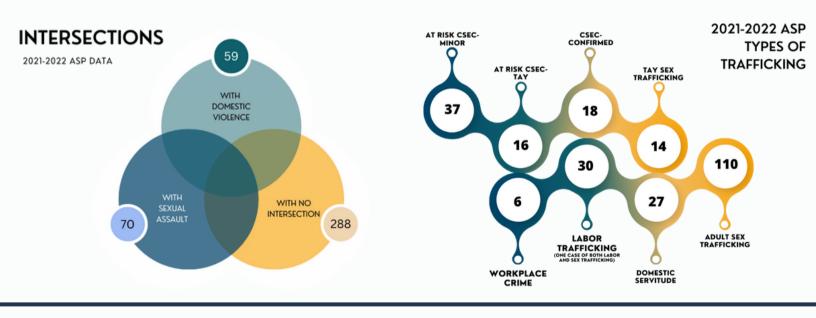
While the majority of clients served appeared to be from the United States (195), there was a very large number of clients whose data is included in this report, but for whom no Country of Origin information was collected (119). There were 31 clients from Mexico, ten (10) from unspecified Asian countries, seven (7) from unspecified Latin American countries, and six (6) each from Colombia and Phillipines.

*This data does not include data from Maitri, an organization serving primarily South Asian women who have experienced intersectional domestic violence and human trafficking.

Sex trafficking represents the most common type of trafficking experienced by survivors (roughly 75%) Sexually exploited youth and vouth at-risk of sexual exploitation represent nearly 33% of clients served. Thirty clients (12%) experienced labor trafficking, six (2%) were survivors of a workplace crime, and 27 (10%) experienced domestic servitude. The number of survivors reporting having experienced domestic servitude (27)increased exponentially in comparison to the previous fiscal year when only three individuals identified as domestic servitude survivors. Additionally, only one individual reported experiencing both sex and labor trafficking.

In 2016, the Coalition ASPs created an intersectional screening tool to identify and support clients who have experienced multiple forms of gender-based violence. Fifteen (15%) percent of human trafficking survivors served also reported experiencing intimate partner violence, nearly 18% had experienced sexual assault, and 72% did not disclose any experiences with intimate partner violence or sexual assault.





*This data does not include data from Maitri, an organization serving primarily South Asian women who have experienced intersectional domestic violence and human trafficking.

"THAT'S ALL I WANTED, WAS TO BE HEARD."

FINDING FREEDOM, SAFETY AND OPPORTUNITY

Name changed to protect client confidentiality.

When Marina, a 43 year old woman, was brought to a local hotel by her abusive trafficker, she was able to inform the staff that she was being exploited for sex for more than two years and they called the police. Marina then found herself and her young daughter in a new, unfamiliar location with no family or friends to help her. The Santa Clara County Victim Witness unit referred her to Community Solutions' Anti-Human Trafficking program for support. Initially, Marina was very scared and anxious when she found our her abuser had been released from jail. Whenever Marina previously attempted to leave, her abuser would end up finding her. She had difficultly expressing her feelings and asking for help. Her daughter was having nightmares and difficulty sleeping.

Marina and her daughter were able to stay at La Isla Pacifica, the confidential shelter for a couple of months. After some time, Marina began to connect with her roommates and with the shelter staff. Her case manager connected Marina to legal services to obtain a restraining order against her abuser. She was also connected to social services benefits, victim witness and therapy services for herself, and therapy for her daughter through the FIRST 5 program. STV's Supportive Housing program helped Marina move into a transitional housing location.

Today, Marina says "I feel good because I received the help that I needed and I know that I can count on my team. I also learned to navigate through the legal system, such as social services benefits and other resources that were available to me. I am also happy and relieved that I have a place to call home." Marina is resilient and is driven to better herself and continue to further her education. She is currently attending English classes and plans to attend a CNA course to continue to work in the healthcare system. Her daughter has begun Kindergarten this year and enjoys going to school. "Learning new things like going back to school and bettering myself, having a support system that I can count on." Marina says she values the program because, "People gave me an opportunity to reach my goals and encouraged me to set my own goals, such as furthering my education, continuing to work, and most importantly to be able to spend time with my child."

MARINA'S STORY

Provided by Community Solutions Human Trafficking Program

"EVERYONE HERE HELPED ME TO KEEP MOVING FORWARD."

Name changed to protect client confidentiality.

MATEO'S STORY

Provided by Community Solutions Human Trafficking Program

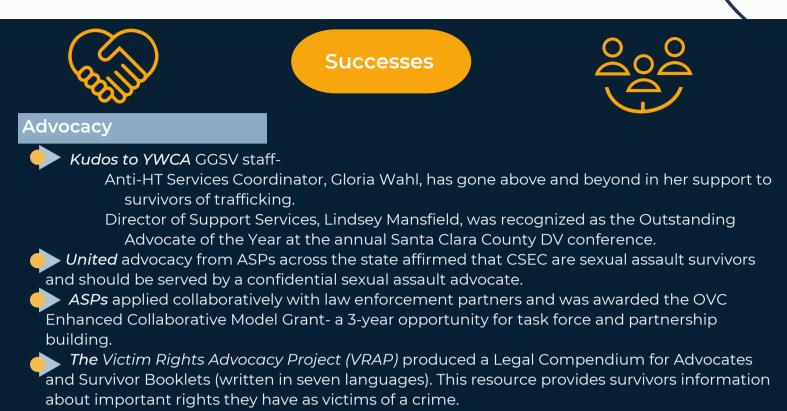
21-year-old Mateo was born with fetal alcohol syndrome and grew up in the foster care system. "It was confusing," he says. "I felt like no one understood. A lot of people didn't understand where I was coming from. I didn't know where my life was going to go." Mateo grew up in and around gang violence and abuse. He got into trouble and didn't have healthy relationships. He had a hard time processing his complex trauma. Mateo

was referred to the CSEC (Commercially Sexually Exploited Children) program by his DFCS social worker. At the time, he says he was struggling with "a lot of mental health issues: family conflict, lack of selfcontrol, anger, depression, and anxiety. I had run away from the system and I was trying to get back in." When Mateo first started the program, he would miss or be late to scheduled meetings. At times, he was impatient and anxious, resulting impaired judgment and decision-making. Through the CSEC program, Mateo attended Youth Advisory Council meetings and Survivor Leader Workshops from the South Bay Coalition to End Human Trafficking Conference. He met with his advocates for peer counseling. He shared: "Meeting with my advocates was the most helpful. It gave me hope that people care and taught me to be self-driven and work for the things I want. In the beginning, Luanne just listened to me and cared – that's all I wanted was to be heard. She was wonderful to me."

Mateo faced many challenges while in the program, including losing his housing placement due to interpersonal conflicts. He struggled with homelessness and was violently robbed of important personal items. On several occasions he told his advocate that felt like an outsider from the rest of society. He was only able to focus on his survival and had few people to turn to. "I had a lot of setbacks. I was trying to hold onto everything I had and trying to keep hope," he says. Mateo's CSEC team supported him with emergency housing and provided the VI-SPDAT assessment (the County's rapid rehousing program for people who are unhoused). They helped Mateo reobtain personal documents, access EBT, apply for jobs and prepare for interviews. His Transformation Team helped him get into housing program, and food and clothing resources. "Community Solutions helped me a lot, along with my friends and keeping my faith – I always try to stay positive," he says.

Mateo learned to not give up on himself and how to build a trusting, healthy relationships. "I learned a lot actually," he says. "Community Solutions helped me learn about myself, like what I'm capable of, to speak up when I need to be heard and stand up for myself. And so much more." Today, Mateo takes accountability, he shows up for meetings and checks in regularly. He expresses himself through words, music, and fashion. Mateo attends work regularly and utilizes coping skills. He meditates, writes music, sets goals and tries to plan ahead to manage his time. He puts his health and well-being first. His team shares, "Mateo is very outgoing, thoughtful, respectful, empathetic, and peaceful. He has the kindest soul and his is wise beyond his years – he always expresses his gratitude and is wonderful to work with! He would put anyone else's needs before his own."

COALITION ADVOCACY SERVICE PROVIDERS TRENDS FY22



Housing

ASPs worked with the local Office of Supportive Housing to create a gaps analysis for housing of survivors of GBV. The gaps analysis included recommendations to strengthen the housing continuum for survivors of gender-based violence from emergency shelter to permanent housing.

Training

CS created and is providing a 40-hour training that meets the requirements of the HT Caseworker Evidence Code. This training was provided twice to confidential service providers across the state.

Advocate recruitment and retention is an ongoing challenge across the state. ASPs have seen a significant increase in the turnover rates this past fiscal year.

Challenges

Ensuring seamless housing for survivors from crisis to stability and sustainability continues to be challenging. Emergency shelter is difficult to identify because of COVID-19 regulations. Affordable housing is hard to find in Santa Clara County.

Mental health systems are overloaded. There is an increased rate of individuals accessing mental health services due to the impact of COVID.

LEGAL SERVICE PROVIDER UPDATES

The following data and charts are based on aggregates of data provided by Coalition Legal Service Providers (LSPs) Katharine and George Alexander Community Law Center, Step Forward Foundation, Bay Area Legal Aid, and Legal Advocates for Children and Youth (LACY) for clients served during the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. Note, data from Tahirih was not available this year.



Coalition LSPs provided services in 85 human trafficking cases in FY 2022. There is one fewer agency submitting data this year. Numbers may also be impacted by capacity issues with attorneys unable to take on new cases, in part because cases are taking longer. The most common type of trafficking among LSP clients in FY 2022 was labor trafficking with 61 clients. One (1) client had experienced servile marriage,* ten (10) adult sex trafficking, one (1) commercially sexually exploited child(CSEC), two (2) transitional age youth (TAY), and ten (10) experienced both sex and labor trafficking.

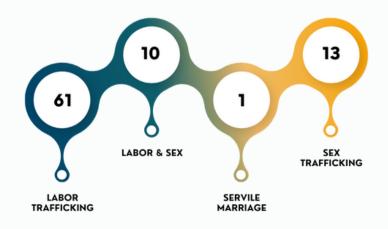


*The United Nations Conventions defines "servile marriage as: "(i) A woman, without the right to refuse, is promised or given in marriage on payment of a consideration in money or in kind; (ii) The husband of a woman, his family, or his clan, has the right to transfer her to another person for value received or otherwise; or (iii) A woman on the death of her husband is liable to be inherited by another person." However, Coalition LSPs also serve male clients in servile marriages.

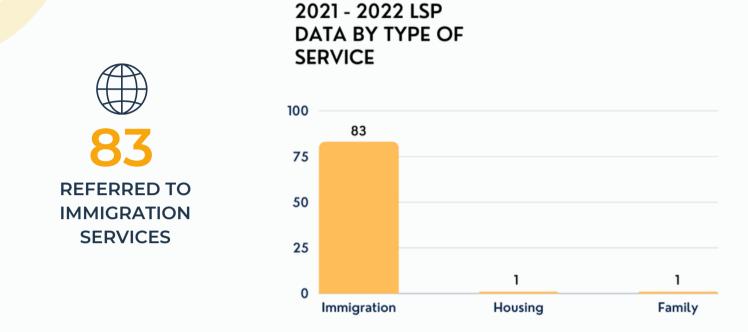
Just over half of FY 2022 trafficking cases (43) occurred in Santa Clara County. Nine (9) cases were in neighboring California counties (San Mateo, Santa Cruz, Alameda, and San Benito). One (1) case took place in Orange County, four (4) took place in another state, and ten (10) occurred in another country.

85

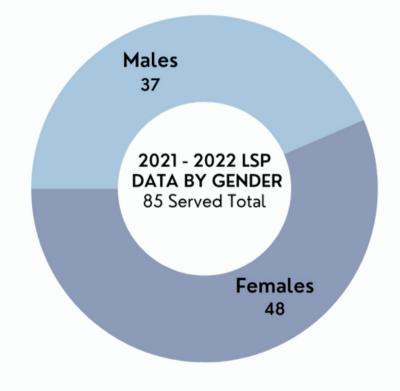
2021 - 2022 LSP Types of Trafficking



Clients were most frequently referred to legal services by another non-governmental organization (NGO) (13 times); five (5) clients were referred by law enforcement, seventeen (17) by a legal service provider, while 50 had unknown referral sources. Eighty-three (83) clients initially received immigration legal services making immigration services the most common initial service by far.



While clients may come in for one reason, they are often connected to secondary services - at least six (6) LSP clients were connected with public benefits, two (2) clients received secondary legal services for dependency legal advocacy, eight (8) clients were connected with social services, two (2) were advised on foster care and foster care benefits, and one (1) received help with family reunification.



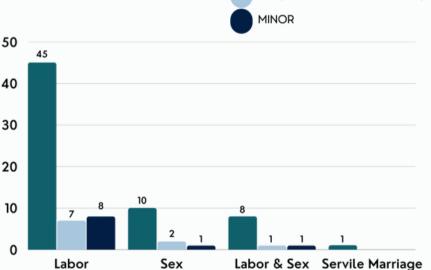
In FY 2022, the majority of clients, forty-eight (56.5%), were cisgender females, most of whom experienced labor trafficking (35). Thirty-seven (43.5%), were reported as cisgender males. All but one male experienced labor trafficking, and three of those males also experienced sex trafficking.



AGE, INTERSECTIONS, & COUNTRY OF ORIGIN

Three fourths of LSP clients (65) were over the age of 25 years, about an eighth were minors (10) under the age of 18 years, and about an eighth (10) were Transitional Aged Youth (TAY) aged 18 to 25.

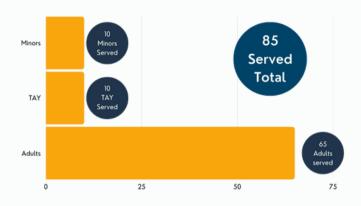
2021 - 2022 LSP DATA INTERSECTIONS



ADULT

TAY (TRANSITIONAL AGE YOUTH)

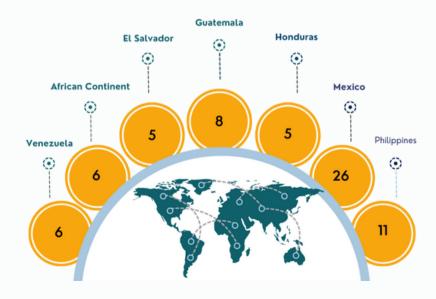
2021 - 2022 LSP DATA BY AGE



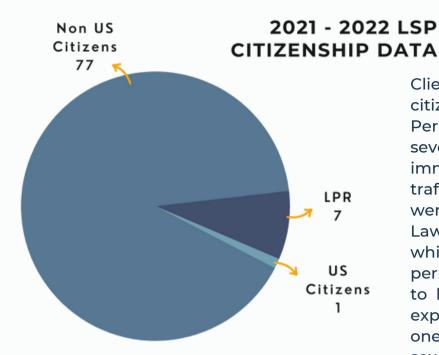
Most adult clients (45) experienced labor trafficking, and most labor trafficking clients were adults. Three fourths of TAY clients (8) were victims of labor trafficking. Twenty percent of Minors were CSEC (2). One CSEC client reported experiencing sex trafficking, while the other reported experiencing both sex and labor trafficking.

Of the 76 clients who were known to originate from outside the United States, 26 came from Mexico, 11 from the Philippines, eight (8) from Guatemala, five (5) from Honduras, six (6) from Venezuela. five (5) from EL Salvador, and six (6) were from Africa. Four (4) from China, two (2) from Spain, one (1) from Brazil, one (1) from St Lucia, and one (1) was listed as unknown.

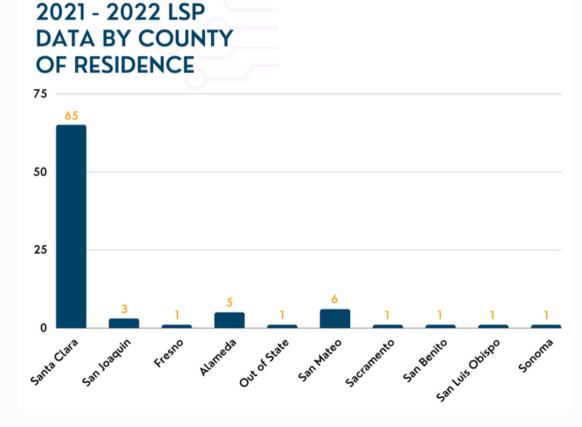
COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN



CITIZENSHIP AND COUNTY OF RESIDENCE



Clients served included: one (1) US citizens (USC). seven (7) Lawful Permanent Residents (LPR), and seventy-seven (77) had another immigration status. Most labor trafficking cases involved clients who were neither US citizens (USC) nor Lawful Permanent Residents (LPR). affirms which persons without permanent status are very vulnerable to labor trafficking. Most LPR clients experienced labor trafficking, and the one USC client experienced labor and sex trafficking.



Sixty-five (65) clients were residents of Santa Clara County, five (5) were residents in Alameda County, six (6) were residents of San Mateo County, three (3) resided in San Joaquin, one (1) in each of the following counties: Fresno, San Benito, Sacramento, San Luis Obispo, Sonoma, and one (1) from out-of-state.

CAPACITY AND ACCESS

REQUESTS

There continues to be an increase in people coming forward for immigration relief, especially an increase in U visas requests. This increase causes lengthy wait times, further impacted by delays with United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) processing.

RESPONSE

Regionally there is more of an interest and response to investigating labor trafficking cases at the local and state level. Outreach to survivors remains a challenge.

- Agencies are working to get OSHA recognized as a certifying agency for U and T visas.
- DFEH can sign certifications, but it is taking a long time to get an interview.

STAFFING

There are capacity issues related to staffing shortages across

sectors. This includes the Labor Commission, which results in cases taking a long time to be heard.

CERTIFICATIONS

The Santa Clara County District Attorney's Office (DAO) is working with a group of attorneys and providers to update the Certification policy for the DAO. This is in response to advocate feedback regarding delays on cert requests, which impacts clients.

DELAYS

Continuing delays from USCIS impacts attorney capacity. Attorneys are spending more time per case and this limits the number of new clients they can take on.

TRENDS

- RETALTIATION remains a huge issue for workers. The Office for Labor Standards Enforcement (OLSE) and Katharine & George Alexander Law Center are seeing workers afraid of coming forward out of fear of retaliation. There is an increase in reported threats and terminations with regards to employees who have spoken up about workplace issues.
- INCREASE IN CASES related to: immigration, workplace crime, sexual assaults and harassment, and assaults with weapons.
- There have been many WAGE THEFT REPORTS to the OLSE hotline. It is not clear if more people are empowered to come forward or if it reflects an increase in cases.
- While there are overall DELAYS in processing, a few exceptions appear to be moving faster than other types of cases, including Deferred Action Childhood Applicants (DACA) and Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS).
- CASE DENIALS by USCIS are decreasing and there are fewer Notices to Appear, which helps attorneys move cases forward.

From the 2022 the National Employment Law Project (NELP) report "How California Can Lead on Retaliation Reforms to Dismantle Workplace Inequality," 38% of California workers have experienced a workplace violation; 10% of those workers reported them to a government agency, and 47% did not report violations to anyone.

Data published by USCIS

shows 285,255 I-918 Petitions for U-Visas were

Pending, with only 16,731

approved in 2021. This in contrast to 110,286 pending

in 2015 (17,709 approved),

(8,883 approved).

16

RelationShips With law enforcement agencies have been increasing and there is an increase in Federal law enforcement agencies providing Continued Presence, which can be very helpful for clients because it provides the ability to work and opportunity for stability.

CHALLENGES AND SYSTEM GAPS IN IMMIGRATION

ISSUES IN PROCESSING DERIVATIVES

There has been difficulty with derivatives (family members of principal applicant) getting status especially because many consulates are closed or have limited capacity. Some consulates are not fingerprinting derivatives, which blocks the application process. Or in some cases, when scheduling interviews there are no appointments available.

Some specific country trends:

Mexico has limited options. Guadalajara is one of the only available offices with few appointment options. One attorney went through HSI to get fingerprints, but not clear this will be a good option going forward. Reaching out to IOM and State Dept. to see if there is a way to get around this gap.

- The Philippines is providing a national clearance letter and attorneys are waiting to see if USCIS will provide approval.
- Some consulates are only allowing appointments on certain days.

PROCEDURAL GAPS IN THE SYSTEM

 Passport photos that are older than 6 months are prompting RFEs (Request for Further Evidence). Now attorneys have to submit receipts of when photos were taken.

There is difficulty in obtaining birth certificates. The Dept. of State asks the Egyptian birth certificate be bilingual and issued by the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs/Ministry of Health and Population, but they are not. Birth Certificates are given out by the Ministry of Interior, only in Arabic. Bilingual birth certificates are provided at special locations, requiring clients to jump through many hoops. It is hard to advise clients on the process. The Egyptian Consulate in the US has offered to legalize birth certificates and provide an official translation, awaiting to see if they are approved.

ADJUSTMENT OF STATUS

Attorneys are working with employers to understand and accept the extension of time for work authorization noted on Receipt Notices for Adjustment of Status applications. However, there are issues with the DMV in that they are not recognizing the extended work permits, because they are not as familiar with these extension types. This results in a client not being able to renew their Drivers License, yet they need to drive for work. Despite attempts to provide instructions, fingerprint submissions are rejected.

17

Country Spotlight:

EGYPT The U.S.

Consulate in Egypt only offers appointments on one day. It is difficult to get the proper fingerprints submitted. Direct communication with consulates is often not helpful, because there are staffing issues.

CHALLENGES AND SYSTEM GAPS IN IMMIGRATION

DELAYS ACROSS USCIS

Most applications take twice as long as before. USCIS is providing mixed messages. Publicly, USCIS is reporting things are speeding up, while this is not actually happening. Clients end up frustrated with their attorneys. Reasons for the delays include the Pandemic and fall-out from the previous administration.

COMMUNICATION ISSUES

The customer service hotline for USCIS is problematic; it is hard to reach anyone. InfoPass in-person appointments can no longer be scheduled online, so applicants have to call in and the amount of time spent on phones is lengthy- up to 4 hours. The online virtual assistant is not helpful and applicants don't receive a call back in a timely manner. There are additional challenges because of different time zones. There appears to be a longer waiting times for those who do not speak English.

DELAYS IN GREEN CARD REPLACEMENTS

It is taking a long time to replace lost/stolen Green Cards. In response, USCIS just announced it will extend validity of expiring green cards for 24 months, which will be noted on the I-90 receipt notice (instead of 12 months). The receipt notices can be used in conjunction with the expired green card. The process is different if someone's Green Card is lost or stolen; they will need to get an appointment with USCIS to get a stamp in passport as proof of residence, but appointments are hard to get.

Receipt Notices & RFEs

When filing responses to Requests for Further Evidence or some applications that do not require a fee or where a fee waiver is submitted, clients do not receive Receipt Notices for months. These delays mean delays in receiving proof of filing from USCIS and in some cases delays in getting a Service Center number with which to follow up on the application. Despite alerting immigration services centers to the issue, no changes have been made and it is hard to get a response when reaching out directly.

Work permits are taking longer to receive, which impacts a client's ability to work and stabilize.

GOVERNMENT PARTNERS

SANTA CLARA COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENT

JUVENILE PROBATION

DATA For the Fisca July 1, 2021 to Ju CSEC Data colle Santa Clara County Pro Table 1: FY 2021-2022 CSE	ROBATION DEPARTMENT		
CSE-IT Screening Results	Number	Percent	
Clear Concern	48	5%	
Possible Concern	291	32%	Youth Screened with
No Concern	567	63%	CSE-IT Tool FY 22
			Clear Concern (48) 5% Possible Concern (291) 32% No Concern (567) 63%
			Grand Total (906)

For fiscal year 2021-2022, (July 1, 2021, to June 30, 2022), the Probation Department collected the following results from Commercial Sexual Exploitation Identification Tool (CSE-IT) screenings:

- ③ 339 duplicated youth (some youth were screened more than once during the reporting period) were assessed as "possible concern" or "clear concern" for commercial sexual exploitation or risk of commercial sexual exploitation.
- # 44 duplicated youth who screened as "clear concern" and "possible concern" were 14 years old or younger at the time of their CSE-IT screening.

From July 1, 2021, to June 30, 2022, 906 duplicate youth (659 unique youth) were screened with the CSE-IT, as outlined in the table below. Sixty-three percent screened as "no concern" for CSEC (n=567), 32 percent were screened as having "possible concern" (n=29), and five percent were screened as "clear concern" (n=48). Fewer youth in 2021-2022 were assessed as having clear concern than in the previous fiscal year. Any youth identified as "clear concern" are automatically referred to the CSEC Coordinator for a comprehensive case review to assist the assigned Deputy Probation Officer (DPO) with information gathering and available resources.

SANTA CLARA COUNTY PROBATION CONT'D

TRAINING AND PARTNERSHIP

On February 7, 2022, Juvenile Probation celebrated the designation of Lorena Chavez as the new Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC) Coordinator. The Department thanks former CSEC Coordinator Jennifer Anguiano for her pioneering efforts in laying the foundation for this position as well as her years of dedication to this population of at-risk youth.

Immediately following the transition, the CSEC Coordinator used her previous experience and collaborated with Public Health, Behavioral Health, and the Juvenile Screening Unit to improve the process for referring youth for CSEC advocacy when they are initially admitted to Juvenile Hall and risk factors of exploitation are identified. The new procedure and referral form were immediately put into use and ensure the youth are connected with advocacy services prior to their potential release.

Juvenile Deputy Probation Officers new to the Juvenile Division were offered mandatory CSEC 101 and CSE-IT training. In addition, the CSEC coordinator worked with the Training Unit and West Coast Children's Center to host a CSE IT train the trainer session for 16 staff. These efforts supported the Department's high level of standards to maintain awareness and early detection of CSEC risk factors as well as knowledge of available resources.

Internally, Juvenile Probation updated the procedure for DPOs who have volunteered to respond to Emergency Response (ER) situations. Staff trained in after-hours screening and intake fulfill a dual role in that they may also be called on to the location where a CSEC victim has been identified by a law enforcement agency.

Finally, Juvenile Probation collaborated with County agencies and respective County Counsels in updating the Santa Clara County Protocol and Memorandum of Understanding for Commercially Sexually Exploited Children.

ADULT PROBATION

The Adult Division of Probation maintains close communication with the Juvenile Division to ensure that identified exploited youth and survivors of human trafficking who incur an arrest or conviction in the criminal justice system are referred to appropriate support services and human trafficking advocacy.

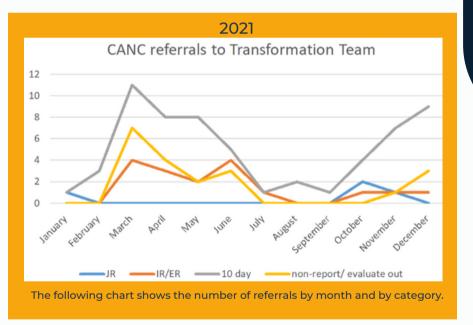
In collaboration with the County of Santa Clara District Attorney's office, Probation's Adult Division has entered into the LEIHT 2.0 Taskforce which seeks to bring together both public sector and non-profit partners to combat human trafficking in Santa Clara County by focusing on three core objectives: identifying and quantifying the scope of the problem in Santa Clara County; investigating suspected incidents in order to secure criminal convictions for those responsible; and collaborating to ensure the survivors of these crimes receive the wrap-around services they need to rebuild their lives and avoid future victimization.

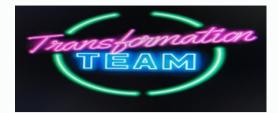
GOVERNMENT PARTNERS

DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

CLIENTS

In 2021, The Transformation Team received 101 reports about suspected at risk, suspected, and confirmed CSEC from the Child Abuse and Neglect Center (CANC). The Department's Emergency Response staff went out jointly with law enforcement on four cases. Seventeen cases were considered an Emergency or Immediate response. Sixty were cases that had to be investigated within 10-days and twenty were non-reports or evaluated out. There are several reasons for referrals to be non-reports or evaluated out: a duplicate referral, a referral that doesn't meet the standard for a Child Protective investigation or a referral with insufficient information to investigate.





The Transformation Team is a multidisciplinary team working together to address the needs of at risk, suspected and confirmed Commercial Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC) youth. The team is comprised of staff from the following Santa Clara County's Departments: Family and Children's Services (DFCS), Juvenile Probation, Behavioral Health and Public Health. The Team also includes Community Agencies: Community Solutions and the YWCA.

Referrals are difficult to substantiate as they take significant time for the worker to establish rapport with the youth. Often the youth or family are not ready to disclose or receive services. Numerous of these cases are closed as inconclusive or unfounded. Services may or may not be offered depending on the circumstances of the case.

There has been concern that males and LGBTQ+ youth have been overlooked. This seems to be changing. In 2021, males and LGBTQ+ youth were identified in much higher numbers as being identified as at risk, suspected or confirmed CSEC than in previous years.

	2018	2019	2020	2021
Males	6	6	5	19
LGBTQ+	1	1	5	18
Transgendered	1	1	4	9

DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES CONT'D 22

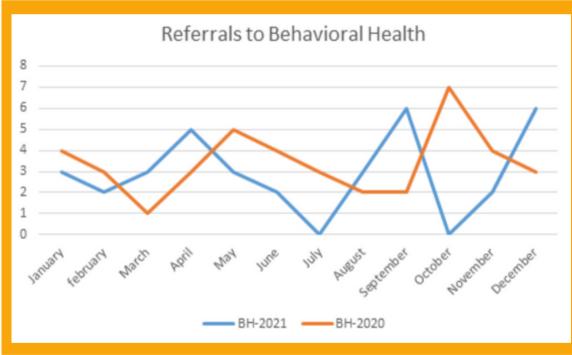


The chart above shows the number of referrals by month and by category

Youth can be referred to three different service: advocacy (Community Solutions and the YWCA), behavioral health (Santa Clara County Behavioral Health), and physical health (Santa Clara County Public Health). Seventytwo referrals were made to Community Solutions, 45 referrals were made to Behavioral Health. Due to the pandemic a Public Health Nurse was not available in 2021.

In 2021, there was an increase in referrals that were made for advocacy services. In 2021 there were 72 referrals were made. In 2020, 55 referrals were made.

Below is a chart of the number of referrals made to Behavioral Health by month in both 2020 (41 referrals) and 2021 (35 referrals). Referrals went down in 2021 from 2020. Forty (40) referrals were made to Public Health nurse in 2020 from January until October, when the Transformation Team Public Health nurse was promoted.



Training and Summit

Fewer training opportunities were offered in 2021 year due to staffing shortage for eight months. Training that was offered included:

- "California's Forgotten Children," focused on CSEC in California was shown twice followed by a panel discussion in January 2021;
- CSEC 101 for DFCS staff and the community;
- CSEC 101 for induction training of new DFCS social workers;

• New Transformation Team staff were offered the "Ending the Game" Facilitators Training to work with clients to assist with moving out of "The Life".

While the Transformation Team usually hosts the Youth Empowerment Summit (YES) every spring, due to COVID the YES was not offered in 2020 or 2021.

GOVERNMENT PARTNERS VALLEY HEALTHCARE HOMELESS PROGRAM

🐵 Identification of Survivors 😔

Valley Healthcare Homeless Program (VHHP) provided services to three survivors in FY 2022. Two survivors were reported as white cisgender females, one identified as queer, and both were survivors of sex trafficking. The third individual was reported as a female human trafficking survivor. Two women received mental health assistance, and one also received housing support (the other had received support with housing prior to this year). The third survivor had already secured housing and mental health services for her and her family.





🐵 Access to Direct and Legal Services 🔅

Only one of the three survivors wished to proceed with legal assistance. One survivor stated her trafficking took place long ago and that she had moved on. The other two mentioned fear of retaliation as a reason for being hesitant to move forward with any type of legal process. Though one did speak to the YWCA, fear of their trafficker ended up keeping them from pursuing anything beyond that.

😔 Access to Patient-Care 🚯

Survivors came to VHHP for post-natal care, opioid MAT, and psychiatrist medications. They mentioned having issues accessing the care they needed outside of VHHP, as well as encountering problems due to barriers to transportation and a lack of childcare. They also mentioned that Covid made it more difficult to leave their trafficking situation, and that they were only able to leave after restrictions had been lifted in their area.

The healthcare professionals providing services to these Survivors mentioned that the ability to provide virtual appointments helped them continue services and reach out to more patients since Covid. They listed a need for more training for providing mental health services to survivors of human trafficking.

LAW ENFORCEMENT UPDATES

LAW ENFORCEMENT TO INVESTIGATE HUMAN TRAFFICKING 2.0 (LEIHT 2.0)

Law Enforcement to Investigate Human Trafficking 2.0 LEIHT 2.0

Over the last two years, the District Attorney's Office (DAO) has prioritized interagency law enforcement cooperation and proactively investigated and prosecuted a variety of complex trafficking organizations. These successful cases and partnerships have resulted in the Law Enforcement Investigating Human Trafficking Taskforce (LEIHT 2.0). LEIHT 2.0 formalized partnerships with local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies and community-based service providers. These efforts have ignited a culture shift within the County where the core principles of proactively targeting exploiters and recovering vulnerable victims is done through a **survivor centered** and **trauma informed** approach.



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Accomplishments and Successes

LEIHT 2.0 Members

4 MOUs, 18 Partnership Letters District Attorney's Office San Jose Police Department Homeland Security Investigation Federal Bureau of Investigation U.S. State Department Diplomatic Security Service Santa Clara County Probation Department, California Department of Alcohol Beverage Control Northern California Regional Intelligence Center Western States Information Network Milpitas Police Department

OVC Enhanced Collaborative Model Grants Recipient

The DAO and Community Solutions were awarded the Department of Justice 3-year Grant for LEIHT 2.0. Only 9 counties nationwide were awarded the \$1.5 million-dollar competitive grant. Funds will support investigations with human trafficking coordinator/crime analyst and forensic accountant positions, as well as survivor advocate positions at Community Solutions.

LEIHT 2.0 is now the 3rd largest human trafficking taskforce in California Increase in Local Funding Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors funded an increase in the number of trafficking investigators, forensic accountants, DAO victim advocates and prosecutors.

LAW ENFORCEMENT UPDATES CONT'D

Prosecutions and Criminal Cases

In the last year, the Santa Clara County District Attorney's Office Human Exploitation Unit prosecuted sixty-three (63) defendants from investigations conducted by law enforcement agencies in the county. Of the sixty-three (63) individuals, fourteen (14) were convicted of human trafficking/exploitation crimes (e.g. commercial sex and labor trafficking, pimping and pandering, labor/economic crimes, and/or various fraud conduct). Currently, forty-nine (49) defendants are pending prosecution at various stages in the court process.

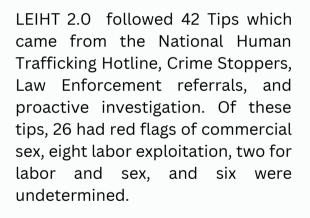
+ This data was reported by DAO Human Exploitation Unit (HEU) prosecutors.



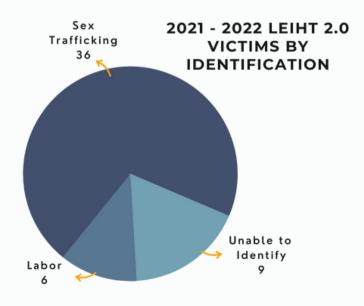
14 convicted of Human Trafficking, Explitation

> 49 Pending prosecution

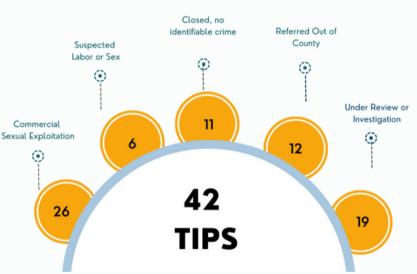
4 cases carried over from previous years



In total, 51 new victims of trafficking were known to LEIHT 2.0 investigators from investigations. Thirty-six open experienced sex trafficking, 6 victims experienced labor trafficking based on information derived from the investigation. There were 9 victims known by investigators, but were not identified by name or in other discernable ways that resulted in victim recovery.

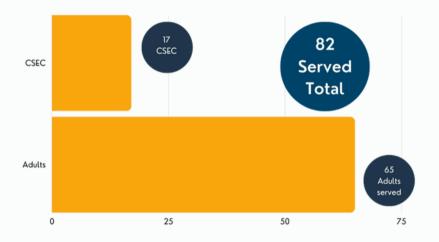


2021-2022 LEIHT HT REFERRALS BY TIPS



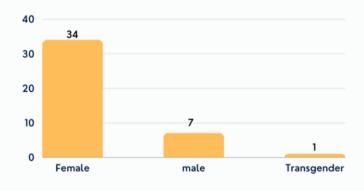
LAW ENFORCEMENT UPDATES CONT'D

SERVICES OFFERED BY AGE 2021 - 2022 LEIHT 2.0 DATA



LEIHT 2.0 recovered and offered services to a total of 82 victims, which included 65 adults and 17 Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC).

LEIHT 2.0 HT Coordinator/Analyst added a demographic tracking system to focusing on the following data 43 victims identified as female, 7 as male, and one as transgender. 2021 - 2022 LEIHT DATA BY GENDER



Partnerships & Child Advocacy Center

Improving access for survivors, the Child Advocacy Center (CAC) opened two years ago under the direction of DAO VSU and County service providers. A state-of-the-art facility, the CAC is a safe, welcoming, trauma-informed space for child abuse and sex assault victims to receive counseling, and medical care, where law enforcement can conduct multi-disciplinary interviews. This one stop location for survivor centered services has provided support to several sexually exploited children (CSEC). CAC will continue to do outreach with the law enforcement community to promote referrals in the coming year.







SANTA CLARA COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

Operations and Case Highlights

Operation Reclaim and Rebuild: LEIHT 2.0 in collaboration with San Jose Police Department (SJPD) Community Solutions, the YWCA Golden Gate Silicon Valley, and other LEA partners, participated in a week-long statewide anti-human trafficking initiative. Proactive investigations used tips from the community and law enforcement to focus on the recovery of victims and identification of exploiters. Efforts focused on illegal massage parlors, online sex trafficking, and sex buyers of minors.

Operation Risky Business: Focused on taking down residential brothels in the County, DAO Investigators, partnering with Milpitas Police Department, State Department- Diplomatic Security Service, FBI and NCRIC uncovered a network of Asian residential brothels in the greater Santa Clara County area. The long-term investigation culminated with the arrest and prosecution of two longtime ringleaders for this group, Silicon Valley tech worker David Davies and his wife Larong Hu. In all, 17 residential brothels were identified and charging of Davies and Hu was for human trafficking and twenty-four (24) other felony crimes of sexual exploitation, fraud, and money laundering. The total assets encumbered for defendants totaled over ten million dollars. The identified assets will be held under a court order for purposes of survivor restitution assistance and/or forfeiture to the county general fund.

Operation Finish Line: In September of 2021, FBI received a tip regarding brothel activity in San Jose, San Mateo, and other cities throughout California. The activity was tied to a series of websites promoting commercial sex of young women from South Korea and Thailand. Kurt Ho was identified as setting up, managing, and operating the brothel locations and is currently facing multiple felony charges of pimping, pandering and other associated exploitation crimes. The Defendant conducted his exploitation through luring the victims into debt bondage

People v. Talik Ellis: In July of 2021 LEIHT 2.0 partner agencies were given a tip that a 16 year old Jane Doe was being trafficked in Santa Clara County. Partnering agencies used the tip and gathered information from social media and description of the traffickers vehicle to identify the trafficker and victim. Surveillance was set up and after a 2-day investigation the Jane Doe was recovered along with an adult female. Trafficker Talik Ellis, who had a prior history of trafficking of a minor in Virginia was arrested. Ellis is now being held on a \$500,000 bond and a probation hold for extradition by the state of Virginia.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

SOUTH BAY Coalition to End Human Trafficking

Spreading the seeds of hope

FY 2022 COALITION MEMBER AGENCIES

AACI Asian Law Alliance Bay Area Legal Aid California Massage Therapy Council Community Solutions Daughters of Charity Justice At Last Katharine & George Alexander Community Law Center Law Foundation of Silicon Valley San Jose Police Department Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary Step Forward Foundation Tahirih Justice Center Women's International League for Peace and Freedom

FY 2022 COALITION PARTICIPATING AGENCIES FROM THE COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA:

Department of Family and Children's Services District Attorney's Office Human Exploitation Unit District Attorney's Office Victim Services Unit Office of Gender-Based Violence Office of Women's Policy Probation Department Sheriff's Office Valley Homeless Healthcare Program Valley Medical Center Sexual Assault Response Team

THANK YOU TO OUR FY22 FUNDERS AND SPONSORS

Office of Gender-Based Violence Prevention San Jose Police Department Community Solutions UA Local Union 393 California Massage Therapy Council Santa Clara County District Attorney's Office Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary Daughters of Charity, Province of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

www.southbayendtrafficking.org