



State Projects to Improve Outcomes for Child and Youth Victims of Human Trafficking

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Linking Systems of Care for Children and Youth Project Information Expo
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State Projects to Improve Outcomes for Child and Youth Victims of Human Trafficking

- Overview of the Improving Outcomes project
- Improving Outcomes grantees
- Linking systems
- Lessons learned
- Q&A



Improving Outcomes for Child and Youth Victims of Human Trafficking **Program Overview**

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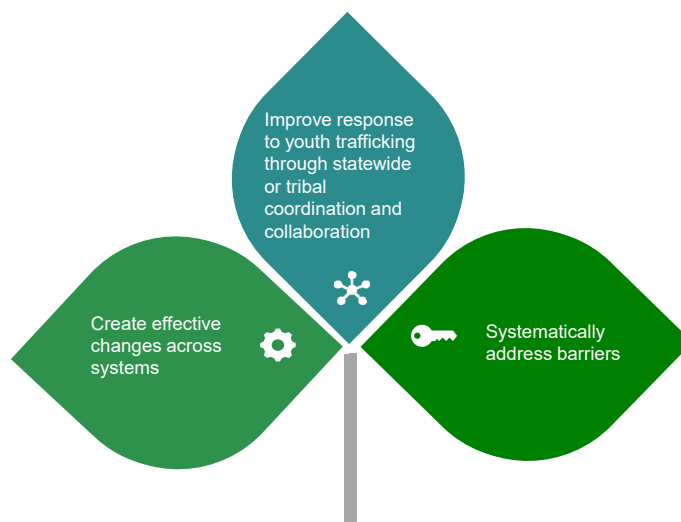
Background

- Program est. in FY 16
- Funded through TVPA and JVTA (Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act)
- Focus is not direct services
- Similar model to OVC's Linking Systems of Care (FY14 demonstration project)
- State-wide or tribal jurisdiction-wide approach
- Lead applicant: State gov't rep
- 9 current grantees



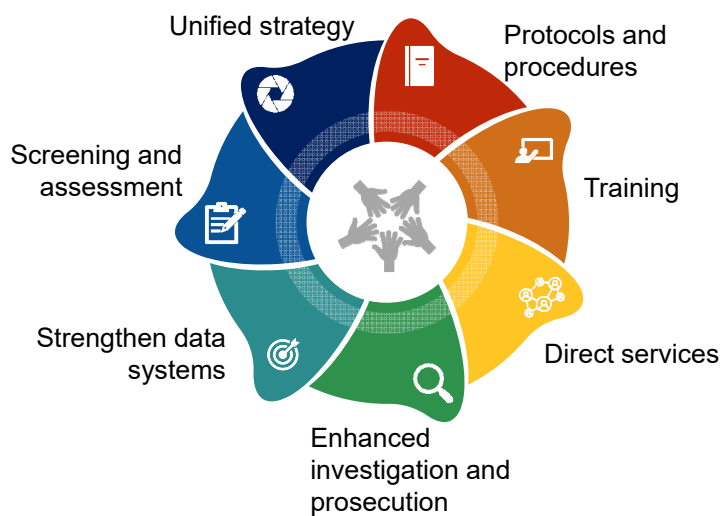
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OVC's Improving Outcomes for Child and Youth Victims of Human Trafficking Goals



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OVC's Improving Outcomes for Child and Youth Victims of Human Trafficking Strategies

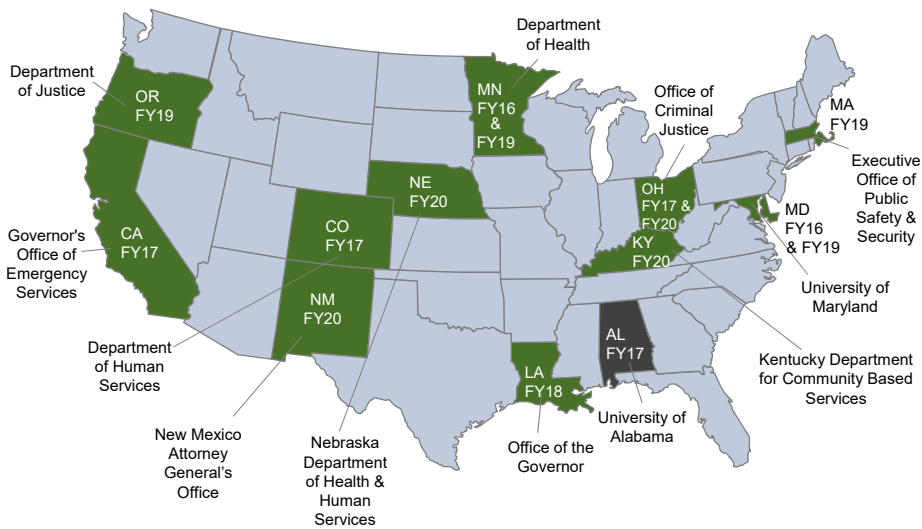


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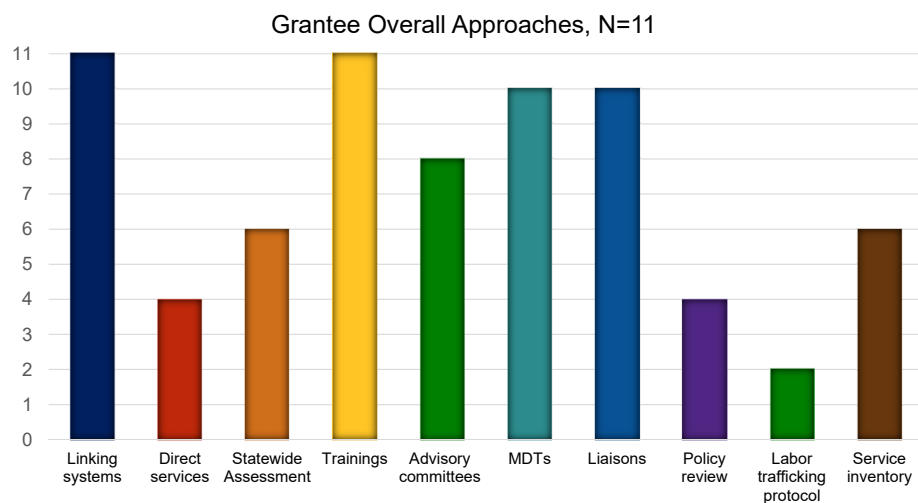
Current *Improving Outcomes* Grantees

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Improving Outcomes Grantees

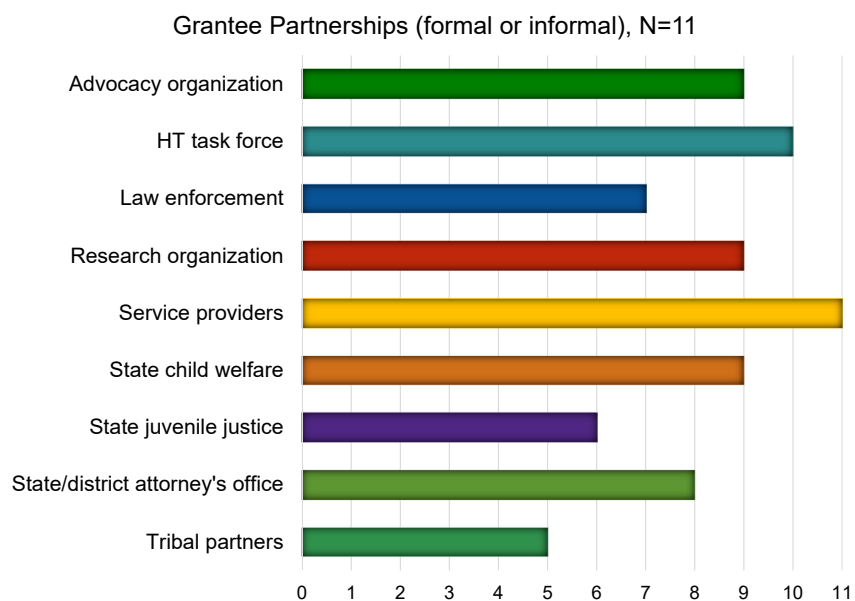


Improving Outcomes Grantee Approaches



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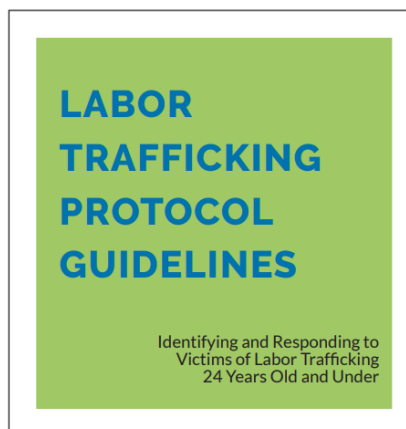
Improving Outcomes Grantee Partners



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Key Successes

- **Minnesota** developed a labor trafficking protocol for their state → operationalizing that at the regional level
- **Colorado** established regional specialists to improve coordination and services in low resourced rural areas
- **Maryland** created the child first sex trafficking specific MDT in Baltimore



From the front cover of Minnesota's labor trafficking protocol guidelines

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Key Successes

- **Ohio** partnered with the statewide supreme court & is supporting local court systems to address youth trafficking
- **California** established two pilot programs to serve non-systems-involved youth
- **Louisiana** is implementing a statewide CAC approach with regional coordinators based in CACs

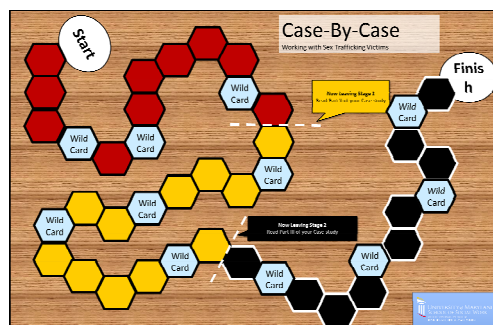


From the Louisiana Alliance of Children's Advocacy Centers

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Key Successes

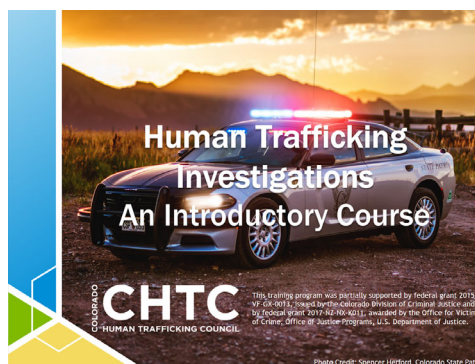
- **Maryland** created and delivered multiple sector-specific trainings
- **Minnesota** and **Alabama** created minor/youth HT identification
- **Louisiana** trained hundreds of professionals on the CSE-IT tool
- **Minnesota** created strong partnerships with 12 tribal nations



From a game created by Maryland for case managers to discuss hypothetical minor/youth sex trafficking cases

Working with criminal justice systems

- **Law enforcement**
 - **Maryland** is conducting specialized trainings to reach law enforcement statewide
 - **Colorado** trained law enforcement using a TTT model (800+ officers reached)
 - **Oregon** is providing a human trafficking analyst to law enforcement statewide
 - **Massachusetts** created and rolled out a law enforcement protocol & conducting in-service trainings



From Colorado's training on human trafficking investigations

Grantees engaging criminal justice systems: CA, CO, KY, LA, MA, MD, MN, NE, NM, OH, OR

Working with criminal justice systems

- **Courts and corrections**

- **Maryland** and **Ohio** are engaging juvenile justice courts in training
- **Oregon** is developing protocols in partnership with agencies that engage youth within corrections
- **California** is partnering with the Alameda District Attorney's Office



From Maryland's training on addressing trafficking in the courtroom

Grantees engaging criminal justice systems: CA, CO, KY, LA, MA, MD, MN, NE, NM, OH, OR

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Child Welfare & CACs

- **CACs**

- **Louisiana** and **Nebraska** have regional CAC coordinators

- **Child Welfare**

- **Massachusetts** and **Kentucky** are training foster parents
- **Colorado** and **Louisiana** are working on improving identification of trafficking – particularly labor trafficking – in child welfare systems



Grantees engaging child welfare systems: CO, KY, LA, MA, MD, MN, NE, NM, OH, OR

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Addressing Labor Trafficking

- Fewer grantees are focused on addressing labor trafficking
 - **Maryland** – Statewide MDT
 - **Minnesota** – Statewide protocol
- Challenges
 - Awareness
 - Partnerships
 - Victim identification and service provision
 - Survivor engagement
 - Best practices



Grantees focused on labor trafficking:
MD, MN,

Engaging Survivors

Engagement

Grantees engage survivors through organizing survivor panels, and paying survivors to co-train or serve as expert consultants

Feedback

Grantees obtain survivor input on protocols and training materials

Compensation

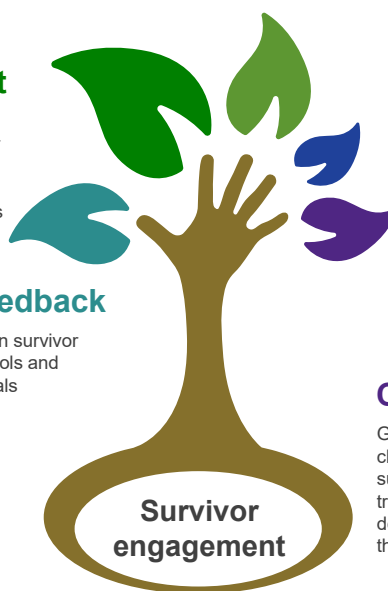
Grantees compensate survivors through payment and offer professional development opportunities

Best practices

Several grantees have adjusted their approaches to reflect best practices and be more survivor- and trauma-informed

Challenges

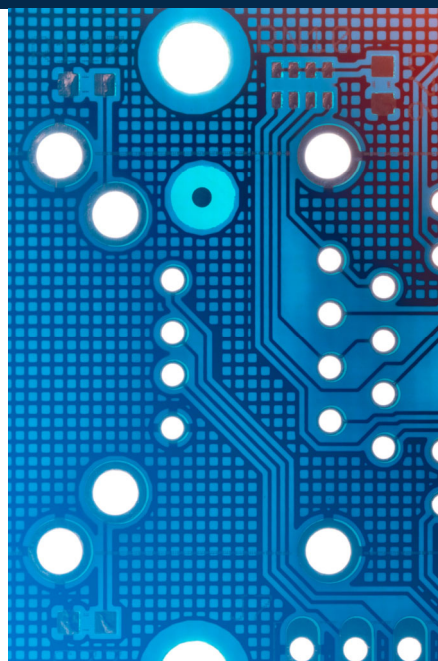
Grantees have faced challenges in identifying survivors, particularly labor trafficking survivors, and determining the right fit for their work



Grantees engaging survivors: AL, CA, CO, LA, MA, MD, MN, NE, OH, OR

How are grantees linking systems?

- Coordination between multiple youth- and child-serving agencies
- Expansion of capacity to identify victims through multisectoral training
- Develop and implementation of statewide protocols
- Outreach to and collaboration with low-resource communities and tribal partners
- Work with other federally funded trafficking projects



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What have been some keys to success?



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Some additional take-aways...

- Changing systems takes time
- Alignment in goals and objectives helps advance collaboration
- Perspectives, opinions, and goals vary greatly by different sectors and individuals
- Trauma-informed and person-centered approaches are critical
- Survivor engagement needs to be meaningful
- Trainings should be designed and tailored
- Youth- and child-serving agencies are overburdened; changes = feasible
- State agencies have credibility and power but face additional barriers
- Coordinating data systems can be impactful, but challenging and expensive



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Small Group Discussions

- We will take 10 minutes for participants to talk with each other in groups of 4
- Discussion questions
 - Are there ways you are trying to work across state agencies to address youth or child victimization?
 - What are the key barriers to system-level collaboration?
 - What are the key strategies that have worked for you in system-level collaboration?
- One reporter per group to share one key barrier and 1]one key strategy

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Q & A

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