Riverside County Anti-Human Trafficking Task Force
The Scope of Human Trafficking and the Role of Law Enforcement
The Formation of the Riverside County Anti Human Trafficking Task Force

- In June of 2010, the Riverside County Sheriffs Department applied for a CALEMA Anti Human Trafficking Grant.

- In August of 2010, the Riverside County Sheriffs Department was awarded the grant, which gave the department $500,000 to develop a task force to combat the crime of Human Trafficking.
The Formation of the Riverside County Anti Human Trafficking Task Force (cont.)

- Of the $500,000, the Sheriffs Department received, $125,000 was dedicated to the Riverside County Operation Safehouse, who is in charge of providing victim services.

- The Riverside County Anti Human Trafficking Task Force (RCAHT) consist of the following agencies:
  - Riverside County Sheriffs Department,
  - Immigration and Customs Enforcement,
  - the United States Attorneys Office,
  - the Riverside County District Attorneys Office,
  - Operation SafeHouse
  - Million Kids

- To date, over 60 other agencies and groups comprise RCAHT. Many of these entities are NGOs (Non-Government Organizations).
Human Trafficking Defined

**Human Trafficking:**
- The sexual exploitation or forced labor of illegal immigrants. Victims trafficked into the U.S. where they are forced or coerced into providing sexual acts or working in servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery.

**Human Smuggling:**
- The importation of people into the U.S. involving deliberate evasion of immigration laws. These subjects not held against their will, and are not forced into slavery.
Smuggling vs. Trafficking

**Smuggling**
- Crime against nation
- Must cross national border
- Person free to leave after border passage
- A person consents to be smuggled
- No labor or sexual exploitation

**Trafficking**
- Crime against person
- No movement required
- Person is not free to leave after border passage
- A person is trafficked through force, fraud, or coercion
- Involves labor or sexual required exploitation
Types of Trafficking

- International – Foreign national victims
- Domestic – Occurring with the U.S.
- Labor – Peonage, slavery, domestic servitude, agricultural, servile marriage, etc
- Commercial Sexual Exploitation – Prostitution, pornography, sex tourism
Who are the Victims?

- Individuals who engage in high risk behavior: prostitutes, drug users, runaways
- Individuals with criminal records
- Individuals not in the United States legally
- Individuals with different cultures and beliefs
Who are the Traffickers?

- Neighbors
- Friends and family members
- Organized criminal groups
- Smugglers
- Pimps/Madams
- Adult entertainment industry providers

- Labor subcontractors
- Employment Agencies
- "Johns"
- Owners of small businesses
- Gangs
- Subcontractors
- Pedophiles
- Massage parlor operators
Why Does Human Trafficking Exist?

- Estimated 32 billion in profits annually
- Trafficking is profitable because people are resalable and reusable
- Increased international trade and economic competition have created a demand for cheap labor and goods
- Rising demand for purchasing sexual acts and pornography
- Unlike drugs and arms traffickers, human traffickers can continue to exploit their victims after the initial point of sale
- The profits generated worldwide by all forms of slavery in 2007 were 91.2 billion. This number has greatly increased, causing modern day slavery to be the one of highest grossing criminal enterprises in the United States, and number one globally.
Statistics

- The United States Department of Justice estimates 14,500 – 17,500 people are trafficked into the United States every year.

- They also estimate there at least 100,000 domestic children who are at risk of being sexually exploited in the United States.

- During the Calendar year 2010, there have been over 1,600 certified victims of Human Trafficking in the United States.
Where are Victims Found?

- Prostitution
- Exotic Dancing
- Servile Marriages
- Agricultural Work
- Landscaping
- Domestic Servitude
- Sexual Exploitation
- Restaurants
- Construction

- Carnival Work
- Housekeeping
- Criminal Activities
- Day Labor
- Street Vendors/Peddling
- Students on Visas
- Pornography
- Modeling/Talent
- Cab Drivers
Incidents and Crimes Associated with Human Trafficking Cases

- Assualts / Battery
- Domestic Violence
- Kidnapping
- False Imprisonment
- Missing Persons
- Prostitution
- Labor Disputes
- Theft
- Robbery
- Narcotics
- Dependency
- Sexual Abuse
- Child Abuse
- Extortion
Two Categories of Human Trafficking

- Sexual Exploitation
- Labor Trafficking
Sex Trafficking of Minors

- **Social Web Sites:** Backpage, CityVibe, Humanaplex, RedBook, Eros, etc.

- **Brothels:** Massage Parlors, Acupuncture businesses, etc (advertise on the internet and in magazines).

- **The Track:** Street which contains hotels and strip malls. Prostitutes loiter on the track advertising themselves for prostitution (the track is also referred to as the “Blade”).

- **The average age of entry into prostitution, in the U.S., is 12 years.**
The Many Forms of Labor Trafficking

- Landscaping
- Construction
- Hotel
- Tourist industries
- Restaurants
Sweat Shops

Manufacturing
Domestic Servitude

Begging
Indicators

- Living or Working Conditions
- Someone else seems to answer questions on their behalf
- Cultural or Language barriers to communication
- Signs of physical abuse
- Fear, Submission or Depression
- No passport, or other forms of ID
- Lack of trust in figures of authority and/or legal system
A Localized Effort to Identify Victims of Trafficking
NOT IN MY BACKYARD!
Role of Million Kids

Educate and engage community leaders, civic organizations, government agencies, faith based organizations, corporations and businesses
Focus

- International Victims of Labor and Sex Trafficking – Foreign Nationals
- Educating Private Businesses and Government Agencies to identify and report Trafficking
- California SB657 TRAINING- Transparency In the Supply Chain
- Working with Major corporations (SB 657)
Probably You’ve Heard of Human Trafficking
And You’ve Probably Heard About the Sexual Exploitation of Minors
What You Might Not Know

All types of trafficking happen right here in our own county.....

Right Here in Our Own Backyard
What is Human Trafficking?

- **Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA)** has two components

- **Labor Trafficking - Sex Trafficking**
  - The recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of **force**, **fraud**, or **coercion** for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage or slavery.
Quick Facts

- California is the number one state in the nation for human trafficking
- The Inland Empire is a hotbed of human trafficking
- After drug dealing, human trafficking is tied with the illegal arms industry as the second largest criminal industry in the world today, and it is the fastest growing.

(Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
http://www.acf.hhs.gov/trafficking/about/fact_human.html)
Reasons for Surge in Human Trafficking in the Inland Empire

- Criminals, gangs, cartels, and mafia have learned:
  - they can sell guns and drugs once, but
  - can exploit human beings for money over and over

- Effectiveness of other task forces have driven traffickers to the Inland Empire
Reasons for Surge in Human Trafficking in the Inland Empire

- I-10, I-215, and I-15 freeway corridors
- Large land area, few resources dedicated to combating human trafficking
- Large legal and illegal migrant population
- Inventory of vacant/foreclosed properties
- High unemployment rate
Human Trafficking Spectrum

Sex Trafficking: Teen Trafficking - Finessed Teen Trafficking - Coerced

Gang Trafficking: Branding Human Currency

Labor Trafficking: Street Vendors/Begging Rings - Nail Salons - Massage Parlors - Motels/Hotels - Restaurants - Bars/Strip Clubs - Constructions - Care Homes

Agriculture Trafficking: Legal - Illegal - Female Agriculture Trafficking

Cartel Trafficking: Migrant Trafficking - Legal - Illegal - Extortion - Torture
Million Kids Building a Model Task Force for Labor Trafficking

- Restaurants
- Care Homes
- Construction
- Nail Salons
- Agriculture
- Massage Parlors
Goals

- Identify key agencies
- Maximize resources; multiply results
- Solutions oriented training
- Build an long term infrastructure to combat complex human trafficking scenarios
Solutions Oriented Training

- US Department of Labor
- California Department of Labor
- Employment Development Department
- Code Enforcement
- Alcoholic Beverage Control
- Animal Control
- Rural Crimes Task Force
- Public Health Licensing
- Fire Marshalls*
Be the Eyes and Ears of Law Enforcement

Report human trafficking
National Trafficking Hotline
1.888.3737.888

Report suspicious activity
TEXT 951.213.9144
stop@millionkids.org
Drop House Characteristics

- Does not look like a normal family home.
- Rental or vacant home
- Located near main freeways
- Predominantly Hispanic neighborhoods
- Squatters may occupy with out of town landlords
- Vans/SUVs late night or early morning
Drop Houses – What to Look For

- Attached garage
- Windows closed off, barred, or boarded
- Heavily fenced
- Man/men standing guard out front
- Guard dogs
BUT YOU ARE NOT LAW ENFORCEMENT

- YOU DON’T CARRY A BADGE!
Together WE Can Craft A Winning Strategy
The Prosecution of Human Trafficking Cases
Barriers to prosecution

- Jurisdictional issues
- Focus on the larger crime
- Prosecutor understanding/awareness
- Juror understanding/awareness
Jurisdictional Issues

- Trafficking crosses jurisdictional lines
- Crime occurs in one county while victims may be housed in another
- Federal v. State prosecution
Focus on the Larger Crime

- Sex trafficking of victims usually comes to light in the form of prostitution
- Traditional focus has been to target the “prostitute” for prosecution while ignoring the trafficking “pimp.”
- Victims reluctant to provide information on the “boyfriend.”
Prosecutor Awareness

- Trafficking prosecution is a relatively new crime. 236.1
  - (enacted 2005 and modified 2010).
- Most prosecutors are unaware of its existence as a crime.
Juror Awareness

- Concept of HT victim shaped by media
- Victim behavior may defy preconceived behavior
- Dislike of “criminals” as “victims”
- It doesn’t happen here.
Victim Centered Approach
The Phone Tree

**Social Service Providers**
- Interpreters
- Case managers
- Shelter Staff
- Therapist
- ESL Teacher
- Doctor
- Dentist
- Volunteers
- State and federal benefit issuing agencies

**Legal Service Providers**
- Immigration Attorney
- Paralegal
- Pro bono
- Civil attorney
- Interpreters

**Federal Law Enforcement**
- DOJ
- AUSA
- VWC
- FBI
- ICE
- DOL/EEOC
- IRS
- Interpreters

**Local Law Enforcement**
- State’s Attorney
- VWC
- Municipal Police/Investigator
- County Police/Investigator
- State Police/Investigator
- LEA Interpreters
Case Management

- Shelter and Housing
- Emergency Medical and Dental Needs
- Interpreters
- Mind, Body and Soul
- Skill and Employment
Shelter/Housing

- Safe and appropriate shelter
- Short Term and Long Term
  - Emergency Hotel Vouchers
  - DV shelters or other shelters as appropriate
  - Transitional programs
  - State Dependent living
  - Support while living with good Samaritans
  - Independent living with support
  - Independent living
Emergency medical and dental services

Human trafficking victims are at increased risks of developing health problems due to the physical, sexual and emotional trauma they experience along with the substandard living conditions in which they exist during their servitude and the deprivation of basic human needs they endure.

- Infectious diseases
- Sexually transmitted diseases
- Squalid conditions in both the work and living environments, which places them at risk for various respiratory and other infections such as tuberculosis, for example.
Interpreters

- Appropriate and confidential interpreter at interview/investigation site with LE

- Appropriate and confidential interpreter at CM, legal sessions, medical sessions, and counseling sessions

- Gaining Interpreters:
  - Community Members
  - PALS for Health
  - Local college campuses
  - Certified Language lines
Mind, Body, Soul

- **Mind (Mental Health)**
  - PTSD Trauma
  - Individual
  - Group
  - Peer
  - Art Therapy
  - Animal Therapy
  - Yoga

- **Body**
  - Walks, yoga, work-outs, activities, recreation

- **Soul (emotional and social health)**
  - Assessing victims emotional safety to begin engaging in social settings
Skills and Employment

- Life Skills
  - Transportation/bus/bike, budgeting, life planning, resume writing, and how to navigate on their own
- Mentors

- Vocational and/or Education
  - Trades, ESL, Literacy classes, computer skills, adult education, GED completion, community classes, junior college, universities

- Employment
Client Data
September 2010-December 2011

- CSEC- 80%
- CST- 10%
- FL-DS- 3%
- FL- Peddling- 7%
Gender Data
September 2010-December 2011

- Males: 10%
- Females: 87%
- Transgender: 3%
Ethnic Background
September 2010-December 2011

- Hispanic: 27%
- Black: 37%
- Chinese: 3%
- Caucasian: 33%
Referral Data
September 2010-December 2011

- Samaritan
- LE
- NHTRC
- Agency

Percentages

SAFEHOUSE
Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children
I have never been in an abusive relationship with a man until then. He never hit me but the things he would tell me still ring in my head. I don't know why I allowed myself to be used and disrespected the way I was. It was all sick and twisted. A mind game that I wasn't good at. The things I dealt with still haunt me and I wish my head would clear. I put so much of my time into a man that thought less of me than a slave. I was
Faces and Stories

Christine
Faces and Stories

Aaron
Thank you for your helping all the time and show me your love.
I want you to be my best friend. I appreciate you help me overcome the difficult situation and always comfort me and encourage me. Thank you a lot!
Our Call to Action
Get Informed

- Become an Ambassador of the Task Force with our **Train the Trainer** Workshops

- For a presentation on Human Trafficking in Riverside County contact Opal at [MillionKids.org](http://MillionKids.org) or Jennifer at [JOfarrell@operationsafehouse.org](mailto:JOfarrell@operationsafehouse.org)
Protect and Prevent
Sub-committee

Western Collaborative
10:30am-12:00pm
Location – The Grove Community Church, Riverside
Third Tuesday of every Month

Eastern Collaborative
10:30am-12:00pm
Location – Palm Desert Police Station, Palm Desert
Third Wednesday of every Month
Quick Tips for Drop House Identification

- **Drop House Characteristics:**
  - It does not look like a normal family home, rental or vacant home, located near main freeways, predominately in Hispanic neighborhoods, squatters may occupy with out of town landlords, Vans/SUVs late night or early morning.

- **What to look for:**
  - Attached garage, windows closed off, barred or boarded, heavily fenced, man/men standing outside or guarding, guard dogs.
  - Partner with Million Kids STOP Program — **STOP is Specially Trained Observer Program.**
  - If you think you have seen a drop house or to report suspicious environments: Text 951-213-914 or Email STOP@millionkids.org
  - To support the education and outreach program for RCAHT donate to MillionKids.org.
Call 1-888-3737-888

- If you think you have identified a potential victim, call the National Human Trafficking Resource Center at 1-888-3737-888.
- Each call is directly given to local law enforcement and victim services.

- Accompanied by a controlling person or boss; not speaking on their own behalf;
- Commercial sex on the streets or internet, especially minors;
- With debt owed to employer or crew leader; an inability to leave job;
- Who is transported to or from work; lives and works in the same place;
- With lack of control over personal schedule, belongings, I.D., money;
- With bruises, depression, fear, overly submissive;
- Presence of an overly controlling or abusive ‘boyfriend’;
- Excess amounts of cash;
- Chronic runaway/homeless;
- Signs on branding;
- Lying about age/false identification;
- Lack of knowledge about a given community or location;
- Redistricted/scripted communication.
Impact Our Communities and County

Use your...

- Resources
- Talents and influence
- Expertise
- Commitment

JOIN IN OUR EFFORTS TO
BUILD A MODEL TASK FORCE