

Fighting Human Trafficking in Ohio:

The Combating Human Trafficking In Ohio (CTIPOhio) Program



Human Trafficking in Ohio

Human trafficking is a form of modern-day slavery where people profit from the control and exploitation of others. In Ohio, an estimated 1,000 children are enslaved in domestic sex trafficking, and an estimated 3,000 runaway/homeless youth,¹ and nearly 3,500 foreign born persons in Ohio are believed to be at risk for sex and/or labor trafficking.² In March of 2012, Governor John R. Kasich signed an Executive Order creating the Ohio Human Trafficking Task Force, charging the group with marshaling state resources to put a stop to human trafficking.

What is the Combating Trafficking in Persons in Ohio (CTIPOhio) grant program?

In September of 2014, the Office of Criminal Justice Services was awarded a Rescue and Restore Regional Program Grant of \$146,690 a year for three years from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR).

The program funds a collaborative approach to strengthen state and local prevention and response efforts in combating human trafficking through a formal partnership between the Office of Criminal Justice Services (OCJS) and three Core Regional Coalition Partners (CRCPs) based in Cincinnati, Columbus and Toledo. OCJS serves as the program director and fiscal and monitoring agent for the grant, in partnership with three anti-trafficking coalitions: Toledo Area Ministries, representing the **Lucas County Anti-Trafficking Coalition**; Salvation Army of Central Ohio, representing the **Central Ohio Rescue and Restore Coalition**; and Salvation Army of Greater Cincinnati, representing **End Slavery Cincinnati**.

"The Salvation Army in Central Ohio and the members of the Central Ohio coalition are honored to be part of this collaborative project... This grant will increase our ability to identify and serve some of Ohio's most vulnerable and under-identified victims."

-Michelle Hannon, The Salvation Army's Director of Professional and Community Services

The CTIPOhio program's objectives are to:

- 1. Identify and refer foreign born victims of human trafficking by:**
 - Building a network of local outreach partners through CRCPs to identify victims;
 - Conducting outreach events for foreign born communities; and
 - Facilitating foreign national victim identification and linkage to service by providing structured outreach programs focused on foreign nationals.
- 2. Provide training and technical assistance by:**
 - Creating a statewide Outreach Toolkit on serving foreign born victims of trafficking to incorporate into *Ohio's Toolkit for Serving Victims of Trafficking* (<http://humantrafficking.ohio.gov>);
 - Integrating the foreign born victim and labor trafficking training content into human trafficking trainings offered by coalitions as well as conducting training in local counties for individuals not in coalitions; and
 - Conducting training on state and federal Anti-Trafficking in Persons laws with key stakeholders.

¹Ohio Trafficking in Persons Study Commission Research and Analysis Sub-Committee Report on the Prevalence of Human Trafficking in Ohio to Attorney General Richard Cordray, page: 4.

²Williamson, C. et al. (2010). Preliminary report on the prevalence and at-risk victims of human trafficking in Ohio, February 11.

3. **Build anti-trafficking coalitions** by:

- Developing a basic coalition model, outlining key partners, activities and areas of focus;
- Ensuring that key partners are engaged in the coalition; and
- Providing human trafficking coalition development training for social services personnel and law enforcement.

4. **Promote Public Awareness** by:

- Utilizing Ohio-specific campaign materials and translating them into languages of identified vulnerable foreign born populations such as posters, billboards and fact sheets that direct calls to the National Human Trafficking Resource Center's hotline; and
- Utilizing social media, TV, radio and newsletters emailed to stakeholders with coalition and public awareness updates.

In order to identify and refer foreign born victims of human trafficking, each Core Regional Coalition Partner has a grant-funded part-time regional coordinator to build local capacity to identify foreign born and underserved victims of trafficking, provide trainings for key groups such as law enforcement and social service providers and identify barriers to awareness and effective response. Through the grant, the statewide public awareness campaign materials will be translated into additional languages identified as needed in three regions.

"In Toledo, we are excited to begin new partnerships with local agencies Adelante and El Centro de la Mujer to reach the Latino community and combat human trafficking through CTIPOhio."

-Amy LaGesse, Regional Coordinator for the Lucas County Human Trafficking Coalition

By the end of the three-year grant period, CTIPOhio will have:

- Identified and referred for services exponentially more foreign born victims of trafficking
- Provided high-quality training to thousands of identified stakeholders with an emphasis on serving foreign born victims
- Increased participation in coalitions based on a sound and sustainable model
- Significantly increased public awareness of human trafficking in Ohio

To learn more about Ohio's anti-trafficking efforts and how you can join the fight, please visit <http://humantrafficking.ohio.gov>

