Building Individual and Institutional Capacity of a University Health System To Serve Local Sex Trafficking Victims
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**Purpose**

1) Assess and increase the knowledge, ability, and confidence of healthcare providers to identify and heal victims of sex trafficking;

2) Assess and build institutional capacity to appropriately and constructively serve victims of sex-trafficking.

**Background**

The number of sex-trafficking victims may be as high as 27 million worldwide.

The average age of sex-trafficking recruitment is 11-14 years old.

A lack of awareness of the invisible population of sex-trafficking victims causes profound missed opportunities to improve individual and population health.

**Methodology**

- A workshop about how to serve victims and survivors of sex trafficking with local non-profit organizations, law-enforcement, and a mental health provider
- Facilitated Dialogue Session
- Pre & Post Survey

**Workshop**

**Learning Points:**

- The estimated number of victims who are trafficked at any one time worldwide may reach as high as 27 million (Siskin & Wyler, 2013)

- The average age of sex-trafficking recruitment is 11 to 14 years old (Hom 2013, Harris, 2012).

- **Lived Experience** of sex-trafficking victims & survivors by Leah Albright-Byrd

- Clues for Identifying victims and what keeps victims from disclosing to health care providers by WEAVE

- Significant **Health Issues** for Victims and Survivors by WEAVE

- **Trauma Informed Care**: Must provide sensitive and informed responses and avoid re-traumatization and re-victimization by Ellen Goldstein

- Each institution has to identify its own strengths, obstacles, resources, and relationships within and outside of the institution, while creating feedback loops and porous inter-professional partnerships for ongoing individual and institutional development.

**How to Begin**

Provider to patient: “I believe you. It is not your fault”

**Needed Resources Identified by Participants**

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