



Supporting Anti-Trafficking Work: 1 Human Trafficking Coalition

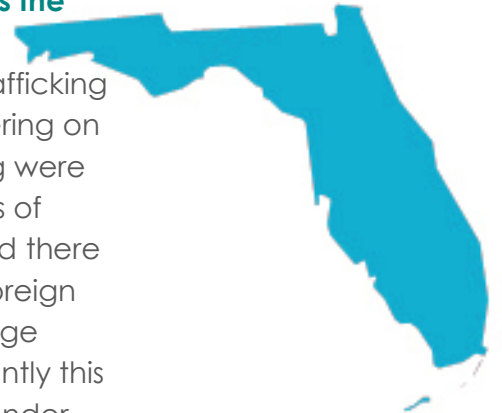
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The Problem

According to the Human Trafficking Hotline, **Florida ranks third in U.S. in human trafficking cases reported**, and **Miami-Dade County leads the state**. IHTC and The Florida State University Center for the Advancement of Human Rights produced a report on human trafficking in the state in 2017 called the F.I.G.H.T (Florida Information Gathering on Trafficking) Report. Over a 2 year period 1,816 cases of trafficking were identified across systems of care in the five southeastern counties of Florida between 2014 and 2016. Researchers on this project found there were over three times as many U.S. citizen trafficking victims as foreign national victims reported in southeastern Florida, and that the large majority of these were female identified, US-born minors. Importantly this study inquired about genders beyond male and female. Transgender survivors represented only .5% of this sample (n=9). Given much higher percentages of trans survivors (16%) found in other studies (e.g., Urban Institute in New York), it is expected that the **screening and assessment strategies currently in use in South Florida do not adequately capture gender diversity among survivors** interfacing with systems of care. The Statewide Council on Human Trafficking 2018 Annual Report reports that the abuse hotline received 2,133 abuse reports related to human trafficking in 2017-18. Miami-Dade County had the most reports, at 215.

Most victims are overcoming years of abuse and trauma, so their needs are significant. Data from the Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths – Commercially Sexually Exploited (CANS-CSE) tool provides greater detail on youth trauma histories and experiences of exploitation. These data contribute to an understanding of CSE youth as victims of complex trauma, as most youth in the study had experienced multiple forms of trauma as well as repeated episodes of trauma prior to their exploitation. Of the youth served:



**FLORIDA
RANKS #3 IN
THE U.S. OF
NUMBER OF
HUMAN
TRAFFICKING
CASES**

78% experienced sexual abuse

58% experienced physical abuse

78% experienced neglect

72% have experienced emotional abuse prior to the onset of their exploitation

56% were exposed to family violence

66% were exposed to community violence

63% experienced other traumatic events

The Center for Human Rights and Social Justice

The Center for Human Rights and Social Justice (CHRSJ) at Barry University School of Social Work was founded in 2015 with a primary aim of advancing trauma informed approaches to address key social justice issues including: human trafficking, sexual violence, and the marginalization of individuals with diverse sexual orientations and gender identities. We have partnered with 50+ organizations across multiple systems to provide education, training, and capacity building to advance trauma informed, resiliency-focused, culturally relevant, affirmative practice, policy, and service delivery for youth and adults across South Florida. Importantly, the CHRSJ is rooted in a collaborative approach to social change which recognizes and values the unparalleled knowledge and expertise associated with lived experience.





Top From left to right: Trey Foerster, Victim Advocate & HIV Program Lead Peer Navigator, Marta Martinez-Hasty, LCSW. Director of Project Gold at Kristi House, Caridad Mas-Bachelor, LL.M. Interim Deputy Director, International Rescue Committee, Maria Clara Harrington, MS CHANCE Program Citrus Health Network, Inc., Yinay Ruiz Miami CARES Project Manager Citrus Family Care Network, Inc., Jose Fontanez, Director Of Social Services at The Salvation Army, Francesco Duberli, PhD, MPH, MS, RMHC, Survivors Pathway Organization, Chief Executive Officer, Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Council DVSA, Chairman, Jorge Veitia Founder & Executive Director at Sharing One Love, Sambra Zaoui, Social Work Professor Barry University, Jamie Vaughn, Odet Sanchez, Community Advocate CHR SJ. **Bottom from left to right:** Cristobal Perez, MEPSy- Program Analyst Department of Children and Families- Refugee Services Program, Amanda G. Altman, Esq. Chief Executive Officer Kristi House and Carolina Rios, M.A. IHTC Project Director- Center for Human Rights and Social Justice at Barry University School of Social Work.

1 Human Trafficking Coalition

In 2019, 1Human Trafficking Coalition (1HTC) - a multi-county collaborative to fight human trafficking in South Florida- was integrated into the CHRSJ to strengthen our existing anti-trafficking initiatives and support the CHRSJ's unwavering commitment to work with local community partners and taskforces in combatting human trafficking and supporting survivors.

Funded by The Farris Foundation and building upon the solid foundation created by 1HTC's leader and collaborators over for more than 4 years, the CHRSJ's 1HTC Project uses a collective impact approach to social change with the primary mission of supporting Anti-Human Trafficking efforts in the tri-county area by aligning resources and serving as a comprehensive and integrated information, education, and training center for survivors, and organizations throughout South Florida. 1HTC utilizes the "4 P's: Prevention, Protection, Prosecution and Partnerships" outlined in the United Nation's trafficking in persons protocol and the United States' Trafficking Victim Protection Act (TVPA) as a guiding framework in our work.

he 1HTC team consists of nationally and internationally recognized experts in several areas important to effective anti-trafficking efforts both from the CHRSJ and its community partners. Collectively, the team has decades of experience training providers and organizations across the U.S. in social justice and human rights-oriented approaches to practice with marginalized populations who may be particularly at risk for exploitation. Over the last four years, we have partnered with organizations across multiple systems to provide education, training, and capacity building to advance trauma-informed, resiliency-focused and culturally relevant services for at risk populations across South Florida.

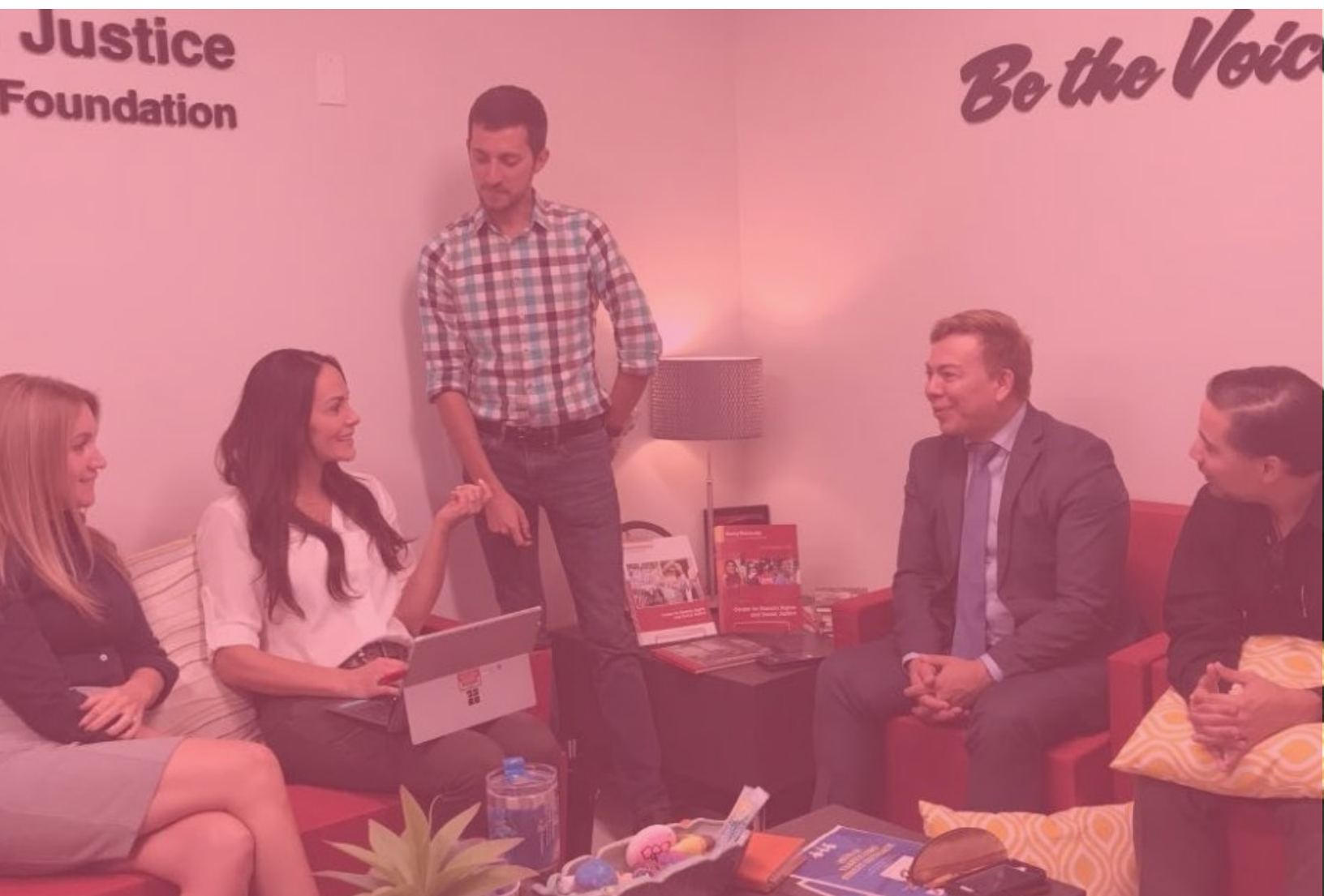


Community Partnerships

IHTC's Project Director serves as the Co-Chair of The Outreach, Training and Education Committee for the South Florida Human Trafficking TaskForce (SFHTTF). The SFHTTF is federally funded by the Department of Justice Office for Victims of Crime and the Bureau of Justice Assistance through the enhanced collaborative partnership between Miami-Dade Police Department and International Rescue Committee. It works in partnership with the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Florida, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and Homeland Security Investigations in Miami. The SFHTTF is currently composed of over 400 members from various sectors in the Tri-County area and utilizes all of its authorities and resources in a cohesive global enforcement response in order to dismantle the global criminal infrastructure engaged in human trafficking. The SFHTTF uses victim-centered approach mandated by law in which the identification, rescue, and needs of victims have equal importance to the apprehension and prosecution of traffickers.

The Committee develops and conducts training that covers a wide range of topics in regards to human trafficking. It provides training for law enforcement personnel, service providers and the South Florida community to aid in identifying victims. The Committee takes part in several outreaches and public awareness activities throughout the community, not only educating the public on the topic but also reaching out to those who may be or become victims directly.

IHTC's active community partners include The Department of Children and Families- Refugee Services Program, Survivors Pathway Organization, Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Council (DVSAC), CHANCE Program Citrus Health Network, Inc., Kristy House Project GOLD, CARES Program Citrus Family Care Network, Inc, International Rescue Committee, Salvation Army, One Billion Rising, St. Thomas University Human Trafficking Academy, The Women's Fund of Miami Dade, SOL Media, among others.



From Right to Left: Cristobal Perez, MEPsy- Program Analyst Department of Children and Families- Refugee Services Program, Francesco Duberli, PhD, MPH, MS, RMHC, Survivors Pathway Organization ,Chief Executive Officer, Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Council DVSAC ,Chairman, Maria Clara Harrington, MS CHANCE Program Citrus Health Network, Inc., Yinay Ruiz Miami CARES Project Manager Citrus Family Care Network, Inc.



“The way in which we can help those organizations that are doing the work, is by aligning already existing resources and building capacity where it is needed”- Said Rios, 1HTC Project Director.



Aligning Resources

2017

- 1HTC and the Center for the Advancement of Human Rights at Florida State University produced a report called the F.I.G.H.T Project, examining the current successes and challenges of combating human trafficking in 5 southeastern Florida counties along with a Statewide Directory of social services for victims and survivors of human trafficking for the state of Florida.

2019

- 1HTC was integrated into the CHRSJ at Barry University School of Social Work
- The CHRSJ / 1HTC project produced a comprehensive new website that included extensive educational resources to equip community members with additional tools in the fight against human trafficking including international and national links to governmental and non-for profit organizations, relevant and up-to-date webinars and online trainings, latest reports and screening and assessment tools.
- The CHRSJ / 1HTC project produced the “[Florida Interactive Resource Guide](#)”. An online tool available for free to the public that includes more than 400 up-to-date community resources for victim services and other needs.

Trauma-Responsive Human Trafficking Training



Since 2018, the CHRSJ has been in the forefront of delivering Trauma-Responsive trainings to more than 70 practitioners working with human trafficking survivors through its Advanced Clinical Trauma Informed Human Trafficking Certification Program. Developed and delivered by Professor Sambra Zaoui and other anti-trafficking experts, the first part of the 4-day Post-Masters Certificate covers basic 101 information of what Human Trafficking is, what it is not, different forms of trafficking, beginning engagement skills as well as how to identify a possible trafficking victim, and pre-recorded interviews with survivors. The second part of the training is much more clinical in nature and reserved for upper level, graduate clinicians who counsel and engage survivors of sex trafficking in therapeutic relationships. Participants receive an in depth understanding of trauma from a neurobiological, trauma resolution/ intervention stance. Innovative, cutting edge techniques are presented and applied to this population, both experientially and theoretically. Guests are invited to showcase the importance of working with this population from a trauma informed multi-disciplinary team approach, such as integrating drama, drumming, and body movement specialists.

"By applying a trauma informed conceptual lens, we recognize that many trafficking survivors have experienced poly-victimization stemming from childhood physical, sexual abuse and neglect prior to being trafficked. This conceptual lens requires that social work practitioners and all other professionals in training recognize that because of childhood trauma, the neurobiology of a survivor's brain has been altered; such findings have the potential of informing our interventions and assessments more accurately." -Prof. Zaoui

About Professor Sambra Zaoui

For the past twenty years Sambra Zaoui has practiced and studied the relationship childhood sexual abuse (CSA) has on adult intimate interpersonal functioning; and for the last ten years, its direct relationship to domestic minor sex trafficking (DMST) and commercial sexual exploitation (CSE). In fall 2016, *The Lighthouse Effect: A therapeutic conversation about childhood sexual abuse and its relationship to commercial sexual exploitation/sex trafficking* was published in *Crime and Punishment in America: An Encyclopedia of Trends and Controversies in the Justice System*, and in summer 2018, Mrs. Zaoui completed a chapter: *Humanizing Sex Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation through a Trauma Informed Person-In-Environment Lens for Social Work Practitioners in the Gender, Sexuality and Peace Education: Issues and Perspectives in Higher Education*.

As an active licensed clinical social worker, certified clinical trauma professional, and an EMDR therapist, she actively engages individuals and couples with complex sexual trauma histories in her private practice. She further served as an advisory board member to The Life of Freedom Center (an anti-trafficking organization that serves adult women), as well as an educational consultant, community trainer, and crisis phone and community outreach specialist to women affected by commercial sexual exploitation and domestic sex trafficking. In broadening her anti-trafficking efforts, for a season, she also served as an advisory board member to Ark of Freedom Alliance (an anti-trafficking non-profit organization that serves males and the LGBTQ community). Mrs. Zaoui is often invited to present locally and nationally on the aforementioned population from a trauma informed care and trauma intervention stance, as such, Mrs. Zaoui was asked to join the Florida Human Trafficking Clinical Treatment & Intervention sub-group charged to identify research based best practices for DMST, CSEC and adults.

In her most recent accomplishment, Mrs. Zaoui successfully piloted the first Advanced Clinical Trauma Informed Human Trafficking Certification Program designed to equip practitioners working with survivors of sex trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation at Barry University, where for the past ten years she has served as a faculty member in the School of Social Work. Currently, she is working on a phenomenological research study which focuses on the resilience of both female and male survivors who use their lived experiences (survivor leaders/thrivers) to serve, mentor, counsel and/or guide other survivors on their restorative healing journey.

Community Education and Outreach: Highlights

2017

- 1HTC hosted the SE Regional Consortium Summit to strengthen and enhance communications in the region among many disciplines and partners within these geographic boundaries.
- The Outreach, Training and Education Committee developed and facilitated the “*Understanding Human Trafficking: Comprehensive Training*”. The training focused on Labor Trafficking, Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children and LGBTQI. Experts shared information on key services and strategies for victim service providers, advocates, and law enforcement. Attendees gained knowledge on definitions, key indicators and vulnerabilities of human trafficking.

2019

- The Committee developed and facilitated the “*Human Trafficking: An Action Plan for Hotels*” In partnership with The City of Miami Beach Human Rights Committee. This free training was led by members of the SFHTTF and intended for the owners and managers of small to medium size hotels that operate in or near Miami Beach in preparation for the Superbowl LIV.
- The Inter-Faith Committee of the SFHTTF in partnership with 1HTC and the Salvation Army, held the “*Inter-Faith Leaders Training*” to connect with the Inter-Faith communities in the Tri-County area and provide them with support and resources to survivors of human trafficking. The goal of the committee is to create an inter-faith guide and referral system to further assist with the various needs of survivors.
- 1HTC led Street Outreaches and Awareness Events in partnership with Sharing One Love as part of the University’s Days of Service. Students were trained in Human Trafficking 101 and briefed on ways to engage the community and neighboring businesses on missing children and basic indicators to prevent trafficking.

2020

- 1HTC participated in the “One Team against Human Trafficking” outreach event - part of the STOP SEX TRAFFICKING Campaign spearheaded by the Miami Super Bowl Host Committee, The Women’s Fund and the Office of Miami-Dade State Attorney Katherine Fernandez Rundle. The event was hosted by In Our Backyard, The Salvation Army and the Human Trafficking Academy at St. Thomas University School of Law
- The Center for Human Rights and Social Justice of Barry University’s School of Social Work, 1HTC, and The John J. Brunetti Human Trafficking Academy of St. Thomas University School of Law’s Intercultural Human Rights Program commemorated the International Day of Prayer & Awareness Against Human Trafficking with a Mass and Community Reflection Service.

Student Engagement

“My experience being part of these initiatives has been nothing short of amazing. Being able to actually go out into the community and advocate for current victims as well as past victims has been a true learning experience for me” - student

The IHTC Project cultivates and supports student leadership aimed at advancing human rights and social justice through innovative anti-oppressive strategies, experiential-based service, and transformative learning opportunities. Through the **Community Advocate Student Leadership Program** at the CHRSJ, students are engaged in anti-trafficking work and provided with meaningful civic leadership opportunities to support local agencies and institutions working to address social concerns with this population. This past year, these students excelled in leadership positions within the University, and coordinated and implemented events and programs aligned with our vision to strive for social justice and human rights by creating inclusive communities and partnerships. They were also provided with professional development opportunities and fellowship to attend the Attorney General's the Human Trafficking Summit: an annual event that brings together local, state and national leaders working to eradicate all forms of trafficking.

Barry University Students participate in the Annual Attorney General's Human Trafficking Summit in Orlando, FL.





1 HUMAN TRAFFICKING COALITION

BARRY UNIVERSITY

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