

INFRASTRUCTURE REQUIRED TO SUPPORT COURTS AND JUSTICE PARTNERS IN HUMAN TRAFFICKING CASES

Resources to Support Trafficking Victims

- Safe housing away from traffickers while their cases move through the system.
- Assistance with transportation to specialized programs, medical services, counseling, interviews, and the court.
- Access to medical care and substance abuse treatment.
- Range of options for short-term and long-term care.
- Specialized mental health treatment.
- Life skills and vocational training.
- New social security numbers.

Assessment Tools

- Risks and needs assessment tools tailored for trafficking victims.

Technology

- Information systems for determining the identities of trafficking victims and traffickers.
- Management information systems capable of exchanging information (e.g., identity, litigant location) among local, state, and federal agencies about trafficking case status and information that may involve trafficking victims.
- Multi-system-wide case tracking technology.
- Valid, best practice-based, and readily accessible assessment and treatment tools that are applicable to trafficked populations.
- Management information systems that share definitions, standards and guidelines across local, state, and federal agencies, and treatment/service providers

Equipment

- Accessible and well maintained multi-systems hardware and software.

Facilities

- Safe places for trafficking victims.
- Dispersed, community-based, facilities
- Sufficient space for co-locating local, state, and federal system partners throughout communities.

Infrastructure Required to Support Courts and Justice Partners in Human Trafficking Cases

Budgeting and Finance

- Sufficient, predictable, and stable resources for providing assistance, treatment and other services for trafficking victims.
- Flexibility to change during a budget cycle and over the long term to meet changing demands and needs, including increasing resources and modifying expenditures as needed in light of changes in the size of trafficking-related populations.
- Budget, service procurement, and other business processes that encourage health care, treatment, detention, probation, and other resource sharing across local, state, and federal agencies and organizations.
- Fiscal processes that allow flexible use of funds, moving resources across agencies and organizations when needed.
- Funding set aside for multi-system-wide innovation and improvements.
- Predictable long-term financing that permits long-term system and multi-system budgeting and planning.
- Resources available to track decision outcomes across multiple agencies.

Planning

- Operational planning to ensure consistent responses across agencies and personnel.
- Multi-system-wide, long-range, and operational planning to create linkages among agencies.

Policy Making and Dispute Resolution

- Capacity to address disputes among federal, state, and local court and justice agencies.
- Policy is based on research, national practices, and best practices.
- A decision-making structure at the multi-system leadership level that is educated on the roles of all system partners.
- Policies for establishing and maintaining consistent decision-making practices across agencies and organizations.
- Transparent decision-making processes.

Staffing/Training

- Multi-system, federal, state, and local training of all the personnel connected with case processing involving trafficking.
- Cultural competency training.
- Training about specific tools such as assessment and evaluation tools designed for trafficked populations.
- Capacity to cross train staff through coordination of staff development efforts.
- Staff available with decision-making authority to help trafficking victims navigate successfully through multiple systems.

Communications and Coordination

- Timely access to information across agencies about cases involving trafficking.
- Capacity to communicate the results of assessments and evaluations with appropriate personnel across multiple systems.
- Capacity to track case progress within and across agencies and systems.
- Capacity to monitor caseloads across agencies and systems.
- Shared case management planning that addresses the multiple needs of victims and meets the mandates of system partners.
- Development of multiple system-wide performance measures for both processes and outcomes.

Leadership and Management

- Multiple system-wide and agency leaders to: (1) establish long-term strategic direction for systems as well as individual agencies and organizations regarding trafficking policies and practices; (2) develop long-term system capacity to provide services; (3) establish and monitor interagency, multiple-system infrastructure for supportive services; (4) establish and maintain effective inter-organizational work processes; (5) monitor multi-system performance; and (6) work cooperatively to establish a strong fiscal foundation for ongoing service delivery.
- Capacity to work across multiple systems and agencies collaboratively and proactively.
- Capacity of the interagency management structure to ensure fair workload distribution.



HUMAN TRAFFICKING
AND THE STATE COURTS COLLABORATIVE



For references and additional resources,
go to www.htcourts.org