

# OFFICE FOR VICTIMS OF CRIME TIMS SNAPSHOT REPORT

July 2015—June 2016



## Specialized Services for Victims of Human Trafficking Program

The Office for Victims of Crime (OVC), within the Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice, administers grant funding for direct victim services and oversees special initiatives to improve community responses to victims of human trafficking. The Trafficking Information Management System (TIMS) serves as a centralized repository for grant-required performance metrics and case-specific information related to all OVC human trafficking grant programs. This brief highlights data reported in TIMS by 23 grantees funded through the Specialized Services for Victims of Human Trafficking Program, for the period of July 2015 through June 2016.

OVC recognizes that victims of trafficking have diverse and distinct needs that may require specialized responses. Survivors' needs may differ depending on their age, gender, citizenship, culture, language skills, religion, type of trafficking experienced, history of victimization, and a host of other factors.

The purpose of the OVC Specialized Services for Victims of Human Trafficking Program is to enhance the quality and quantity of specialized services available to assist all victims of human trafficking in achieving their goals. Services and interventions offered are trauma-informed; culturally, linguistically, and developmentally appropriate; and include efforts to address underserved and unserved populations.

The Specialized Services for Victims of Human Trafficking Program allows for grantees, selected through competitive application, to identify and select the specific population that will be served and/or the service(s) that will be provided through the grant. For example, 10 grantees specialized in services tailored

specifically for runaway and homeless youth, and individuals who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, or questioning. Eight grantees provided legal services, while three worked with clients who had been referred or identified through a court system. Seven grantees focused specifically on identifying and assisting victims of sex trafficking.

Primary services provided by the grantees included legal services (including civil and immigration advocacy), transportation, ongoing case management, and personal items (e.g., food, clothing, hygiene products). Additionally, mental health treatment and emotional and moral support were also frequently provided. Employment assistance, dental services, and client orientation were provided

*We helped a 24-year-old client connect to mental health services when he stayed at our shelter for runaway and homeless youth overnight and began experiencing and exhibiting psychotic symptoms. He was connected to a mental health specialist through the OVC grant and received therapy and psychiatric care. He was eventually placed into emergency housing and was connected to an OVC-funded intensive case manager. From there, he began to stabilize, started working, was placed into transitional housing, and will soon be connected to supportive housing.*

— Specialized Services for Victims of Human Trafficking Program grantee

### During the reporting period, the 23 program grantees reported serving —



**1,821  
Total Clients**

including confirmed trafficking victims and individuals showing strong indicators of trafficking victimization.



**1,080  
New Clients**

served under the grant for the first time.

### Of the clients served —



**78%  
Adults**

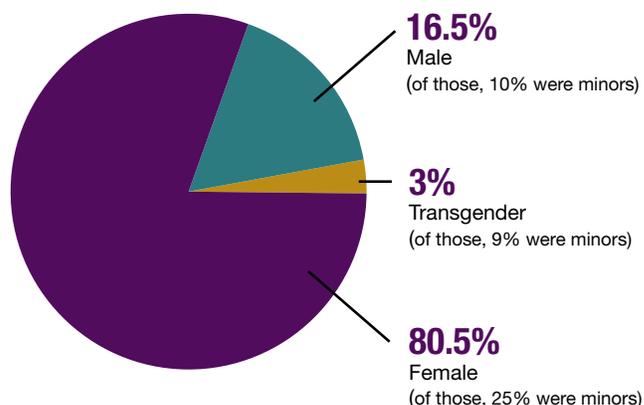
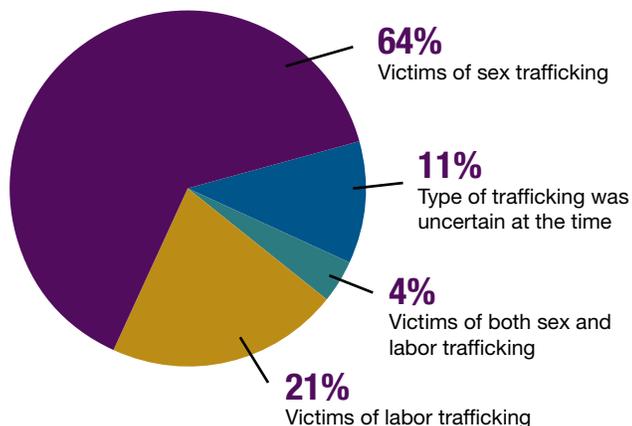
(1,419 clients)



**22%  
Minors, or Under  
18 Years of Age**

(402 clients)

**Of the 1,821 clients served —**



less frequently. Top forms of housing placements for clients included youth and human trafficking shelters, as well as placement with a friend. Transportation, ongoing case management, and legal services were generally the most commonly provided services, regardless of gender. However, when assessing service provision by gender, top services for female clients included personal items and mental health treatment services. Female clients also received proportionately greater amounts of education and substance abuse treatment services than male or transgender clients. Top services for male clients included personal items and emotional and moral support. Male clients also received proportionately greater amounts of family reunification and medical services than female or transgender clients. Top services for transgender clients included mental health treatment and legal services. Transgender clients also received proportionately greater amounts of housing and rental assistance and employment assistance services than female or male clients.

A key element of the grant program is providing training in order to raise public awareness and enhance the ability of partners and other first responders to identify and serve victims effectively. During the July 2015 through June 2016 reporting period, grantees reported conducting 355 trainings for almost 14,000 participants. The most frequent training recipients were schools and educational institutions, social service providers, and victim service providers.

**The primary services provided were —**



**Ongoing Case Management**



**Transportation**



**Legal Services**



**Personal Items**

*OVC funding greatly aided us in serving a 19-year-old client being referred from another state in order to escape her trafficker. Once she arrived at our agency, the OVC-funded intensive case manager assigned to her case assisted her with obtaining gender-affirming housing, receiving substance use treatment, and becoming employed doing advocacy work.*

— Specialized Services for Victims of Human Trafficking Program grantee

TIMS captures only direct services provided through OVC grants; it does not necessarily capture services provided by and funded through other sources. Therefore, data should only be used to better understand the OVC grant initiative and should not be used to make generalizations about the grantees or the scale and scope of human trafficking in the United States as a whole. TIMS is a live data system in which reported numbers are subject to change: this data is current as of April 2017. There may be duplicate client data in cases where a grantee transitioned from one grant type to another and clients were assigned to both grants, or where clients were served by more than one grantee.

For more information on OVC's anti-trafficking efforts and available resources, visit <http://ovc.ncjrs.gov/humantrafficking>.