

MAPPING ASSETS AND GAPS IN LOUISVILLE'S RESPONSE TO HUMAN TRAFFICKING

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OFFICE FOR
WOMEN

THE AUTHORS WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE INDIVIDUALS AND AGENCIES WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE SURVEY AND HELPED TO SHAPE AWARENESS OF THE NEEDS IN LOUISVILLE TO BETTER RESPOND TO AND PREVENT HUMAN TRAFFICKING.

Introduction

Human trafficking is a crime that impacts some of the most vulnerable groups in our community — children, especially LGBTQ and children in foster care, immigrants, individuals with disabilities, substance use disorder and those facing homelessness. Due to the complex nature of the trauma experienced by victims, there is a great need for holistic, comprehensive services and prevention.

In 2021, Metro United Way (“MUW”), together with UPS and United Way at the national level, launched a project in Louisville to address youth sex trafficking and strengthen our coordinated community response to human trafficking. MUW convened a steering committee of human trafficking experts and providers to develop a comprehensive landscape analysis of human trafficking efforts in Louisville. The [landscape analysis report](#) laid out multiple recommendations, including the need for enhanced services, training and community collaboration to better serve survivors of human trafficking.

In 2022, Bakhita Empowerment Initiative of Catholic Charities of Louisville and the Metro Office for Women hosted two day-long trainings on human trafficking to implement several of the training recommendations of the landscape analysis report. Over 100 community members and professionals were trained in screening for human trafficking, labor trafficking, trauma informed care, survivor informed work and guiding principles for agencies serving survivors of human trafficking.

This report, mapping human trafficking assets and gaps in Louisville, is a continuation of the work begun by the Steering Committee and builds on the human trafficking training conducted in 2022. The goal of this report is to identify areas of strength and opportunities for growth in human trafficking services and prevention in Louisville.

Research Methods

To map assets and gaps in human trafficking services in Louisville, an online survey was developed to target organizations and individuals working in the field of human trafficking in Louisville (See Appendix A). The survey was distributed to local human trafficking task force partners, individuals and organizations involved in the Metro United Way Steering Committee and publicized on the Office for Women social media and listserv. The survey was also distributed to all attendees at the two day-long human trafficking trainings organized by the Office for Women and Catholic Charities.

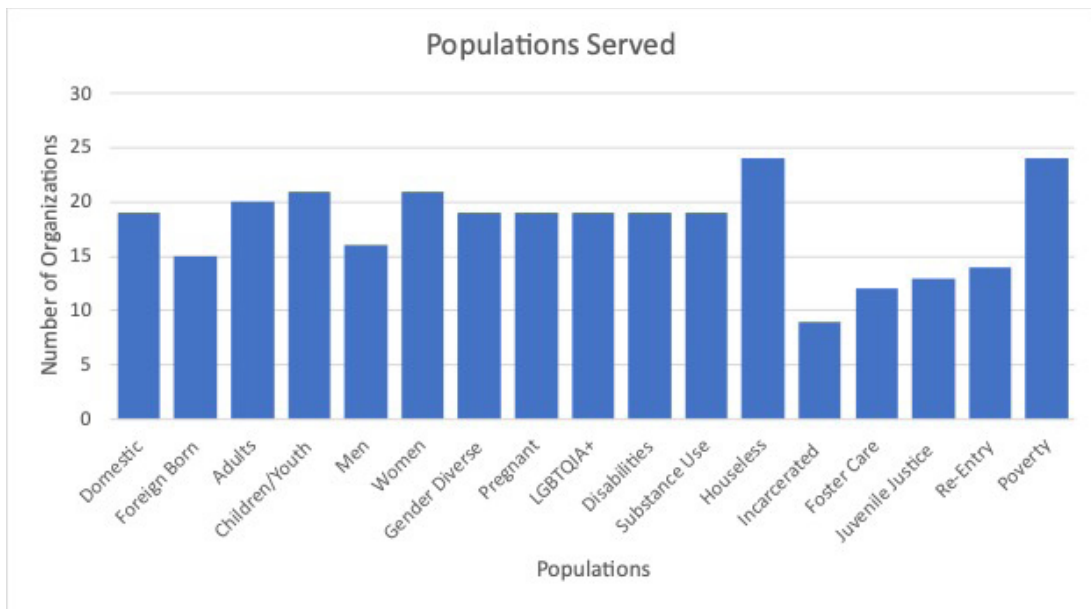
In total, 45 individuals and agencies completed the survey. Agencies that were located outside of the Louisville area and served areas other than Louisville were not included in the final report.

Information from the surveys was used to identify gaps and assets in the community’s response to human trafficking and to compile a guide of human trafficking resources in Louisville.

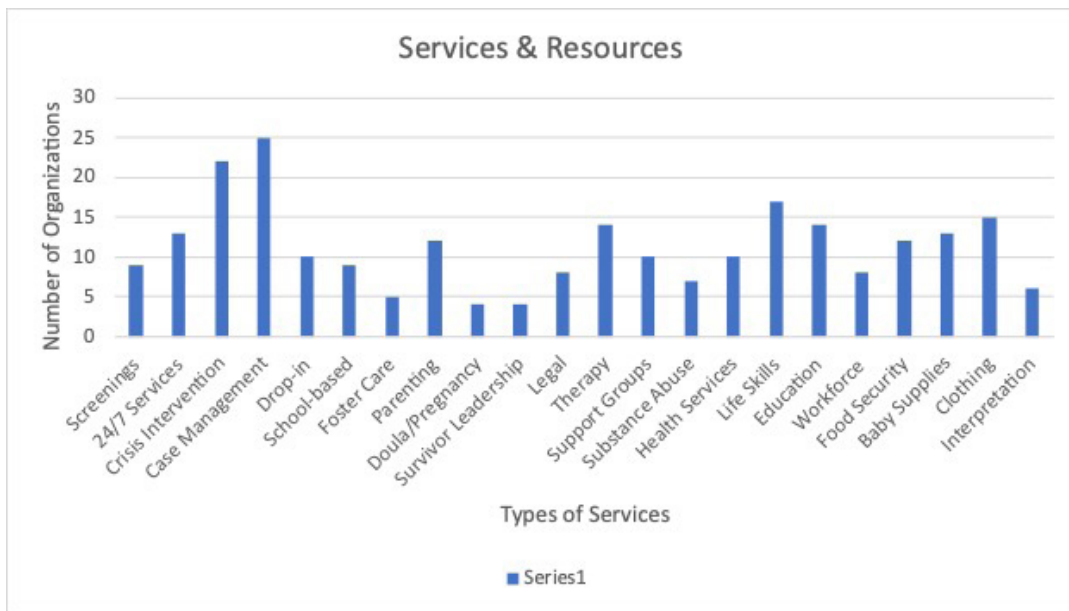
Assets in Human Trafficking Prevention and Services

The results from the survey of human trafficking programs demonstrate a variety of assets that have been developed in the past two decades in our community, including:

- Louisville has multiple, diverse agencies (both trafficking specific and non-trafficking specific) that provide **screening, comprehensive case management and crisis intervention** to survivors of human trafficking.

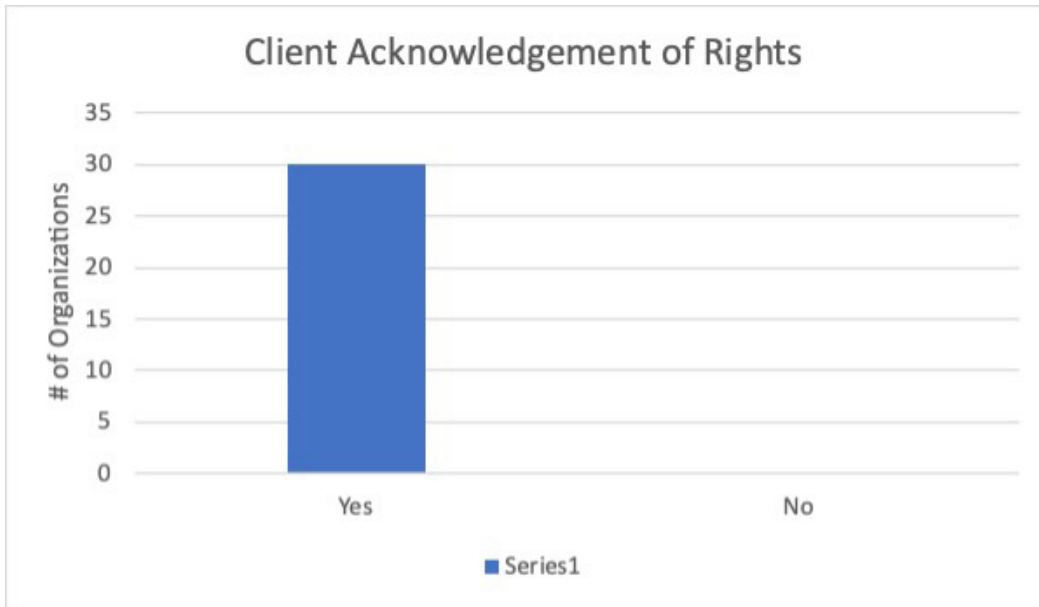


• Collectively, the ecosystem of human trafficking organizations and organizations serving victims of trafficking **provide a vast array of different services.**

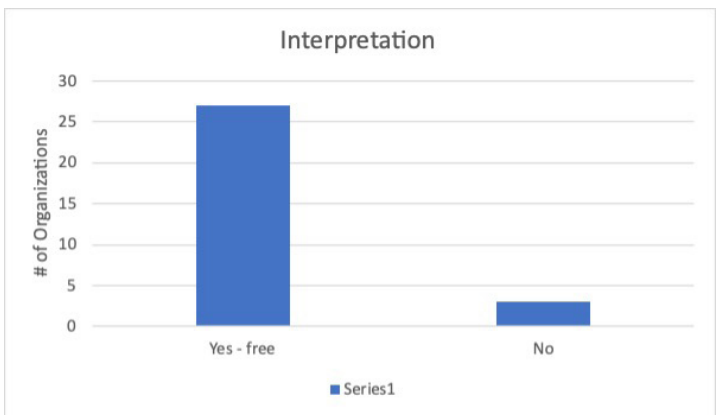
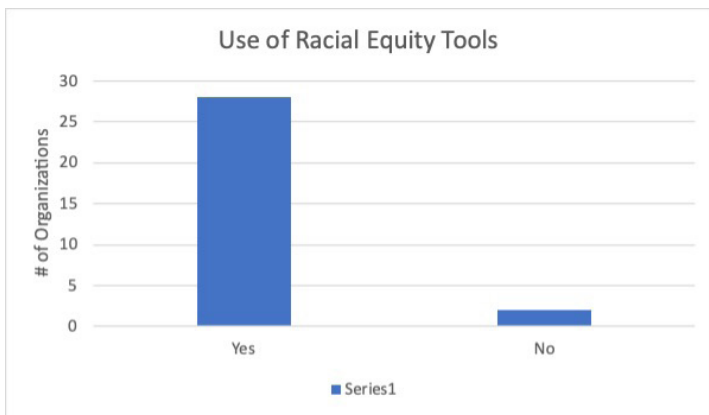


• Agencies **serve a variety of individuals and populations that have been trafficked or are at risk of trafficking**, including victims of sex trafficking, victims of labor trafficking, foreign born, domestic/ US citizens, adults, children (under 16), youth/young adults (16-24), men, women, pregnant persons, people with children, transgender individuals, gender diverse people (non-binary, gender non-conforming), persons with disabilities, individuals with substance use disorder, missing persons, houseless persons, incarcerated persons, persons in re-entry, people experiencing poverty, foster care youth, and youth in the juvenile justice system.

• Multiple agencies indicated that they had **standards for services for trafficking survivors, including such areas as training of staff, confidentiality, complaint procedures** and other protections for ensuring ethical, quality services for survivors.



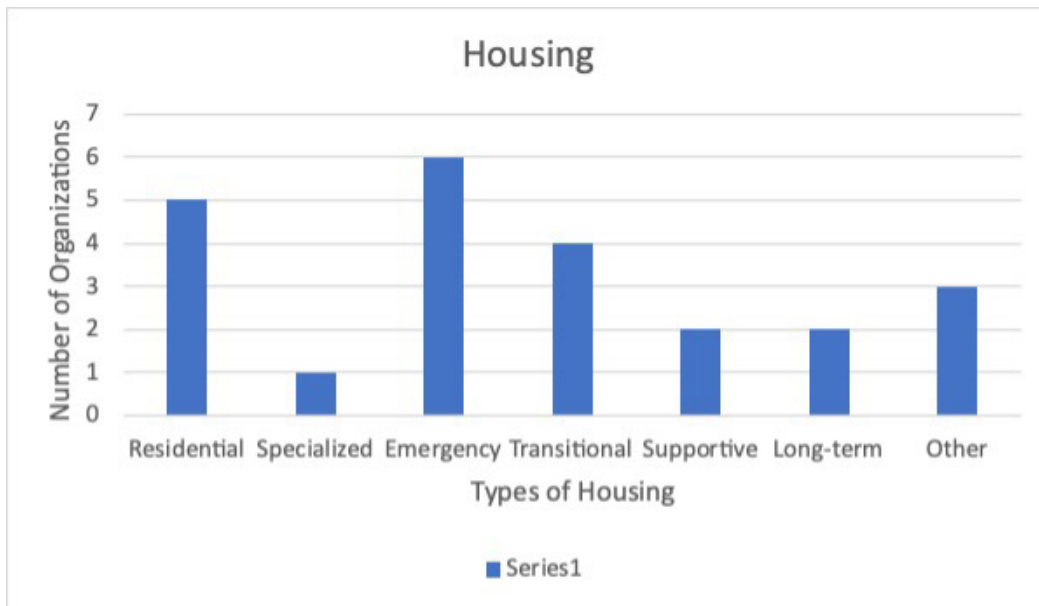
- Our community includes a small number of **culturally specific agencies that serve survivors of human trafficking** (ex: immigrant and refugee communities).
- A number of agencies stated that they **provided language access and incorporated racial equity training** in their programming. More detail may be needed to understand how these policies are integrated into their work.



Gaps in Human Trafficking Prevention and Services

The results from the survey of human trafficking programs demonstrate a variety of gaps that exist in the response to human trafficking in Louisville including:

- **Housing emerged as the greatest need among agencies** serving human trafficking survivors, with only 3-6 agencies providing some form of housing out of 30 agencies serving survivors of trafficking. Emergency, short-term and long-term housing were the greatest needs.



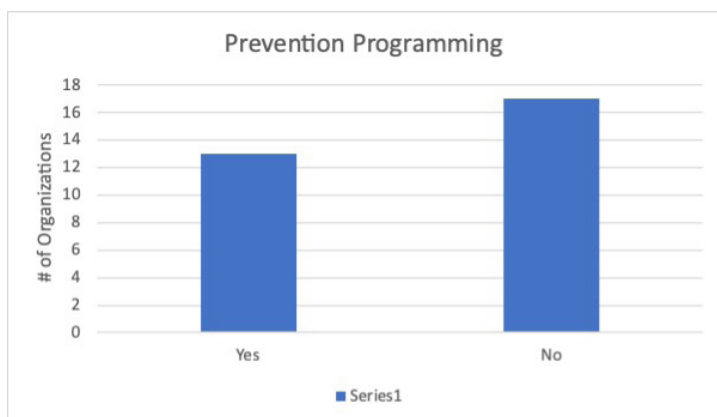
- Our community **lacks adequate services for particular groups of survivors, including male victims, services for victims of labor trafficking and services for youth in foster care.** For example, only 50% of agencies in this study indicated that they serve male survivors.

- In spite of training being provided through this project, there is still a **need for agencies to provide screening for human trafficking.** Less than a third of agencies surveyed conduct screening as part of their services.

- There are **few agencies that provide language access services** to survivors of human trafficking as a specified service. While several agencies stated that they provided language access, there are **few providers who are able to provide linguistically and culturally specific services.**

- **Less than half of agencies provide programs for the prevention of human trafficking.**

- There is a **lack of services for substance use disorder**, which is a vulnerability for many individuals who may have been trafficked or may be trafficked.



- **Few agencies identified incorporating survivor leadership**, or individuals with lived experiences with trafficking in their programming.

- The survey also highlighted a **need for a focus on incarcerated individuals** who may be vulnerable to being trafficked or may have been trafficked.

- There is a **need for pregnancy resources for individuals** who may be at risk for trafficking or have been trafficked.

Recommendations

Based on this survey's findings, it is important for policymakers, funders and organizations to consider the following recommendations and areas of focus for further research, investment and support:

- **Access to housing needs to be the main focus of prevention of and intervention in human trafficking in Louisville.** Housing is both a protective factor from trafficking and a critical response to the trauma and instability caused by trafficking. There needs to be an investment in short- and long-term housing as well as supportive housing. All other services -- workforce, stabilization, trauma recovery – depend on survivors having this foundation of stability.
- We must **adequately fund and build capacity around prevention of human trafficking**, to go further upstream to prevent human trafficking from occurring in the first place.
- **Human trafficking awareness, prevention and services must be targeted to specific groups** who are vulnerable and underserved, including victims of labor trafficking, foreign-born individuals, children in the foster care system and male victims. **One size does not fit all in human trafficking services**, and there must be more intentionality in developing services that address the specific needs based on identity and lived experience.
- We must increase support of organizations that provide **culturally specific services** to survivors of trafficking. Culturally specific programs can build trust and target services to groups that may otherwise be unwilling or unable to interact with mainstream providers.
- We must strengthen partnerships and coordinate interventions to **address the intersection of substance use disorder and human trafficking**. More work must be done in training across disciplines and enhancing access to substance use disorder treatment for survivors of human trafficking and those who may be at high risk of trafficking.
- There must be a **specific strategy to address the vulnerability of youth in foster care to human trafficking and to target prevention and intervention services to this group**.
- Efforts must continue to **build capacity of survivor leadership and involve individuals with lived experience of trafficking in prevention, intervention and policy**. There should also be an intentional effort to ensure that survivors involved in services reflect the specific communities who are at most risk of being trafficked.
- More agencies should build capacity around **screening for human trafficking**. While this project includes in-person training on screening, more must be done to build a baseline of knowledge and consistent, evidenced-based screening across the community to ensure that individuals are identified and services are provided to those who are most in need.
- The report highlighted a need that has not been previously identified in efforts addressing human trafficking in this region – **the need for support for pregnant individuals**. The community should increase support to pregnant individuals and align efforts to support pregnant individuals (including efforts to support Black maternal health) with human trafficking prevention and services.

While Louisville's response to human trafficking has grown, there is still need for improved services and increased investment in human trafficking prevention and intervention. Only with this community coordinated approach and commitment can we truly prevent and respond to human trafficking in our midst.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING RESOURCE GUIDE

LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY

A LIST OF SERVICES
AVAILABLE IN THE
METRO AREA



Metro United Way



OFFICE FOR
WOMEN

SPECIAL THANKS TO SOCIAL WORK PRACTICUM STUDENT SAMANTHA HUGHES FOR HER ASSISTANCE IN THIS GUIDE.

KEY

S	= sex trafficking
L	= labor trafficking
F	= foreign born
D	= domestic
A	= adults
C	= children/youth
WO	= women only
LA	= language access
24/7	= 24/7
ST	= screening tool
CI	= crisis intervention
CM	= case management
DI	= drop-in services
WF	= workforce
LS	= legal services
T	= therapy
BN	= basic needs
SG	= support groups
SA	= substance abuse
HS	= health services
EH	= ER housing
TH	= transitional housing
LTH	= long-term housing
STH	= short-term housing
RH	= residential housing

S	CI
L	CM
D	BN
A	LTH
C	

Family Scholar House
3321 Cathe Dykstra Way
Louisville, KY 40216
(502) 813-3089
familyscholarhouse.org

S	CM
A	SG
C	EH
CI	TH

LMG - Office for Safe & Healthy Neighborhoods (OSHN)
908 W. Broadway,
5th floor
Louisville, KY 40202
(502) 574-6949
louisvilleky.gov/
government/safe-neighborhoods

S	CM
D	BN
A	EH
C	LTH
CI	

House of Ruth
607 E. St. Catherine St.
Louisville, KY 40203
(502) 587-5080
houseofruth.net

S	CM
D	WF
A	BN
C	LTH
CI	

YouthBuild
800 S. Preston St.
Louisville, KY 40203
(208) 597-3797
yblky.org

S	DI
D	WF
A	BN
C	HS
CM	

LMG - Homeless Services Division
701 W. Ormsby Ave.,
Suite 201
Louisville, KY 40203
(502) 574-6216
louisvilleky.gov/
government/homeless-services-division

S	C
L	WO
F	DI
D	SG
A	HS

Division of Women's Health/Department of Public Health
275 E. Main St.
Frankfort, KY 40621
(502) 564-3236
chfsnet.ky.gov

F	WF
A	LS
C	BN
CM	SG
DI	HS

Americana World Community Center
4801 Southside Dr.
Louisville, KY 40214
(502) 366-7813
americanacc.org

S	C
L	24/7
F	CM
D	T
A	SA

UofL Health - Peace Hospital
2020 Newburg Road
Louisville, KY 40205
(502) 451-3330
uoflhealth.org/locations/
peace-hospital

S	LA
L	CI
F	CM
D	T
A	BN
C	SG
24/7	

Family & Children's Place - Kosair Charities Child Advocacy Center
 1000 S. 5th St.
 Louisville, KY 40203
 (502) 882-6150
 familyandchildrensplace.org

S	CM
L	WF
F	LS
D	T
A	BN
24/7	SG
CI	SA

LMG - Department of Corrections
 400 S. 6th St.
 Louisville, KY 40202
 (502) 457-4498
 louisvilleky.gov/government/corrections

S	WO
L	CM
F	DI
D	BN
A	HS
C	

Uniting Partners for Women & Children
 425 S. 2nd St., Suite 100
 Louisville, KY 40202
 (502) 384-0001
 uplouisville.org

S	DI
L	WF
D	BN
C	SG
CI	SA
CM	HS

Cycle Breakers Breaking Chains Inc.
 4605 Topsy Circle
 Louisville, KY 40216
 (502) 715-2131
 cyclebreakers.org

S	CI
A	CM
C	DI
LA	LS
24/7	T
ST	BN

New Beginnings
 4400 Breckenridge Lane, #126
 Louisville, KY 40218
 (502) 493-7794
 nbceccinc.com

S	CI
L	CM
F	WF
D	BN
C	SG
ST	

Safe Passage
 P.O. Box 43993
 Louisville, KY 40253
 (502) 324-3013
 safepassageky.org

S	C
L	LA
F	CM
D	BN

CASA of the River Region
 982 Eastern Parkway
 Louisville, KY 40217
 (502) 595-4911
 casariverregion.org

S	24/7
L	CM
F	BN
D	EH
A	TH
C	

The Salvation Army - Center of Hope
 911 S. Brook St.
 Louisville, KY 40203
 (502) 888-9324
 salvationarmylouisville.org

S	A
L	C
F	ST
D	LS

Kentucky Equal Justice Center
 222 S. 1st St., Suite 305
 Louisville, KY 40202
 (502) 333-6012
 kyequaljustice.org

S	C
L	ST
F	CI
D	CM
A	LS

Legal Aid Society
 416 W. Muhammad Ali Blvd., #300
 Louisville, KY 40202
 (502) 614-3121
 yourlegalaid.org

S	T
A	SG
C	BN
24/7	HS
CI	STH
CM	

Option To Success Inc.
 3155 Commerce Center Place
 Louisville, KY 40211
 (502) 709-3907
 optontosuccess.org

S	CM
A	DI
C	BN
CI	

Goodwill Industries of Kentucky
 909 E. Broadway
 Louisville, KY 40204
 (502) 631-2266
 goodwillky.org

S	ST
L	CI
F	CM
D	LS
A	BN
C	EH
LA	LTH

Catholic Charities of Louisville/Bakhita Empowerment Initiative
 2222 W. Market St.
 Louisville, KY 40212
 (502) 715-1504
 cclou.org

S	CI
L	CM
F	LS
D	T
A	BN
C	HS
LA	

La Casita Center
 223 E. Magnolia Ave.
 Louisville, KY 40208
 (502) 953-8964
 lacasitacenter.org

A	CI
C	T

Home Away from Home Therapeutic Center, LLC - Shaquilla Cooper
 1828 Bolling Ave.
 Louisville, KY 40210
 (502) 536-7245
 scooperlcs@gmail.com
 psychologytoday.com

S	ST
L	CM
F	T
D	STH
C	

Home of the Innocents
 1100 E. Market St.
 Louisville, KY 40206
 (502) 596-1000
 homeoftheinnocents.org

S	24/7
F	CI
D	CM
A	STH
C	

The Center for Women & Families
 927 S. 2nd St.
 Louisville, KY 40203
 (502) 581-7218
 thecenteronline.org

F	CM
D	T
A	BN
C	SG
CI	

Gate of Hope Ministries International
 604 Indian Ridge Road
 Louisville, KY 40206
 (502) 381-0711
 gateofhope.org

EDUCATION ONLY	
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People Against Trafficking Humans (PATH)
 (502) 235-4874
 pathcoalitionofky.org

S	WO
A	CM
C	DI

Free2Hope
 2539 W. Main St.
 Louisville, KY 40212
 (502) 475-0555
 free2hope.org

S	CI
F	CM
D	DI
A	BN
C	STH
24/7	

YMCA Safe Place
 2400 Crittenden Dr.
 Louisville, KY 40217
 (502) 635-4399
 ymcalouisville.org

A	CM
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Kept, Inc.
 4229 Bardstown Road,
 Suite 201
 Louisville, KY 40218
 (502) 465-5378
 keptinc.org

S	ST
L	CI
F	CM
D	T
C	SA
WO	HS
LA	RH
24/7	

Maryhurst
 1015 Dorsey Lane
 Louisville, KY 40223
 (502) 245-1576
 maryhurst.org

APPENDIX B:

Mapping Human Trafficking Services and Resources in Metro Louisville

This survey is intended to capture the current array of services and resources to prevent and respond to human trafficking in Metro Louisville. Information will be used to improve collaboration and address gaps in services.

PART 1: Agency Information:

Contact Information:

Name of Agency: _____

Contact Person: _____

Contact Email: _____

Contact Number: _____

Website of Agency: _____

Type of Agency (check all that apply):

- Community Based
- Government
- Law Enforcement
- Faith Based
- Culturally Specific
- Other: _____

Population(s) Served by Agency (check all that apply):

- Victims of Sex Trafficking
- Victims of Labor Trafficking
- Foreign Born
- Domestic/US Citizens
- Adults
- Children (under 16)
- Youth/Young Adults (16-24)
- Men
- Women
- Pregnant Persons
- People with Children
- Transgender Individuals
- Gender Diverse (non-binary, gender non-conforming)
- Persons with Disabilities
- Individuals with Substance Use Disorder
- Missing Persons
- Houseless Persons
- Incarcerated Persons
- Persons in Re-Entry
- People Experiencing Poverty
- Foster Care Youth
- Youth in Juvenile Justice System
- Other: _____

PART 2: Services:

We have screening questions to screen for trafficking. Y/N

If yes, do you use a validated screening tool? If so, which one: _____

Services: Our agency provides the following (check all that apply):

- 24/7 Crisis Line
- Crisis Intervention
- Case Management
- Residential Services for Youth
 - Number of beds:
 - Maximum length of stay:
- Specialized Housing for Trafficking Survivors
 - Number of beds:
 - Maximum length of stay:
- Emergency Housing
 - Number of beds:
 - Maximum length of stay:
- Transitional Housing
 - Number of beds:
 - Maximum length of stay:
- Supportive Housing
 - Number of beds:
 - Maximum length of stay:
- Long-Term Housing
 - Number of beds:
 - Maximum length of stay:
- Drop-In Services (Drop-in center)
- School-based Services
- Foster Care
- Parenting Classes/Support
- Doula/Pregnancy Support/Postpartum
- Survivor Leadership (training, advisory board, council)
- Legal Services
- Victim Services
- Investigation
- Prosecution
- Forensic Interviews
- Therapy/Mental Health Services
- Support Groups
- Substance Use Disorder Treatment
- Health Services
- Life Skills
- Education
- Workforce Development
- Food Security
- Diapers/Hygiene Products
- Clothing
- Interpretation
- Other: _____

Our Services are:

Free of charge

Cost: _____

Interpretation/Translation is Provided:

Free of charge

Person must provide their own interpreter

Trafficking-Specific Programming:

Do you have any trafficking-specific programming?: Y/N (If No, skip to next section)

Professional training: Our agency provides professional training on human trafficking (ex: screening for human trafficking for social workers): Y/N

Awareness: Our agency provides human trafficking awareness (ex: human trafficking 101 for church group): Y/N

Outreach: Our agency provides outreach to populations at risk for human trafficking: Y/N

Primary Prevention: Our agency engages in primary prevention programs, stopping human trafficking before it occurs (ex: My Life, My Choice group to youth in detention who are at risk of trafficking): Y/N

Secondary Prevention/Intervention: Our agency engages in secondary prevention, reducing risk of harm after someone has experienced trafficking (ex: securing employment so that individual will not have to return to the trafficking situation): Y/N

PART 3: Agency Framework:

Please share information about your agency's policies, training and/or practices in place regarding the following areas (this is based on the "Guiding Principles for Agencies Serving Survivors of Human Trafficking" framework):

1. Does your agency have a client's rights and responsibilities form that outlines client restrictions, limitations, or activity specific requirements before they agree to engage in services? Y/N

- Does your agency encourage participants to choose their own goals? Y/N

2. My agency/program provides opportunities for clients to increase their skill sets, building on their strengths and interests. Y/N

- The tone/relationship between program staff and clients is of partnership, of working together, as opposed to a "service provider vs. recipient of services" or "rescuer-rescued" power dynamic. Y/N

3. Program staff know how to utilize trauma-informed grounding techniques and utilize them as needed with clients. Y/N

- The agency intentionally creates physical space that is welcoming and trauma informed. Y/N

4. My agency uses a racial equity toolkit or framework to plan and implement programming. Y/N

5. Each potential client is aware of any religious or spiritual requirements before making a decision to participate in the program. Y/N

- Staff are trained in maintaining appropriate boundaries with clients in regards to their own religious and spiritual beliefs. Y/N

6. My agency follows a written policy and procedure that informs clients of their rights to privacy, confidentiality, and informed consent. Y/N

- My agency/program is careful to protect confidentiality and privacy of clients in printed materials, social media posting, and training and outreach efforts. Y/N

7. My agency conducts safety planning with clients, including physical, emotional and technological safety concerns. Y/N

- Agency/program staff receive training on safety planning and crisis intervention. Y/N

8. My agency has a written language access policy that is implemented by program staff. Y/N

- The client intake process includes questions specifically related to accommodation needs, including language access and disabilities. Y/N

9. My agency provides training to staff on cultural competency, diversity, language access, and cultural humility. Y/N

- My agency collaborates with organizations and individuals who specialize in specific cultural groups/issues. Y/N

Any additional pertinent information about your agency:

Questions? Please contact Gretchen Hunt, Office for Women, at Gretchen.Hunt@louisvilleky.gov or 502-574-3536.