

A project funded by the Bush Foundation to raise awareness and consciousness of Minnesotans about labor trafficking as much as they currently do of sex trafficking.

The Enitan Story
Advocate for Victims. Empower Survivors.



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A collaborative efforts of The Enitan Story, Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) with lived experience, state, local governments, and nonprofit organizations.

Thanks to all our workgroup member organizations



Minnesota Attorney General



A project funded by the



BUSH FOUNDATION

Acknowledgement

We would like to thank the Bush Foundation for giving The Enitan Story an opportunity to elevate the issue of labor trafficking in Minnesota to increase awareness and work towards making a statewide policy change that will protect and serve individuals who have experienced labor trafficking in Minnesota.

We could not have done this alone. We would like to thank everyone who has made this project, “Identifying Labor Trafficked Victims in MN” a success including Subject Matter Expert (SME’s) with lived experience, state agencies, nonprofit partners, and the Safe Harbor Network. Below is a list of the workgroup members, including the SME’s, state agencies and nonprofit organizations.

SME Workgroup Members

- Honorable Ronny Marty
- Honorable Bella Hounakey
- Honorable Harold D’Souza
- Honorable Evelyn Chumbow
- Honorable Flor Molina
- Honorable Fainess Lipenga
- Honorable Ima Matul
- KiloMarie Granda
- Athena Faith

Providers Workgroup Members and Agencies

- Caroline Palmer, Safe Harbor Director, Minnesota Department of Health
- Amanda Colegrove, Safe Harbor Expansion OVC grant Manager, MDH
- Sarah Ladd, Human Trafficking Child Protection Program Coordinator, Child Safety and Prevention Unit, Minnesota Department of Health & Human Services
- Dariann McCormick, Child Safety Unit | Child Safety and Permanency Division, Minnesota Department Health & Human Services
- Jonathan Moler, Minnesota Attorney General’s Office
- Agent Bobbi Jo Pazdernik, Assistant Special Agent In Charge, Predatory Crimes Section, Bureau of Criminal Apprehension
- Dr. Tolulope Ola, Executive Director, Restoration for All, Inc.

Acknowledgement

- Rachel Kohler, Immigration Services Attorney, International Institute of Minnesota
- Rachel Kohler, StandPoint
- Lori Anderson, Executive Director, Transformative Circle
- Shunu Shresta, Senior Advisor – Human Trafficking and Exploitation Prevention Initiative, City of Minneapolis
- Sarah Florman, Public Policy Manager, Minnesota Coalition Against Sexual Assault (MNCASA)
- Siv Dobrovolny, Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry (DLI)

Additional Contributors

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- Kyle Makarios and Ryan Gilbertson, Legislative Work Volunteers, Carpenter's Union
- Alisa Santucci, Project Advisor

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Labor Trafficking in Minnesota: The Reality

According to state law in Minnesota, labor trafficking is:

(1) the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring, enticement, provision, obtaining, or receipt of a person by any means, for the purpose of: (i) debt bondage or forced labor or services; (ii) slavery or practices similar to slavery; or (iii) the removal of organs through the use of coercion or intimidation; or (2) receiving profit or anything of value, knowing or having reason to know it is derived from an act described in clause (1).

Forced labor under Minnesota state law is “when a victim provides any labor or service that another person obtains or maintains through force, threats of force, abuse of legal process, blackmail, or confiscation or misuse of the victim’s identifying documents. [1]” Labor trafficking and forced labor are often separated from sex trafficking, but someone can be a victim of both. According to the data from Minnesota Department of Public Safety, labor trafficking occurred in seven of the eight regions of Minnesota between 2014 to 2017.

Despite having some laws on labor trafficking in Minnesota, victims and survivors continue to face deprivation of services due to the limited resources available to meet their needs. Unlike their counterparts who experience sex trafficking or sexual exploitation, labor trafficking victims and survivors do not have access to any kind of state funds to receive case management, legal services, or emergency housing services. The only form of funding available, which is limited to individuals up to age 24, is from the federal government. The Minnesota Department of Health administers these funds which have been granted by the United States Department of Justice Office of Victims of Crime (OVC) grant.

[1] Minnesota Statute §609.281 subdivision 4: <https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/609.281>

What does labor trafficking look like in Minnesota? A snapshot from the Minnesota Department of Safety

LABOR TRAFFICKING DATA IN MINNESOTA 2013-2017

<p>Labor Trafficking Investigations by Law Enforcement Agencies, 2013 - 2017</p> <p style="text-align: center;">2013 - 7 2015 - 7 2017 - 21</p> <p>Labor Trafficking Victims Served by Service Providers, 2013-2017</p> <p style="text-align: center;">2013 - 44 2015 - 63 2017 - 394</p>	<p>Labor Trafficking Victims by Geographic Region, 2017</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Twin Cities 69% Central MN 13% Northwest 7% Southern 7% Northland 2% Southwest 2% West Central 0%</p>
<p>Age and Gender of Labor Trafficking Victims Identified by Law Enforcement Agencies, 2017</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Women (18 and over) 61% Men (18 and over) 22% Girls (18 and under) 11% Boys (18 and under) 6%</p> <p>Age and Gender of Labor Trafficking Victims Served by Service Providers, 2017</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Women (18 and over) 40% Men (18 and over) 46% Girls (18 and under) 7% Boys (18 and under) 7%</p>	<p>Labor Trafficking Victims Identified by Law Enforcement Agencies in 2017</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Domestic Labor Trafficking Victims 65% International Labor Trafficking Victims 35%</p> <p>Labor Trafficking Victims Served by Service Providers, 2017</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Domestic Labor Trafficking Victims 68% International Labor Trafficking Victims 32%</p>

SOURCE: HUMAN TRAFFICKING REPORT IN MINNESOTA Prepared by:
Minnesota Office of Justice Programs Minnesota Statistical Analysis Center

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Labor trafficking is hidden in plain sight in Minnesota. Labor trafficking victims are more than likely to pass through various professionals from service providers to law enforcement, however, they are not able to access services due to lack of identification. Where victims are identified, little to no resources are available to provide comprehensive, trauma-informed and culturally specific services to them. While it may be common that victims of labor trafficking are foreign nationals, there are U.S. citizens who are experiencing labor trafficking in Minnesota.

Industries where labor trafficking has been identified

Labor trafficking has been identified in at least 15 industries across the state of Minnesota.

**LABOR
TRAFFICKING
REPORTED IN
VARIOUS
INDUSTRIES IN
MINNESOTA**

HOTELS
LOGGING
MINNING
CARNIVAL
DAIRY FARM
AGRICULTURE
RESTAURANTS
TURKEY FARMS
HOME HEALTH
CONSTRUCTION
MANUFACTURING
PERFORMING TROUPES
HOMES/HOUSEKEEPING
MASSAGE, HAIR & NAIL SALONS
TRAVELING MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTION

**MINNESOTANS ARE
TRAFFICKED FOR LABOR**

Labor trafficking and labor exploitation in Minnesota

In May 2019, the Minnesota Legislature passed the Minnesota Wage Theft Prevention Act[2] to create additional protections for workers, including adding criminal penalties for employers that commit wage theft. Wage Theft occurs when employers do not pay their workers what is owed them for the work they have performed. Wage Theft becomes criminal when the employer commits wage theft with an intent to defraud.

The passing of the Minnesota Wage Theft Prevention Act has helped to uncover some forms of labor trafficking ongoing in Minnesota. Investigators of wage theft are discovering individuals who are also experiencing labor trafficking alongside labor exploitation.

For example, labor trafficking of minors was discovered by the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry according to a recent report by the Star Tribune.[3] According to the report, the meat packaging company located in southern Minnesota, hired youth ages 14 – 17, and one at age 13, to work overnight at the Mankato-based Tony Downs Food Co. The report alleged that “The packaged meat company's facility in Madelia has been employing teenagers to work overnight shifts involving meat grinders and toxic chemicals.”

Client's Testimonial

”

I will [like to] use this opportunity to say thank you to [The] Enitan Story for the support during my court case, and for their believing in my dream. I am glad to know The Enitan Story.

[2] Wage Theft Prevention Act:

[https://www.dli.mn.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/Wage_theft_legislation_2019_Article3_SessionLawChap7%20\(6\).pdf](https://www.dli.mn.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/Wage_theft_legislation_2019_Article3_SessionLawChap7%20(6).pdf)

[3] Star Tribune: <https://www.startribune.com/state-agency-alleges-8-minors-illegally-employed-by-minnesota-meatpacker-seeks-court-injunction/600259216/>

[4] Workgroup bill: [https://www.revisor.mn.gov/bills/text.php?](https://www.revisor.mn.gov/bills/text.php?number=HF3120&version=0&session=ls92&session_year=2022&session_number=)

[number=HF3120&version=0&session=ls92&session_year=2022&session_number=](https://www.revisor.mn.gov/bills/text.php?number=HF3120&version=0&session=ls92&session_year=2022&session_number=)

What does victim self-identification mean in MN in terms of data collection? – What action steps can be taken to collect this data to assess what has worked? And what more could be done?

There is minimal data collection regarding labor trafficking and exploitation in Minnesota as there is no state dedicated funding to be able to adequately capture accurate data. However, sample data from the Polaris Project, a national hotline for trafficking, showed that 842 likely victims were reported to the Trafficking Hotline in Minnesota from 2018-2022. According to the data, 149 of these potential victims were involved with labor trafficking and 25 reported being involved in sex and labor trafficking situations.

Funding of labor trafficking services will be the main determinant for accurately capturing data of labor trafficking that exists in Minnesota. With adequate funding, identification of victims and survivors will increase because they will come forward to access services and be supported in safely leaving trafficking situations. In addition, funding can be dedicated to research and document labor trafficking occurrences in Minnesota.

Client's Testimonial

”

I do have a testimony to always stay positive, and be grateful. Thankful for everything you do. Being a part of this [GSA] group made me feel like I can be myself and be grateful for the little things. Sometimes, I know it can be hard to keep up with the meetings on Fridays, but sometimes you just gotta make it work and see if you can really challenge yourself and stick to something that will better you in the future.

The Project: Bush Community Innovation Grant

“Identifying Labor Trafficked Victims in MN” is a three-year project funded by the Bush Foundation Community Innovation Grant that began during the pandemic in 2020. Despite the pandemic, The Enitan Story (TES) has been able to advance the knowledge and collaboration of existing and new partners to implement project activities that focused on increasing the knowledge of stakeholders - people with lived experience, the general public, service providers, law enforcement, law makers, and funders.

Project goal:

The goal of the Bush Foundation Community Innovation Grant is to facilitate the expansion of the MN Safe Harbor Law to include labor trafficking by building upon existing work in the area of labor trafficking. The main purpose is to raise Minnesotan’s consciousness of labor trafficking to the same level as their consciousness on sex trafficking.

Client's Testimonial

”

Thank you for your vulnerability, authenticity and showing me that no trauma is greater than the power of healing, self-awareness & doing the work. Your story empowered me to live an honest, authentically anchored and grateful life.

Activities Implemented Under the Bush Community Innovation Grant

The three elements of the community innovation process (being inclusive, collaborative, and resourceful) have been very helpful in making progress on the project.

TES has made sure to include key players such as service providers, state agencies, people with lived experience of labor trafficking, and stakeholders through community conversations and surveys to ensure that we develop and implement a project that is successful in helping Minnesotans identify labor trafficking.

TES identified at least 6 victims of labor trafficking within and outside the Safe Harbor Network who would have otherwise not been identified because the provider did not know what to look for. TES outreach and training helped some of the providers and new partners to identify the victims and connect them to the appropriate services. However, only 3 of these victims could be served with available funding due to age restriction of being 24-years-old or younger.

Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) Workgroup & Provider Workgroup

We set up two work groups that met every 5-6 months to expand Safe Harbor to include labor trafficking services. The first group was made up of providers and the second group was comprised of Subject Matter Experts (SME's) with lived experience.

Both workgroups met to provide guidance, feedback, and connection to elevate the issue of labor trafficking in Minnesota. The workgroups provided feedback on educational flyers that were developed for both Minnesota lawmakers and the general public, and provided suggestions on how to distribute the flyers to reach the appropriate audiences. The workgroups provided guidance on how to tailor our process strategically when educating the legislators versus when educating the general public about labor trafficking. The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) and the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA) also provided technical assistance and guidance as we navigated the capitol to reach legislators and educate them on labor trafficking. The SMEs worked beyond the scheduled workgroup meetings to ensure that we were able to reach appropriate audiences with the labor trafficking educational materials that were designed.

Communication with the workgroups through regular updates was also helpful in receiving guided feedback that helped TES to move closer to reaching its goal of increasing labor trafficking awareness in Minnesota.

The SMEs with lived experiences have contributed immensely using survivors' lenses to provide solutions. As a result, TES increased the number of SMEs from 6 to 9.

In addition, the providers' workgroup members helped TES to reach other partners with similar projects like those working on wage theft where TES was able to uncover labor trafficking in the process of wage theft investigations. As the work progressed, new partners joined the workgroup. These collaborations uncovered the fact that a solution to labor trafficking was being developed at the same time that victims were being identified, which begged for the need to be creative in identifying resources or creating something where there are limited resources available to meet the needs of victims of labor trafficking.

Client's Testimonial



2017 to 2019 were the darkest years of my life. I was in an abusive relationship that left me in an extremely dark place. I was contemplating suicide with no hope of a way out. I finally had the courage to leave and ended up in an abused women's shelter. The Enitan Story was introduced to me as soon as I got to the shelter in July 2019.

What a life changing experience it has been! Within my first meeting with TES, and for the first time in my entire enrollment in the system, I felt heard, seen, acknowledged, appreciated, welcomed, and respected. The Enitan Story provided a culturally relevant, sensitive, and useful source for women from African countries who often don't feel heard or seen in circular organizations that cannot relate to our cultures. I was called by my name and I was not just a number.

I'm from an environment where dignity was stripped away from us, being seen & not looked at with pity or as a burden was all I needed to strengthen the resolve within me.

The Individual therapy, One-on-one meetings, group discussions, guest speakers, and working on individual goals motivated me to fight for my life. It alleviated acute symptoms of psychological disturbance and helped to investigate the roots of that disturbance in order to create lasting recovery. Through an interdisciplinary curriculum of group & individual therapies, meditation, seminars, guest speaker, counseling etc., I was able to deeply explore my experiences, give voice to my pain, and identify any damaging patterns of thought and behavior that fuel my emotional turmoil. For a long time, my trigger patterns often involve the internalization of my abusers' words and actions toward me, and it was imperative to replace such patterns with healthier, more realistic alternatives in order to psychologically free me from the abuser. For the longest time, I could not talk about my experience without crying, blaming myself or feeling ashamed to disclose the details of the abuse, particularly because I believed I was to blame, and I experienced traumatic bonding.

Continued on page 15

Equity and Survivor Leadership

This project has helped TES to build equity through a survivor-led approach beyond just a survivor-informed approach. The SMEs with the lived experience were compensated equally with the nonprofit organizations that were represented on the workgroups.

The SMEs were leading the project alongside the Executive Director of TES while the workgroup members that comprised state agency staff and nonprofit staff were respectful of their ideas, suggestions and feedback throughout the implementation process. For example, the provider workgroup members will ask what the SMEs' recommendations were on certain matters and sometimes when they have a different suggestion, they would yield to the recommendations of the SMEs with the lived experience.

More so, MDH suggested to present at an international human trafficking summit where their staff presented alongside the TES Executive Director as lead presenter on how to implement successful projects and inform policy change through the lens of those with lived experiences as leaders on the project. The training helped the audience learn how to combine the strengths of SME leaders with that of state agency staff for effective collaboration in anti-trafficking work.

Continued from page 14



After working on myself for a year, and Ms. Bukola helping me with my goals to open a business and be self-sustainable. I started walking into the light!

The only resources I had was the desire to succeed. The phone bill that The Enitan Story paid for me to make contact with business, and a mentor in Ms. Bukola to guide me. I was able to open a business, get contracts, move out of the shelter, and regained custody of my children in less than 6 months.

The Enitan Story made sure we had food on the table and resources for clothing and rent assistance. Now I'm living a healthy lifestyle with tools to help me cope with stress, anxiety and depression.

Healing from the trauma has been a difficult journey, but I'm grateful for a wonderful community that lifts me up when I fall.

I thank God for Ms. Bukola and The Enitan Story.

I hope one day I will be able to give back to the organization that changed the trajectory of my life in a culturally sensitive way. I could easily have ended up a statistic.

Forever grateful.

Training Professionals

Clinics

TES received commitments from two clinics - Clinic 555 in St. Paul, and Minneapolis Health Clinic in Golden Valley to train their staff on how to recognize labor trafficking while providing services or interacting with patients.

About 23 healthcare staff participated in the training during the summer of 2023 after reviewing the literature, “Imprisoned: The Travails of a Trafficked Victim” ahead of training. One other clinic who had initially committed fell through due to circumstances beyond our control.

Service areas of clinic trainees

- Providers
- Social Workers
- Public Health Nurse
- Researchers
- CMAPHNs
- Providers
- Health Educators,
- Managers
- Health Educator
- Medical Assistant

TES conducted labor trafficking training to various professionals across the state of Minnesota and beyond. At least, 830 professionals across various fields including the Minnesota Safe Harbor Regional Navigators, social service providers, healthcare professionals, law enforcement, immigrant and refugee service providers have received training through conferences or staff meetings.

Law Enforcement

The initial goal was to conduct training specifically to three police departments, however, TES delivered training to law enforcement across the state through the Law Enforcement Protocol developed by the BCA and The Advocates for Human Rights through the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) grant awarded to MDH. TES participated in the project by providing lived experience expertise to statewide police officers on how to identify labor trafficking.

Free copies of Imprisoned book, one of the resource materials for the project were donated to 8 police department's library.

Community Conversations

Through the Bush Grant, TES facilitated three community conversations. These conversations were vital for TES to identify labor trafficking survivors to connect survivors to the services that they need. TES hosted 3 online events via Zoom hosted by Transformative Circle, Restoration for All, and Planting People Growing Justice. In addition, TES participated in tabling events hosted by Transformative Circle to host two additional Community Conversations. At least 138 people participated in the online community conversation while about 200 people were reached during the tabling events.

The community conversations led to great success in fighting labor trafficking. The first community conversation led into TES providing an online human trafficking training with a focus on labor trafficking. The Provider's Workgroup suggested that TES meet with the Regional Navigators of the Safe Harbor Network to train them on how to identify labor trafficking survivors. This community conversation led to a Regional Navigator successfully identifying a labor trafficking survivor. The survivor received direct services from TES and other service providers in the Twin Cities. Currently, the case is being investigated by law enforcement and the survivor received Continued Presence to remain in the U.S. while the investigation is ongoing. In addition, the individual received work authorization to remain and work in the U.S. and to receive services through social service organizations as they re-integrate back into the community.

To build on community conversations, TES continued to engage in weekly outreach throughout the grant cycle. TES met with more than 30 organizations and the Safe Harbor Network. TES was connected with these outreach opportunities through Safe Harbor's Regional Navigators and the Minnesota Human Trafficking Task Force. Through all of these initiatives that began with community conversations, TES educated at least 356 families in Minnesota through distributing flyers and providing information about the services TES provides.

As a result of these connections, TES conducted professional training for people working with individuals who are at risk or currently experiencing labor trafficking. Two of the conference trainings that we will like to mention in this report are Familial Trafficking and the intersection between Domestic Violence and Labor Trafficking and Survivor-led Collaboration for Effective Policy Change. The training regarding survivor-led collaboration was co-presented with the staff of MDH at the International Human Trafficking Summit.

Labor Trafficking Survey

TES has received 224 responses from 89 fields of work of which, 64.7 percent affirmed that they have had contacts with victims of labor trafficking while 24.7 percent of them noted that they might have had contacts with victims of labor trafficking. Although, 49.4 respondents noted that they have not come in contact with victims of labor trafficking, it is believed that this might be due to lack of knowledge around victim identification. The survey provided helpful data showing the prevalence of labor trafficking while offering various solutions including outreach, training and funding, among others to combat labor trafficking in Minnesota.

Some of the responses captured for the question “What can the state of MN do to help identify and provide services to victims and survivors of labor trafficking?” fell into three main categories - Education, Funding and Prosecution. The table below are a few quotes from the responses in the three categories.



Labor Trafficking Survey

Education

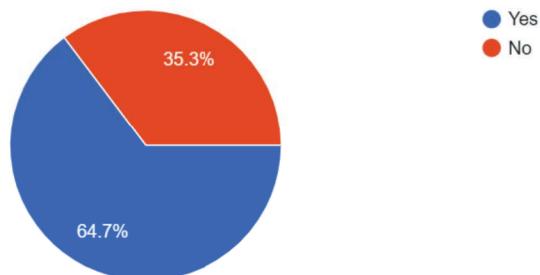
- Educate them
- More social media ads
- Outreach
- Screenings at all levels
- Train police officers and criminal justice system employees
- Educate people about labor trafficking
- Public gathering
- Do awareness [because] guys are suffering silently
- Setting up stations where people can report victimizations
- Crisis helplines and seminars for agricultural workers where labor trafficking is higher
- This is always tricky as victims may not know where to look for help or what help to trust. Distributing flyers or even social media could be used, but the victims would need access first.
- More lobbying at the capital, more outreach to identify those who are impacted by labor trafficking.
- Minnesota can be more intentional about identifying victims and actually create laws and services that will be beneficial for the survivors.

Prosecution

- Charge people caught practicing labor trafficking
- Punish those involved and create awareness against this act
- Through therapy and enforcing law
- High penalty for labor and sex traffickers
- By putting in place strict rules and measures to people who engaged in labor trafficking
- By having a functioning Committee that oversees and investigates as well as for the welfare of survivors and victims
- Talking to youths and report the law breaker
- Taking serious on matters of labor trafficking and reporting the law breakers
- They can provide justice for their situations and help them as they recover

Have you heard or learn about labor trafficking?

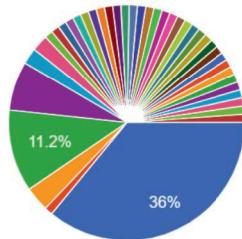
224 responses



Labor Trafficking Survey

Your field of work

89 responses



- Service Provider
 - Law Enforcement
 - Medical Professional
 - Social Worker
 - Government (County, City, State, etc)
 - Education
 - Safe Harbor Regional Navigator
 - Safe Harbor program coordinator
- ▲ 1/5 ▼

- student
 - i don't work
 - I am a student
 - pensioner,
 - Retired travel agent
 - Navigator and program supervisor
 - Residential Director of SEY certified s...
 - retired clergy
- ▲ 2/5 ▼

Funding

- Funding it
- Grants to service providers to do outreach
- Fund organizations that are already doing this work
- MN can have a set aside pool of money for victims and survivors additionally with facilities to help these people.
- By helping them rehabilitate after their experiences of labor trafficking.
- They can provide rehabilitation and other facilities to help assimilate survivors back into society
- I think having more support groups would help victims speak out
- The state of Minnesota can provide food assistance, income assistance, employment assistance.
- Support groups
- Provide safe ways to get people out. Educate employers. Educate our youth and the workforce.
- Offer them financial assistance and food so they can recuperate from their traumatic ordeals
- The state, local, and federal governments should funds set to the side for labor trafficking victims.

- GBV Prevention
 - Sex Trafficking Survivor leader
 - Firefighter/EMT
 - Director of Prevention Initiatives
 - Victim Services
 - Care Coordinator
 - Executive Director
 - Advocate
- ▲ 3/5 ▼

- Law Student
 - law student
 - Law Student/Legal
 - Student
 - Victim Advocate
 - Domestic violence
 - Finance
 - Teacher
- ▲ 4/5 ▼

- retired
 - Leadership at human services agency
 - Fundraising
 - Development Team at JFCS of Minne...
 - Administrator
 - facilities mgr.
 - HR professional
 - Nonprofit professional
- ▲ 5/5 ▼

Educating Minnesota Lawmakers



MINNESOTANS LABOR TRAFFICKING HAPPENS HERE

LABOR TRAFFICKING REPORTED IN VARIOUS INDUSTRIES IN MINNESOTA

- HOTELS
- LOGGING
- MINNING
- CARNIVAL
- DAIRY FARM
- AGRICULTURE
- RESTAURANTS
- TURKEY FARMS
- HOME HEALTH
- CONSTRUCTION
- MANUFACTURING
- PERFORMING TROUPES
- HOMES/HOUSEKEEPING
- MASSAGE, HAIR & NAIL SALONS
- TRAVELING MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTION

MINNESOTANS ARE TRAFFICKED FOR LABOR

Educating the Public

Labor Trafficking is hidden in plain sight. Know the signs.

The Enitan Story is here to help. Labor trafficking is misunderstood and under identified. The Enitan Story is a labor trafficking survivor-led organization that can educate your community, agency or organization in recognizing the signs of labor trafficking, assessing youth or adults who may be at risk, and assisting them to safely access services.

If you are unsure, feel free to contact us to answer any of your questions related to labor trafficking.

GET HELP TODAY:

763.273.6624
info@enitan.org

QUESTIONS

If you answer yes to one or more of the questions, you may be a victim of labor trafficking.

If you answer yes to one or more of the questions, you may be a victim of labor trafficking.

- Do you work for no pay?
- Is your salary being garnished to pay for your boarding or feeding?
- Are you free to leave your employer?
- Are you living with a family that is making you to work without pay?
- Are you working as a maid where you are living but are not paid?



OUR MISSION

To educate Minnesotans to identify victims and survivors of labor trafficking.

Call us if you suspect that you or someone you know may be a victim of labor trafficking at 763.273.6624 or email us at info@enitan.org

Partnerships & Collaborations

To implement the grant, TES relied on the help of the workgroup members to identify and connect with existing and new partners.

Lessons Learned

TES learned many lessons through the implementation of the Bush Community Innovation Grant. We encountered numerous challenges, including the pandemic, lack access to lobbyists access to resources for victims, and managing a large task an agency with limited human resources, as we lied on one full time and a part time staff who also had to be responsible for other agency programs to deliver this project. As a result, we relied a lot on the goodwill of our existing and new partners along with the SMEs to make it to be a successful project.

Learning how to adapt in the face of a world pandemic was difficult, but TES used the circumstances to its advantage. For example, TES was able to host the community conversation online with successful turn out from the community. We quickly learned to use the session as a training session to the community to increase labor trafficking identification.

Educating legislators is only a first step to making a statewide policy change. It requires the expertise of lobbyists which we could not afford as a result of the limitation on the grant. However, we were able to secure the help and services of two lobbyists from the Carpenter's Union pro bono because the goal aligned with their mission. This was also another opportunity to learn the importance of identifying and partnering with agencies who may have similar missions to implement the end goal.

A project such as this requires thinking ahead of the grant timeline. We learned that when the grant has limits on who it can provide resources to, there are barriers to providing help for everyone who needs it. We needed to think ahead of the grant timeline in order to determine that there may be a lack of access for some victims. For example, victims were being identified and only those who qualify under the OVC grant could receive direct services while TES struggled to help those who do not qualify get access to services in the community. As an agency with limited capacity and taking on huge tasks such as this, the help of the MDH was very pivotal to the success of the overall project. In particular, MDH assisted TES with navigating the legislative terrain and providing relevant data for educational purposes and ultimately securing state funding. This helped provide comprehensive, trauma-informed, and culturally specific services for victims of labor trafficking or labor exploitation.

Labor Trafficking Convening

The Enitan Story hosted a labor trafficking convening that brought together multidisciplinary professionals to teach and learn about labor trafficking and how to engage people with the lived experience of human trafficking as Subject Matter Experts.

The event was a success with the support of MDH, BCA, Subject Matter Experts with Lived Experience, our federal partners, Office for Victims of Crime and the U.S. Department of State who shared remarks or presented at the event.

Videos of the training is now available of The Enitan Story's YouTube channel. The hybrid event hosted attendees both in person and virtually via Zoom. There were attendees virtually within the state of Minnesota, across the U.S. and outside the U.S.

Remarks by Tegan Hare, Survivor Engagement Lead, U.S. Department of State

Good morning, I am honored to speak to you all today, thank you for the invitation. My name is Tegan Hare, and I am the Team Lead for Survivor Engagement in the Department of State's Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, also known as the TIP Office.

The TIP Office leads the Department's global efforts to combat human trafficking through the prosecution of traffickers, protection of victims, and prevention of human trafficking.

Our Office is responsible for bilateral and multilateral diplomacy, targeted foreign assistance, and public engagement. We partner with foreign governments, international organizations, federal agencies, civil society, the private sector, and survivors to develop and implement effective strategies to confront human trafficking.

The TIP Office may be best known for the State Department's annual Trafficking in Persons Report or the TIP Report. This Report is our primary diplomatic and diagnostic tool used to guide our bilateral and multilateral relations with foreign government and to encourage actions to combat human trafficking.

The Report evaluates the efforts of 188 governments around the world, including the United States, to combat human trafficking based on minimum standards as set forth in the Trafficking Victims Protection Act.

Another aspect to our annual TIP Report is that we use our Introduction to highlight an important theme each year. Last year's Report Introduction focused on the importance of meaningful survivor engagement.

- The goal was to advance the importance of engaging survivors through trauma-informed approaches that promote transparency, trust, equity, inclusivity, and commitment to collaboration.
- It served to promote the importance of survivor inclusion in the development of policies, programs, or initiatives. This is key for all anti-trafficking stakeholders.
- I will talk shortly about the importance of incorporating survivor expertise and elevating survivor leadership.

First, I'd like to highlight the magnitude and prevalence of forced labor, both internationally and within the United States. Last fall, the International Labor Organization – known as the ILO - along with the International Organization for Migration and the Walk Free Foundation, released new estimates that at any given time in 2021, approximately 27.6 million individuals were in forced labor.

This estimate generally reflects what the U.S. Government considers to be human trafficking.

- The ILO found that forced labor has grown in recent years; no region of the world is spared, and most forced labor occurs in the private economy.
- These findings confirm what our office has been seeing from our work over the years, that forced labor is prevalent throughout global supply chains.

We have increased our focus on preventing forced labor in government public procurement. The United States Government spends over \$650 billion a year in goods and services. This translates to tremendous leverage and ability to prevent forced labor in global supply chains. We are working to enhance implementation of a Federal Acquisition Regulation on combating trafficking in persons, strengthening training of our acquisitions personnel, and working to enhance risk mapping of high risk, high volume State Department contracts.

From drafting sections of the annual TIP Report to advising on grantmaking policy to delivering training on trauma-informed approaches, survivors and experts with lived experience of human trafficking play a vital role in our work at the TIP Office.

Survivors of human trafficking are integral to combating this crime, and their perspective and experience should be taken into consideration to better address this crime at every level.

Engaging survivors as partners is critical to establishing an effective victim-centered, trauma-informed, and culturally competent policies and strategies that address prevention, protection, and prosecution efforts.

For our survivor engagement to be meaningful, we are continually assessing and improving how we integrate and promote survivor leadership in our anti-trafficking efforts, whether through our foreign assistance priorities, our bilateral and multilateral engagement, or our interagency coordination efforts. In line with the National Action Plan to Combat Human Trafficking, the Department of State prioritizes the incorporation of trauma-informed and survivor-informed approaches into our work.

We primarily do this through our engagement with the United States Advisory Council on Human Trafficking and the Department's Human Trafficking Expert Consultant Network (also known as 'the Network'), which includes individuals with lived experience of human trafficking, and other subject matter experts.

We have had the pleasure of collaborating with the Executive Director of Enitan Story, Honorable Bukola Oriola in both these platforms. Honorable Bukola is one of our Network consultants who has given us critical insights from a survivor perspective by evaluating the quality of grantee proposals and informing new global investments.

We are excited to see that now more than ever, stakeholders are incorporating survivor expertise and input at all stages in the development and implementation of anti-trafficking efforts.

As this work continues, I'd like to leave you with just a couple of foundational -- but very important lessons we've learned and considerations when engaging survivor leaders.

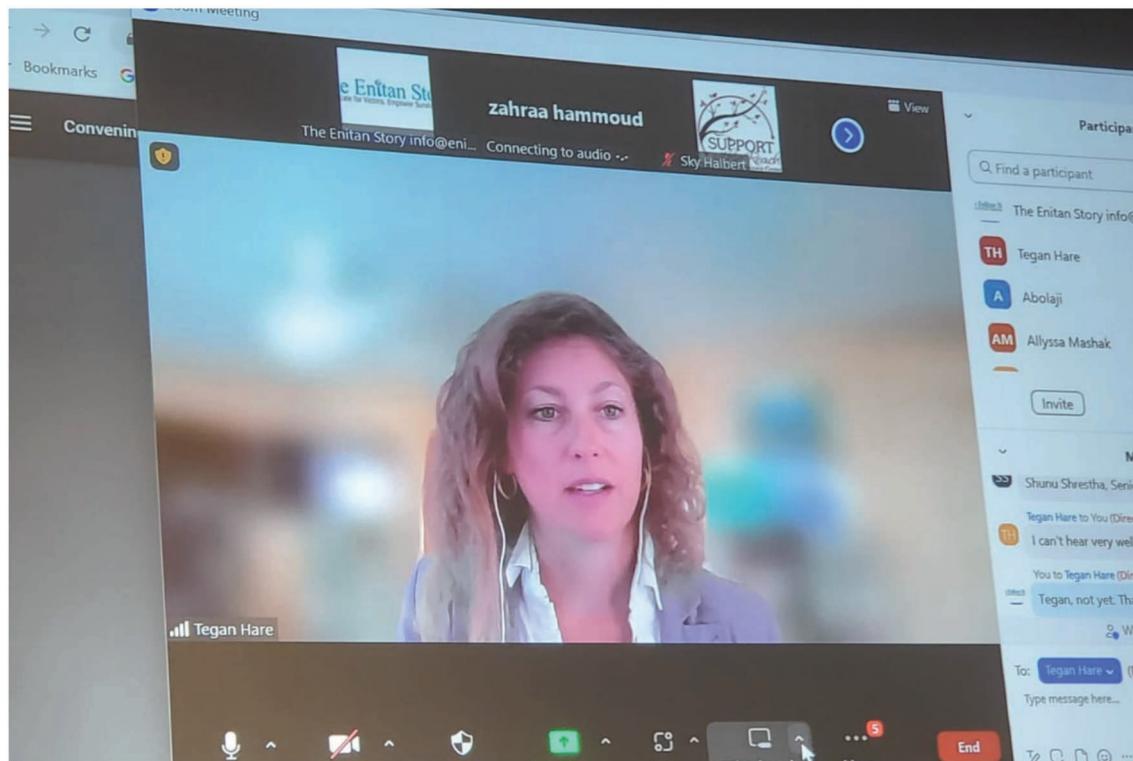
- Do not engage survivors solely to tell the story of their trafficking experience; and never share a survivors' story without their permission.
- Include survivors in decision-making and address barriers to survivor inclusion and leadership.
- Always compensate survivors for their time, expertise, and contributions in a timely manner, whether they are participating in a focus group or providing consultant services.

Thank you for allowing me to share with you today and I look forward to learning from this exciting event!

The Labor Trafficking Convening in pictures



Ms. Kristina Rose, Director, Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) delivering an opening remark via video presentation at the event.



Miss Tegan Hare, Survivor Engagement Lead, U.S. Department of State delivering her opening remarks via Zoom

The Labor Trafficking Convening in pictures



L-R: Caroline Palmer, JD, MPH, Safe Harbor Director in the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH), SAIC Bobbi Jo Pazdernik, BCA, Honorable Ronny Marty, SME Consultant and Board Treasurer, The Enitan Story and Honorable Bella Hounakey, Member, U.S. Advisory Council on Human Trafficking,.



Sarah Ladd, JD, Human Trafficking Child Protection Program Coordinator, Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) moderating the Labor Trafficking Panel.



Left: Amanda Colegrove, Safe Harbor Expansion Coordinator, Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) moderating the Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) with Lived Experience panel.



Sarah Ladd and Honorable Ronny Marty during labor trafficking panel.

The Labor Trafficking Convening in pictures

Some of the workgroup members receiving their Certificates of Appreciation from the Executive Director of The Enitan Story, Bukola Oriola



Left: Amanda Colegrove, Safe Harbor Expansion Coordinator, Minnesota Department of Health (MDH)



Right: Honorable Bella Hounakey, U.S. Advisory Council on Human Trafficking



Right: KiloMarie Granda, Founder, Unspoken Voices



Right: Caroline Palmer, JD, MPH, Safe Harbor Director in the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH)



Right: Sarah Ladd, JD, Human Trafficking Child Protection Program Coordinator, Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS)



Right: Siv Dobrovolny, JD, Strategic Compliance Lead, Labor Standards, Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry (DLI)

The Labor Trafficking Convening in pictures



L-R - KiloMarie Granda, SME Consultant and Executive Director, Unspoken Voices, Honorable Ronny Marty, SME Consultant and Board Treasurer, The Enitan Story and Honorable Bella Hounakey, Member, U.S. Advisory Council on Human Trafficking.



R - Mr. Peter Metloli, Professional Affiliate to The Enitan Story, Hubert Humphrey's Fellowship program



Honorable Ronny Marty, SME Consultant and Board Treasurer, The Enitan Story.

The Labor Trafficking Convening in pictures



L-R - Caroline Palmer, Safe Harbor Director, MDH, SAIC Bobbi Jo Pazdernik, BCA, Honorable Bella Hounakey, Member, U.S. Advisory Council on Human Trafficking, Honorable Ronny Marty, SME Consultant and Board Treasurer, The Enitan Story.



L - Ajibike Ojomo, CEO, Cocozini, LLC



Participants at the Convening



L- Ryan Gilbertson, Carpenter's Union



Participants at the Convening listening to a session on Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) with Lived Experience panel



Participants at the Convening listening to Board Chair, The Enitan Story during her remarks

The Labor Trafficking Convening in pictures



Participants at the Convening



The Labor Trafficking Convening in pictures



L-R: David Skovholt, Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry (DLI) and Osmara Gomez, The Enitan Story



L-R: Peter Metloli, Professional Affiliate to The Enitan Story, Hubert Humphrey's Fellowship Program and Elissa Severseike, Writing and Editing volunteer



Participants at the Convening



Right: Becky Booker, Retired Firefighter, Blaine Fire Department



Left: Laura Sargent, Videographer and long term volunteer for The Enitan Story

Recommendations to:

Legislators

- We recommend funding to provide comprehensive services to individuals who are experiencing labor trafficking.
- We recommend that Minnesota laws on labor trafficking be improved to protect victims and prosecute offenders.

Funders

- We recommend that private foundations and individual donors whose mission align with combating trafficking be inclusive by funding programs to serve individuals experiencing labor trafficking.

State Agencies

- We recommend that state agencies create and implement guidance that is inclusive of protecting individuals who are experiencing labor trafficking.
- We recommend that state agencies access federal funds to provide services in the form of grant awards to nonprofit organizations and local governments to identify and serve individuals experiencing labor trafficking.
- We recommend that state agencies increase capacity to implement program and services that meet the needs of individuals experiencing labor trafficking by engaging the voices of survivors as subject matter experts.

Nonprofit Organizations

- We recommend that nonprofit and community based organizations create programs that are inclusive of serving individuals who have experienced labor trafficking.
- We recommend that nonprofit organizations seek funding opportunities that are tailored to serve individuals who have experienced labor trafficking.
- We recommend that nonprofit organizations train their staff or pay their staff to engage in professional development on how to recognize and serve individuals who have experienced labor trafficking.

Recommendations to:

Community Members

- We recommend that community members and service organizations be inclusive in their education of human trafficking by including labor trafficking in their members' training.
- We recommend that community members participate in opportunities both for training and volunteering with organizations that provide services to individuals who have experienced labor trafficking.
- We recommend that community members serve as watch dogs to report or connect a victim to services.

Businesses

- We recommend that small, medium and large scale businesses take the responsibility of training their staff on how to identify labor trafficking so that the organizations do not find themselves within the ropes of the law as the violators of trafficking law provisions.
- We recommend that business review their supply chain policies to ensure that they are doing businesses in a way that does not promote or encourage labor trafficking.
- We recommend that businesses include combating labor trafficking as part of their social responsibilities.

Religious Organizations

- We recommend that religious organizations include labor trafficking in their human trafficking awareness programs.

Attorneys

- We recommend that attorneys working with other victims of crime screen for potential labor trafficking.

Recommendations to:

Law Enforcement

- We recommend that law enforcement officer should also be looking to identify labor trafficking whenever they are working on sex trafficking.
- We recommend that more time and resources should be directed towards training law enforcement to combat labor trafficking.
- We recommend that law enforcement investigations should be victim centered thus creating a conducive environment for reporting.
- We recommend that wage theft investigators/labor violation investigations should also include identifying potential labor trafficking during investigation.

People with Lived Experience

- We recommend that people with lived experience who will like to use their expertise to inform the work take the time to consider the pros and the cons of using the lived experience to work and decide how best to engage their services in the anti-trafficking movement.
- We recommend that people with the lived experience who may be new participate in professional development opportunities to help them build additional skills to inform their work.
- We recommend that those who are still actively being trafficked for labor reach out for help.

Capacity Building

The Bush Community Innovation grant project enabled The Enitan Story to work on capacity building focusing on creating a strategic plan for the organization spanning over the next five years.

The five goal areas include:

Increase engagement with new individuals by 50% by 12/31/28.

90% of one-on-one clients and SME survivors will achieve 50% of their goals within a year by 12/31/2028.

Increase volunteer engagement hours by 30% by 12/31/28.

Increase revenue to \$300,000 annually by 12/31/28.

Become a sector leader shown through increased referrals and referral sources by 25% by 12/31/28.

The Enitan Story at 10: A Snapshot

The Enitan Story (TES) began in 2013 with the mission of meeting the needs of individuals who have experienced human trafficking and domestic violence, primarily in the state of Minnesota and other regions within and outside the United States. In about a decade, TES has made an impact in the lives of individuals through direct service and referrals to other agencies within and outside Minnesota.

For the first five years of existence, TES operated solely on public donations until 2018 when it received its first grant - an Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) grant awarded through the Minnesota Department of Health to conduct in-depth outreach to identify and serve victims and survivors of labor trafficking. During the implementation of that 3-year grant project, TES reach over 10,000 Minnesotans and trained over 100 professionals. The project also fostered meaningful survivor engagement with MDH and its partners such as DHS and grantees.

The project led to a grant awarded by the Headwaters Foundation to develop and conduct professional development training for healthcare professionals on how to identify and refer victims of labor trafficking to community resources. The successful implementation of the project connected TES to the Bush Foundation for the Community Innovation grant which has led to a state-wide policy change to provide funding to serve individuals who have experienced labor trafficking in Minnesota.



The Enitan Story at 10: A Snapshot

During the implementation of this project, TES received Safe Harbor Supportive Services grant to conduct outreach to identify and serve youth who are at risk for sexual exploitation and sex trafficking with a particular focus on the immigrant community.

In addition, TES received another OVC award through the MDH to provide lived experience expertise to protocol development and training to law enforcement officers in Minnesota. More so, the Minneapolis Foundation Catalyst Project awarded a grant to TES to support staff mental well-being alongside, clients' health and well-being.

The project in which TES engaged the services of two cultural healers was very beneficial to our clients. It was more helpful as there was no age restriction to the project which allowed all our clients to benefit from the services of the cultural healers.

Prior to receiving the OVC grant through MDH, TES engaged in an international outreach to Nigeria, partly sponsored by Metropolitan State University and donations through TES Taste for Hope Annual Fundraiser. The event tagged *Bringing the Story Back Home* was well received in Nigeria when the Executive Director toured five higher institutions to deliver training using her personal experience on human trafficking and how the youth can be prevented from becoming victims. The U.S. Embassy in Lagos engaged both local, national and international media during the 10-day event that reached over 20 million people around the world.



The Enitan Story at 10: A Snapshot

TES Executive Director Produced a TV Show called Imprisoned Show at the Public Access TV station in Blaine featuring advocates within and outside the state of Minnesota including the former Anoka County Sheriff, James Stuart and former County Attorney, Tony Palumbo and international visitors to Minnesota.

In fact, Imprisoned Show as recorded as one of the accomplishments of the President Barrack Obama on human trafficking in the United States. A former board member of TES, Prof. Abimbola Asojo secured funding from the Fair Child grant to provide mobile studio set for the show and also used the opportunity to teach her lighting students at the University of Minnesota about human trafficking.

Community Garden and Survivor Empowerment

TES launched a community garden in a bid to address some of the cultural challenges experienced by clients in regard to food and finding culturally specific produce. The organization used one of the former board member's backyard, Angela Okafor and a community garden in Anoka city to plant and grow some produce. Some of the produce was also taken to Alexandra House to cook traditional meal for the battered women's shelter resident.

The Survivor Empowerment program was launched in the form of bag making and hair braiding in 2015. One client learned how to make bag and successfully made her own bag that was sold. Another client learned how to make hair and she went on to make hair for people to earn money to support herself and children.

Unfortunately, the programs were not sustainable due to lack of man power and funding.



COVID-19 and working through the Pandemic



The world pandemic came unannounced and we had to change the mode of service delivery by moving to the online space.

While the pandemic was a setback, TES used it as a propeller to introduce and sustain the online mode of service delivery. One of such is our weekly Gratitude Support Activity (GSA) group where our clients have come to get support and succor despite the challenges that they were experiencing.

In addition, TES has been able to introduce the services of professionals such as the cultural healers to some of the sessions, which our clients have found to be very beneficial.

During the pandemic, the Headwaters Foundation and the MDH provided funding to TES to support emergency needs including, food, housing, phone bill, electricity bills, and mental-wellbeing for our clients.

This was very helpful as we realized that the pandemic made it difficult for some of our clients to provide basic needs for them and their children and when some went to food shelves, the food they took home had expired.

Feedback on the Headwater's Project

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

For Healthcare Professionals



IDENTIFYING LABOR TRAFFICKING

From Curriculum experts

The Enitan Story
Advocate for Victims. Empower Survivors.™

"The Enitan Project is a leader in raising awareness, combating human trafficking, and building the beloved community. This handbook serves as a key educational tool. It provides relevant, timely data, insightful case studies, and recommendations for policy changes. It is an indispensable tool for equipping each of us with the knowledge needed to serve as advocates for justice.

I had the honor of participating in the development of this learning tool. I helped to incorporate leadership principles, strategic action practices, and holistic client interviewing practices from my experience as a scholar and practitioner."

-Dr. Artika Tyner, Painting People Growing Justice

"Working on this project is amazing. Looking at the workbook, I was impressed that it was survivor-led and the unity of working together on it was impressive. Labor trafficking is still one of the last discussions in this movement. It's good to see a survivor of labor trafficking leading this project, and I was glad to be a part of it to give my experience to it."

-Honorable Evelyn Chumbow



Honorable Chumbow's son, Marcus, holding the workbook at the Peace Forum in France, where she was speaking on labor trafficking.

HEADWATERS **LEE CARLSON CENTER™** **Family Tree Clinic** **NEXUS Clinic**

Professional Development for Healthcare Providers: Identifying Victims of Labor Trafficking



A cross-section of participants at the U.S. Consulate, Lagos, Nigeria during the “Bringing The Story Back Home” Human Trafficking Awareness led by The Enitan Story’s Executive Director, Bukola Oriola in 2015

Labor Trafficking Identification Questions

- Do you get paid for your work?
- Is your salary being garnished to pay for your boarding or food?
- Are you able to leave your employer?
- Are you living with a family that is making you work without pay?
- Are you working as a maid where you are living but are not paid?
- Do you have kids?
- Is anybody with them right now while you are in the hospital?
- Who is taking care of the kids?
- Do you need help with the kids?
- Are you afraid to come to the clinic?
- Do you feel free to move, do you have family support, do you have a job, where do you work?
- Do you drive?
- Are you allowed to keep all the money you earned?
- Are you being hurt at work?
- Are you afraid to leave?
- Are you working in magazine crew and are not being paid because you owe the distributor for food or boarding?
- Have you been forced to work to beg for money, or sell candy?

Hope for Labor Trafficking Victims and Survivors in MN

The ultimate goal of this project and TES partners across state agencies and service providers is a community where victims and survivors receive comprehensive services to be able to reintegrate back into the community. This goal, however, will only be realized with a statewide policy change that is committed to protecting and providing a safe place and care for those directly affected by this crime.

As a result, TES received help through the volunteers' hours from the Carpenter's Union who provided pro bono services and dedicated time to effectively communicate

Bill 2

In 2023, we got help through the Carpenter's Union as we were unable to lobby with grant funds. Two of their staff volunteered their time to introduce a labor trafficking services bill with both Senate and House authors.

SF 2269 bill was introduced by Senator Liz Bolden and HF 2205 was introduced by Representative Liz Lee at the the 93rd Legislature (2022 - 2023) to provide funding for comprehensive, trauma-informed, and culturally specific services for victims of labor trafficking or labor exploitation.

Two bills introduced

Bill 1

A labor trafficking workgroup bill[4] HF 3120 was introduced by Representative Tim Miller at the 92nd Legislature (2021 - 2022). The bill, unanimously voted to proceed at the Public Safety Committee at the House, however, it did not make it to a hearing at the Senate before the end of the session.

our educational materials and ultimately funding for labor trafficking and labor exploitation because even though the Wage Theft law was passed, there was not social services for the individuals who are affected, meanwhile they suffer mental, psychological and physical trauma that may not be treated due to lack of funding for services.

We also understand that statewide policy change is only possible through the lawmakers. Therefore, two bills were introduced and one of it finally made it to the end to provide funding to victims of labor trafficking and labor exploitation. For the first time in the state of Minnesota, there would be dedicated services for comprehensive, trauma-informed, and culturally specific services for victims of labor trafficking or labor exploitation.

Resources



Sex Trafficking/Sexual Exploitation Identification

MN Youth can be a victim in plain sight or online.

The Enitan Story is here to help. sex trafficking or sexual exploitation may be misunderstood and under identified for youth who are especially vulnerable. The Enitan Story is a survivor-led organization that can educate your community, agency or organization in recognizing the signs of sex trafficking or sexual exploitation, assessing youth who may be at risk, and assisting youth in the immigrant community to safely access services. If you are unsure, feel free to contact us to answer any of your questions related to sex trafficking or sexual exploitation.

GET HELP TODAY:
763.273.6624
info@enitan.org

QUESTIONS

If you answer yes to one or more of the questions, you may be a victim of sex trafficking or sexual exploitation.

- Do you provide sexual pleasure to someone in exchange for anything of value such as food, housing, clothing, etc?
- Do you provide sexual service to someone for a third party?
- Do you have to provide sexual service to someone so you don't get into trouble?
- Are you with someone who is making you to have sex with other people against your will?
- Is someone threatening to blackmail you to make you provide sexual service to another person.

The Enitan Story
Advocate for Victims. Empower Survivors.

OUR GOAL

To identify and provide direct services to youth victims of sex trafficking or sexual exploitation offline and online.

Join us for monthly Empowerment Circle online

Call us if you suspect that you or someone you know may be a victim of sex trafficking or sexual exploitation at 763.273.6634 or email us at info@enitan.org



THIS FLYER IS PAID FOR BY A GRANT AWARDED BY THE MDH TO PROVIDE SUPPORTIVE SERVICES TO VICTIMS OF SEX TRAFFICKING AND SEXUALLY EXPLOITED YOUTH IN MN.

Community Partners and Service Providers

- The Enitan Story
- Transformative Circle
- Stand Point
- Restoration for All, Inc.
- International Institute of Minnesota
- Southwest Crisis Center
- The Advocates for Human Rights
- CTUL - Centro De Trabajadores Unidos En La Lucha
- MNCASA

Resources

The Enitan story

Services: The Enitan Story Serves victims of human trafficking and domestic violence by advocating for them through direct service and referring them to available resources in their communities. Case management, support groups, mentoring, coaching and survivor professional engagement in the anti-trafficking work.

Phone: (763) 263-6624

Email: Info@enitan.org

Website <https://enitan.org>

Standpoint

Services: Standpoint responds to legal issues around domestic and sexual violence across the state of Minnesota

Website:

<https://www.standpointmn.org>

Email: info@standpointmn.org

Phone: (612) 343-9842

The international Institute of Minnesota

Services: Workforce Development, Education, Immigration & Citizenship, MNsure Assistance

Website: <https://iimn.org>

Email: info@iimn.org

Phone: (651) 647-0191

Transformative Circle

Services: Provides understanding and appreciation for societal and cultural, community outreach, and educational activities.

Phone: (763) 528-3992

Email: Info@TransformativeCircle.org

Website: <https://transformativecircle.org>

Restoration for All, Inc.

Services: The agency offers support to immigrants and refugees and create a safe space for post-traumatic growth, mutual support, and economic self-sufficiency which helps them discover their positive cultural identity.

Website: <https://restoreall.org>

Email: info@restoreall.org

Phone: 651-366-0279

Southwest Crisis Center

Services: Providing hope and support to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault in Southwest Minnesota. Advocacy programs, youth programs, domestic abuse transformation program.

Phone: (507) 376-4311

Website: <https://www.mnswcc.org>

Email: mnswcc@gmail.com

Resources

The Advocates for Human Rights

Services: Provides legal services for human rights work, Legal representatives such as, asylum, immigration detention, trafficking, or unaccompanied minor cases.

Phone: (612) 341-3302

Website:

<https://www.theadvocatesforhumanrights.org>

Email: hrights@advrights.org

MNCASA

Services: A statewide coalition driving transformative culture change to address sexual violence through advocacy, prevention, racial justice, and systems change and policy.

Phone: 651.209.9993

Website: <https://mncasa.org/>

CTUL

Services: Worker-led, organize, educate and empower workers to have a voice in their workplaces and in their communities.

Phone: (612) 332-0663

Website: <https://ctul.net>

Email: ally@ctul.net



TES Board Members and Staff

Yvette Toko, Board Chair: Yvette Toko is a licensed middle school teacher. She has taught internationally in West and Central Africa. Yvette is also trained in spiritual direction and poetic medicine facilitator. In her spare time, she loves spending time with her children and grandchildren. Yvette also enjoys Afrobeats, writing poetry, traveling, reading and encouraging others.



Rita Apaloo, Board Secretary: Rita Apaloo has served on the Board of Directors of The Enitan Story since its inception and currently serves as Board Secretary. She has over ten years of progressive work experience in nonprofit and public service fields with experience leading and managing in various areas of business. She works at the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) as a Grants Specialist Coordinator in the Employment and Training Programs division. Rita is a published author. She has an Executive Master's in Business Communications, a bachelor's degree in Strategic Communication, and is a Certified Professional Project Manager (CPPM).

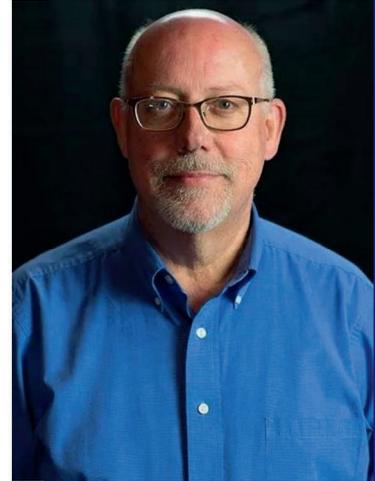


Honorable Ronny Marty, Board Treasurer: Honorable Ronny Marty is a Certified Public Accountant, hospitality manager, CEO of Marty Professional Cleaning Services in Florida, USA. Independent anti-human trafficking consultant. Former member of ISTAC International Survivor of Trafficking Advisory Council, former member of the US Advisory Council on Human Trafficking that served for two terms. He has worked and provided recommendations to federal and state agencies, private sector, and NGOs on how to combat Trafficking in Persons.



TES Board Members and Staff

Reverend Lyndy Zabel, Member: Reverend Lyndy Zabel is Director of Ministry at Messiah United Methodist Church in Plymouth, MN where he oversees the programming staff. He also works as the Director of Missional Impact for the Minnesota Conference of the United Methodist Church. Zabel has been an ordained minister in the Twin Cities for 29 years and has passion for peace and justice. He loves to play piano in a couple of Jazz/Gospel bands throughout the Upper Midwest and the Caribbean. He is no good at golf. He and his wife Judy live in Minnetonka, MN and have three grown children. He has been a board member of The Enitan Story from 2013 until 2023.



Bukola Oriola, Executive Director: Bukola Oriola is an international public speaker, author, mentor, advocate, entrepreneur, and former member, U.S. Advisory Council on Human Trafficking. She recently completed a two-year term as a member of the International Survivors of Human Trafficking Advisory Council (ISTAC), appointed by the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR). Oriola is also an award-winning journalist and a survivor of labor trafficking. She is the founder and Executive Director of The Enitan Story, a MN-based nonprofit with a mission to advocate for victims and empower survivors of human trafficking and domestic violence. Oriola has dedicated her life to helping others by sharing her story and offering practical solutions to service providers, clinics, community members, and law enforcement on how to help victims of human trafficking. Oriola is a consultant for the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) and the U.S. Department of State. She is the CEO of Bukola Oriola Group, LLC, formerly known as Bukola Braiding & Beauty Supply, LLC. She's an entrepreneur who uses her skills to help others become entrepreneurs through book publishing and small business creations.



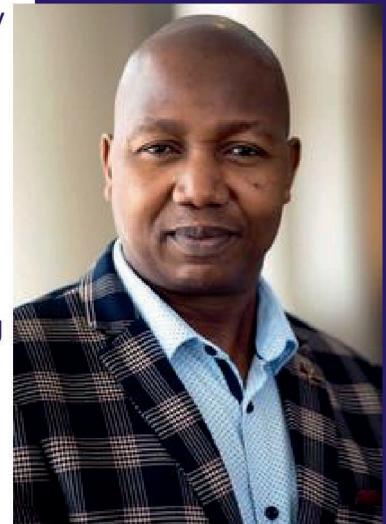
TES Board Members and Staff

Osmara Gomez Carnalla is the Project Coordinator for The Enitan Story. She was born and raised in the sister city of Cuernavaca, Morelos, Mexico where she received her Bachelor's degree at the International University (Uninter), specializing in English as a second language and Spanish. Certified in language learning and teaching through ESOL Examinations, Gomez Carnalla carries her cultural roots with her as she forges a new path as a cross-cultural advocate and outreach worker in the United States.

In her hometown, she has engaged in social work helping low-income families obtain educational and environmental resources. She moved to the United States three years ago and currently lives in Minneapolis with her two children and husband.



Peter Metloli is a Professional Affiliate Fellow at The Enitan Story as part of the fellowship program as a Humphrey International Fellow from the Kingdom of Lesotho. He is a Law Enforcement Expert focused on Human Trafficking. He is Senior Inspector by rank, with 23 years of law enforcement experience. He led the Criminal Investigation Division handling the Sexual Offences and Human Trafficking among others. He is the facilitator in Human Rights and Police Brutality and decision making at Police Training College. He is the serving board member of Beautiful Dream Society, the only Human Trafficking NGO in Lesotho. He holds Masters in Political Science, BA in Administration and Post Graduate Diploma in Law.



The Bag of Hope



The personalities of Enitan are strength, compassionate, leadership, loving, generous, responsible, humble, charismatic visionary, socially conscious, idealistic, and creative. Therefore, we hope to use these personalities to change the lives of victims and survivors for the better.

Glossary

Acronyms

- TES: The Enitan Story
- MDH: Minnesota Department of Health
- DHS: Minnesota Department of Health and Human Services
- REFA: Restoration for All, Inc.
- IIM: International Institute of Minnesota
- BCA: Bureau of Criminal Apprehension
- DLI: Department of Labor and Industry

The story behind the "Bag of Hope" is that of one of The Enitan Story's clients who was so grateful that their hopeless situation turned out to become a success.

The client received services at The Enitan Story having never met Ms. Oriola, The Executive Director of the organization nor any of their staff who worked tirelessly to get them the services they needed.

To appreciate Ms. Oriola, this bag was presented to Ms. Oriola as a gift in 2019. Ms. Oriola decided that this would be a bag that carries a lot of messages and therefore would not wear it, but rather, presented to The Enitan Story as a "Bag of Hope" for every client who has and will pass through the organization, giving them hope, regardless of how hopeless their situation might be.

Department of State International Visitors to TES



Department of State Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Heroes visit to The Enitan Story in 2019.



Visitors from Liberia for the professional exchange program as guests of the U.S. Department of State with The Enitan Story Staff and Board Member

The Enitan Story has been privileged to host the Department of States and Global Minnesota International visitors over the years.

A Thank You Message from The Enitan Story's Executive Director, Bukola Oriola

I will like to express my profound gratitude for the support from of my fellow colleagues, Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) with Lived Experience who always say yes whenever I call. Their unique expertise has been helpful throughout the implementation of the project and our work as a whole at The Enitan Story.

I will also like to thank our partners and state agencies for working together to get us not only to the finish line of this project but ensuring a new and bright beginning for individuals who have experienced labor trafficking and labor exploitation in the state of Minnesota by educating our legislators and advocating for funding at the Minnesota legislature.

It takes a whole village and I am very grateful to the Carpenter's Union for volunteering their time to help us secure funding for comprehensive, trauma-informed and culturally appropriate services to labor trafficked victims and survivors in Minnesota.

To our legislators who carried the bill, thank you so much.

I will like to thank the Bush Foundation for trusting a survivor-led organization to create a statewide change to bring hope to labor trafficked victims and survivors by raising awareness to education the public about the issue of labor trafficking in the state of Minnesota.

I also will like to specially thank The Enitan Story board, staff and volunteers for the work done, not only during the implementation of this project but contributing tirelessly towards the growth of the organization in the past 10 years.

Looking forward to many more years of successful advocacy and empowering survivors of human trafficking as equitable leaders and transforming the lives of those who have experienced human trafficking or domestic violence.

Once again, I am very grateful.

Respectfully,

Bukola Oriola