

hope

prevention

advocacy

protect

education



U.S. Mapping Project



Concept Paper for U.S. Mapping Project

Facilitated by Chab Dai USA

GOAL/AIM:

To develop a more collaborative approach by government agencies, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), and grassroots movements in ending commercial sexual exploitation and human trafficking across the United States and beyond.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE:

To measure how U.S. based organizations, ministries and service providers are currently providing a response to human trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation in the United States by mapping prevention programs, legal intervention programs, social services, collaborative initiatives, research, and advocacy programs. This will be done in order to further develop collaborative initiatives and measure gap areas in the United States.

MAIN OBJECTIVES:

- ▶ To map and record services available to victims of trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation in the United States.
- ▶ To measure gap areas in services and initiatives overlooked in the fight against trafficking and exploitation.
- ▶ To carry out a literature review on the most at-risk communities, demographics, and/or geographic locations of trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation in the United States and track whether programs are present in most at risk areas.
- ▶ To broadly disseminate findings to organizations working in North America and work collaboratively to implement recommendations.

BACKGROUND:

Human trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation (CSE) are a growing global phenomenon, co-conspiring in the further development of modern day slavery. Human trafficking is the fastest growing criminal industry in the world. Men, women and children are regularly sold into forced situations of exploitative sex and labor.

The United Nations and U.S. Department of State agree that the United States is no stranger to human trafficking and CSE. An estimated 17,500 foreign nationals are trafficked annually into the United States alone, and the number of U.S. citizens trafficked within the country is believed to be even higher.

U.S. government, local law enforcement and nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) have all made considerable progress in developing efforts to address trafficking and sexual exploitation in the U.S. since the development of the *Trafficking Victims Protection Act*, passed in 2000. Federal initiatives such as the *Innocence Lost Initiative* designed by government agencies in collaboration with the *National Center of Missing and Exploited Children* (NCMEC); and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) *Rescue and Restore* campaign; have been supplemented by state laws, grassroots movements, and the NGO community, who have developed training and educational materials, victim restoration programs and are working with perpetrators, victims and survivors across the nation.

Though national efforts to fight trafficking and exploitation have increased in recent years, there remain several gaps and challenges if modern day slavery is to be brought to an end in the United States and across the globe. One such challenge is that cooperation and coordination among NGOs, U.S.



government agencies and grassroots movements is currently insufficient. Concrete and sustainable referral systems between agencies are not in place, trust between sectors is weak, information sharing of best practice is often neglected, and players often find they've had to 'reinvent the wheel' due to a lack of knowledge of what's already being done.

There is currently no exhaustive catalog, index or list of all organizations, ministries and movements working against trafficking and CSE across the United States. A mapping of organizations will aid in the development of more collaboration and cooperation amongst involved parties as a critical step in addressing modern day slavery.

ACTIVITIES:

▶ **Fundraising & Creation of Mapping Project Steering Committee**

- Information about the mapping project concept will be distributed to stakeholders and organizations across the United States
- Chab Dai USA will seek funding to cover project expenses
- A steering committee made up of significant organizations will be invited to participate in the project with Chab Dai USA as lead agency

▶ **Developing Database Guidelines**

- Criteria and database guidelines will be developed detailing information to be gathered from mapped organizations, and how data will be collected
- A survey/questionnaire will be developed and coordinated with a database program

▶ **Contact Existing Service Providers**

- The mapping process will primarily focus on starting in California and eventually working into other states to eventually collect information nationwide
- Chab Dai will map services and organizations in the United States focused on the following issues, as they specifically pertain to trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation of U.S. and foreign-born men, women and children.
 - ✓ **Prevention** programs (including community education, awareness campaigns, organizations focused on demand, perpetrator focused initiatives, etc.)
 - ✓ **Legal intervention** programs (law enforcement task forces, law firms offering T-visa assistance, government initiatives, etc.)
 - ✓ **Support services** for victims (drop-in centers, emergency response, aftercare shelters, vocational training, fair trade programs, employment assistance, benefit programs, etc.)
 - ✓ **Collaborative** programs (alliances, networks, Rescue & Restore coalitions, online networks, etc.)
 - ✓ **Research & Advocacy** programs (research institutions, lobbying organizations, etc.)
- Mapped organizations will be surveyed according to database guidelines to measure what they are currently doing, as well as projected plans for new projects over the following 10 months.

▶ **Literature Review of Research on Particularly Vulnerable States & Communities**

- A review of literature and research already conducted on trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation will similarly be mapped.
- Geographic locations, communities and social groups presented by research as particularly vulnerable will be recorded, as will gap areas in research.



▶ **Data Entry & Analysis**

- Data collected from each organization will be simultaneously entered into a database.
- Once data has been collected, information will be analyzed, and gap areas will be identified.

▶ **Review by Steering Committee**

- The mapping project steering committee will review findings and organize data into a report and/or other readable format.

▶ **Produce Recommendations based on Findings**

▶ **Dissemination of Information**

- Results and information from the mapping process will be disseminated as found appropriate by the steering committee

▶ **Collaborative Follow-Up to Recommendations & Findings**

EXPECTED OUTCOMES:

- ▶ To develop a directory of services to victims of human trafficking and/or sexual exploitation in the United States.
- ▶ To develop a database of research highlighting the most at-risk communities.
- ▶ A list of recommendations aimed to cover gap areas in services.
- ▶ Findings will be disseminated, and stakeholders will commit to collaborating on a regular basis to implement them.

PROPOSED BUDGET: *Attached*