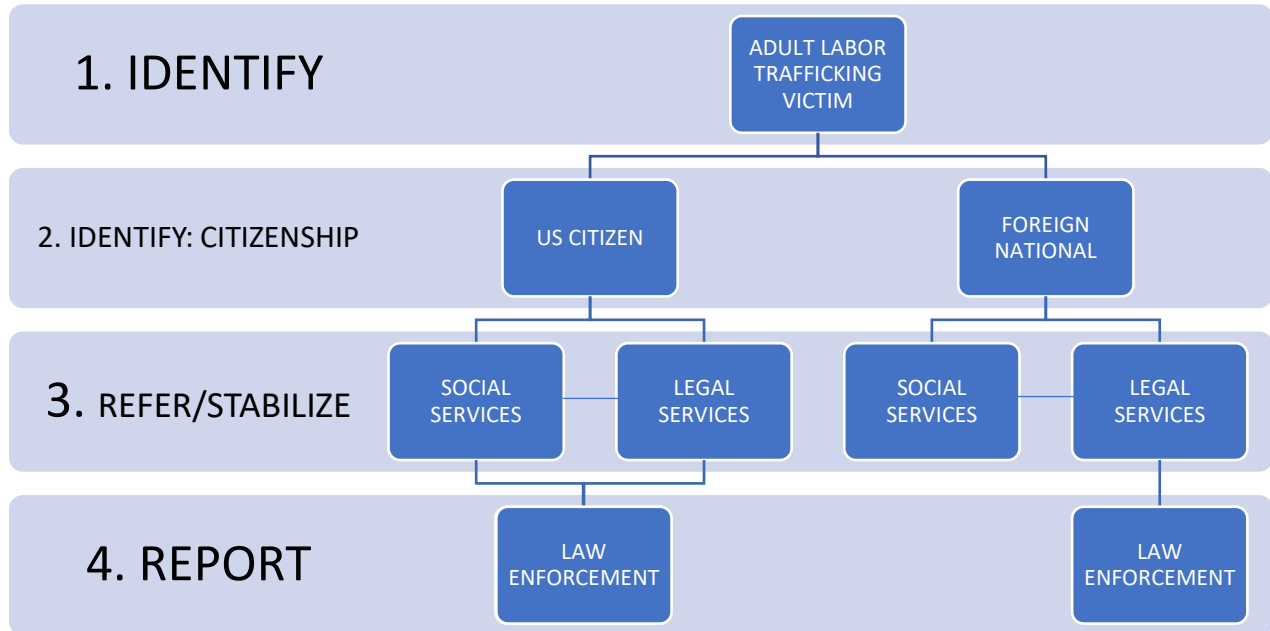


# ADULT LABOR TRAFFICKING VICTIM REFERRAL PROCESS

*What do I do if I identify an adult labor trafficking victim?*



## 1. IDENTIFY:

A labor trafficking victim is an individual who has compelled through force, fraud, or coercion to provide labor services. Their experience must include some form of commercial labor induced by fear, threats, deception, or other coercive tactics.

Forms of labor trafficking can include:

- Forced labor (ex: restaurants, bars, construction, agriculture)
- Forced criminal activity (ex: drug trafficking, stealing cars)
- Forced begging/peddling (ex: forced to sell trinkets but not able to keep money earned)
- Traveling sales crews, forced commission-based sales (ex: magazine crews)
- Servile, forced, or fraudulent marriage
- Domestic servitude (ex: house cleaning, au pair, etc.)
- Debt bondage

*NOTE: Experiences of sexual assault or sexual trauma can be forms of force or coercion for labor trafficking victims. Additionally, a person can experience both sex and labor trafficking at the same time. Sexual trauma does not negate experiences of forced labor.*



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### **2. IDENTIFY- CITIZENSHIP:**

Citizenship will determine which service providers to refer to and will indicate how to proceed in the referral process. If the client does not want to disclose their immigration status, do not force them to share the information. Refer them utilizing the same process that you would with a person who has disclosed they are a foreign nation.

### **3. REFER AND STABILIZE:**

Refer the victim to social services and legal services to help them stabilize and address their immediate needs. Clients should be referred for both social services AND legal services in order for the client's needs to be fully met. This can happen simultaneously (by integrating a legal service provider or pro-bono with the intake/social service process, or by referring the client to a legal service provider and a social service provider separately.

#### ***EMERGENCY/24-HOUR SOCIAL SERVICE REFERRALS:***

**If a person is in immediate danger, please call 911 immediately.**

For individuals who require emergency housing or case management in the Greater New Orleans metro area, any trafficking victim can be referred to Covenant House New Orleans (CHNO) for immediate intake- 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Any client who is a trafficking survivor can receive immediate services, regardless of: age, race, nationality, whether they have children with them, gender, etc. CHNO will take care of the client's needs until a long-term solution can be determined.

#### **Covenant House New Orleans**

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## ADULT LABOR TRAFFICKING VICTIM REFERRAL PROCESS

**NON-EMERGENCY REFERRALS:**

REFERRAL OPTIONS	U.S. Citizen	Foreign National <sup>1</sup>
<b>Social Services</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Covenant House New Orleans</li> <li>• New Orleans Family Justice Center</li> <li>• Family Services of Greater New Orleans</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Covenant House New Orleans</li> <li>• Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New Orleans</li> <li>• Jewish Family Services</li> <li>• New Orleans Family Justice Center</li> </ul>
<b>Legal Services</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Southeast Louisiana Legal Services</li> <li>• CrescentCare</li> <li>• Pro-bono legal services<sup>2</sup></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New Orleans Worker Center for Racial Justice</li> <li>• Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New Orleans</li> <li>• Jewish Family Services</li> <li>• Pro-bono legal services<sup>**</sup></li> </ul>

*For contact information, refer to the Human Trafficking Survivor Services Resource Guide<sup>3</sup>.*

If you're unsure which organization you should refer a victim to? Utilize the chart above as a starting point. Additionally, there are several avenues to assist you in the referral process:

- Call the 24/7/365 National Human Trafficking Hotline at 1-888-3737-888, or text them at 233733 with the words "HELP" or "INFO"
- Utilize the "Human Trafficking Survivor Services Resource Guide" for the Greater New Orleans region, which you can find at <http://www.nolatrafficking.org/community-resources/>
- Reach out to the GNOHTTF's Task Force Coordinator for referrals, case consultation, suggestions and support by calling 504-584-1170 or emailing [info@nolatrafficking.org](mailto:info@nolatrafficking.org).

<sup>1</sup> State funded agencies may not be able to take foreign national victims for ongoing care- just for life-saving/emergency services. Please consult with the social service provider prior to giving a client referral for a foreign national.

<sup>2</sup> Pro-bono legal services are available through Task Force referral. To seek an independent pro-bono professional, contact the Task Force Coordinator by calling 504-584-1170 or emailing [info@nolatrafficking.org](mailto:info@nolatrafficking.org)

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.nolatrafficking.org/community-resources/>



## ADULT LABOR TRAFFICKING VICTIM REFERRAL PROCESS

### 4. REPORT

Particularly for foreign nationals or victims who have criminal records, reporting a crime to law enforcement can have serious adverse consequences for a victim. In nearly all cases involving adults, the victim's decision to report to law enforcement must be respected. Confidentiality, privilege, and privacy are critical components of a relationship of a victim that should be respected.

#### ***MANDATED REPORTING:***

The only time you're required to notify law enforcement about a trafficking situation is for mandated reporting topics such as: child abuse, elder abuse, abuse of adults with disabilities, and threatening to harm self or others. In these cases, mandated reporters must notify law enforcement and the correct protective agency. If a victim discloses something that you're required to report, be honest with the victim that you have to report it. Notify the victim that you're required to report and give the victim agency in the process of reporting the abuse.

#### ***IF THE ABUSER IS A PARENT OR CAREGIVER:***

A "parent or caretaker" is a person who maintains an interpersonal dating or engagement relationship with the parent or caretaker, or a person living in the same residence with the parent or caretaker whether married or not. This shall include: parents, spouses of parents, boyfriends/girlfriends of caretaker, stepparents, etc.

**If the abuser is a parent or caregiver, you should first call to report to a protective service agency. For minors, contact the Louisiana Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) hotline at 1-855-4LA-KIDS (1-855-452-5437).**

**For adults with disabilities or the elderly, contact the Louisiana Elderly and Adult Protective Services (APS) hotline at 1-800-898-4910.**

Mandated reporters are required to report to DCFS/APS when they have reason to believe child or elder abuse is occurring. After reporting to DCFS/APS via phone, you will need to submit a written report within 5 days via their website. Please note that for trafficking cases, you may not use the online reporting portal to make an *initial report*- only to make your *follow up report* or to share additional information about the case after the initial phone call report. Additionally, the jurisdiction of your report will depend on the parish where the child and/or caretaker reside.

## **ADULT LABOR TRAFFICKING VICTIM REFERRAL PROCESS**

**In cases when you're reporting trafficking, we suggest that you also immediately notify law enforcement about the suspected trafficking situation.** Particularly in cases when the vulnerable victim is in imminent danger or actively in a trafficking situation, you should call law enforcement immediately. This will depend on the parish in which the abuse is occurring.

*IF THE ABUSER IS NOT A PARENT OR CAREGIVER:*

**If the abuser is unknown, or is not a parent or caregiver, you should first call to report to law enforcement through 911 or the local law enforcement non-emergency line.**

Particularly in cases where the victim is in imminent danger or actively in a trafficking situation, you should call law enforcement immediately. The jurisdiction of the case will depend on the parish in which the offense occurred. **After reporting to law enforcement, mandated reporters should immediately report the offense to DCFS or APS using the steps outlined above.**

To learn more about mandated reporting for vulnerable populations, reference resources for the following agencies:

- **Children:** State of Louisiana Department of Children and Family Services<sup>4</sup>
- **Elderly:** Adult/Elderly Protectives Services<sup>5 6</sup>
- **Adults with disabilities:** Adult/Elderly Protective Services<sup>7</sup>

### ***REPORTING PROCESS FOR U.S. CITIZENS:***

Prior to engaging with law enforcement, the immediate needs of the client should be addressed. The client should be offered both social services *and* legal services prior to engaging with law enforcement.

### ***REPORTING PROCESS FOR FOREIGN NATIONALS:***

Prior to engaging with law enforcement, the client should be connected to legal representation to ensure that they do not encounter any negative consequences for working with law enforcement.

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<sup>4</sup> <http://www.dcf.louisiana.gov/index.cfm?md=pagebuilder&tmp=home&pid=109>

<sup>5</sup> <https://apps.rainn.org/policy/policy-state-laws-export.cfm?state=Louisiana&group=5>

<sup>6</sup> <https://louisianalawhelp.org/resource/elder-abuse-elderly-protective-services>

<sup>7</sup> <http://ldh.la.gov/assets/docs/OAAS/publications/APSbrochure.pdf>



## **ADULT LABOR TRAFFICKING VICTIM REFERRAL PROCESS**

### ***LAW ENFORCEMENT JURISDICTION:***

Generally, the following jurisdiction should be followed depending on the jurisdiction of the trafficking offense.

**Crime with an international nexus:** Homeland Security Investigations, Federal Bureau of Investigation

**Crime with a nexus that crosses state lines:** Federal Bureau of Investigations

**Crime with a nexus that crosses parish lines:** Louisiana State Police, Federal Bureau of Investigation

**Crime that occurs within a parish:** local law enforcement (parish sheriff's office or police department), Louisiana State Police

To reach law enforcement, you can either 1) report the incident to the National Human Trafficking hotline<sup>8</sup>, or 2) reach out the Task Force Coordinator to request local contacts.

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<sup>8</sup> National Human Trafficking Hotline: call 1-888-3737-888, or text 233733 with the words "HELP" or "INFO"