We were contacted by our law enforcement partner via our task force’s hotline regarding a possible victim of human trafficking that had been found through an emergency response law enforcement team. We provided immediate safety planning and sustenance to the client. Through the intake process, it became clear that the client was a victim of both labor and sex trafficking. She had many urgent physical and psychological needs as a result of the intense abuse endured while she was being trafficked, and did not know where her infant child was. We were able to quickly ascertain the location of the child and worked to meet the client’s extensive needs. We coordinated with federal law enforcement to ensure assistance in helping state police identify and charge the crime of human trafficking. The client received independent housing, access to benefits, outpatient treatment, wraparound case management services, advocacy, and support. The client is now living with her mother and child and is stabilizing. She is determined to be a witness in her own case as it moves forward in the trial process.

— OVC/BJA Enhanced Collaborative Model to Combat Human Trafficking Program grantee

Enhanced Collaborative Model

The Enhanced Collaborative Model (ECM) To Combat Human Trafficking Program supports the development and enhancement of multidisciplinary human trafficking task forces that implement collaborative approaches to combating all forms of human trafficking within the United States. The ECM task force framework was developed by OVC and the Bureau of Justice Assistance to address the complex and multifaceted issues surrounding the crime of human trafficking. Task force membership includes a wide variety of agencies and organizations that have a role in combating human trafficking. The purpose of the task forces is to identify victims of all types of human trafficking within specific geographic areas; investigate and prosecute all types of human trafficking cases at the local, state, tribal, and federal levels; and address the individual needs of trafficking victims by providing a comprehensive array of services.

Program grantees used the comprehensive service model to provide a wide range of direct services to clients, demonstrating the multitude and variety of services necessary to provide stabilizing relief for trafficking victims. The primary services provided included personal items (e.g., food, clothing, hygiene products), transportation, ongoing case management, and emotional and moral
Of the 1,393 clients served —

- 70% Victims of sex trafficking
- 4% Type of trafficking was uncertain at the time
- 5% Victims of both sex and labor trafficking
- 21% Victims of labor trafficking
- 12% Male
  (of those, 13% were minors)
- 1% Transgender
  (of those, 18% were minors)
- 87% Female
  (of those, 25% were minors)

During the reporting period, the 20 program grantees reported serving —

- **1,393 Total Clients**
  including confirmed trafficking victims and individuals showing strong indicators of trafficking victimization.
- **787 New Clients**
  served under the grant for the first time.

Two largest populations served —

- **62% U.S. Victims of Sex Trafficking**
  (856 clients)
- **20% Foreign National Victims of Labor Trafficking**
  (275 clients)

Support. The most common type of housing placement for clients was hotel and motel establishments. In comparison, grantees reported providing lower rates of employment assistance and dental services, among other services. Principal services for minors also included criminal justice-based advocacy, education support, and medical services.

Ongoing case management, emotional and moral support, and personal items were generally the most commonly provided services, regardless of gender. However, when assessing service provision by gender, top services for female clients included transportation and legal services. Female clients also received proportionately greater amounts of criminal justice system-based advocacy than male or transgender clients. Top services for male clients included interpretation/translation and legal services. Male clients also received proportionately greater amounts of family reunification services than female or transgender clients. Top service for transgender clients included transportation and mental health services. Transgender clients also received proportionately greater amounts of protection and safety planning services than female or male clients.

A key element of the grant program is providing training in order to raise public awareness and enhance the ability of partners and other first responders to identify and serve victims effectively. ECM victim service providers reported conducting 330 trainings for a total of nearly 13,000 participants. The most common training recipients were schools and educational institutions, victim service providers, faith-based organizations, and religious institutions.

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

With OVC funds, we were able to support a client to complete his high school education, obtain a diploma, and pursue his studies at the local community college. He was granted a T visa and is working as an apprentice electrician, continuing his studies to become a certified electrician.

—Enhanced Collaborative Model to Combat Human Trafficking Program grantee

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