

Trauma-Informed Identification and Screening of Victims of HT & CSEC

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Forensic Resilience Training Academy



1. Mitigating the Impact of Secondary Trauma (MIST): Theory & Practice for Self Preservation and Team Care
2. Trauma-informed Identification and Screening of Victims of HT & CSEC
3. Trauma-informed Response and Trauma-specific Services for Victims of HT & CSEC
4. Working with Adolescent Victims in Cases of Youth-produced Sexual Image(s)
5. Specialized Forensic Training for Interviewing Victims of HT & CSEC
6. Developing a Trauma-Informed Community Response to HT & CSEC*

Before we begin, we'd like to let you know...



- This training session will be **recorded** (and why)
- We are **evaluating** this training (and why)
- Training sessions may include discussion of topics such as child sexual assault, physical violence, and emotional harm. We acknowledge the content may be difficult and encourage you to **care for your safety and well-being**.
- This project is **funded by** the OJJDP FY2021 - VOCA Children's Advocacy Centers National Subgrant Program - Domestic Trafficking Victims Funds (CFDA #16.834)
- After each training, you will receive a follow-up email with additional resources.
- At the end of the Academy, you will receive a resource guide.

Mindfulness

Remembering to be present in the full experience positive or negative



Meditation



Breath Work



Presence



Balance



Engagement



Introductions



Mary Beth Nelson



Ricky Lynn

Agenda



Community Meeting: A trauma-informed check-in



IDENTIFICATION: Who, What When, Where and How



SCREENING: Who, What, When, Where, How



IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS: Applying a Trauma-Informed Lens

TRC Model Tool #1



Community Meeting Practice



**How are you
feeling?**

**What is your
goal?**

**Who can
support you?**



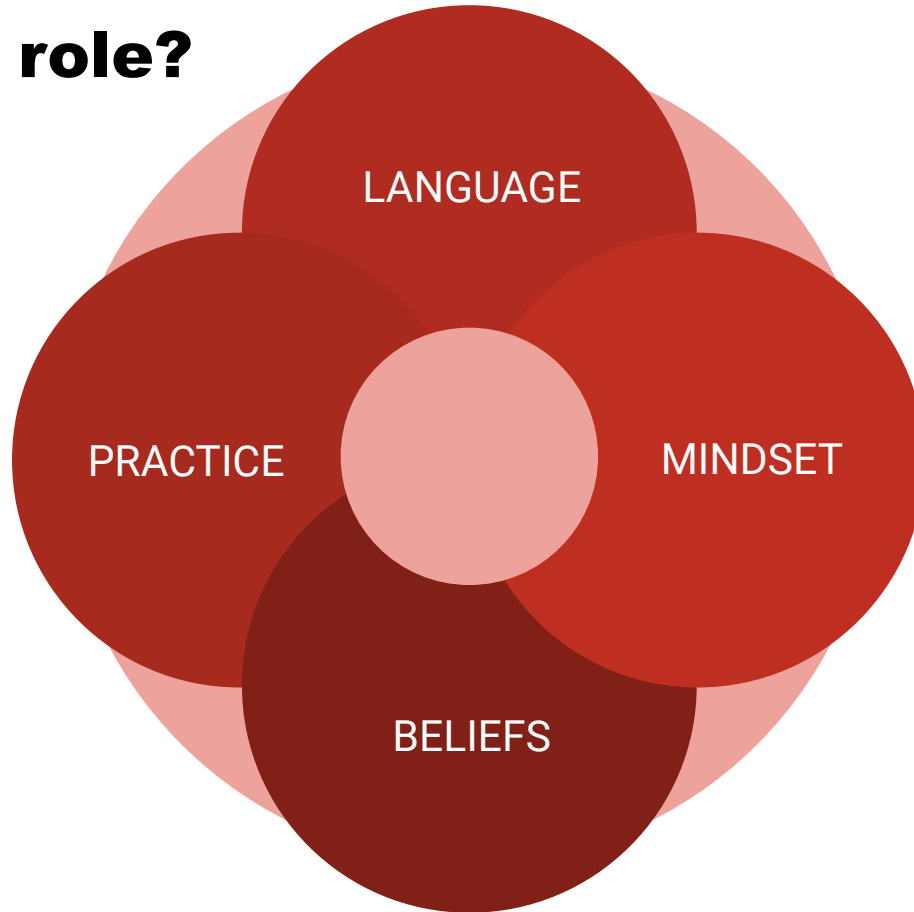
WHY

Why do we do this?

Why do we identify and screen for CSEC/HT?



What is our role?



Discussion
Question:

1. What are the benefits of “labeling?”
2. What are the challenges or issues associated with “labeling?”



Language Matters

Labeling a person a victim and/or survivor has implications and it is important to be intentional with our language.



What is Human Trafficking and DMST?

Federal Law

Sex trafficking is the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, obtaining, patronizing, or soliciting of a person for the purpose of a commercial sex act in which a commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such act has not attained 18 years of age. (22 U.S.C. § 7102(11)(A)).

Forced labor is the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery. (22 U.S.C. § 7102(11)(B)).



Tennessee Law

39-13-309 - Trafficking for commercial sex act.

Universal Citation: [TN Code § 39-13-309 \(2014\)](#)

(a) A person commits the offense of trafficking a person for a commercial sex act who:

(1) Knowingly subjects, attempts to subject, benefits from or attempts to benefit from another person's provision of a commercial sex act; or

(2) Recruits, entices, harbors, transports, provides, purchases, or obtains by any other means, another person for the purpose of providing a commercial sex act.

(b) For purposes of subdivision (a)(2), such means may include, but are not limited to:

(1) Causing or threatening to cause physical harm to the person;

(2) Physically restraining or threatening to physically restrain the person;

(3) Abusing or threatening to abuse the law or legal process;

(4) Knowingly destroying, concealing, removing, confiscating or possessing any actual or purported passport or other immigration document, or any other actual or purported government identification document, of the person;

(5) Using blackmail or using or threatening to cause financial harm for the purpose of exercising financial control over the person; or

(6) Facilitating or controlling a person's access to a controlled substance.

(c) A violation of subsection (a) is a Class B felony, except where the victim of the offense is a child under fifteen (15) years of age, or where the offense occurs on the grounds or facilities or within one thousand feet (1,000') of a public or private school, secondary school, preschool, child care agency, public library, recreational center, or public park, a violation of subsection (a) is a Class A felony.



RECOMMENDED TERMINOLOGY

Recommended terms (moving from broad to more specific):

- HT (Human Trafficking)
- CSEC (Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children)
- DMST (Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking)
- FCT (Family Controlled Trafficking)
- Victims of child sexual abuse images

Additional terms:

- Gang-controlled trafficking
- Pimp-controlled trafficking
- Buyer-perpetrated trafficking



EMPOWERMENT

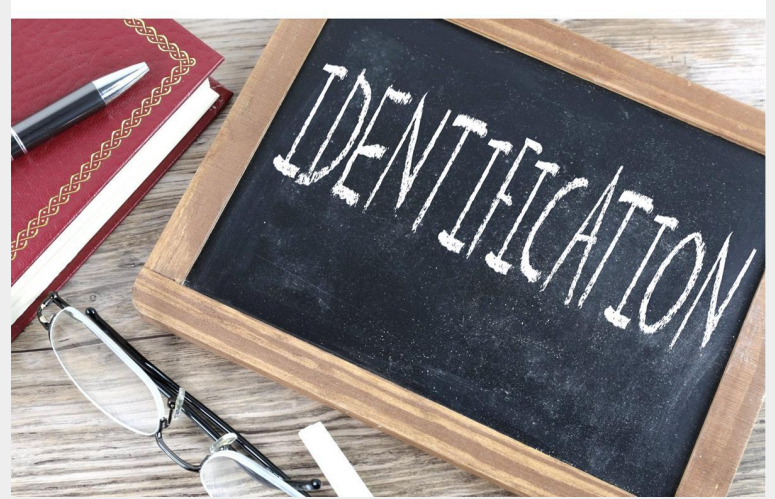
How do you empower people?

What are the...
Statements to make.
Actions you take.
To empower people along the way.



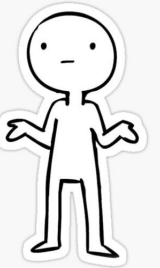
IDENTIFICATION

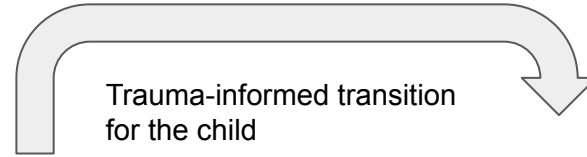
Risk Factors or Red
Flags/Indicators May Prompt
Screening



WHAT

What exactly do we mean by “Identification?”





Identification

- Awareness
- “Uh oh!”
- Red flags/Indicators
- Risk factors

Screening

- Use of a screening tool/process
- Results in a determination

Assessment

- Multidisciplinary collaboration to collect comprehensive information from all sources.
- Usually includes a forensic interview at this phase.
- Often is part of an investigation.
- Needs assessment

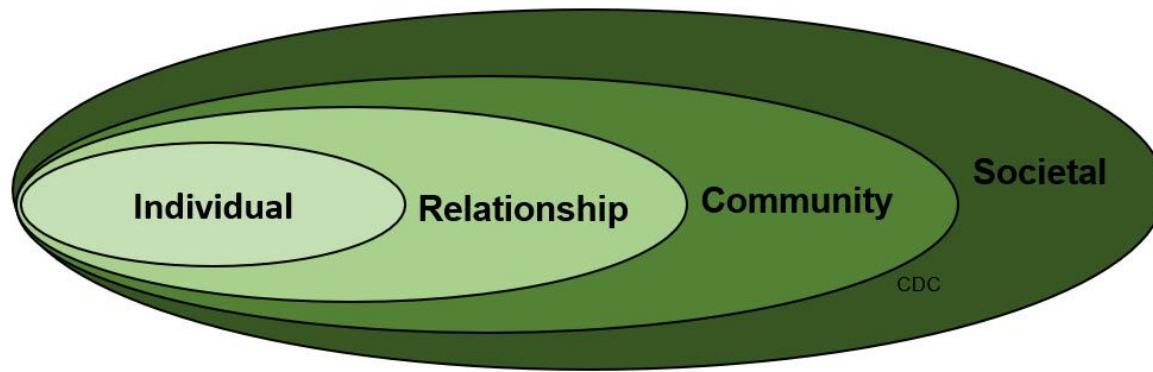


Are their basic needs being met? Do they need to decompress/recover first?

WHAT

What makes young people vulnerable for HT/CSEC?





Individual

Hx maltreatment
Homeless/runaway
Substance misuse
Hx with juvenile justice, or child protective services
Immigrant
Persons of color

Relationship

Family violence
Familial poverty
Family dysfunction
Forced migration
Intolerance of gender identity/sexual orientation

Community

Tolerance of sexual exploitation
High crime rate
Lack of community resources/support
Limited awareness of human trafficking

Societal

Gender-based violence
Systemic racism
Cultural attitudes that marginalise
Natural disasters
Political/social upheaval

WHAT

What are RED FLAGS AND INDICATORS of
HT/CSEC?



PATHWAYS

What are the various pathways into our line of sight?



WHO

Who participates in identification processes?



HOW

How do we approach identification?



HOW

How do we DECOLONIZE our practices?

How do we make sure our practices are
VICTIM-CENTERED and
TRAUMA-INFORMED?

SCREENING

What do we mean by
“screening?”

WestCoast Children's Clinic
Commercial Sexual Exploitation Identification Tool (CSE-IT) – version 2.0

1. HOUSING AND CAREGIVING. The youth experiences housing or caregiving instability for any reason.	No Information	No Concern	Possible Concern	Clear Concern
a. Youth runs away or frequently leaves their residence for extended periods of time (overnight, days, weeks).	0	0	1	2
b. Youth experiences unstable housing, including multiple foster/group home placements.	0	0	1	2
c. Youth experiences periods of homelessness, e.g. living on the street or couch surfing.	0	0	1	2
d. Youth relies on emergency or temporary resources to meet basic needs, e.g. hygiene, shelter, food, medical care.	0	0	1	2
e. Parent/caregiver is unable to provide adequate supervision.	0	0	1	2
f. Youth has highly irregular school attendance, including frequent or prolonged tardiness or absences.	0	0	1	2
g. Youth has current or past involvement with the child welfare system. ∞	0	0	1	2
Indicator 1 Score: A subtotal of 0 to 3 = No Concern. A subtotal of 4 or 5 = Possible Concern. A subtotal from 6 to 14 = Clear Concern. Circle score here →	0	No Concern 0	Possible Concern 1	Clear Concern 2
2. PRIOR ABUSE OR TRAUMA. The youth has experienced trauma (not including exploitation).	No Information	No Concern	Possible Concern	Clear Concern
a. Youth has been sexually abused. ∞	0	0	1	2
b. Youth has been physically abused. ∞	0	0	1	2
c. Youth has been emotionally abused. ∞	0	0	1	2
d. Youth has witnessed domestic violence. ∞	0	0	1	2
Indicator 2 Score: A subtotal of 0 or 1 = No Concern. A subtotal of 2 = Possible Concern. A subtotal from 3 to 8 = Clear Concern. Circle score here →	0	No Concern 0	Possible Concern 1	Clear Concern 2

WHAT

What does screening look like?



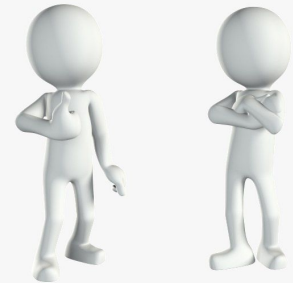
WHO

Who conducts the screening?



WHO

Who is involved in screening?



HOW

How are screening tools selected?



Screening Tools to Consider & Examples of Recommended Tools

- Medical
- Child welfare/child protection
- Child advocacy/CACs
- Juvenile justice/juvenile courts/DJJ
- Therapists/behavioral health providers
- Law enforcement
- Schools/education



CONSIDERATIONS

Trauma-informed and
equity-centered considerations
for identification & screening



Challenges with Adopting Screening Tools

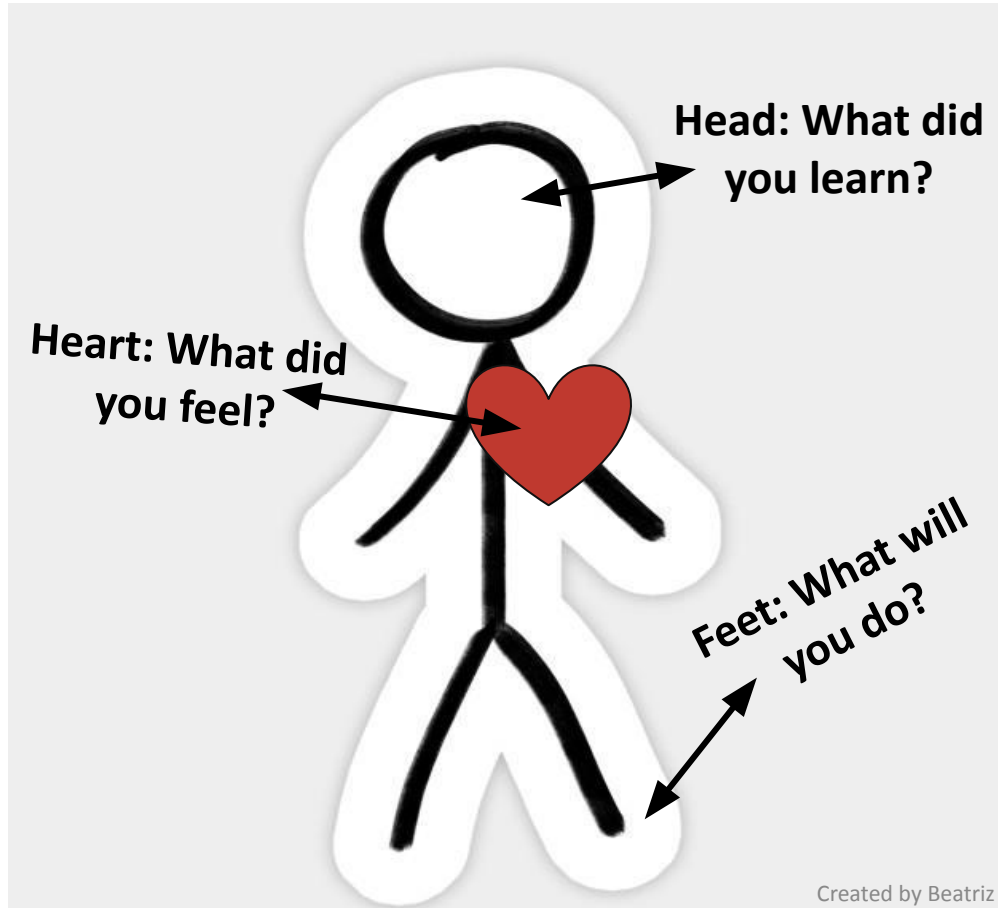
The screening process is not only about selecting a reliable and valid screening tool. What are the next steps? Does the person conducting the screening understand what they should do with that information?

-> Ongoing training and support for screeners is a necessity!

Trauma-Informed Considerations

- Labels
- Scheduling the screening
 - Timing
 - Location
- Balance need to ensure children are appropriately identified & screened vs. repetitive questioning

Questions & Reflections



“The eyes cannot see what the mind does not know.”



- From D.H. Lawrence



Thank you!

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