



The Michigan **DVOCATE**

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MICHIGAN CRIME VICTIM SERVICES COMMISSION

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THE MICHIGAN ADVOCATE was created in 2000 to provide information and resources to VOCA Grantee-agencies, other programs serving crime victims, and advocates in Michigan and throughout the country. This publication strives to help professionals maintain comprehensive and quality services to victims of crime and to inform advocates of broader issues affecting crime victim services.

THE MICHIGAN ADVOCATE is published twice yearly and has evolved into an electronic format allowing for broader distribution of news relevant to crime victim services.

www.michiganadvocate.org

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CVSC Announces New Manager, James McCurtis

■ By Heather Sprague

There is a lot of excitement surrounding James McCurtis, Jr. these days. As the former Public Information Officer for the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH), he brings a unique perspective to his new role as Manager of the Crime Victim Services Commission (CVSC). CVSC is a unit housed within MDCH that works across sectors to meet many of the needs of victims of crime.

Mr. McCurtis majored in Journalism and Communications at the University of Iowa and began his professional career as a reporter. His work with newspapers and television provided him the opportunity to witness and convey the stories of his community. Sometimes those stories were about victims and their families. Mr. McCurtis shared how this work informs his perceptions about the CVSC mission. "To arrive at the scene of a crime just as family members and loved ones arrive can be a sobering experience. These people are in complete shock and are experiencing an enormous amount of pain; I've spoken to some of these people and I know there is need."

These experiences undergird Mr. McCurtis' priorities for CVSC and are in part based on an awareness of the life-changing moment when a person is victimized and needs help. "They need to know we are here," he said in our interview. To achieve this goal, Mr. McCurtis said he plans to bring CVSC



into the spotlight. His first order of business was to ensure that each caller to the Commission is met with a human connection. There are three areas within CVSC and each handles different aspects of crime and victimization. Although employees within these groups work collaboratively, the system can be overwhelming for someone seeking services or information. At such a vulnerable point in their lives, Mr. McCurtis insists that people calling deserve to feel like someone is there to help them through an often foreign process.

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CVSC Announces New Manager, James McCurtis continued...

Mr. McCurtis doesn't believe in voicemail when it comes to serving victims. That is why he has charged all CVSC staff to answer all calls and to be that immediate and reassuring voice people will hear. Similarly, he would like to see movement toward increasing the amount of web-based information available and the translation of essential forms into Spanish, Chinese and Arabic.

On a broader level, Mr. McCurtis sees the value in and is eager to work on increasing community outreach, engagement, and visibility. As an MBA, Mr. McCurtis brings a global orientation, tendency towards strategic planning, and the ability to leverage technology and innovation. As the former public information officer, he used social media outlets such as Facebook and Twitter to establish a more visible and contemporary presence for MDCH. He would like to continue this momentum and see CVSC create a presence through commercials, public service announcements, and print media. Mr. McCurtis believes that at the heart of access is knowing services exist. Furthermore, he sees visibility as one way to help decrease the stigma and shame some people associate with victimization. He believes the message should be clear; we are here to help.

Recently, several funding changes have taken place within the CVSC to increase the level of services available to victims and their families in Michigan. "It is unfortunate that we have crime victims, but it is very fortunate that we have funding to support victims of crime," Mr. McCurtis

said. He is excited to point out that recent legislative changes increased the maximum benefit level for victims seeking compensation from \$15,000 to \$25,000. He also highlighted that reimbursement for services such as grief counseling and crime scene clean up are now available. "There are a lot of expenses that people are not expecting to have to pay for and for some people they just don't have the means," he said. Mr. McCurtis sees parents and other loved ones as secondary victims of crime and deserving of support. In the case of homicide, family members bear an enormous responsibility for things such as funeral arrangements or crime scene clean up and often must interact with the criminal justice system, the prosecutor's office, and sometimes the media. These things are financially, physically and emotionally trying.

"It is important for the people of Michigan to know that if they need us we are here to serve them."

James
McCurtis, Jr.

Not only is Mr. McCurtis focused on engaging the public and providing services to victims, he is committed to the relationships between CVSC and their partners. He is acutely aware of Michigan's economic circumstance, but remains optimistic about CVSC's future. According to Mr. McCurtis, the infrastructure is there and it is solid. He is proud of the funded agencies and sees them fulfilling an important need.

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CVSC Announces New Manager, James McCurtis continued...

"Our agencies and advocates are out there working strong and pushing forward," he said. He believes that with ongoing communication and information-sharing they will continue to experience success.

Looking ahead, Mr. McCurtis's optimism, experience, and forward-thinking nature are sure to bolster CVSC's presence throughout Michigan while providing support to both crime victims and service providers in Michigan. As we closed our

conversation he said, "There is no doubt that things will progress and we will become a more visible force, it's going to take some time. We'll do a bit at a time." Mr. McCurtis remains committed to his vision for CVSC and to the ongoing dialogue between service providers and the Commission.

Heather Sprague, MA, is a Research Associate for the Crime Victim Services Commission Technical Assistance Project at the Michigan Public Health Institute.

MSU Sexual Assault Program Coordinator Receives Caring About Women Locally Award

■ By Katie Parker

Capital Area Women's Lifestyle Magazine selected Shari Murgittroyd as the first recipient of the Caring About Women Locally Award. Murgittroyd was presented with the award at a fundraising event on March 19, 2011 at the former Washington Street Armory in Lansing.

Murgittroyd currently serves as the Sexual Assault Program Coordinator at Michigan State University (MSU). As part of her role at MSU, Murgittroyd provides therapy and advocacy services for sexual assault survivors. In addition, she is the adviser for both the social action theatre troupe E5M (Every 5 Minutes) and *The Vagina Monologues* at MSU.

According to Murgittroyd, providing direct services to sexual assault survivors can be very hard work. She noted that it was especially meaningful to receive the award just prior to the beginning of Sexual Assault Awareness Month in April.

"I think it (the award) came at a really nice time to be recognized for the sexual assault program," said Murgittroyd. "It was such an honor to be recognized. I am still very humbled by it."

Murgittroyd was nominated for the Caring About Women Locally Award by several MSU students.

"Every day that Shari goes to work she is making a huge difference (for sexual assault survivors). Every person that she meets I feel like she fully wants to connect to them and give them time to tell their story," said Stephanie Fluegeman, one of the students who

nominated Murgittroyd. "I admire that woman so much!"

Murgittroyd remains passionate about the services she provides. In addition to her other activities, Murgittroyd is involved in fundraising efforts. She said that she has participated in Operation Freefall twice, a skydiving event that raises money for organizations providing services to sexual assault survivors.

"This (receiving the award) was an uplifting moment in my career," Murgittroyd said. "It reenergized me, refueled me."

Murgittroyd said she hopes to be involved in selecting the 2012 winner of the Caring About Women Locally Award.

Additional information about Shari Murgittroyd and the Caring About Women Locally Award can be found on the *Capital Area Women's Lifestyle Magazine* website: <http://www.cawlm.com/article/caring-about-women-locally-shari-murgittroyd/>.

Katie Parker, BS, is a Senior Research Assistant for the Crime Victim Services Commission Technical Assistance Project at the Michigan Public Health Institute.

Introducing the Sexual Assault Resource Analysis (SARA) Project

- By The SARA Project

The Sexual Assault Resource Analysis (SARA) Project was formed in 2008 with funding from the Crime Victim Services Commission (CVSC) of the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH). The federal Violence Against Women (VAWA) and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005 prompted the creation of a broad set of new programs and legislative changes in the State of Michigan, including the SARA Project. The SARA Project provides state policy makers with information on the current status of sexual assault services throughout the state of Michigan, provides recommendations for improving services aligned with emerging best practices, and acts as a liaison between different state agencies and between the state and practitioners. The SARA Project team is led by Dr. Rebecca Campbell, a professor at Michigan State University, and is staffed with people experienced in violence against women intervention, advocacy, research, legal issues, prevention, medical expertise, and program evaluation.

The first task undertaken by the SARA Team was the systematic analysis of the availability of sexual assault medical forensic exams statewide and identification of local support services for sexual assault victim/survivors. Hospitals with emergency services in every county were contacted, as well as community-based Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) programs. Services were mapped and gaps identified to assist in determining where resources might be focused. That same year, work began on identifying and evaluating existing sexual

assault training curricula and online training resources available to medical personnel, law enforcement, and advocates. This work resulted in a complete report in September of 2009, along with a separate volume of the online training review and recommendations.

After having identified and reviewed online sexual assault trainings, the SARA Project focused their attention on in-person trainings across the state. Recognizing that sexual assault trainings are provided by various state agencies and organizations, the SARA Project collected data on all sexual assault trainings hosted in 2008 and 2009 for advocates, medical personnel, prosecutors, and law enforcement across the state of Michigan. This information was used to create maps illustrating the location, frequency, and intensity of trainings. The maps, along with the raw data, revealed that there is little coordination between agencies providing training, resulting in training gaps around the state. The SARA Project used this information to provide recommendations for future trainings. These future trainings included recommended in-person sessions as well as online training sessions. The online training sessions had been previously reviewed and catalogued by the SARA Project. The complete online training review, and additional resources, can be found at the SARA Project homepage: <http://psychology.msu.edu/vaw/SARA/>.

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The data on sexual assault trainings and medical forensic exam availability suggested that rural areas could benefit from additional sexual assault training. Specifically, the maps on sexual assault training revealed that many rural areas did not have access to trainings while the maps on the availability of medical forensic exams revealed that rural areas frequently did not offer this service, perhaps as a result of inadequate training. To attend to this gap, the SARA Team, in collaboration with CVSC and the Michigan Domestic Violence Prevention and Treatment Board (MDVPTB) of the Michigan Department of Human Services, developed and piloted one-day intensive trainings for medical personnel and advocates in rural areas. The training focused on patient-centered care for victims of sexual assault and how to conduct a medical forensic exam. Two one-day trainings were conducted in rural areas of Michigan with full attendance. Evaluations indicated great satisfaction with the instruction given and the content of the trainings.

This year (FY 2010-2011), the SARA Project is focusing on the evaluation of Michigan's new sexual assault forensic evidence collection kit. The kits have been revised to reflect recent changes in Michigan Law and as a means to improve evidence collection and services to victims of sexual assault. The revisions of the kit are a result of a collaborative effort between the forensic division of the Michigan State Police, the Michigan

Domestic Violence Prevention and Treatment Board of the Michigan Department of Human Services, the Crime Victim Services Commission of the Department of Community Health, and a variety of frontline service providers. The new kits will be distributed to rural and non-rural hospital and community-based sexual assault nurse examiner (SANE) programs once they become available this year. The SARA Project will work with medical providers and lab personnel to evaluate the usability and utility of the kits. This evaluation will inform any future revisions and the development of a statewide protocol for the treatment of sexual assault victim/survivors.

Each year the SARA Project builds upon its previous accomplishments to expand on what is known and determine what more we need to know if sexual assault survivors are to be provided the best possible post-assault care and perpetrators are to be held accountable for the crimes they committed.

For more information on the SARA Project, please contact Julie Hagstrom, project director, at 517-353-5980 or at jhagstro@msu.edu.

The SARA Project is a multidisciplinary team funded by the Michigan Department of Community Health Crime Victim Services Commission to provide resource and policy analysis on services for sexual assault victims throughout the state of Michigan.

Program Evaluation Training Update

■ By Katie Parker

The Crime Victim Services Commission (CVSC) and the Michigan Public Health Institute (MPHI) coordinate several one-day workshops on program evaluation each year. These workshops are designed and presented by Dr. Cris Sullivan from the Ecological-Community Psychology Program at Michigan State University. The workshops guide agencies serving victims of crime through the process of designing an evaluation that meets their unique needs. In 2010, a session was added to the advanced trainings on analyzing and reporting collected data and was presented by Mary Zack Thompson from MPHI.

Workshops in 2010 were held in Okemos, Mackinaw City, and Lansing. In response to participant requests, two advanced training workshops were held for participants who had attended the general training session at least twice in previous years. One general training session was offered for all other participants. Attendance continued to be high in 2010 with a combined total of 95 people from VOCA-funded agencies across Michigan attending all three workshops. Training participants indicated that the sessions offered useful information for conducting program evaluations in their own agencies. Participants also expressed their appreciation for Dr. Cris Sullivan's knowledgeable and engaging presentation style. Based on continuous positive remarks, these workshops will again be offered in 2011.

Participants were offered the opportunity to earn continuing education credits in the fields of social work, licensed professional counseling, and nursing for both the advanced and general training sessions.

Continuing education credits will be made available to training participants in 2011 for all workshop sessions. For specific details about the availability of continuing education credits please contact Katie Parker at 517-324-8397 or by e-mail at kparker@mphi.org.

This year, the general training will be held on Thursday, April 28, 2011, at the Okemos Conference Center in Okemos. There will be two advanced training sessions offered this year. The first session will be held Thursday, August 25, 2011 at the Hyatt Regency in Dearborn and the second advanced training will be offered on Friday, September 9, 2011 at the Hagerty Center at Northwestern Michigan College in Traverse City. More detailed information about these workshops was mailed to crime victim services agency directors and project contacts. This information is also available on *The Michigan Advocate* website and can be found under the "CVSC Events" tab at: www.michiganadvocate.org.

For more information about the program evaluation training workshops, please contact Mary Zack Thompson from the Michigan Public Health Institute at 517-324-8392 or mthomps@mphi.org.

Katie Parker, BS, is a Senior Research Assistant for the Crime Victim Services Commission Technical Assistance Project at the Michigan Public Health Institute.

Thirteenth Annual Council of Advocates Held

■ By Katie Parker

The Council of Advocates (COA) meeting is a day-long, roundtable discussion hosted annually by the Crime Victim Services Commission (CVSC) and coordinated by the Michigan Public Health Institute (MPHI). Each year, a small group of representatives from VOCA-funded agencies in Michigan meet to network and discuss current issues that crime victims and service providers face. Participants have the chance to provide open feedback to the CVSC and MPHI, and the CVSC is able to relay any new and pertinent information regarding VOCA grant administration to grantees.

This year, the COA meeting was held on Tuesday, February 1, 2011 at the Henry Center in Lansing, Michigan. Meeting participants traveled to Lansing from all over the state, including Holland, Detroit, Grand Rapids, Sault Ste. Marie, Ann Arbor, Mt. Clemens, and Battle Creek. The participants represented a wide variety of VOCA-funded agencies serving victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, homicide, drunk driving, and child abuse.

James McCurtis, Manager of the Crime Victim Services Commission, and Leslie O'Reilly, Program Specialist, began the meeting with introductions and opening remarks. Mr. McCurtis provided attendees with a short biography of himself and discussed some of the initiatives he plans to accomplish as the new CVSC manager. The group then moved into an open question and answer session. Topics of discussion included changes to Crime Victim Compensation during the past year, victims who are also offenders, questions raised by the Office for Victims of Crime, increasing awareness of crime victim

services, agency capacity building, and services for victims of human trafficking.

During the afternoon session, Ms. O'Reilly discussed the online VOCA application and reporting process. Participants were given the opportunity to provide continued feedback on the online system. Ongoing training on the system will be provided to users. Ms. O'Reilly also spoke about issues related to CVSC monitoring of VOCA grantees in Michigan.

Brief background information on the training needs assessment survey of victim services agencies in Michigan was provided to meeting attendees. This survey was designed and implemented by MPHI and distributed to agency directors, staff, and volunteers. The next phase will involve surveying select training providers throughout the state. Mary Zack Thompson and Katie Parker of MPHI provided preliminary results gathered from the surveys of agency directors, staff, and volunteers. The CVSC will use the responses to develop future workshops that meet the training needs of victim service providers in Michigan.

MPHI staff facilitated a discussion about *The Michigan Advocate* website that included an online demonstration. COA meeting attendees submitted article suggestions for upcoming editions of *The Michigan Advocate* newsletter. The latest edition of the newsletter and other resources can be found at the following link: www.michiganadvocate.org.

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Thirteenth Annual Council of Advocates Held continued...

At the conclusion of the COA meeting, MPHI staff announced the upcoming Program Evaluation for VOCA Grantees training dates. In response to participant feedback from the previous years, three trainings facilitated by Dr. Cris Sullivan from Michigan State University will again be offered in 2011. One general training session and two advanced training sessions will be provided. Additional information about these trainings, including dates, locations, RSVP forms, and hotel reservation information, can be found at www.michiganadvocate.org under the "CVSC Events" tab.

Discussion topics and updates provided by the CVSC and MPHI were summarized in a COA meeting report and will be posted to *The Michigan Advocate* website. If you would like additional information about the COA meeting, please contact Mary Zack Thompson from MPHI at (517) 324-8392 or mthompso@mphi.org.

Katie Parker, BS, is a Senior Research Assistant for the Crime Victim Services Commission Technical Assistance Project at the Michigan Public Health Institute.

Training Needs Assessment Conducted

■ By Katie Parker

The Crime Victim Services Commission (CVSC) announced plans to conduct a training needs assessment of victim services agencies in Michigan at the 2010 Council of Advocates Meeting. In hopes of learning more about the training needs of and types of training currently offered to victim services providers in Michigan, three separate surveys were developed. These surveys were designed and implemented by the Michigan Public Health Institute (MPHI) and distributed electronically to training providers, agency directors, and agency staff and volunteers throughout the past year.

Data has been collected from agency executive directors, staff, and volunteers and preliminary results from these surveys were presented to attendees at the 2011 Council of Advocates Meeting. Agencies were asked about the types of training they currently receive, the training needs of staff and volunteers, and any barriers to attending trainings. They were also asked to identify which types of crime victims they primarily serve and in which counties services are provided.

Preliminary data analysis showed that the curriculum, cost, and location of a training are very important to the surveyed agency directors. The training priorities of agency directors included:

- Training on types of crimes: domestic violence, sexual assault, and dating violence
- Training related to building skills: advocacy, crisis intervention, and confidentiality
- Training on systems navigation: working with law enforcement, victims' rights, and the criminal justice system

Overall, agency staff and volunteers indicated that the most important factors in selecting a training to attend were the distance to the training, the cost of the training, and staffing coverage. For volunteers, the time of the training was the most important factor when determining whether or not to attend. Training priorities for staff and volunteers varied by region in Michigan, but included the following responses:

- Training on types of crimes: domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, stalking, and child physical/ emotional/ sexual abuse
- Training related to building skills: counseling techniques, crisis intervention, empathy, safety planning, and cultural competency
- Training on systems navigation: victim's rights, working with law enforcement, the court or criminal justice system, victim impact statements, PPOs, and victim compensation

Recently, training providers throughout Michigan received an e-mail requesting that they complete a survey about the types of trainings they offer to crime victim services providers. Training providers were also asked to indicate where these trainings are currently offered. Preliminary results from this survey will be forthcoming as soon as data collection is complete.

The CVSC plans to use these responses to learn more about what types of training service providers currently receive and what types of training they would like to see offered in the future. Training location will also be analyzed in relation to the location of victim services agencies to

ensure that appropriate trainings are held throughout Michigan and made accessible to all service providers.

During the summer of 2011, the CVSC will hold a focus group in Lansing to further discuss the training needs of victim services providers. Agencies and training providers will be invited to speak in-depth about their training needs as well as current training offerings. This focus group will be facilitated by MPHI.

For more information about the training needs assessment surveys or the upcoming focus group in Lansing, please contact Mary Zack Thompson from the Michigan Public Health Institute at 517-324-8392 or mthomps@mph.org.

Katie Parker, BS, is a Senior Research Assistant for the Crime Victim Services Commission Technical Assistance Project at the Michigan Public Health Institute.

Serving Victims of Human Trafficking

■ By Katie Parker

The U.S. Department of State's *Trafficking in Persons Report* (2007) indicates that up to 27 million people are held in modern-day slavery globally and estimates that 800,000 are victims of trafficking each year. U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement estimates that traffickers bring 14,500 to 17,500 people into the U.S. every twelve months. These victims may be women, children, and men and some of them end up right here in Michigan. In fact, on January 27, 2011 an American [citizen from Detroit was arrested](#) after fleeing the country in 2005 when he was indicted on 22 counts of trafficking in persons, forced labor, alien smuggling, money laundering, extortion collection and conspiracy, and other charges. Several other men involved in the case are already serving seven to fourteen year prison terms and, if convicted, this man could face up to 20 years in federal prison. This is a crime that may be occurring in other communities throughout the State and as a result it is important to know how to recognize victims, ensure their safety, and identify services for which they may be eligible.

What is Human Trafficking?

According to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, human trafficking is the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person (regardless of citizenship), by means of threat or use of force, fraud, or coercion, subjecting victims to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery for the purpose of sexual exploitation or forced labor. If a victim of sex trafficking is under the age of 18, the elements of force, fraud, or coercion do

not have to be present to meet the definition. These acts are different from human smuggling.

Who are Victims?

U.S. Department of State (2007) records indicate that the majority (80%) of victims globally are women and, according to the U.S. Department of Justice (2004), 50% of victims are children.

Specifically in the United States, victims may be found working as nannies and maids or at restaurants, hair and nail salons, farms, strip clubs, and factories ([Trafficking in Persons Report](#), 2010). The report states that more U.S. citizens, both adults and children, are in sex trafficking than labor trafficking. Homeless and runaway youth are at particular risk. On the other hand, victims from foreign countries are more likely to be found in situations involving labor trafficking. According to the report, 82% of adult victims and 56% of child victims from foreign countries were victims of labor trafficking. In addition, young boys from foreign countries were identified as victims of sex trafficking. Traffickers most frequently brought victims into the U.S. from Thailand, Mexico, the Philippines, Haiti, India, Guatemala, and the Dominican Republic.

Traffickers may have promised victims a better future in the U.S., but victims may now be working long hours with little freedom. Victims of human trafficking may have had their passports or other forms of identification taken from them upon

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arrival in the U.S. They may be unable to move or leave their job and may suffer physical and sexual abuse at the hands of their captors. Victims may be isolated from others in the community and may fear retaliation against themselves or their families if they try to escape. Oftentimes victims speak little or no English and fear reaching out to law enforcement, fearing corruption in the criminal justice system or punishment. Traffickers may try to speak on behalf of victims or victims may provide a rehearsed story to law enforcement at the instruction of the perpetrators. Victims may also fear speaking with law enforcement because they blame themselves for being victimized or because of cultural and ethnic differences between the victim and law enforcement.

How to Help Trafficking Victims

Victims of human trafficking may experience physical and sexual violence during their captivity. They may have contracted sexually transmitted infections, had unintended pregnancies, or had medical conditions left untreated. They may express feelings of helplessness, shame and humiliation, shock, denial and disbelief, disorientation and confusion, and anxiety (phobias, PTSD, etc.). Victims may also be experiencing acute psychological distress, drug addiction, malnutrition, and a variety of other devastating consequences due to their victimization. As a result, it is important to know the rights of these victims as well as the services that are available to them in the U.S. to ensure their continued safety and to promote healing.

According to the Department of Health & Human Services, it is important to let victims of human trafficking know that they have certain rights given to them by the [Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000](#) and by the Crime Victims Right's Act. Captors may have told victims that

law enforcement and immigration officials will punish or deport them. As a result, victims may be fearful of those trying to help and may show empathy toward the traffickers. Like other types of crime victims, they may not initially self identify as a victim and women may be reluctant to speak with male investigators. It is suggested that staff specifically trained in interviewing children speak with younger victims. Interpreters should be used whenever possible to eliminate problems with communication. Others in the household or at the scene, who may be the perpetrator of the crime, should never be used as an interpreter for the victim.

Victims who are illegally in the United States may be eligible for several types of assistance to remain in the country. One type of assistance is called Continued Presence, which allows human trafficking victims to remain in the U.S. for one year (renewable if necessary) during the ongoing investigation of the case and prosecution of the trafficker. Individuals granted Continued Presence are eligible to apply for work authorization. Victims who are assisting in the investigation and prosecution of trafficking cases and are likely to endure extreme hardship if removed from the U.S. are also eligible to apply for a T visa. Neither testimony against nor conviction of the trafficker is required to receive this visa. This allows for four-year non-immigrant status that may also enable victims to bring certain family members to the U.S. T visa holders are eligible to work in the U.S. and may eventually apply for citizenship. Some victims may also be eligible for services similar to those available to refugees such as food stamps, English language classes, and help seeking employment. The Return, Reintegration, and Family Reunification Program for Victims of Trafficking, funded by the Department of

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State, provides assistance to victims who wish to return to their home country as well as assistance reuniting victims with family members in the U.S.

To receive additional help when a case of human trafficking is suspected, call the Department of Homeland Security Immigration and Custom Enforcement hotline at 1-866-DHS-2-ICE (1-866-347-2423). In Michigan, there are three local Immigration and Custom Enforcement Offices located in Detroit (313-226-0500), Grand Rapids (616-235-3936), and Sault Ste. Marie (906-252-2200). Victims of human trafficking and those calling about

potential victims can also access resources by calling the Trafficking Information and Referral Hotline. This crisis hotline links victims and community members with local resources and referrals and can be reached by calling 1-888-3737-888. This hotline also offers referrals to local law enforcement agencies, but 911 should always be dialed in case of an emergency.

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