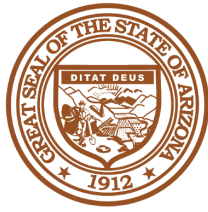




GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL TO COMBAT HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN ARIZONA ANNUAL REPORT 2024





KATIE HOBBS
GOVERNOR

STATE OF ARIZONA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

TONYA HAMILTON
DIRECTOR

December 31, 2024

Governor Katie Hobbs
1700 West Washington Street
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Dear Governor Hobbs,

On behalf of the Governor's Council to Combat Human Trafficking in Arizona, it is my privilege to present our 2024 Annual Report. As a Council, we take great pride in the achievements of this body and of all the partners throughout our great state that work tirelessly every day to fight against human trafficking, work to prevent this crime, and support victims and survivors in Arizona. For over a decade, the expertise, talent, and passion of professionals across sectors in Arizona has consistently and significantly increased our ability to prevent and respond to this heinous crime.

The enclosed 2024 Annual Report offers an overview of the goals and activities the Council fulfilled this year. This includes work done by the Council, its members, workgroups, and taskforces throughout the state. This work builds on the tireless efforts of so many over the past 15 years, including training tens of thousands of professionals in a variety of industries, expanding trauma-informed victims services, growing supports and partnerships within law enforcement agencies that offer a victim-centered response, and many other collaborations to continue to bolster our statewide, trauma-informed, victim-centered response across disciplines.

We know that with continued support and investment, our ongoing efforts and collaborative partnerships throughout Arizona will continue to lead to increased prevention, successful prosecutions, and an increased ability to offer services to survivors.

Sincerely,

Maria Cristina Fuentes
Chair

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PURPOSE AND STRUCTURE

The [Governor's Council to Combat Human Trafficking in Arizona \(the "Council"\)](#) is administered by the [Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family \(GOYFF\)](#) and authorized under [Executive Order 2023-26](#) to complete the following:

1. Collect and analyze data on human trafficking in the State of Arizona;
2. Develop recommendations to provide human trafficking victims with appropriate services;
3. Foster greater collaboration among law enforcement, non-profit organizations, government agencies, and the community at large to address human trafficking statewide more effectively;
4. Promote public awareness about human trafficking, victim services, and prevention; and
5. Work to develop and facilitate training for first responders, law enforcement, and other professionals who may come into contact with human trafficking and/or victims of human trafficking.

In addition to holding five meetings throughout the calendar year, the Council also advances its work through two active workgroups.

Data and Research Workgroup

The Data and Research Workgroup develops and facilitates training on identifying and responding to trafficking victims throughout the state. Information from the training sessions is gathered by research collected and analyzed by academic partners from [Arizona State University Sex Trafficking Intervention Research \(ASU STIR\)](#) to promote multidisciplinary collaboration and cover various topics, including recognizing human trafficking warning signs, understanding state and local response resources, and addressing current trends in demand and sex trafficking buyers. They also include school-based prevention education and an examination of Arizona-specific trafficking cases. Additional research has focused on human trafficking among homeless youth, the LGBTQIA+ community, juveniles on probation, as well as specific incidents of sex and labor trafficking in Arizona.

Victim Services Workgroup

By collaborating on data collection and mapping networks, the Victim Services Workgroup improves services for human trafficking victims in Arizona by identifying gaps in care, engaging new community partners, and ensuring that services are trauma-informed, centered on survivors and victims, and strength-based.

MEMBERSHIP

Under Executive Order 2023-26, the Council comprises individuals appointed by the Governor who serve at her pleasure, without compensation. The following members served on the Council over the past year:

Maria Cristina Fuentes, Chair
MCF Strategies, LLC

Lieutenant Nicholas Alamshaw
Scottsdale Police Department

Dr. Sarah Beaumont
Phoenix Children's Hospital

Nathaniel Brown
Navajo Nation Council

Sarah Chung
Safal Partners

Doug Coleman
Apache Junction Justice Court

Erin Garcia
Chicanos Por La Causa

Colonel Jeffrey Glover
Arizona Department of Public Safety

Tonya Hamilton
Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family

Carmen Heredia
Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System

Joseph Kelroy
Arizona Administrative Office of the Courts

Lois Lucas
Catholic Charities

David Lujan
Arizona Department of Child Safety

Rachel Mitchell
Maricopa County Attorney's Office

Major Andrew Orozco
Arizona Department of Transportation

Sophia Philis-Ortiz
American Airlines

Jill Rable
HonorHealth

Dr. Dominique Roe-Sepowitz
Arizona State University

Senator T.J. Shope
Arizona State Senate

Brian Steele
Phoenix Dream Center

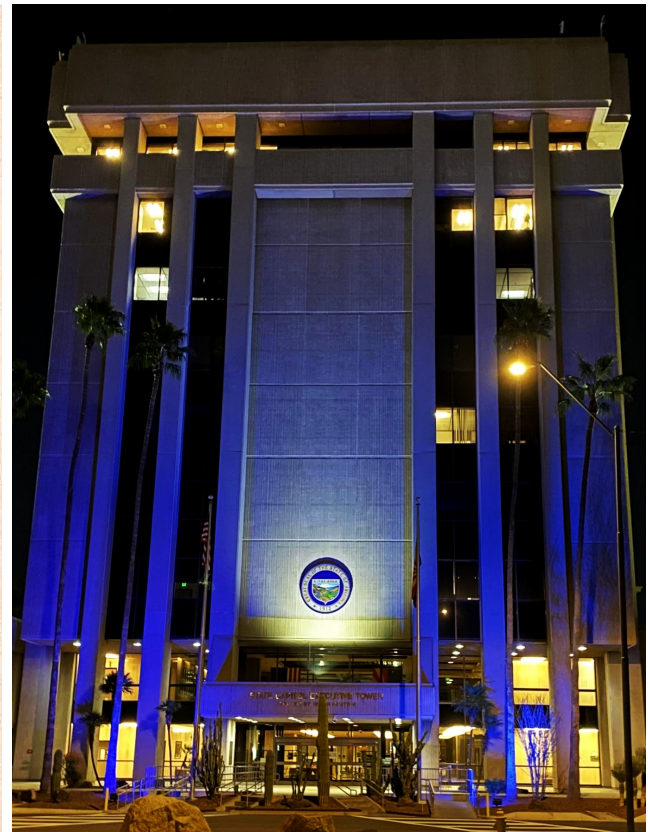
Councilman Jim Waring
Phoenix City Council

Mark Williams
Arizona Office of Tourism

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

Arizona Human Trafficking Prevention Month

Governor Katie Hobbs proclaimed January 2024 as [Human Trafficking Prevention Month](#) to recognize Arizona's commitment to combating human trafficking, protecting victims' rights, and restoring their freedom and dignity. The Executive Tower illuminated in blue to support survivors and encourage other agencies and organizations to participate.



Quarterly Regional Human Trafficking Task Force Meetings

In 2020, the Council began hosting Quarterly Regional Human Trafficking Task Force Meetings to foster collaboration and enhance efforts to combat human trafficking in the region by sharing information and best practices, discussing needs, and updating the Council on various activities.

Representatives from the following regional task forces have participated in these meetings over the years: Arizona Coalition of Victim Services (ACVS), CARE 7, Central Arizona United to Stop Exploitation Taskforce (CAUSE), Coalition Against Human Trafficking in Northern Arizona, Flagstaff Initiative Against Trafficking (FIAT), Mohave County Human Trafficking and Domestic Violence Coalition, Phoenix Human Trafficking Taskforce, Pinal Alliance Against Trafficking Coalition, San Luis Police Department, Southern Arizona Anti-Trafficking Unified Response Network (SAATURN), Yavapai County Trafficking Taskforce, Yuma Community Taskforce, and the McCain Institute for International Leadership.

To find a list of the regional task force contacts, [click here](#).

Events

“The Journey”: Human Trafficking Film Screening at the Flinn Foundation

The [Flinn Foundation's Arizona Center for Civic Leadership](#), in partnership with the GOYFF, the Council, and [Amplify Voices](#), presented “The Journey,” a documentary about three survivors of human trafficking and sexual assault, to approximately 50 attendees Council members and the public. These women completed the Amplify Voices Program, a transformative 90-day initiative that helps victims heal and find their voice through storytelling. The film showcases their healing journeys, the bonds they formed, and their courageous stage, which talks about their trauma.

After the screening, Council Chair Maria Cristina Fuentes moderated a panel discussion with Deb Shapiro, Founder of Amplify Voices; Amanda Schneider, Executive Director of Amplify Voices; and Dr. Dominique Roe-Sepowitz, Director of ASU STIR.



State Agency Updates

Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family

Authorized by the [Violence Against Women Act \(VAWA\)](#) and administered federally by the [Department of Justice's Office on Violence Against Women \(OVW\)](#), the GOYFF invests approximately \$3.3 million annually into Arizona programs through the [STOP \(Services, Training, Officers, Prosecutors\) Violence Against Women Grant](#) to address domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking. Programs can also address trafficking within its intersection with the previously mentioned crimes. The STOP Violence Against Women Grant provides funding for strengthening or implementing victim services. It also fosters partnerships among law enforcement, prosecutors, victim-serving organizations, tribal communities, and state, county, and local governments.

During the January 2021 to December 2023 grant cycle, the GOYFF contracted with four organizations for anti-trafficking efforts in Arizona: the [Arizona Department of Child Safety \(DCS\)](#), [Arizona Superior Court in Maricopa County](#), ASU STIR, and the McCain Institute.



In 2023, through contracts with the DCS and ASU STIR, the GOYFF awarded funding to three programs, including the Arizona Superior Court in Maricopa County, aimed at combating sex trafficking, specifically focusing on its connections to domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking. Programs commenced on January 1, 2024, and will run until December 31, 2026.

Arizona Department of Public Safety's Anti-Human Trafficking Grant Program

In State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2024, under the leadership of Governor Katie Hobbs, the [Arizona Department of Homeland Security \(AZDOHS\)](#) established an Interagency Service Agreement (ISA) with the [Arizona Department of Public Safety \(DPS\)](#) to allocate \$10 million for anti-trafficking efforts in the state through the Anti-Human Trafficking Grant Fund. This fund provides resources to law enforcement agencies to enhance services and programs aimed at reducing human trafficking. Additionally, agencies are encouraged to partner with victim-serving organizations to better support survivors of trafficking through a victim-centered and trauma-informed approach. As part of this program, \$8 million, up to \$500,000 per agency, was available in grant awards to city, town, and county law enforcement agencies.

- [Senate Bill \(SB\) 1724](#) established the SFY 2024 Anti-Human Trafficking Grant Fund, allocating \$2.5 million to nine law enforcement agencies across the state for allowable expenses, including, but not limited to, software, vehicles, public outreach/education, training, operation assistance, victim services, prosecutions, etc.
- [House Bill \(HB\) 2897](#) reestablished the [SFY 2025 Anti-Human Trafficking Grant Fund](#), continuing last fiscal year's grant program by allocating the remaining \$5.4 million to law enforcement agencies in Arizona. Agencies that applied for and received the maximum award in the previous grant program were not eligible to apply again.

The remaining allocation of \$2 million went to two primary purposes: to support and promote the Arizona Human Trafficking Tip Line. The Arizona Human Trafficking Tip Line was established through the SFY 2023 Anti-Human Trafficking Grant Fund, administered by the [Arizona Department of Emergency and Military Affairs \(AZDEMA\)](#), making it the first statewide human trafficking tip line in the United States (US). In partnership with the [Arizona Counter Terrorism Information Center \(ACTIC\)](#) and ASU STIR, the Tip Line is a streamlined tool for reporting trafficking incidents throughout the state, ensuring contact with the appropriate law enforcement agencies when necessary. Through the partnership with ASU STIR, a victim support line assists callers who do not require immediate law enforcement action, offering support for case management, housing, emergency shelter, legal aid, medical care, and mental health. Funding was utilized to launch a statewide awareness campaign that focused on sex and labor trafficking with digital billboards, posters placed in airports and restaurants, and radio ads distributed in both English and Spanish. All campaign materials used the [US Department of Homeland Security's \(DHS\) Blue Campaign](#) marketing resources.



Arizona Department of Emergency and Military Affairs' Anti-Human Trafficking Grant Program
In SFY 2023, \$10 million was allocated to the AZDEMA for the [Anti-Human Trafficking Grant Fund](#). to support programs aimed at reducing human trafficking and improving services for victims. AZDEMA distributed approximately \$9.5 million to 20 programs statewide, including \$2 million for the above ACTIC Tip Line. Programs can provide training on human trafficking prevention and identification and purchase equipment or software to aid investigations, prosecutions, and data collection. Funding is available for up to three years.

ACTIC's Arizona Human Trafficking Tip Line

In partnership with the GOYFF, the Council, and ASU STIR, ACTIC administers the Arizona Human Trafficking Tip Line, providing immediate telephonic crisis and ongoing support services for victims of human trafficking in Arizona. Crisis support services include immediate transportation to a safe location, assistance contacting law enforcement, supportive family members, connection to crisis mental health services, and housing support. The ongoing support for callers includes follow-up contacts, support for basic needs, housing transitions, connections to community resources, and encouragement for change.



The tip line is available 24/7 at 1-877-4AZ-TIPS (1-877-429-8477) or online at azactic.gov.

MEETING PRESENTATIONS

In 2024, the Council continued its efforts to educate the public about human trafficking, support victim service programs, and collaborate with key stakeholders to enhance Arizona's response to trafficking in all its forms. Presenters included:

American Airlines Human Trafficking Prevention Month Events

Sophia Phillis-Ortiz
February 15, 2024

With a daily transport of 1,000 passengers, American Airlines (AA) understands its responsibility to combat human trafficking, aims to set a positive example in addressing this critical issue, and believes that collaboration with government agencies, industry partners, and non-governmental organizations is crucial for successfully preventing human trafficking. In January 2018, AA signed [PACT-USA's Tourism Child-Protection Code of Conduct](#), a voluntary set of principles designed to prevent child sex tourism and the trafficking of children. Additionally, AA actively participates in the DHS Blue Campaign-[Blue Lighting Initiative \(BLI\)](#), working together to conduct training sessions for airport employees. This training empowers team members to recognize the warning signs of human trafficking and includes enhanced signage in terminals. American Airlines trains over 70,000 team members each year on these essential issues.

ASU STIR Human Trafficking Prevention Month Events

Dr. Dominique Roe-Sepowitz

February 15, 2024

To recognize January as Human Trafficking Prevention Month, the ASU STIR held 12 training sessions, training approximately 1,000 people. Additionally and with financial support from the GOYFF, the organization hosted two events:

- In partnership with [Fulfillment in Training](#) and [Phoenix College Prep Academy](#), the event increased awareness of sex trafficking and how to respond if they suspect sex trafficking in their community to 250 high school students and 43 parents and educators.
- The Edison Park Community Engagement Fair focused on single-parent homes and youth who are at high risk for delinquency to increase sex trafficking awareness; 430 community members and 126 volunteers from 52 social service agencies attended.

Phoenix HEAT Unit

Lieutenant Chris Parese

April 17, 2024

The [Phoenix Human Exploitation and Trafficking \(HEAT\) Unit](#) investigates, suppresses, and prevents human trafficking in all its forms, with a particular emphasis on rescuing both child and adult sex trafficking victims. The HEAT Unit identifies potential targets, conducts investigations, and assists in prosecuting traffickers to effectively and proactively collaborate with local Patrol units in addressing trafficking-related issues and community concerns. From April 2023 to April 2024, the HEAT Unit participated in 96 operations, primarily focusing on the 27th Avenue corridor. Additionally, the unit participated in four hotel operations and nine outreach events at the Helen Drake Senior Center, collaborating with ASU STIR and other community partners to contact and offer services to 151 victims. The strategies the HEAT Unit is currently implementing:

- Financial investigations into traffickers, including targeted charges of money laundering and illegal enterprise, bypass the difficulty in obtaining a charge by getting a trafficked person to flip on the trafficker.
- Mobile security cameras for intelligence gathering and deterrent effect.
- Placing a greater emphasis on tracking traffickers in a database for case building and information sharing with other agencies.

ADOT Human Trafficking Initiatives

Major Andrew Orozco

April 17, 2024

The [Arizona Commercial Vehicle Safety Partnership \(ACVSP\)](#) is comprised of DPS Commercial Vehicle Enforcement troopers and [Arizona Department of Transportation \(ADOT\)](#) Enforcement and Compliance Division officers. ACVSP is a governor-approved partnership with the mission to ensure safe, secure, and efficient commercial transport across Arizona. The ACVSP partakes in four primary commercial operations statewide: two in Northern Arizona and two in Southern Arizona. All enforcement Driver/Vehicle Examination Reports (DVERs) issued upon inspections include the [Truckers Against Trafficking \(TAT\)](#) messaging and website information. ACVSP participated in the annual [Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance \(CVSA\)](#) Human Trafficking Awareness Week, during which 104 inspectors conducted 690 inspections and issued awareness materials (wallet cards and window decals) at the Ports of Entry (POE).

DPS/ACTIC Anti-Human Trafficking Campaign

Major Frank Griego Jr.

April 17, 2024

The ACTIC launched a media campaign in response to Arizona hosting the 2024 [NCAA](#) March Madness Final Four from April 6 to April 8, 2024. The campaign featured digital billboards displaying the Arizona Human Trafficking Tip Line and utilized messaging and materials from the DHS Blue Campaign. Additionally, posters were displayed in airports and restaurants, and 30-second radio ads were broadcast in English and Spanish throughout the state.

CARE 7

Anastasia Stinchfield

June 5, 2024

The [Tempe Family Advocacy Center \(FAC\)](#) provides support to all victims of crime, including those affected by sex and labor trafficking. Opened in 2022 in partnership with ASU, the center offers a centralized and confidential location for comprehensive victim services and advocacy. Individuals of all ages—students, residents, and visitors—can meet with victim advocates to access resources in a safe and healing environment. [CARE 7](#)'s victim advocates are available daily to assist and respond to crime victims of incidents in the Tempe community, including domestic violence, auto accidents, sexual and physical assaults, suicides, homicides, residential fires, drownings, and other unexpected deaths. Partnering with the [Tempe Police Department](#) and [Tempe Fire Medical Rescue](#), CARE 7 provides on-scene assistance, support, and resources, including help filing for victims' financial compensation, orders of protection, and counseling referrals.

2021-2023 Mercy Care Report

Sarah Way and Dr. Dominique Roe-Sepowitz

June 5, 2024

The 2021-2023 [Mercy Care](#) report describes the Arizona Statewide Collaborative Process for identifying victims of child sex trafficking. The Collaborative Process has three steps within 24 hours, during which providers strive to determine the most suitable placement for the victim: crisis stabilization, medical clearance, and mental health evaluation. Collected by a statewide medical and behavioral health insurance provider for youth in the care of the State for a better understanding of the experiences of child sex trafficking survivors, report data states from January 2021 to May 2023, 309 suspected or confirmed victims of sex trafficking were identified. Overall, there was an overrepresentation of youth of color; the majority of victims were youth in care, one in five had a history of child sexual abuse, and drug use amongst the victims had increased since the previous report.

2023 Youth Experiences Survey

Dr. Dominique Roe-Sepowitz

June 5, 2024

Conducted annually since 2014, the Youth Experiences Survey (YES) investigates the experiences of unsheltered young adults aged 18 to 25 in Arizona and how these experiences may relate to human trafficking. The insights from the YES study help identify effective ways to support unsheltered young adults while improving existing services to better meet their needs, such as developing new programs based on the study's findings. The 2023 YES was completed by 177 homeless young adults in Phoenix, Tucson, and Flagstaff. The survey found that there has been a

steady increase in the incidence of human trafficking among Arizona's unsheltered young adults from 2021 to May 2023:

- Participants reported having experienced sex trafficking: 27.7%.
- Participants reported having been labor exploited: 31.1%.
- Overall overrepresentation of people of color and members of the LGBTQIA+ community, early experiences of homelessness, and high rates of emotional, physical, and sexual abuse.

Arizona Human Trafficking Summit

Commander Tom Boelts

September 12, 2024

The [Yavapai County Sheriff's Office \(YCSO\)](#) received a grant from the DEMA to help establish the Arizona Human Trafficking Summit. This summit aims to bring together various disciplines, including law enforcement and victim services, to educate the Arizona community about sex trafficking and its impacts on different aspects of society, such as the criminal justice system, schools, and youth welfare. The [Yavapai Family Advocacy Center](#), [Yavapai Justice and Mental Health Coalition](#), DCS, AATN, and ASU STIR partnered for the 2024 Summit from September 29 to October 2, 2024. It featured more than 20 local and national expert presentations. It aimed to foster participant collaboration, bolster prevention efforts, and offer crucial support for identified victims. Professionals and experts came from all over the state to inspire a collective effort to inform and prevent human trafficking. Over 200 individuals attended the 2024 Summit, including law enforcement, social service providers, child welfare staff, counselors, victim advocates, criminal justice system staff, jail staff, and medical providers.

CEASE Arizona

Stacey Sutherland

September 12, 2024

The [Arizona Anti-Trafficking Network's \(AATN\) Cities Empowered Against Sexual Exploitation \(CEASE\)](#) training program provides free training to all Arizona city and county government employees throughout the state, including first responders such as law enforcement and fire/EMT personnel, to recognize, report, and respond to incidents of human trafficking in their communities. The training can be attended in person, via webinar, or accessed on demand through the learning management system and covers various topics, including the definition of human trafficking, its local impact in Arizona, recruitment strategies used by traffickers, vulnerabilities and risk factors, potential indicators of trafficking, and procedures for reporting incidents. Cities that train at least 75% of their municipal staff earn a CEASE City designation. Currently, the cities that have achieved CEASE City designation include Scottsdale, Tempe, Chandler, Yuma, Queen Creek, and Paradise Valley.

Where Hope Lives

Brian Steele and Shauna Sexton

September 12, 2024

[Where Hope Lives](#) offers extensive healing and recovery services for girls who are victims of human trafficking, its programs utilize the family care model, mentor teams, incentive-based, and trauma-informed sensory modulation. Since 2008, Where Hopes Lives has served over 5,400 survivors through its programs:

- The Young Adults Program serves 18-26-year-olds who have aged out of foster care, experienced sexual exploitation, crisis pregnancy, etc. The program includes 30 beds for women and 16 beds for men. It can also provide emergency shelter for two families and six individuals.
- The Teen Campus serves 13-17-year-olds with eight beds available.
- The Children's serves 4-15-year-olds with eight beds available.

To find a complete summary of Council meetings and presentations, [click here](#).

WORKGROUP REPORTS

Data and Research Workgroup

Chaired by Dr. Dominique Roe-Sepowitz, Director of ASU STIR and a council member since 2014, the Data and Research Workgroup collects research data to disseminate evidence-based information through training and outreach.

Training

In 2024, 8,908 individuals participated in 120 training events across Arizona. These events catered to a variety of groups, including school administrators, teachers, counselors, medical providers, law enforcement personnel, social service providers, court staff, adult and juvenile probation officers, judges, prosecutors, children's attorneys, child welfare workers, victim advocates, detention and corrections staff, as well as clinical and crisis mental health providers. A significant focus of the training in 2024 was on establishing new partnerships to enhance the capacity of Arizona communities to support victims of sex and labor trafficking. These partnerships involved collaboration with the faith-based community, Block Watch programs, regional business associations, and school boards.

In 2024, the Data and Research Workgroup team also assisted the DCS in creating a new mandatory virtual training course on child sex trafficking for all new and existing staff. To date, more than 2,000 DCS staff have completed the training.

Research

During 2024, the Data and Research Workgroup, with support from the ASU STIR, worked on the following projects to collect data on human, sex, and labor trafficking in Arizona:

Demand Study- Exploring a Sex Buyer's First Sex Buying Experience

Funded by the AATN in collaboration with [Catholic Charities](#), the study explored the motivations of sex buyers with a specific focus on the progression from thinking about buying sex to actually purchasing sex for the first time. They conducted 21 interviews with recently arrested sex buyers, and 41 completed paper and pencil surveys regarding their experiences.

Labor Trafficking in the US: An 11-Year Review

To better understand the demographic profiles, control tactics, and legal outcomes associated with cases, this study reviewed labor trafficking cases in the US from 2011 to 2022, analyzing data from 283 traffickers involved in 148 cases. The findings showed that 64% of traffickers were male, with ages ranging from 19 to 80 years. Labor traffickers operated in various industries, including agriculture, healthcare, and credit card fraud schemes. They frequently employed methods such as debt bondage, financial control, and physical or psychological abuse.

Arizona Labor Trafficking Outreach (ALTO)

Between January and October 2024, the [Arizona Labor Trafficking Outreach \(ALTO\)](#) project conducted six-monthly outreach events and spoke with 259 day laborers in Maricopa County. These laborers received know-your-labor-rights handouts through partnerships with the [Consulate General of Mexico in Phoenix](#), the [International Rescue Committee \(IRC\)](#), and the [Florence Immigrant and Refugee Rights Project](#). In October, ALTO also hosted its inaugural Workers Rights and Resource Fair at the Maryvale Community Center, with 14 agencies and 32 workers in attendance.

Summits, Conferences, and Events

During 2024, the Data and Research Workgroup, with support from the ASU STIR, worked on the following summits, conferences, and events on human, sex, and labor trafficking in Arizona:

STOP Events

In partnership with police departments from Phoenix, Avondale, Goodyear, Surprise, the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office, and 12 community organizations, monthly STOP events provide services directly to persons in prostitution situations. In 2024, the outreach events served 439 adult clients.

Phoenix 1st Step Drop-in Center

The bi-annual Drop-In Center events serve persons in prostitution and sex trafficking in Phoenix, Arizona. The events include 22 participating organizations providing direct services, including medical and mental health care, free legal services, counseling services, community health, HIV and STI Testing, clothing, and hygiene products. The 15 events served 487 adults identifying as survivors of sex trafficking or prostitution.

Page Sex Trafficking Mini Summit

In partnership with Victim Witness Services, ASU STIR co-hosted a full-day training summit with multiple speakers in Page, Arizona. The 54 attendees were from social services, child welfare agencies, and medical and mental health providers, including more than 30 percent of attendees from Native American-focused agencies.

Maricopa County- ASU STIR and World Without Exploitation Student-Focused Event

Co-hosted by the AATN and [World Without Exploitation](#), 54 attendees, including students and staff from ASU and the community, learned how sex trafficking and sexual exploitation impact college-age youth.

Community College Human Trafficking Summit

The [Maricopa Community Colleges Police Department](#) and ASU STIR hosted a half-day conference focused on the risks and impact of sex trafficking on college-age youth. Presentations included information about sugaring, strip club exploitation, and risk factors unique to college-age youth. The 103 attendees included law enforcement, community organizations, and staff from community colleges.

Not My City

The event hosted 1500 attendees from 49 churches and one synagogue, exploring sex trafficking risks and how Arizona is responding.

Navajo County Victim Services Conference

A county-wide conference attended by 250 individuals focusing on victim services, and the keynote speaker focused on sex trafficking in Arizona, including urban and rural experiences.

Ongoing Workgroup projects include the following:

- Collaborating with community partners to collect data about human trafficking in Arizona;
- Collecting information and data from the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office on inmates who self-identify as being sex trafficked and referring them for services;
- Collecting data from the Arizona Human Trafficking Hotline at Arizona State University Office of Sex Trafficking Intervention Research in partnership with the Arizona Department of Public Safety;
- Coordinating training with Maricopa County Adult Probation and the Arizona Department of Corrections, Rehabilitation, and Reentry;
- Ongoing partnerships with Pima County and the City of Phoenix regarding employee training; and
- Training and providing support to the Arizona Juvenile Probation Sex Trafficking Experts from 15 counties.

Victim Services Workgroup

Co-Chaired by Dr. Angela Salomon, founder of [Empowering Solutions PLLC](#), and Dr. Sarah Beaumont, [Phoenix Children's Hospital \(PCH\)](#) Medical Director of the Homeless Youth Outreach Program, the Victim Services Workgroup's ongoing goals include:

- Expand the Workgroup's membership to include a more diverse representation;
- Utilize the 2023 YES study data to increase support to victims service's outreach activities;
- Create a central location for federal and state grant opportunities supporting human trafficking victim service providers;
- Complete a gap analysis of funding opportunities specific to special populations such as tribal, rural, age restrictions, and gender;
- Identify service gaps for labor trafficking victims; and
- Gather information regarding financial barriers to behavioral and mental health services.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Governor's Council to Combat Human Trafficking in Arizona recommends the following for the governor's consideration:

1. Renew the Council for the next calendar year to continue supporting survivors of human trafficking and the work of victim-serving organizations, state agencies, law enforcement agencies, and other community partners.
2. Continue utilizing the Council's Workgroups and Arizona's State-Wide Task Forces to inform the Council's goals, priorities, and initiatives for the next calendar year.
3. Continue to evaluate statewide human trafficking data, promote greater collaboration between law enforcement, state agencies, and the community, and raise public awareness about human trafficking, victim services, and prevention.
4. Continue to bring agencies and organizations that exemplify the best strategies and approaches to combating human, labor, and sex trafficking in Arizona to the Council.
5. Continue highlighting and supporting the work of community organizations and state agency's efforts to combat human trafficking.

