

Collaborating to Access Benefits for Foreign National Labor Trafficking Victims Presenters: Jami Wilson and Becky Burnside Catholic Charities of Louisville





Labor Trafficking Statistics

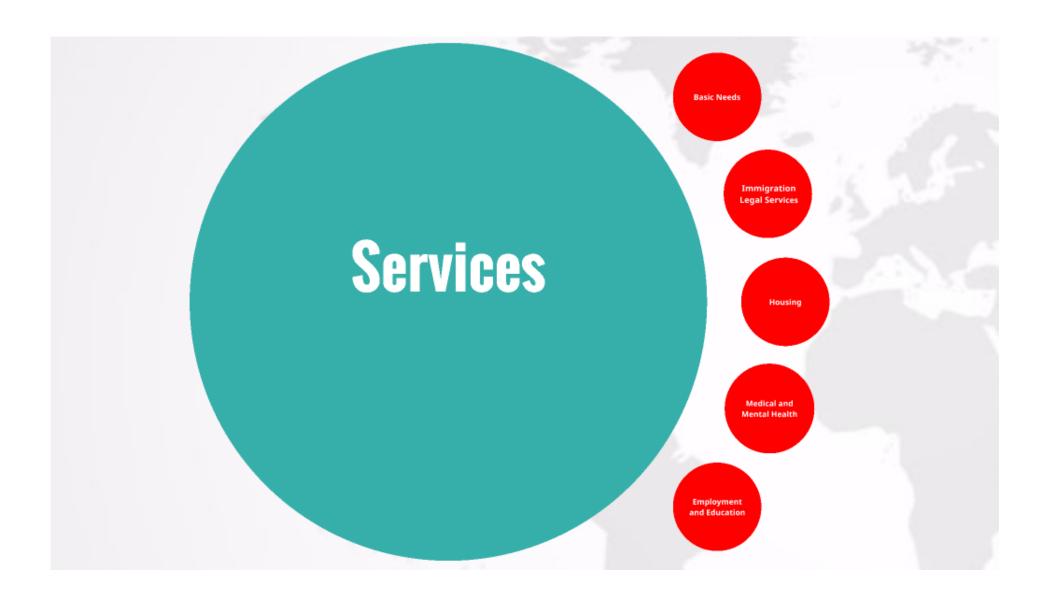
- It is estimated that 14.2 million people are forced into labor worldwide.
- According to the U.S. Dept. of Labor, 136 goods from 74 countries are made by child labor trafficking victims.

Source: https://polarisproject.org/human-trafficking/labor-trafficking





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Basic Needs

- Toiletries
- Food
- Clothing
- Quarters for Laundry

Obstacles?

Immigration Legal Services

- Catholic Charities: Immigration Legal Services
 - Free to clients
 - Completion of T and U-visa applications
 - Representation in court and when reporting to ICE
- Private lawyers (community partners)
 - Provide services at free or reduced cost
 - Usually work with more difficult cases

Housing

Emergency and Temporary Housing

- Hotels
- Apartments through Catholic Charities

Long-term Housing

- Subsidized housing programs
- Partnerships with local property owners

Obstacles?

Medical and Mental Health

Medical:

- Family Health Centers- incomebased services
- Free health clinics
- Medicaid for eligible family members

Mental Health:

- Trauma-informed therapist
- Center for Promoting Recovery and Resilience- youth survivors

Obstacles?

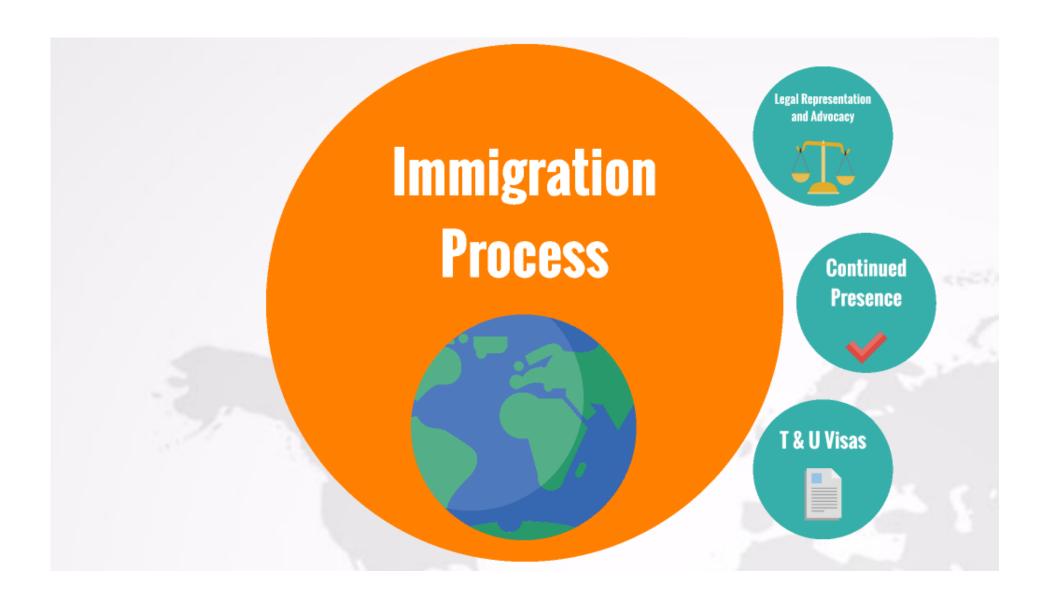
Education and Employment

- English as Second Language classes (ESL)
- Culinary Program
- Sewing/Tapestry programs

Community Training and Education



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Representation and Advocacy · Assessment for referral to appropriate legal representative · Catholic Charities vs. Private • Request CP • Prepare for application · Gather documentation (including police reports, T/U visa certification, pictures. emails, affidavits, etc). · Meet with law enforcement if applicable · Comply with ICE if applicable • File application (s)

What is Continued Presence (CP)?

- CP is temporary immigration status granted to those identified as victims of human trafficking by law enforcement.
- It is granted in 1 year increments and can be revoked or renewed.
- Requested by federal law enforcement officials and prosecutors.

https://www.ice.gov/doclib/human-trafficking/pdf/ continued-presence.pdf Benefits of CP





T Visas

- · An annual cap of 5,000 visas per year
- Specific to human trafficking victims
- A T visa certification from law enforcement is strongly encouraged, but not required to apply
- Receive work authorization AND immediate access to public benefits
- T visa recipients are eligible to apply for derivative T-1 visas for qualifying family members.
- Current processing times: 12-15.5 mos

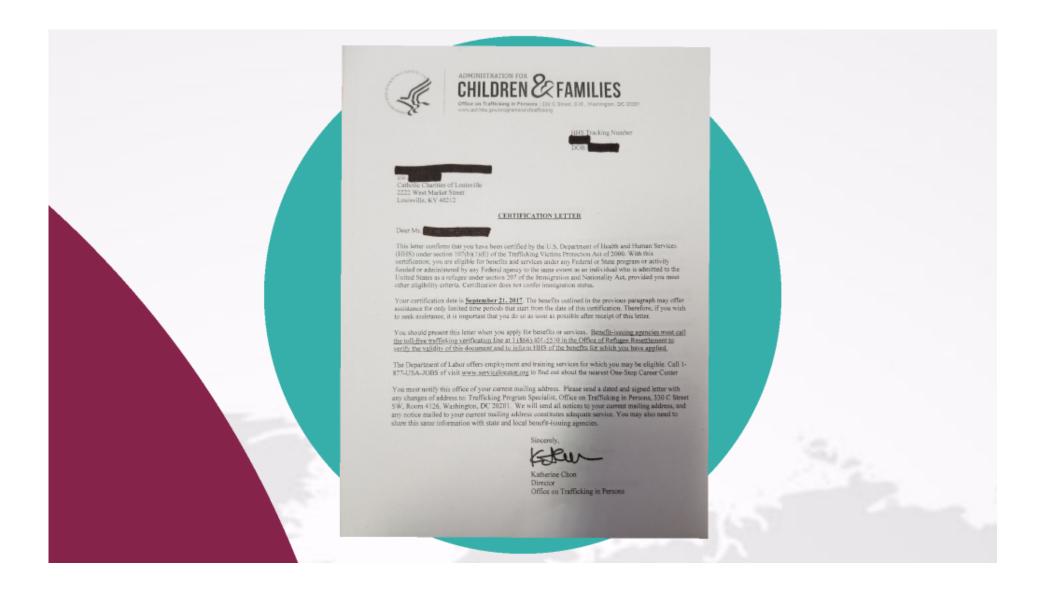
https://www.uscis.gov/humanitarian/victims-humantrafficking-other-crimes/victims-human-trafficking-tnonimmigrant-status

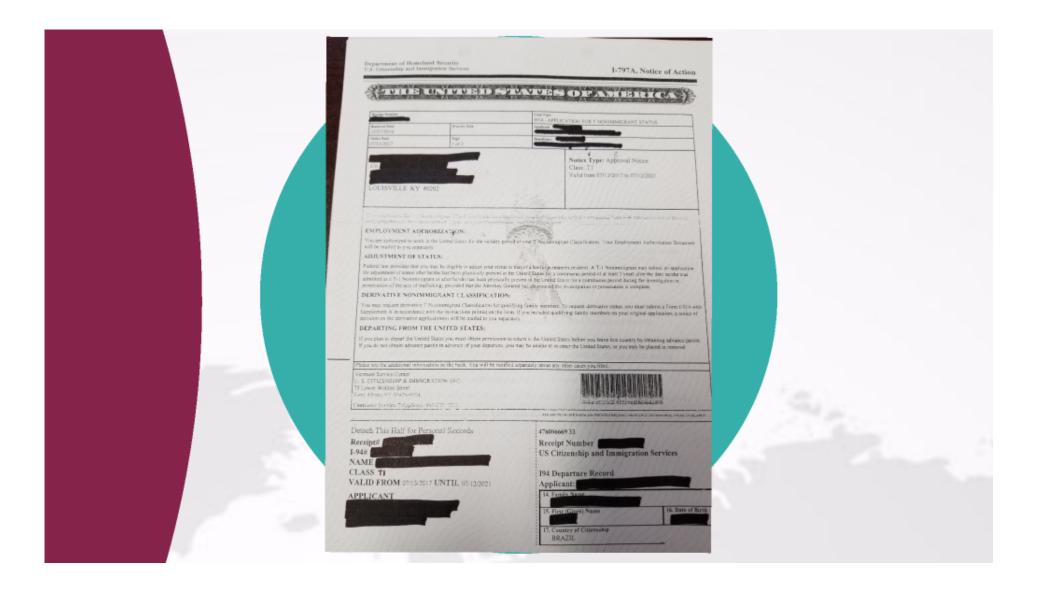
U Visas · An annual cap of 10,000 visas per year • Must be a victim of a qualifying crime who has suffered "substantial physical or mental abuse" as a result. • A U visa certification from law enforcement IS required for the application. · Will receive work authorization, but are ineligible for public benefits for 5 years • Current wait time for determination is 48 mos; applicant is then placed on a waiting list. https://www.uscis.gov/humanitarian/victims-humannonimmigrant-status/victims-criminal-activity-u-



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Office of Refugee Resettlement Benefits

- Additional cash assistance for 240 days from date of eligibility or until become income ineligible
- May be available through public benefits office or local resettlement office
- Separate assistance program for singles/couples and families
- Must meet participation and income guidelines



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Case Management

- Assistance in accessing public benefits
- Connections to community resources
- Referral for Refugee Health Screening and Green Card vaccinations





Education

- English Language Training
- Cultural and Work Orientations
- Short term vocational training





Employment Services

- Application, interview and placement assistance
- Interpretation services
- Career guidance



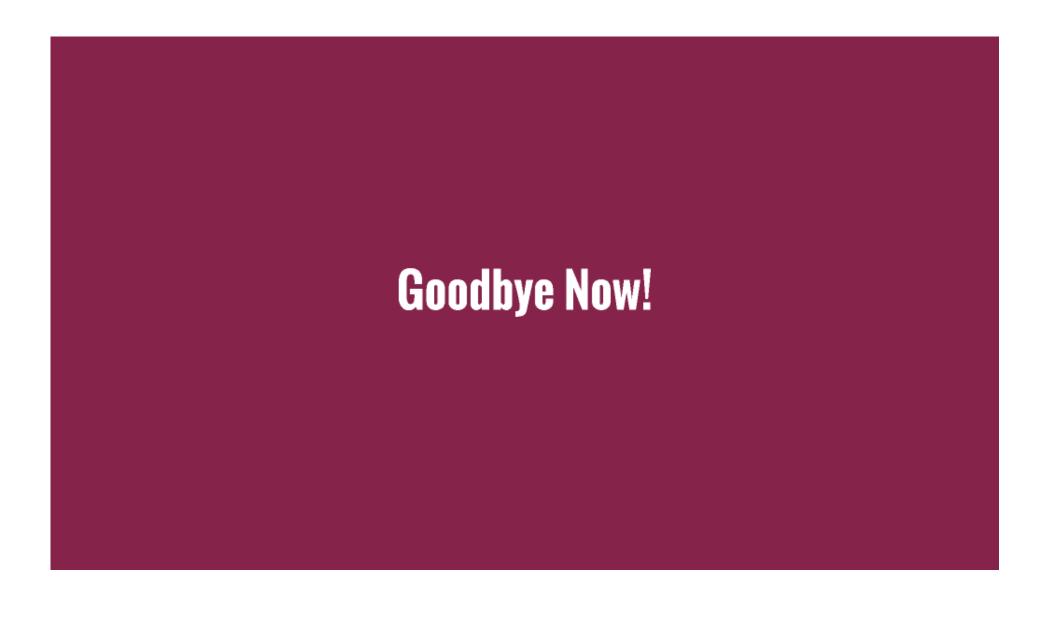




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