HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN SAN FRANCISCO: 2014 DATA

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Systematic Screening for Human Trafficking
Government and community-based agencies in San Francisco that work with at-risk populations should institutionalize systematic screenings for survivors of human trafficking. Data from screenings informs research and reporting on trends, demographics, and specific challenges in San Francisco. Systematic screening also allows agencies to evaluate their provision of services and gauge where they have room for improvement based on the population served. Many agencies were not able to submit data about human trafficking survivors to this report because they did not screen the population using their services. For the next Mayor’s Task Force’s Report on Human Trafficking, increased screening for human trafficking will produce a more accurate and comprehensive report.

2. Consistent Definition of Human Trafficking
All government and community-based agencies in San Francisco should use one clear and consistent definition of human trafficking. This will allow agencies to accurately reflect how many survivors they serve and avoid interagency confusion about the issue. The Mayor’s Task Force’s Human Trafficking Report used the definition of human trafficking from the federal Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA). Partner agencies that did not use this definition when screening for human trafficking were not included in the cumulative analysis of this report. Adhering to a consistent definition allows the Task Force to undertake a broad analysis of San Francisco and helps agencies avoid conflation between survivors of human trafficking and consenting sex workers or laborers.

3. Increased Efforts on Labor Trafficking
This report demonstrates a divergence from the worldwide statistics in types of trafficking. According to the International Labor Organization, 68 percent of human trafficking worldwide is forced labor exploitation. However, labor accounted for only 11 percent of reported survivors in San Francisco. It is likely that labor trafficking is more prevalent in San Francisco, but government
and community-based agencies are not identifying and serving this population at the same rate as survivors of sex trafficking. City agencies should invest more effort and resources in accounting for and aiding labor trafficking survivors in San Francisco.