

# What Works: LESSONS LEARNED IN SURVIVOR INCLUSION

ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY – *In alphabetical order by author*

## What is the Promising Practices Database?

The *Promising Practices Database* was created in 2015 to collate evaluations of anti-slavery and counter trafficking programs in a searchable format, so that stakeholders can quickly identify what works – and what does not – through a simple search by country, target population, type or sector of slavery, or type of intervention. The theory is that we can learn from the evaluations already undertaken, even if the learning is ‘there is a lot we don’t know.’ We updated the database in 2020, while the evaluations and information in this policy brief are current as of February 2021.

## Coalition Against Trafficking in Women – Asia Pacific 2004 to 2006: evaluation of programs (Balanon and Barrameda, 2007)

Balanon, FG & Barrameda, TV 2007, *Coalition Against Trafficking in Women - Asia Pacific 2004 to 2006. Evaluation of Programs*, Forum for Women and Development (FOKUS). Available from: [https://www.norad.no/globalassets/import-2162015-80434-am/www.norad.no-ny/filarkiv/ngo-evaluations/evaluation-of-coalition-against-trafficking-in-women-\\_-asia-pacific-\\_-the-philippines.pdf](https://www.norad.no/globalassets/import-2162015-80434-am/www.norad.no-ny/filarkiv/ngo-evaluations/evaluation-of-coalition-against-trafficking-in-women-_-asia-pacific-_-the-philippines.pdf)

The Coalition Against Trafficking in Women – Asia Pacific (CATW-AP) is part of the international alliance of the Coalition Against Trafficking in Women, inaugurated in 1988. CATW-AP seeks to promote women’s rights and assist victims of human trafficking through four key programs: policy advocacy, campaigns, and networking; education, training and organisational development; research, documentation, and publication; and empowerment of survivors. An independent post-test evaluation was carried out to assess the impact of CATW-AP programs in the Philippines from 2004 to 2006 through a review and

analysis of project documents; and participation, observation, and interviews with members in project activities, for example, interviews with victim-survivors and focus group discussions with CATW-AP staff. The evaluation found that CATW-AP’s programs have addressed the various aspects of trafficking and empowered stakeholders, including survivors, to demand government action to protect women and girls from trafficking and sexual exploitation. For example, survivors were active participants in implementing a number of campaigns, such as advocating for the Anti-Prostitution Bill, and projects such as Bantay Bugaw and Young Men’s Camps. The programs also provided opportunities for government and survivors to work together in the campaigns, advocacy and implementation of projects. The evaluation found that active and meaningful participation of survivors contributed to the success and sustainability of the programs, however involvement in planning, monitoring and evaluation could be strengthened through providing further opportunities for upskilling.

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## An evaluation study on the impact of dance movement therapy on the participants of Training of Trainers (Chaudhuri, 2014)

Chaudhuri, P 2014, *An evaluation study on the Impact of Dance Movement Therapy on The participants of Training of Trainers*.

In India, the Kolkata Sanved program uses Dance Movement Therapy (DMT) as a therapeutic tool for female survivors of human trafficking and other vulnerable women. Kolkata Sanved's two-year Training of Trainer (TOT) program offers survivors training on DMT theory and practice in order for them to become DMT practitioners, supporting healing and allowing them to generate a livelihood. This evaluation examined

the impact of the program of participants enrolled from 2012 to 2014. Post-test interviews and workshops were conducted with 13 participants in Kolkata and Coochbehar who completed two years of training. The evaluation of the program found that survivors were empowered by their participation in the TOT program. Survivors demonstrated positive re-engagement with life and built confidence, communication skills, creativity, teamwork, and motivation. The evaluation also recognised challenges including risk of re-traumatisation, and acknowledged preventive measures taken including availability of psychotherapy sessions.

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## Maintaining stability in the face of adversity: self-care practices of human trafficking survivor-trainers in India (Fargnoli, 2017)

Fargnoli, A 2017, 'Maintaining Stability in the Face of Adversity: Self-Care Practices of Human Trafficking Survivor-Trainers in India', *American Journal of Dance Therapy*, vol. 39, no. 2, pp. 226-251. DOI:10.1007/s10465-017-9262-4.

Another evaluation of the Kolkata Sanved DMT program published in 2017 used a transcendental phenomenological approach to explore the lived experiences of self-care for human trafficking survivors when working with other survivors. Participants included six female survivors of human trafficking between the ages of 22 and 30 who had worked with the organisation for at least five years as a DMT trainer. The participants had studied the theory and practice of DMT; participated in several workshops, including on dance, improvisation, and drama therapy;

and had facilitated and influenced Kolkata Sanved's DMT curriculum, Sampoonata. Data was collected through semi-structured interviews and artistic methods were used to encourage participants to consider their self-care experiences. Common self-care practices were identified that reduced risk of re-traumatization among participants when working with other survivors, such as ensuring adequate social support and awareness of self-care practices is available so that participants can offer support to other survivors without jeopardising their own wellbeing. It was also important for participants to be empowered and able to acknowledge their limitations, including when they required professional support. The study recommends the use of DMT for self-care within community-based organisations using peer-providers as well as further research to understand boundaries for DMT peer-providers.

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## Study of HHS programs serving human trafficking victims (Clawson, Dutch, Salomon, and Grace, 2009)

Clawson, HJ, Dutch, NM, Salomon, A & Grace, LG 2009, *Study of HHS Programs Serving Human Trafficking Victims*. Available from: <http://aspe.hhs.gov/hsp/07/humantrafficking/final/index.shtml>.

The United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is responsible for helping victims of trafficking become eligible to receive benefits and services under the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (TVPA). The HSS programs were evaluated to examine effectively these programs were addressing the needs of human trafficking victims in the United States. Post-test telephone and in-person discussions were conducted with direct service providers,

law enforcement, and trafficking survivors to identify barriers to providing effective, comprehensive services to victims of trafficking, and possible 'promising practices' to addressing these challenges. Several organizations involved in direct victim outreach included survivors of human trafficking in developing and conducting the outreach activities. According to respondents, survivors provided credibility, knowledge and understanding of the issue, and a unique insight into how best to reach the target population. While many respondents provided anecdotal evidence of positive impact of programs to identify and assist victims of trafficking, there was a lack of documentation of formal assessments or evaluations to support these claims.

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## Final report on the evaluation of the Sage Project's Lifeskills and Grace programs (Cohen, Edberg and Gies, 2011)

Cohen, MI, Edberg, MC & Gies, SV 2011, *Final Report on the Evaluation of the Sage Project's Lifeskills and Grace Programs*, The SAGE Project, Inc. Available from: <https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/234464.pdf>.

LIFESKILLS and GRACE are two commercial sexual exploitation (CSE) intervention programs run by the Standing Against Global Exploitation (SAGE) Project in San Francisco, United States. The LIFESKILLS program serves girls who are under 18 years of age and are involved in CSE or are at risk of sexual exploitation, while GRACE serves women over 18 who have been arrested for sex work. The programs offer trauma-recovery services, substance abuse treatment, vocational training, housing assistance and legal advocacy. Some group sessions are delivered by survivors and most staff are CSE survivors themselves, which clients reported made them feel supported and understood. A participatory, multi-method process

was used for evaluation design, with evaluation goals and methods informed by the experiences of program staff and clients. Baseline and follow-up surveys were conducted with participants, in addition to interviews, site visits, focus groups, observations, and review of case files, program materials, and official records. While 89 per cent of participants viewed the program as beneficial, the results suggest that the program had limited success in providing treatment services to girls and young women involved in commercial sex. The program succeeded in reducing contact with the criminal justice system for both groups, with a 46.7 per cent decline in arrests for GRACE participants six months' post enrolment. For those involved in commercial sex, there was a decline in commercial sex involvement in the short-term, however longer-term impacts were unknown. The evaluation reported that 'mixing' girls who are and are not involved in CSE may contribute to positive attitudes towards commercial sex involvement among participants.

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## United Nations Global Initiative to fight human trafficking (Dalberg Global Development Advisors, 2011)

Dalberg Global Development Advisors 2011, *United Nations Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking (UN.GIFT)*, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. Available from: [https://www.unodc.org/documents/evaluation/indepth-evaluations/Indepth\\_evaluation\\_of\\_the\\_United\\_Nations\\_Global\\_Initiative\\_to\\_Fight\\_Human\\_Trafficking\\_2011.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/documents/evaluation/indepth-evaluations/Indepth_evaluation_of_the_United_Nations_Global_Initiative_to_Fight_Human_Trafficking_2011.pdf).

The United Nations Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking (UN.GIFT) was established by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) in 2007 to generate global action to combat human trafficking. The primary objectives of the program were to increase awareness and knowledge on human trafficking; increase political commitments and build capacity of member states; increase resources dedicated to counter trafficking; launch a global conference to combat trafficking; and improve support for victims.

Initially, the program focused on delivering ten regional conferences and one global conference to combat trafficking. The evaluation involved a post-test desk review of project documents, surveys, semi-structured interviews, and two field visits and in-country case studies. It found that UN.GIFT achieved several objectives, including increased awareness and political commitments, and that certain aspects of the program should be continued. However, interviews and case studies suggested that the establishment of a global movement to increase political will and resources to counter trafficking was not achieved. One component of the program included a survivor-run blog, and in response to recommendations on effectiveness, the UN.GIFT Steering Committee reported that it was developing an agenda for global inter-agency cooperation, which could involve survivors in the development of anti-trafficking activities.

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## Expanding protective services to victims and potential victims of trafficking through organizing responsive task forces against trafficking in ports and pilot hotspots in the Philippines (PORT Project) (Institute for Migration and Development Issues, 2012)

Institute for Migration and Development Issues 2012, *Expanding Protective Services to Victims and Potential Victims of Trafficking through Organizing Responsive Task Forces against Trafficking in ports and Pilot Hotspots in the Philippines (PORT Project)*, Visayan Forum Foundation.

In the Philippines, the Visayan Forum Foundation's PORT Project sought to prevent human trafficking and assist potential victims at ports of entry and exit through the creation of port taskforces in collaboration with law enforcement, prosecutors, social services providers, civil society, and the private sector. Other activities delivered under the project included public advocacy and bolstering civil society movements, including the Multi-Sectoral Network Against Trafficking, which supports government efforts to combat human trafficking and involves survivor groups. The impact of the PORT Project was evaluated at four levels:

beneficiaries, Visayan Forum, local anti-trafficking stakeholders, and national anti-trafficking advocacy. Using a trauma-informed approach, evaluators interviewed 22 beneficiaries about their near-trafficking experiences, and interviewed Visayan Forum staff to assess how the PORT Project was implemented. Evaluators also assessed perceptions of Visayan Forum's work among local anti-trafficking stakeholders through focus groups and key informant interviews, and finally, evaluated anti-trafficking advocacy at the national level. The findings showed that interception and rescue efforts assisted a significant number of victims and potential victims of trafficking. However, due to varying understandings of the term 'trafficking in persons', it is not clear how many people benefitted from the program. Further, the program contributed to improved awareness and visibility of anti-trafficking activities.

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## Combating domestic minor sex trafficking: an evaluation of the My Life, My Choice program in Kentucky (Perkins et al., 2018)

Perkins, EB, Geurin, L, Perkins, E, Tallichet, S & Dyer, C 2018, *Combating Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking: An Evaluation of the My Life, My Choice Program in Kentucky*, Ph.D. thesis, ProQuest Dissertations Publishing.

The My Life, My Choice (MLMC) program was established by the Justice Resource Institute in Massachusetts, United States. It is a survivor-led program consisting of a ten-session curriculum designed to raise awareness of sexual exploitation risks and indicators, and delivered to girls aged between 12 and 18 years old who were either survivors or otherwise considered at high risk of sexual exploitation. As part of the curriculum, participants take part in group sessions where survivor stories are shared. This evaluation assessed the MLMC program in Kentucky, and sought understand whether

the program reached its target population of high-risk individuals; was successful in educating participants about vulnerability; and contributed to a perceived growth in knowledge of sexual exploitation among participants. Data was collected via pre- and post-test surveys of 126 program participants from 2016 to 2018. Participants were aged between 10 and 18 years old, the majority were female (83.3 per cent), and almost a quarter (21.4 per cent) identified as belonging to the LGBTQ community. Through evaluation methods including frequency analysis and paired sample t-test, to determine if there was significant growth during the program, it was found that the program met its objectives of reaching its target population and creating a significant change in the participants' ideas of vulnerability and knowledge of sexual exploitation.

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## A longitudinal evaluation of a survivor-mentor program for child survivors of sex trafficking in the United States (Rothman et al., 2019)

Rothman, EF, Preis, SR, Bright, K, Paruk, J, Bair-Merritt, M & Farrell, A 2019, 'A longitudinal evaluation of a survivor-mentor program for child survivors of sex trafficking in the United States', *Child Abuse & Neglect*, p. 104083. DOI:10.1016/j.chiabu.2019.104083.

This evaluation of the MLMC program was conducted on the youth mentorship program in Massachusetts, whereby a survivor-led assessment team pairs a vulnerable or child victim of at least 11 years of age, with an adult mentor who has been a survivor of CSE for five years or more. The role of the mentor is to support the mentee through exit, recovery, and finding safety and stability. The United States Department of Justice funded the 2014 program evaluation to assess whether youth who participated in a CSE survivor-

mentor program showed changes in CSE victimisation, dating abuse victimisation, health, delinquency, and social factors. The longitudinal study was conducted between 2015 and 2018 and involved 41 youth with a baseline, six-month, and 12-month survey. The evaluation found that youth participants in MLMC displayed improved well-being, and reduced drug use, delinquent behaviour, and exploitation. However, there were several limitations that obscured a fulsome impact analysis of the program, including that the sample size was small, there was no control group, and other issues which may have influenced the results, such as social desirability bias in survey self-reporting. Future longitudinal surveys should also consider innovative or alternate means to ensure that similar young and mobile populations are able to be reached for longitudinal follow up.

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## Training US health care professionals on human trafficking: where do we go from here? (Powell, Dickings and Stoklosa, 2017)

Powell, C, Dickins, K & Stoklosa, H 2017, 'Training US health care professionals on human trafficking: where do we go from here?', *Medical Education Online*, vol. 22.

This study used mixed methods to identify the gaps and strengths in human trafficking education of Health Care Professionals (HCPs) in the United States. According to the study, HCPs can play a vital role in prevention, identification, and care of human trafficking victims, yet most HCPs are unfamiliar with how to care for trafficking survivors. The first component of the study entailed structured telephone interviews with a sample of 24 US-based experts in human trafficking HCP education in 2015. Interviews captured information on types of human trafficking training, length and frequency, content, inclusion of evaluation approaches and indicators, as well as an assessment of obstacles

and strengths in training. Several HCP education presentations (45 per cent) involved human trafficking survivors. The second phase of the study involved an analysis of data from HCP calls made to the National Human Trafficking Resource Center (NHTRC) hotline operated by Polaris. The analysis revealed trends in awareness and behaviour of HCPs, with a gradual increase in calls from HCPs since the NHTRC hotline was launched in 2007, and highlighted the need for human trafficking training content to be informed by survivors to ensure correct information; trauma-informed and care to be at the forefront; and consistent messaging for HCPs. Further, the study recommended the development of evaluation metrics for human trafficking training to record behaviour change and impact on service delivery and outcomes for human trafficking victims.

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