Summary of Proposal for Continuing Funding for Specialized Trafficking Victim Services

# Continuing Funding for Comprehensive for Trafficking Victims

Human trafficking is a form of modern day slavery in which victims are deceived and coerced into providing forced labor or sexual services for the benefit of their traffickers. **Within the United States, human trafficking has had a particularly dramatic impact on the state of California.** Thousands of women, men, and children, representing both U.S. citizens and foreign nationals, are victimized by traffickers every year in California.

**An ongoing, stable funding source is essential to develop a network of organizations throughout California with capacity to provide trafficking survivors with specialized, evidence-based services. We therefore request that California lawmakers establish a Continuing Budget Request for specialized trafficking victim services in the State’s General Fund in the amount of $15 million annually.** **By establishing a continuing source of funding for comprehensive human trafficking service provision, human trafficking research, and human trafficking technical assistance, Governor Jerry Brown will leave a powerful legacy that will impact the state for decades to come.**

Continuing funding would greatly expand the type and number of organizations able to provide long-term services to victims of human trafficking. **Without establishing the continuing budget request, in 2019 all 21 programs funded by the California Office of Emergency Services (“Cal OES”) will be defunded by the end of 2018.**

# Impact of the Cal OES Program

The eleven programs with the 2016-2018 Cal OES grant period have already served 2,521 victims of human trafficking in the first year alone. Together, these programs provided a total of 39,776 comprehensive services to victims of human trafficking, including, but not limited to, crisis counseling, case management, shelter services, and legal assistance. Of those individuals served, 219 had disabilities, 1,968 were female, 779 were minors (ages 0-17), and 1,046 were transitional aged youth (ages 18-24).

# Explanation of Benefits

## Program Services

### Case Management Resources

A survey of specialized service providers to human trafficking victims demonstrated that the case load of a human trafficking caseworker in California is anywhere between 10 and 30 victims. An average salary plus overhead costs for a specialized case manager is $53,760.00 annually. Since serving trafficking victims often requires emergency response and 24 hour services, programs should have a minimum of two full-time human trafficking case managers funded to ensure around the clock coverage, as well as victim and staff safety.

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### Legal Resources

Case management programs need the support of a full-time attorney, given the complex legal needs of trafficking survivors. A specialized attorney with overhead costs about $76,800.00 annually. With this funding, programs could either contract with existing legal services programs for a full-time staff attorney to support their clients or hire an attorney to support legal services in-house. Since attorney caseloads are traditionally higher than case management services, only one attorney is needed per every two case managers.

### Shelter Resources

It costs approximately $9,000 annually to secure a specialized shelter bed for an adult victim of human trafficking. Ensuring shelter for the victims identified and served under this program will require 600 shelter beds. The average length of stay at a shelter is 6 to 18 months. This dedicated funding will create a significant new number of shelter beds dedicated to trafficking survivors annually, which will be a first for California.

## Training and Technical Consultation Resources

Developing a statewide curriculum on effective identification of human trafficking victims and service provision for this unique population will require $440,000 annually. This number is based on past costs associated with training law enforcement agencies on minor sex trafficking. Additionally, to provide ongoing support to the newly funded trafficking programs and other programs identifying trafficking victims across California, $1 million is requested for ongoing technical consultation.

## Prevalence Study

This will be the first comprehensive, statewide research study of the prevalence of human trafficking in California. Based on costs for previous studies which concentrated on one geographic area and one form of trafficking, as well as discussions with the aforementioned researchers in this field, we conservatively estimate that an accurate, robust prevalence study across the state of California which examines both sex and labor trafficking will have a duration of three years and will cost $1 million per year of the study, for a total cost of $3 million every six years, allocated as $500,000 annually in the budget cost analysis.

## Evaluation of Service Providers

This funding will provide a comprehensive audit and evaluative study of service providers receiving Cal OES grant funding. This study will be used to determine best practices for serving trafficking victims statewide, which will then be implemented through the training and technical resources offered to service providers, as described above. A comprehensive audit and evaluative study of service providers would need to evaluate twenty programs over a three year period. We conservatively estimate that such a study will cost $1 million per year of the study, for a total of $3 million every three years, allocated as $500,000 annually in the budget cost analysis.

# Cost Analysis

## Program Services

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Need | Cost\* | Survivors Served |
| Case Manager | \*$58,110.47 Annually, including overhead | 20\* |
| Case Manager | \*$58,110.47 Annually, including overhead | 20\* |
| Staff Attorney | \*$78,994.86 Annually, including overhead | 40 |
| Shelter bed | $9600.00 x 40 = $384,000 annually | 40 |
| Direct Service Costs | \*$6,970 x 40 = $278,800 annually | 40 |
| Total per program | **$858,015.73** | **40** |

\*Estimates provided from survey of 17 direct service providers for victims of human trafficking, serving Los Angeles County, San Diego County, Riverside County, Fresno County, Ventura County, Orange County, Kern County, San Bernardino County, South Bay, San Francisco Bay Area, and the Sacramento Region.

**In order for these programs to be accessible to all survivors, programs across the state must be funded:[[1]](#footnote-1)**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Approximate total cost for 15 programs: | $12.56 Million | 600 trafficking survivors served |

## Training and Technical Consultation

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Need | Cost\* | Outcome |
| Ongoing training for service providers, first responders, and law enforcement | $440,000 | Thousands of human trafficking cases prevented |
| Centralized, statewide technical consultation and resource provision | $1 million | Hundreds of human trafficking cases identified earlier and existing programs can more effectively serve survivors |
| Total  | **$1.44 million** |  |

## Prevalence Study

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Need | Cost\* | Outcome |
| Comprehensive, statewide research study of the prevalence of human trafficking in California, which will last for a total of three years, and will reoccur every six years. | This study will occur once every six years, for a total cost of $3 million, which is $500,000 annually. | California will have a data informed, evidence-based estimate of the prevalence of human trafficking within the entire state. This study will provide valuable demographic information on trafficking victims, in order to help both law enforcement and service providers in strategically targeting their efforts. |
| Total  | **$500,000** |  |

## Evaluation of Service Providers

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Need | Cost\* | Outcome |
| Collection and evaluation of robust data on methods and outcomes of the organizations receiving Cal OES grant funding. | This study willoccur once every six years, for a total cost of$3 million, which is $500,000 annually. | California can evaluate state funded trafficking programs and Cal OES can adjust its Request for Proposal process accordingly, to ensure that state funded programs are using effective, evidence based, trauma informed practices.  |
| Total  | **$500,000** |  |

# Conclusion

In recent years, the California State Legislature has taken important first steps in improving access to comprehensive services by approving one-time funding requests. These one-time funding allocations have greatly impacted and benefitted the victims of modern day slavery and the people of California. However, a continuing budget request of $15 million is essential in ensuring the continued funding of these necessary service providers as well as fund the prevalence and evaluation studies that would provide California and the rest of the United States with crucially needed information about the prevalence of human trafficking and the best methods for addressing the needs of victims. By approving this continuing budget request, Governor Jerry Brown will establish an enduring legacy of championing the needs of human trafficking victims.

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**Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking**

Systemic change is at the core of CAST’s mission. Taking a survivor-centered approach to ending modern slavery, CAST has a proven track record of working directly with survivors of human trafficking which builds an important bridge between practice and policy to inform effective policy initiatives. By developing broad-based partnerships, CAST effectively advocates for policies that work to end human trafficking and help survivors rebuild their lives.

**Coalition to Abolish Slavery & Trafficking (CAST)**

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1. As the Cal OES grant program is currently structured, 10-11 programs are funded annually, for two year periods. If continuing funding is allocated, a total of 20-22 programs will be funded across different grant periods. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)