MTI Research Snaps presents:

Transportation to Combat Human Trafficking

Presented by Kezban Yagci Sokat, PhD
Assistant Prof. of Business Analytics, SJSU
Research Associate at MTI

kezban.yagcisokat@sjsu.edu

January 27, 2022
What is Human Trafficking?

At any given time in 2016, an estimated 40.3 million people are in modern slavery, including 24.9 million in forced labor.

Human trafficking does not discriminate against gender, age, country, neighborhood, industry, etc.
US DOT Efforts

Transportation Leaders Against Human Trafficking (TLAHT) - 2012

Directive to train USDOT employees (2012)

Blue Lightning Initiative

DHS Blue Campaign Transportation Toolkit (2016)

Legislation

Grant Opportunities
  Federal Transit Authority Grants
  Combating Human Trafficking Award

Source: USDOT.
Research and Data Efforts

• National Outreach Survey for Transportation (NOST)
• State DOT Efforts
• Understanding the Role of Transportation in Combating Human Trafficking in California
## Transportation and Human Trafficking

### Stages

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Recruitment</strong></th>
<th><strong>Exploitation</strong></th>
<th><strong>Exit/ Post exit</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Busses and trains and stations for recruitment—mostly for local</td>
<td>Based on the type of the trafficking: Private cars/taxis Ride share Van</td>
<td>Bus/train most used in the exit attempts Transportation support post exit</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Impact of COVID-19</strong></th>
<th><strong>Impact of COVID-19</strong></th>
<th><strong>Impact of COVID-19</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New tactics</td>
<td>Increase in certain exploitation</td>
<td>Harder to exit</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Yagci Sokat, K. Understanding the Role of Transportation in Combating Human Trafficking in California
Transit Efforts

- Information part of their safety and security
- Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month
- Expert personnel
- Training
- Public awareness
- Partnership
- Support research

“Not on Transit”
Other Modality Based Efforts

DELTA’S CAMPAIGN TO #GETONBOARD AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING

WINNER OF THE 2020 THOMSON REUTERS FOUNDATION’S STOP SLAVERY AWARD

Employee Training: Train nearly 90,000 Delta employees to detect and report potential signs of human trafficking on the ground, in the air and in their local communities.

Legislation: Lobbying employees to lobby for more anti-trafficking legislation that protects survivors and holds traffickers accountable.

Volunteering: Offering volunteer opportunities in cities around the world for Delta employees to give back and provide hands-on relief to human trafficking survivors.

Customers: Investing over $1 million to allow survivors to return home, seek safety, or receive medical care in partnership with Polaris, providing over 100 flight credits.

Partnerships: Partnering with anti-trafficking experts & organizations on local, national and international levels, including a $5.5M donation funding the U.S. National Human Trafficking Hotline and trafficking research.

End Child Slavery at the Source

The Code.org

Airline Ambassadors International

Copyrights reserved by Kezban Yagci Sokat
Key Learning and Tips for All

- Transportation has a huge role in combating human trafficking in each stage of human trafficking.
- There are gaps in understanding but there are also a lot of opportunities.
- Education and awareness is key!
- Partnership at different levels is helpful!
- Data and tracking is necessary!
- Practice safety!
Resources

- Transportation industry players are working on combating human trafficking and there are modality specific tools on how to start and where to start on US DOT website.

- For additional information, please refer to
  - (Upcoming) National Outreach Survey for Transportation (NOST) report.
Thank you for joining us for:
Transportation to Combat Human Trafficking

For more MTI events and webinar visit https://transweb.sjsu.edu/events.

Have a suggestion for a webinar topic you’d like to see featured? Email irma.garcia@sjsu.edu