



SHELTER BEDS FOR HUMAN TRAFFICKING SURVIVORS IN THE UNITED STATES

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Between January and June 2012, Polaris Project conducted a survey of anti-trafficking organizations providing shelter services with the goal of estimating the total number of shelter beds available to human trafficking survivors in the United States.

The survey resulted in the following findings:

519

Shelter beds exclusively designated for human trafficking survivors.

+

1416

Additional shelter beds available to human trafficking survivors.
These beds are located in organizations that have a human trafficking-specific program and serve human trafficking survivors in addition to other populations.

=

1935

Total shelter beds available to human trafficking survivors.
This represents 519 + 1416.

METHODOLOGY

Polaris Project receives hotline calls from and on behalf of human trafficking survivors every day and shelter is the most frequent referral request. Human trafficking-specific shelters and programs are especially rare for male survivors. In the absence of human trafficking-specific shelter options, survivors rely on shelters that serve the homeless, domestic violence survivors, at-risk youth, and other vulnerable populations. However, human trafficking survivors also need specialized services that are not always available at these facilities, and survivors may not always meet the required criteria to access services. Polaris Project undertook this survey in order to more precisely identify gaps in shelter provision for human trafficking survivors.

Goal: This survey is intended to estimate the total number of shelter beds available to human trafficking survivors in the United States at the time of the survey.

Approach: The survey was administered by Polaris Project staff between January 2012 and June 2012. We contacted approximately 150 shelters with anti-trafficking programs throughout the United States and the U.S. Territories.

In conducting the survey, Polaris Project contacted each organization by phone to determine the total number of shelter beds available to human trafficking survivors. We also inquired as to the type of shelter, survivor populations served at each location, and any requirements or restrictions surrounding age, immigration status, gender, and the type of trafficking he/she experienced.

Definitions: For the purposes of this survey, a shelter bed refers to any bed that is available for at least one overnight stay and affiliated in some way with a non-governmental, non-profit organization that serves human trafficking survivors, exclusively or through a human trafficking-specific program or funding stream. The organizations may provide shelter in house or through a formal partnership with another shelter facility. In some cases, a shelter bed may be located outside of a traditional shelter facility, provided that the primary organization maintains a formal partnership with the entity that manages the bed.

While Polaris Project learned of many organizations that have the capacity to coordinate shelter for human trafficking survivors, the survey results exclusively include beds affiliated with:

- ✓ Single-issue anti-trafficking organizations that provide shelter to human trafficking survivors;
- ✓ Victim services organizations with a human trafficking-specific program or funding stream that provide shelter to human trafficking survivors as well as other vulnerable populations;
- ✓ Victim services organizations with shelter that have reserved one or more beds for human trafficking survivors.

The survey does not include beds affiliated with:

- ≠ Anti-trafficking organizations that coordinate shelter for human trafficking survivors or provide linkage services to local shelters that do not have a human trafficking-specific program;
- ≠ Victim services organizations with shelter that have served human trafficking survivors in the past and are willing to accommodate survivors on a case-by-case basis, but do not have a program or funding specifically dedicated to serving survivors of human trafficking;
- ≠ Anti-trafficking organizations that are in the process of opening a shelter;
- ≠ Exclusively government-run facilities.

IMPORTANT POINTS TO NOTE

The list of shelters is not exhaustive.

- Polaris Project maintains a national referral database from which we drew organizations to be included in the survey. We also contacted organizations that were not previously in the database but which we learned of in the process of the surveyor from other partners in the field. However, there may be additional organizations in the United States with beds for survivors of human trafficking that are not included in the survey. If you are aware of shelter beds not included in this survey, please contact the National Human Trafficking Resource Center (NHTRC) at NHTRC@polarisproject.org.
- The number of organizations with funding for human trafficking beds as well as the number of survivors each organization is able to house is constantly changing.

This survey is time-limited.

- The results of this survey reflect the number of beds that were counted between January 2012 and June 2012 during the administration of the survey.
- Though there are several anti-trafficking shelters opening in the near future and many organizations in the process of procuring funding to serve human trafficking survivors, those organizations and beds were not counted during this survey.

Inclusion in this list does not indicate endorsement by Polaris Project.

- In the process of conducting this survey, Polaris Project did not vet, evaluate, or approve any of the organizations included. Any information provided herein should not be interpreted as endorsement of or recommendation for a shelter by Polaris Project.

The number of organizations counted in this survey does not equate to the number of organizations serving human trafficking survivors.

- There are many organizations across the United States that provide comprehensive social services to survivors of human trafficking but are not included in this list, based on the inclusion criteria on page 2.

Organizations have varying requirements for survivors to qualify for shelter.

- The survey tracks basic demographic criteria required to access each shelter, including age, gender, nationality (foreign national or U.S. citizen), as well as type of human trafficking experienced (sex and/or labor). Some shelters may have more specific requirements for their shelter residents that are not reflected in the final bed count. Some examples include:
 - Some shelters may restrict services to specific age ranges. A shelter that serves minors and adults may be restricted to survivors between ages 16-22, while another shelter that serves minors may be open to survivors between ages 11-17.
 - Some shelters have faith-based requirements for residents, such as mandatory spiritual counseling or attendance at religious services.
 - Some shelters that serve minors require that the minor is emancipated or that he/she obtain parental consent or placement by a law enforcement or government agency before being accepted as a resident.

This survey does not include all types of housing arrangements for human trafficking survivors.

- Some organizations assist human trafficking survivors by providing hotel vouchers when there are no available beds. However, as these are not specific beds or locations, and as there is no set number of hotel beds available for survivors using these vouchers, this type of shelter option was not included in the final bed count. Polaris Project did not count the total number of organizations providing this service.
- The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) administers two programs, the Unaccompanied Refugee Minors Program (URM) and Unaccompanied Children's Services (UCS), that operate shelter facilities or provide placement in shelter or foster care for unaccompanied foreign national minors in the United States, which may include human trafficking survivors. These shelter options were not included in this survey.
- Though there are various faith-based organizations, volunteer groups, and individual community members who are willing to shelter human trafficking survivors in their own homes, Polaris Project did not include these informal community placements in the shelter survey.

Not all organizations with shelter responded to the survey.

- Polaris Project was unable to reach about 13 agencies by phone or email during the time period allotted for the survey. Although they may offer beds to human trafficking survivors or know of other shelters that reserve beds for this population, those numbers were not included in the final bed count¹.

¹Organizations that were not able to be reached in the time frame of the survey include Project Respect (Madison, WI), Center for Young Women's Development (San Francisco, CA), Crisis House (El Cajon, CA), Casa Libre/Freedom House (Los Angeles, CA), Wichita Children's Home (Wichita, KS), Beauty From Ashes (Fort Myers, FL), Sacred Beginnings (Wyoming, MI), Center for the Pacific Asian Family Emergency Shelter (Los Angeles, CA), Rahab's Hideaway (Hilliard, OH), Larkin Street Youth Services (San Francisco, CA), Huckleberry House (San Francisco, CA), Dreamcatcher (San Francisco, CA), Freedom to Thrive (Birmingham, AL).

FINDINGS

Beds Exclusively Designated for Human Trafficking Survivors = 519

These beds are specifically and exclusively designated for human trafficking survivors, and they would remain empty if not used by this population. Individuals who are survivors of other crimes or are in need of shelter for other reasons would not be eligible for these beds.

- **49** organizations in the United States offer beds that fall into this category.
- **21** of these organizations are able to serve both sex and labor trafficking survivors in the shelter, while the remaining **28** organizations offered beds solely for sex trafficking survivors.
- **0** beds are exclusively designated for labor trafficking survivors.
- **348** of these beds (approximately 67%) are restricted to sex trafficking survivors, leaving only **171** beds available to labor trafficking survivors.
- **117** beds are available to male survivors, though only **2** of those are exclusively designated for males.
- **28** states did not have any beds exclusively for human trafficking survivors.
- **10** organizations contacted during this survey offer hotel vouchers or hotel points on a limited basis to human trafficking survivors as an alternative to emergency shelter.

Total Beds for Trafficking Survivors = 1,935

These beds are located in shelters that are part of single-issue anti-trafficking organizations or organizations that have a human trafficking-specific program, funding stream, and/or specific beds in their shelter designated for human trafficking survivors. Shelters included in this count may focus on other vulnerable populations in addition to human trafficking survivors.

- **73** organizations in the United States and U.S. territories offer shelter beds that fall into this category.
- **41** of these organizations are able to serve both sex and labor trafficking survivors in the shelter, while the other **32** organizations offer beds solely for sex trafficking survivors.
- **430** of these beds (approximately 22%) are provided by a single shelter in Indiana called the Julian Center.
- This category includes the **519** beds designated exclusively for human trafficking survivors noted above.

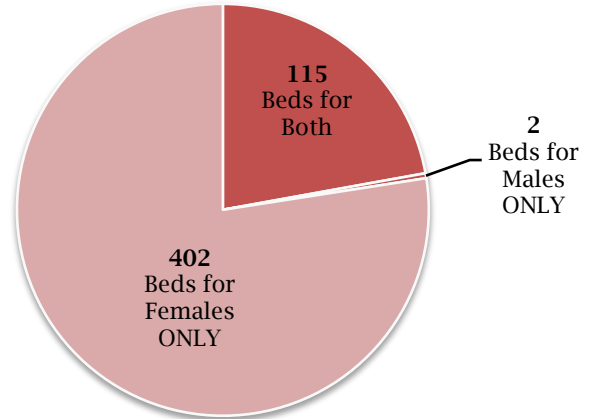
EXCLUSIVE HUMAN TRAFFICKING BEDS

The following charts show the distribution of these shelter beds according to survivor populations served.

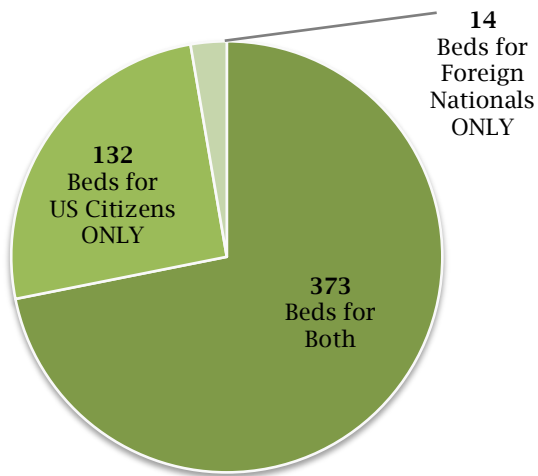
Type of Human Trafficking



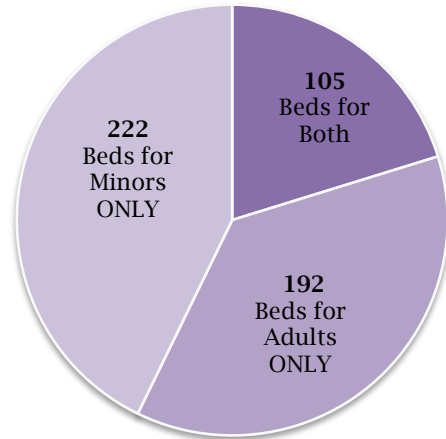
Survivor Gender



Survivor Nationality



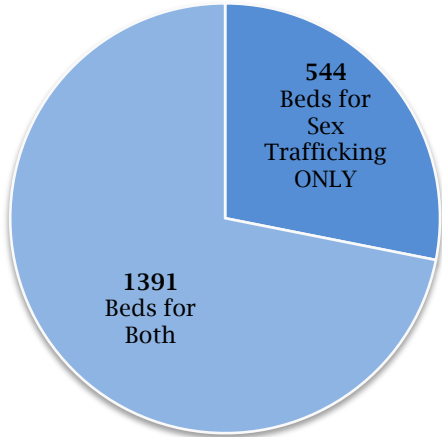
Survivor Age



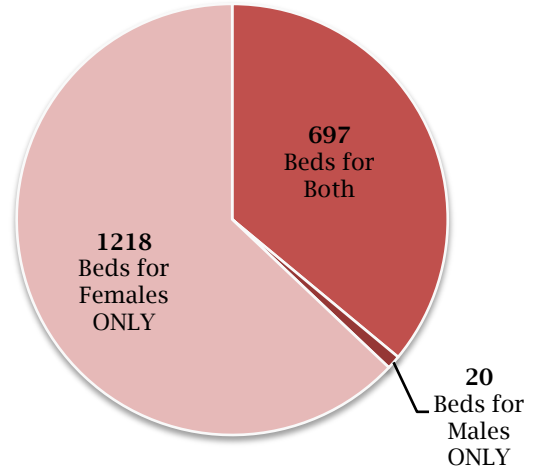
ALL HUMAN TRAFFICKING BEDS

The following charts show the distribution of these shelter beds according to survivor populations served.

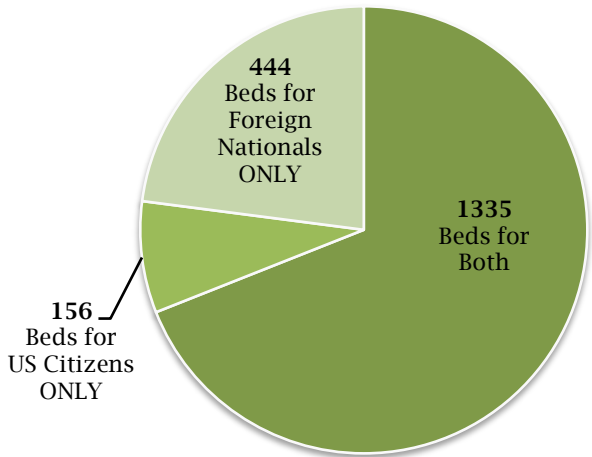
Type of Human Trafficking



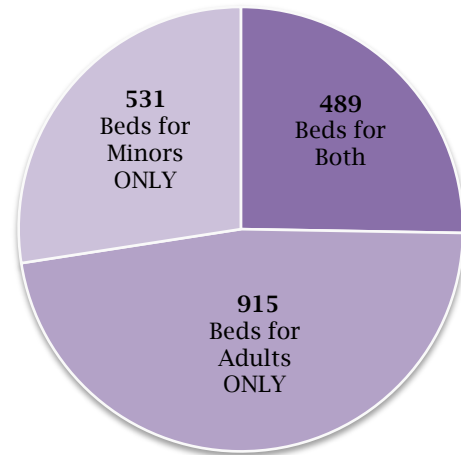
Survivor Gender



Survivor Nationality



Survivor Age



LOCATION OF SHELTER BEDS FOR HUMAN TRAFFICKING SURVIVORS

The following map² identifies the approximate locations of the organizations providing shelter beds for survivors of human trafficking. The pink points on the map correspond to the shelters that contain beds exclusively for trafficking survivors.

Please note that this map does not include two anti-trafficking shelters located in Hawaii and Guam.



²Image by Batchgeo and Google Maps.

The following table shows the full list of organizations with shelter beds for human trafficking survivors. The matrix contains shaded cells if the corresponding survivor populations are eligible for the beds at each organization. The second to last column on the right identifies which organizations offer all or some of their shelter beds exclusively and specifically to human trafficking survivors. The numbers of exclusive beds are indicated in parenthesis. *Note: this matrix does not depict the full range of populations served by each organization, only those eligible for shelter.*

ORGANIZATIONS OFFERING BEDS FOR HUMAN TRAFFICKING SURVIVORS

| State | City | Organization | U.S. Citizen | Foreign National | Male | Female | Adult | Minor | Exclusive? | # of Beds |
|-------|-------------|--|--------------|------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|------------|-----------|
| AL | Birmingham | The Wellhouse | Shaded | Shaded | | Shaded | Shaded | Shaded | ★ | 10 |
| AZ | Laveen | Momma's House | Shaded | Shaded | | Shaded | Shaded | | ★ (3) | 8 |
| | Phoenix | Dignity House Catholic Charities | Shaded | | | Shaded | Shaded | | ★ | 8 |
| | Phoenix | Streetlight Phoenix | Shaded | Shaded | | Shaded | | Shaded | ★ | 48 |
| | Phoenix | Phoenix Dream Center The Rescue Project | Shaded | Shaded | | Shaded | Shaded | Shaded | ★ | 12 |
| CA | Anaheim | Salvation Army Network of Emergency Trafficking Services (NETS) | | Shaded | Shaded | Shaded | Shaded | | ★ | 3 |
| | Fresno | Fresno EOC Sanctuary for Youth | Shaded | Shaded | Shaded | Shaded | | Shaded | ★ (4) | 40 |
| | Los Angeles | Children of the Night | Shaded | | Shaded | Shaded | | Shaded | ★ | 24 |
| | Los Angeles | Coalition to Abolish Slavery & Trafficking (CAST) | Shaded | Shaded | | Shaded | Shaded | | ★ | 9 |
| | Los Angeles | Dream Center Project Hope | Shaded | Shaded | | Shaded | Shaded | | ★ | 30 |
| | Oakland | F.A.C.E.S.S. of Slavery (partner of New Day for Children) ³ | Shaded | Shaded | Shaded | Shaded | | Shaded | ★ | 15 |
| | Orange | Women's Transitional Living Center | Shaded | Shaded | | Shaded | Shaded | | | 50 |
| | Morgan Hill | Community Solutions | Shaded | Shaded | Shaded | Shaded | Shaded | | | 14 |

³ This organization has a total of 200 beds, but only 15 of those beds were immediately available for use at the time of this survey.

| State | City | Organization | U.S. Citizen | Foreign National | Male | Female | Adult | Minor | Exclusive? | # of Beds |
|-------|-----------------|--|--------------|------------------|------|--------|-------|-------|------------|-----------|
| CA | Riverside | Operation Safehouse | | | | | | | | 59 |
| | Sacramento | Courage House | | | | | | | ★ | 6 |
| | Sacramento | My Sister's House | | | | | | | | 6 |
| | Sacramento | W.E.A.V.E., Inc. | | | | | | | ★ (5) | 41 |
| | San Diego | Bilateral Safety Corridor Coalition (BSCC) | | | | | | | ★ | 6 |
| | San Diego | Generate Hope | | | | | | | ★ | 6 |
| | San Diego | San Diego Youth and Community Services | | | | | | | | 20 |
| | San Diego | SDS Hope House | | | | | | | ★ | 5 |
| | San Francisco | Asian Women's Shelter | | | | | | | | 15 |
| | San Francisco | Freedom House | | | | | | | ★ | 8 |
| | San Jose | Next Door Solutions to Domestic Violence | | | | | | | | 21 |
| | Santa Ana | Community Service Programs, Inc. (CSP) | | | | | | | ★ | 1 |
| | Van Nuys | Mary Magdalene Project | | | | | | | | 6 |
| DC | Washington | Polaris Project | | | | | | | ★ | 6 |
| | Washington | Sasha Bruce Network | | | | | | | ★ (2) | 45 |
| FL | Clermont | Dream Home Run for Freedom | | | | | | | ★ | 10 |
| | Estero | Wings of Shelter | | | | | | | ★ | 4 |
| | Fort Lauderdale | Calvary Chapel | | | | | | | ★ | 6 |

| State | City | Organization | U.S. Citizen | Foreign National | Male | Female | Adult | Minor | Exclusive? | # of Beds |
|---------|----------------|--|--------------|------------------|------|--------|-------|-------|------------|-----------|
| FL | Miami | Kristi House | | | | | | | ★ | 6 |
| GA | Decatur | Georgia Care Connection | | | | | | | ★ | 14 |
| | Peachtree City | Living Water for Girls | | | | | | | ★ | 10 |
| Guam | Saipan | GumaEsperansa - Karidat | | | | | | | | 11 |
| HI | Honolulu | Pacific Alliance to Stop Slavery (PASS) | | | | | | | ★ | 8 |
| IL | Chicago | Salvation Army Promise House (Anne's House) | | | | | | | ★ | 8 |
| IN | Indianapolis | The Julian Center | | | | | | | | 430 |
| KY | Louisville | The Center for Women and Families | | | | | | | | 76 |
| | Louisville | Catholic Charities of Louisville | | | | | | | ★ | 24 |
| | Covington | Women's Crisis Center | | | | | | | | 27 |
| MA | Arlington | Germaine Lawrence | | | | | | | ★ (8) | 77 |
| | Quincy | Josephine Bakhita House | | | | | | | ★ | 3 |
| MD | Baltimore | TurnAround | | | | | | | ★ (4) | 13 |
| MI | Detroit | Alternatives for Girls | | | | | | | | 24 |
| | Grand Rapids | Wedgewood Christian Services | | | | | | | ★ | 12 |
| MN | St. Paul | Breaking Free | | | | | | | ★ | 30 |
| | St. Paul | Catholic Charities of St. Paul & Minneapolis | | | | | | | ★ | 12 |
| MO & KS | Kansas City | Veronica's Voice | | | | | | | ★ | 6 |

| State | City | Organization | U.S. Citizen | Foreign National | Male | Female | Adult | Minor | Exclusive? | # of Beds |
|-------|---------------|--|--------------|------------------|------|--------|-------|-------|------------|-----------|
| NC | Asheville | Hope House | | | | | | | ★ | 4 |
| NY | Buffalo | International Institute of Buffalo | | | | | | | ★ | 12 |
| | Forest Hills | Lifeway Network | | | | | | | ★ | 5 |
| | New York | Girls Education & Mentoring Services (GEMS) | | | | | | | ★ | 15 |
| | New York | Jewish Childcare Association, Gateways Program | | | | | | | ★ | 14 |
| | New York | New York Asian Women's Shelter | | | | | | | | 40 |
| | New York | Safe Horizon Streetwork Project | | | | | | | | 24 |
| | New York | Sanctuary For Families | | | | | | | ★ (2) | 46 |
| | White Plains | My Sister's Place | | | | | | | | 33 |
| OH | Cincinnati | YWCA of Greater Cincinnati | | | | | | | | 88 |
| | Toledo | Second Chance Toledo | | | | | | | | 9 |
| OK | Oklahoma City | All Things New | | | | | | | ★ | 6 |
| | Tulsa | Bay Spring Villa | | | | | | | | 23 |
| OR | Portland | Janus Youth Programs | | | | | | | ★ (7) | 19 |
| PA | Philadelphia | Covenant House - Philadelphia | | | | | | | | 52 |
| | Philadelphia | Dawn's Place | | | | | | | ★ | 9 |
| | York | YWCA - York | | | | | | | | 45 |

| State | City | Organization | U.S. Citizen | Foreign National | Male | Female | Adult | Minor | Exclusive? | # of Beds |
|-------------------|-----------|---------------------------|--------------|------------------|------|--------|-------|-------|------------|--------------|
| TN | Nashville | Magdalene - Thistle Farms | | | | | | | ★ | 22 |
| TX | Dallas | Mosaic Family Services | | | | | | | ★ | 24 |
| | Houston | Hope House | | | | | | | ★ | 12 |
| VA | Fairfax | Artemis House | | | | | | | | 34 |
| | Manassas | Youth for Tomorrow | | | | | | | | 20 |
| | Richmond | Safe Harbor | | | | | | | | 8 |
| WA | Seattle | Youthcare | | | | | | | ★ (11) | 38 |
| Total Beds | | | | | | | | | | 1,935 |

TAKE ACTION

Polaris Project is a nonprofit organization committed to combating human trafficking and modern-day slavery, and to strengthening the anti-trafficking movement through a comprehensive approach. Polaris Project operates the National Human Trafficking Resource Center (NHTRC), a national, 24-hour, toll-free, confidential hotline offering crisis assistance and support, referrals to victim services, tip reporting, innovative and up-to-date training tools, technical assistance, resources, and information on diverse topics affecting the anti-trafficking field. Call the NHTRC 24 hours a day, from anywhere in the United States, to get help, report a tip, or learn more.

To learn more about the National Human Trafficking Resource Center (NHTRC) or to request that your organization be added to our national contacts database and shelter list, please call us at 1-888-373-7888.

If you are seeking services for a survivor of human trafficking, please call 1-888-373-7888 for specialized victim services referrals and additional shelter options.

If your agency provides shelter to other victim populations and you would like to be connected with an anti-trafficking organization to discuss opening your shelter to human trafficking survivors, please call us for local referrals.

If you are considering starting a shelter or expanding your current shelter services to human trafficking survivors, we encourage you to consult the toolkit [*Ten Essential Steps: Developing Housing Programs for Survivors of Human Trafficking*](#) by Katherine Chon, Co-Founder of Polaris Project.

For additional information please visit www.traffickingresourcecenter.org or to order the toolkit, visit www.traffickinghousingtoolkit.org.