# Update on Human Trafficking and Family Justice Centers

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PRESENTATION TO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
FAMILY AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

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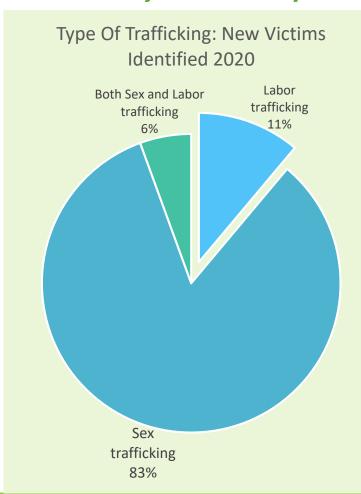




# Human Trafficking in Contra Costa County: A Snapshot

- > Human trafficking can take many forms, but is generally categorized as either sex trafficking or labor trafficking
- ➤ Both sex and labor trafficking happen in Contra Costa County and are not mutually exclusive—a survivor can be subjected to both sex and labor exploitation
- ➤ The following data was collected over a twelve month period between January 1 and December 31, 2020, and represents over **36 new survivors** of human trafficking who were identified and served during this time period

# Human Trafficking in Contra Costa County: A Snapshot





# Human Trafficking Intervention and Prevention Efforts

- ► Human Trafficking Coalition
- Human Trafficking Multi-Disciplinary Case Review Team
- ➤ Department of Justice Human Trafficking Task Force Grant
- Responding to Commercially Sexually Exploited Children/Youth (CSEC/Y) involved with Children and Family Services (CFS)
  - CSEC Steering Committee

# Family Justice Center and Data Highlights

The Family Justice Center (FJC) continues to be a one-stop center for families affected by domestic violence, sexual assault, elder abuse, child abuse, and human trafficking. FJC highlights for 2020:

Provided services to 4,444 individuals who experienced interpersonal violence, a 13% increase from 2019

Services provided impacted an additional **3,421 children** living with clients served

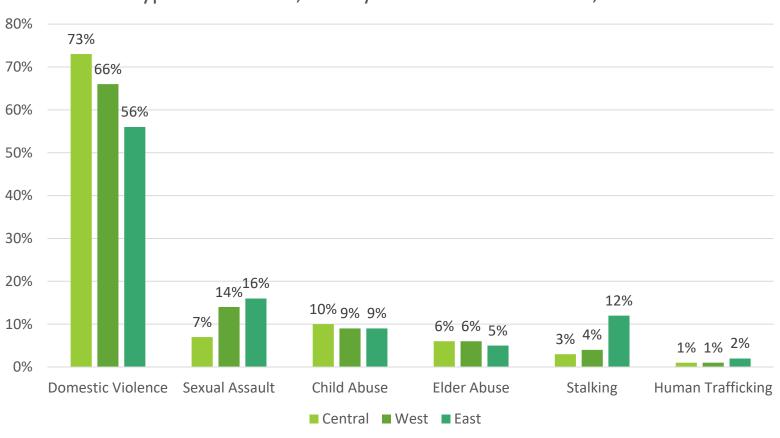
Provided comprehensive and integrated services by working together with their **63 on-site partners** 

Remained open to the public during the COVID-19 pandemic

Partnered with foundations to distribute \$77,000 to families impacted by COVID-19 layoffs

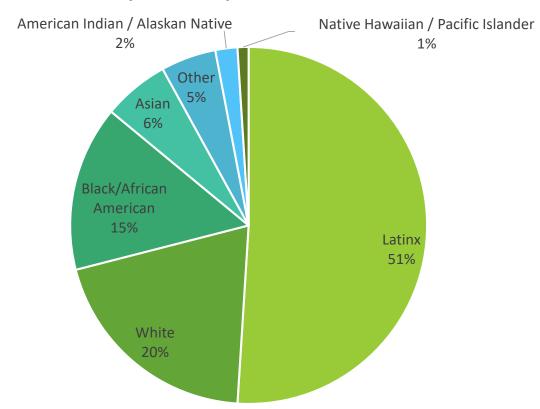
# Family Justice Center and Data Highlights

#### Type of Violence, Family Justice Center Clients, 2020



# Family Justice Center and Data Highlights

#### Race / Ethnicity of Family Justice Center Clients, 2020



### Impact of COVID-19 on Human Trafficking and Interpersonal Violence

- > During natural disasters and other emergencies, rates of interpersonal violence and human trafficking can increase dramatically.
  - Tensions in relationships
  - Lack of support systems
  - Increased financial and medical stress, unemployment, as well as generalized anxiety

This leads to more violence and abuse at home and may lead individuals to take jobs that may be induced by force, fraud or coercion.

### Impact of COVID-19 on Human Trafficking and Interpersonal Violence

"The number of crisis **trafficking cases** handled by the Trafficking Hotline **increased by more than 40 percent** in the month following the shelter-in-place orders compared to the prior month (from approximately 60 in a 30 day period to 90). Crisis cases are those in which some assistance – such as shelter, transportation, or law enforcement involvement – is needed within 24 hours. The number of situations in which people needed immediate **emergency shelter nearly doubled** (from around 29 cases in Feb. 14th – March 15th, 2020 to 54 in April 2020)."

Polaris Project, the agency that runs the National Human Trafficking Hotline: <a href="https://polarisproject.org/press-releases/human-trafficking-during-the-covid-19-pandemic/">https://polarisproject.org/press-releases/human-trafficking-during-the-covid-19-pandemic/</a>

### What's Next: Moving Upstream

While we must respond to the immediate needs and crisis now, we must also begin to look upstream at what is causing human trafficking and interpersonal violence in the first place.



### What's Next: Contra Costa County's Call to Action for Preventing Interpersonal Violence

The Alliance and the Contra Costa County Public Health are co-leading a planning and capacity-building process to develop and implement a countywide 'Call to Action' to promote safety and reduce interpersonal violence, including human trafficking. It was informed by countless community members and services providers who participated in the planning and development process.





### Contra Costa County's Call to Action PREVENTING INTERPERSONAL VIOLENCE



- 1. Build Sustainable Infrastructure
- 2. Foster Early Childhood Development
- 3. Encourage Community Connectedness
- 4. Improve Economic Opportunity & Stability



### Thank You

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