



UNIVERSITY of MARYLAND SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

PARI: PREVENTION OF ADOLESCENT RISKS INITIATIVE



Prevention of Adolescent Risk Initiative

PARI PERIODICAL

#pursuingmeaningfulwork

January 2019 (Week Four)



To commemorate National Human Trafficking Awareness Month, each week during the month of January 2019 we will highlight facts about human trafficking.

Week Four:

1. **Did you know** victims of labor trafficking can be U.S. citizens, foreign nationals, women, men, and children? Vulnerabilities that lead to labor trafficking are immigration status, recruitment debt, isolation, poverty, and a lack of strong labor protections. Employers may exert physical and/or psychological control, such as physical abuse, debt bondage, or confiscating legal documents or money.

(<https://polarisproject.org/human-trafficking/labor-trafficking>)

2. **Did you know** that social media is used by traffickers to recruit victims and then control them by restricting their access? Traffickers also may use social media to impersonate the victim, spread damaging rumors, distribute intimate images, or stalk a victim's account activity even after they have left the trafficker.

(<https://polarisproject.org/human-trafficking-and-social-media>)

3. **Did you know** there is a National Human Trafficking Hotline? The phone number is 1(888)373-7888. There is also the BeFree Textline, where "help" can be texted to BeFree (2334733). In 2017, the hotline and textline identified over 40,000 cases but this does not represent the entire scope of the issue. Human trafficking is under-reported due to misconceptions about its definition and a lack of awareness about its indicators.

(<http://polarisproject.org/sites/default/files/2017NHTHStats%20%281%29.pdf>)



Human Trafficking 101 E-Learning Unit is LIVE!



The Prevention of Adolescent Risks Initiative (PARI) has collaborated with [The Healthy Teen Network](#) to create a number of resources to highlight critical elements of child labor, and sex trafficking in Maryland. As a part of Maryland Human Trafficking Initiative's (MHTI) statewide training strategy, e-learning units were developed to provide human trafficking training to multiple audiences. View the [Human Trafficking 101 E-Learning Unit](#) on [PARI's website](#) under *Resources*.



Amelia Rubenstein recognized by Mayor Catherine E. Pugh at Human Trafficking Collaborative Meeting



On January 18, 2019, in honor of National Human Trafficking Awareness Month, Mayor Catherine Pugh recognized members of the Baltimore City Human Trafficking Collaborative on their fight against human trafficking in the Baltimore City. Mayor Pugh thanked the board for all their great work and emphasized the importance of addressing this issue not only in the city of Baltimore, but the state of Maryland and across the nation. Honorees included PARI's own, Amelia Rubenstein, LCSW-C (middle, right of Mayor Pugh) for her work with the Child Sex Trafficking Victims Initiative and her efforts towards the development of Safe Harbor in Maryland, and a host of others including our partners Thomas Stack (*Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice*), Rachel Sye (*TurnAround, Inc.*), Lauren Benjamin and Major Holhman (*Baltimore City Police Department*), Deborah Holbrook (*Mercy Medical Center*) and Steve Hess (*U.S. Attorney's Office, District of MD*).



National Human Trafficking Awareness Month: January 2019

Understanding Human Trafficking of Children and Youth



Human trafficking is defined as the exploitation of an individual for profit through forced labor or commercial sex. It affects all populations: adults, children, men, women, foreign nationals and U.S. citizens, and all economic classes. Federal human trafficking laws define minors involved in commercial sex acts as victims of trafficking, and requires state child welfare agencies to identify and provide services for trafficked youth and those at risk. In Maryland, child sex trafficking refers to the trafficking of anyone under the age

of 18 and is a form of child abuse. Maryland human trafficking laws, updated in 2012, opened the door for minor victims to receive child welfare services, rather than a juvenile justice response. This change also required mandated reporters to report suspected child sex trafficking victims to local Department of Social Services to investigate and respond to child needs.

The University of Maryland School of Social Work (UMSSW), PARI in collaboration with other vital collaborating partners, received funding from the Children's Bureau, Department of Justice, and Casey Family Services to build capacity in Maryland to address the issue of human trafficking within the child and youth population. PARI has built internal infrastructure between state and local agencies with the development of the Human Trafficking training for mental health providers, law enforcement, child welfare workers, and other community providers to ensure that children and youth who have been trafficked or at-risk for being trafficking have access to an array of comprehensive, high-quality services. In addition, PARI staff have been instrumental in the coordination of Multi-Disciplinary Teams (MDTs) across the state to enhance coordination between agencies involving victims of trafficking. Our partners at the SAFE Center have been instrumental in working with PARI to address labor trafficking of youth victims across Maryland.

To learn more about human trafficking in Maryland, feel free to visit our website, or stop by one of our human trafficking awareness events.



Top 5 Ways to Get Involved in Human Trafficking Awareness Month

1. Share your passion and knowledge with others! We challenge you to find 10

friends or contacts and share tell them about human trafficking in Maryland. Use our [labor trafficking infographic](#) and/or [sex trafficking infographic](#), share our social media posts and encourage them to sign up for our PARI Periodical for more information.

BE COMPASSIONATE...

BE CAUTIOUS...

MAKE THE CALL!

National Human Trafficking Resource Center: 1-888-373-7888

2. Host a resources drive to encourage your community to donate items for victims support. Here are a current [list of needs](#) for survivors of human trafficking.
3. Want to learn more about human trafficking? Attend a community training event, the next one is scheduled for January 12, 2019. Share the attached [event flyer](#).
4. Be a conscientious and informed consumer. Ask who picked your crabs, tomatoes or made your clothes, or check out the Department of Labor's [List of Goods Produced by Child Labor or Forced Labor](#). Take steps to prevent human trafficking in supply chains.
5. Follow the three **C's**: Be **C**ompassionate, Be **C**autious, and Make the **C**all....Call the National Human Trafficking Resource Center to report what you're seeing: 1-888-373-7888.

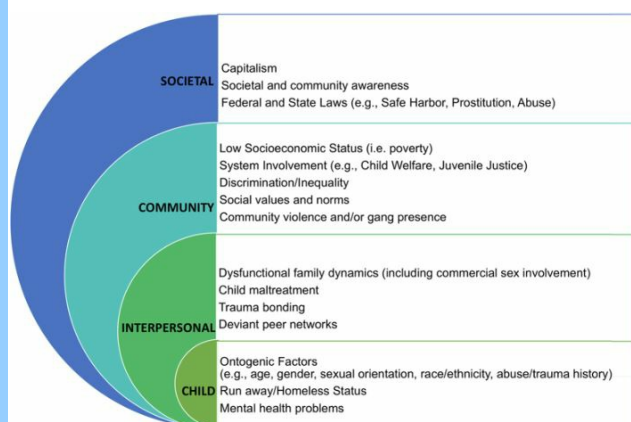


WHAT'S HAPPENING AT PARI?



PARI, Prevention of Adolescent Risks Initiative is one of the Ruth Young Center for Families and Children's newest initiatives created to increase visibility and knowledge to address adolescent health issues. The federal grant projects under the **PARI** umbrella include:

- **The Baltimore Teen Pregnancy Prevention Initiative for Out-of-Home Youth (BTPPI)**
- **Child Sex Trafficking Victims Initiative (CSTVI)**
- **Maryland Human Trafficking Victims Initiative (MHTI)**



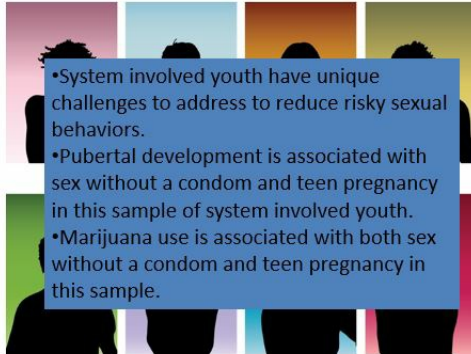
The **Child Sex Trafficking Victims Initiative (CSTVI)** created a traumagenic social ecological framework. In a recent article, *A Traumagenic Social Ecological Framework for Understanding and Intervening with Sex Trafficked Children and Youth*, Dr. Finigan-Carr and Children's Bureau colleagues utilize a four-tiered approach on how factors at each level interact and contribute to youths' vulnerability for sex trafficking through mechanisms including social norms. To learn more, refer to the Child And Adolescent Social Work Journal Article, doi:10.1007/s10560-018-0588-7



The **Maryland Human Trafficking Initiative (MHTI)** is currently planning for the third annual Maryland Child Trafficking Conference. The date of the next conference is scheduled for **August 7, 2019**.

Save the Date!!!

What do we know...



The **Baltimore Teen Pregnancy Prevention Initiative for Out-of-Home Youth (BTPPI)** will present findings on data related to pubertal development, using the sample from this project at the Society of Social Work Research (SSWR) Conference 2019 in San Francisco, California as part of a symposium presentation on Saturday, January 19, 2019.



Dr. Nadine Finigan-Carr
Research Assistant Professor

Director, Prevention of Adolescent
Risks Initiative (PARI)

Assistant Director, Ruth Young Center
for Families and Children

University of Maryland
School of Social Work

Thoughts from our Director

Happy New Year and thank you for being a part of our network to prevent adolescent risk behaviors. We here at PARI are looking forward to the future in 2019 and beyond. This year some of our funding will end. However, new funding opportunities are on the horizon. As such, I am amazed by what can be done in support of children and youth in our community.

January is Human Trafficking Awareness and Prevention Month. It is a time to pledge our solidarity with victims of human trafficking and raise awareness about, and work to end, this insidious crime. During this month, we will be participating in events and disseminating information about human trafficking both in person and on social media. We invite you to participate by supporting our events in person and signal boosting online. Follow and use the hashtag #EndChildTraffickingMD so that we can all work together to be a unified voice to combat trafficking.

