

THE DEMAND FOR HOUSING TRAFFICKED PERSONS IN ONTARIO

"HOUSING. THERE'S NO HOUSING FOR THESE WOMEN; THE HOUSING THAT IS AVAILABLE FOR THESE WOMEN HAS A LOT OF CRITERIA FOR THEM TO GET IN ... THERE ARE LOTS OF OTHER PLACES THAT WON'T TAKE YOU IF YOU'RE AN ADDICT ... IF YOU HAVE MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES ... SO, THERE ARE ALL THESE RESTRICTIONS."

(Ranasinghe, 2020)





TABLE OF CONTENTS

Acknowledgement	2
Abstract	3
Introduction	5
Methodology	6
Literature Review	9
Section 1: Housing Supports for Trafficked Persons	14
Section 2: General Housing Supports in Simcoe County	26
Section 3: The Way Forward	31
References	36
Appendix A: Key Terms	40
Appendix B: Survey Questionnaire	45
Appendix C: Graphs	50
Appendix D: List of Shelters for Trafficked Persons in Ontario	54
Appendix E: List of Shelters in Simcoe County	55

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ABSTRACT

Housing for people who have experienced exploitation is an essential part of an individual's journey into healing, freedom and restoration. This research explores the demand for housing in Ontario, access to housing supports, and considerations for the way forward. Through surveys and key informant interviews, it is clear that barrier-free housing is needed for people who have experienced exploitation including, emergency, transitional and long-term supports. The findings in this report inform 18 recommendations to strengthen housing support services for people who have experienced exploitation. More data collection and further research is needed to adequately address housing for trafficked persons in an evidenced-based approach.

INTRODUCTION

Sex trafficking and sexual exploitation is an issue in Ontario. Over two-thirds of trafficking in Canada take place in Ontario (Cotter, 2020). Children are lured into situations of exploitation as young as 12 years old (Cotter, 2020). General awareness of the issue is relatively low and is an ongoing issue provincially and across Canada (Gray, 2018). As a result, post-trafficking care and support systems are lacking that meet the unique needs of individuals impacted by sex trafficking and sexual exploitation.

Housing is a challenge that Canadians from various backgrounds and experiences face. With the surge in rent and mortgage rates over the past decade, affordable housing remains a central issue that our society needs to address. Individuals impacted by trafficking most often require emergency assistance and long-term support that is trauma-informed, flexible and that mobilizes individuals towards independence rather than dependence. Domestic violence shelters are often not able to provide the specific care and wrap-around support services that people who have experienced trafficking might need. Housing for trafficked persons is essential, yet the demand for this type of housing is not fully known.

The purpose of the study is to understand the demand for housing for trafficked persons and to determine the gaps in emergency, transitional, and long-term housing in Ontario. Specifically, this report examines:

- the number of beds available within shelters that have been established specifically for trafficked persons;
- the types of housing available for people who have been trafficked, housing costs, bursaries and subsidies;
- the gender focus and age focus of existing housing programs for trafficked persons;
- and how many inquiries for space are denied by individuals who have experienced trafficking and for what reasons.

It is our hope that the findings from this report will provide evidence-informed information that will help create positive change to reduce the number of individuals who experience re-trafficking, and to increase barrier-free and accessible housing options to support the healing of individuals from diverse communities who have been impacted by this injustice.

Lastly, this report helps to shed light on the unique needs and challenges experienced by individuals who have been trafficked in Simcoe County, a community that has double the national trafficking rate (Ibrahim, 2016). Fight4Freedom has seen an increase in referrals and need for support in this area of Ontario, and as a result, Section 2 of this report analysis will specifically address general housing supports that are available in this region and how it intersects with the trafficking of persons.

METHODOLOGY

The research for this report was conducted through online surveys, open-web research, and analysis, as well as through key informant interviews. Quantitative and qualitative data were collected through the various research methods. A list of housing programs that exist in Ontario whose mandate is to specifically provide support for individuals who have been trafficked was compiled. Each organization on the list was contacted and invited to participate in a survey to share their experiences housing this population group. Informed consent was obtained and responses were received from 9 different organizations that specifically provide housing to people who have been trafficked. The survey collected information from January 2019-December 2019. To see the full list of questions, see Appendix A.

In addition, a list of housing that is currently available to individuals impacted by homelessness, domestic violence, and other shelter supports in Simcoe County was developed. A second survey was distributed to these organizations to better understand where individuals experiencing exploitation may be receiving housing support in this region. 6 organizations completed this survey. The survey collected information from January 2019-December 2019. To review the full list of questions included in the survey, see Appendix B.

An in-depth literature review was conducted to analyze and understand the importance of housing for trafficking persons. This was achieved through open-web research and included an analysis of articles, journals, and reports. News articles and media releases were also reviewed to analyze the current funding available to support housing for trafficking persons in Ontario.

Finally, key informant interviews were conducted via phone or through online correspondence with several of the organizations to collect more qualitative data to gain a deeper understanding of the survey results.

PARTICIPANTS

SURVEY 1

9 organizations completed the survey designed for agencies that were specifically providing specialized housing for trafficked persons. The mandate of all these agencies included a strong focus on housing people who had been impacted by sex trafficking. The organizations are located in various geographic locations throughout Ontario, Canada.

SURVEY 2

6 organizations that provide housing for people in general in Simcoe County, Canada completed the survey. Each agency provides support for specific population groups, such as women who experienced violence, youth experiencing homelessness or individuals with exceptionalities.

METHODOLOGICAL CHALLENGES

Some of the research questions specifically asked about data between January 2019-December 2019. 33% of the organizations that participated in Survey 1 opened in 2020 and 11% are in the process of opening. Therefore, their ability to answer specific questions was incomplete. Some agencies chose to respond to the questions based on their experience providing housing support. In addition, based on the survey results the oldest program that exists specifically to house people impacted by trafficking is 2013. Since all of the agencies have operated for seven years or less, the experiences of each organization that is providing housing support for people who have been trafficked are relatively new. Longer-term data collection and analysis is needed to better understand the trends and challenges faced in housing people who have experienced exploitation in Ontario.

Survey 1 only takes into consideration shelters that specifically support people who have been trafficked in Ontario. After conducting this study, it is suggested that further research is needed to survey all shelters in Ontario where individuals experiencing homelessness or who have experienced domestic violence are included, in order to develop a more comprehensive understanding of the demand for housing trafficked persons.

For each study participant, a definition of trafficking was not provided. As a result, organizations may have responded to the questionnaire based on their lens through which they view exploitation. As discussed in findings, definitions vary greatly between agencies, government, and individuals alike. This may impact the way that the data can be analyzed.

The survey questions and responses could not always adequately reflect the challenges and experiences of service providers who were housing people who had been trafficked. Follow-up interviews and questions were sent to participants, but not all agencies were able to respond to requests for more information.

Some organizations that were surveyed do not collect the data that was requested in the survey. As a result, not all of the findings encompass the full range of participants. Data collection methods also vary greatly between non-profit organizations and therefore, the findings in this study may reflect different reporting practices and standards.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Summary:

- Individuals have different needs and require different supports based on their age, gender, culture, background, trafficking situation, etc.
- Immediate needs include physical and mental health, safety, and long-term planning
- Survivors need space and time in early recovery phases, not regimented routines
- Organizations must carefully consider policies on drugs and alcohol
- There are safety risks in housing domestic violence survivors with trafficking survivors

The needs of human trafficking survivors immediately after leaving a trafficking situation are complex and multi-faceted. They are as widely varied as the individuals themselves. Many survivors have a background of challenging circumstances that began long before the trafficking did. In fact, some remain in trafficking situations even when given an opportunity to leave because they fear having to return to their prior homelife or circumstances (Duncan & DeHart, 2019). Providing the support that these individuals need in the immediate days and weeks after exiting trafficking situations is essential in helping them to succeed in meeting long-term goals. Unfortunately, the support available to survivors often focuses on specific aspects like domestic violence or substance use instead of the whole scenario (MCIS Language Services, 2014). There is a great need for dedicated emergency shelter options specifically targeting the needs of survivors in Ontario.

In the immediate recovery stages, physical health, mental health, and planning for long-term needs are the first priorities (Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability, 2016). Safety and building trust with survivors helps to provide a sense of stability and establishes a strong foundation for long-term recovery (Judge, Murphy, Hidalgo, & Macias-Konstantopoulos, 2018). Collaboration with a network of organizations helps to provide comprehensive support for any possible needs that may come up in the recovery process without overwhelming the organization (Office of

Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability, 2016). It is also important that the survivor be included in the planning process and needs assessment (The Inter-Agency Coordination Group Against Trafficking in Persons).

One difficulty that survivors face in seeking help is the shortage of specialized shelters. Many seek shelter in domestic violence shelters because of a lack of insight into the fact that they have been exploited (Duncan & DeHart, 2019) or simply because of a lack of other options despite the significant differences in the needs of domestic violence survivors and human trafficking survivors (MCIS Language Services, 2014). Every shelter is different, but many domestic violence shelters operate a strict schedule, requiring those staying there to participate in tasks like cooking and cleaning, possibly mimicking aspects of the environments that they are exiting from. Often survivors are unable to meet these demands so soon after exiting and are better helped when they are given space and time to rest and recover (Maass, Trapp, & Konrad, 2019). Also, as creating dependence through substances is a tool used by some traffickers, rules surrounding drugs and alcohol use at shelters may hinder survivors as they are faced with beginning to process the trauma that they have been through (Duncan & DeHart, 2019). It is suggested that substance use assistance should be a priority in long-term planning, but that survivors may need drugs and alcohol as a coping mechanism in the immediate recovery phase until more healthy coping mechanisms can be developed and learned; this creates an ethical dilemma for some organizations (Judge, Murphy, Hidalgo, & Macias-Konstantopoulos, 2018).

Beyond space and time to begin the recovery process, physical and emotional safety is a primary concern. In cases of domestic violence, perpetrators are likely to target one specific individual while human traffickers may target others as well (Duncan & DeHart, 2019). The location of shelters is also often known to the public, putting everyone at greater risk if it is located by a trafficker (Maass, Trapp, & Konrad, 2019).

There are even cases of trafficking happening within shelters, especially in the cases of youth who are forcibly removed from trafficking situations and who do not understand that they have been exploited (Duncan & DeHart, 2019).

Unfortunately, survivors may be looked down on by others in shelters because of the stigma associated with working in the sex industry and a knowledge deficit related to the differences between engaging in the sex industry by choice and human trafficking (Roe-Sepowitz, Hickle, Dahlstedt, & Gallagher, 2014). Grouping support for survivors of domestic violence and trafficking together leads to an increased risk for all involved.

Other considerations in providing support to human trafficking survivors include gender, age, and culture (Hemmings, et al., 2016). Adult women have, by far, the most support available to them compared to other individuals (Davy, 2015). The support required for children is very different from the support required for adults (The Inter-Agency Coordination Group Against Trafficking in Persons, 2017). Minors may have been forcibly removed from places that they feel offered them freedom from other forms of abuse and require them to relinquish autonomy and independence that they feel they have found (Duncan & DeHart, 2019). Depending on an individual's cultural background, they may also have different perspectives on community, honour, and wellness that must be addressed and incorporated into their long-term plan (Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability, 2016).

Meeting the immediate needs of a survivor of human trafficking, like shelter, food, and security, enables the individual to eventually work toward meeting deeper needs like forming relationships, building confidence, and fostering creativity (Maslow, 1943). The impact of being sheltered in a secure place where basic physical needs are met is far greater than just a few weeks or months that it lasts.

FUNDING FOR HOUSING

There are two main funding¹ options for survivors of human trafficking in Ontario seeking transitional or long-term housing. These options are rent-geared-to-income (RGI) housing or the Canada-Ontario Housing Benefit (COHB) (Ontario, 2020).

The first option, rent-geared-to-income (RGI) housing, provides social housing units with rent set at thirty percent of a household's total income or the rent benefit from the Ontario government for those receiving social assistance (City of Toronto, n.d.). The centralized waiting list for these social housing units is years (City of Toronto, n.d.). Recognizing that 'years' is not a feasible option for certain groups, under provincial legislation, current or recent survivors of human trafficking (within the past three months) are one of a few groups of people that are eligible for the Special Priority Program (SPP), giving them priority placement in RGI housing (City of Toronto, n.d.). To apply for the SPP, survivors must fill out the general RGI housing application along with an additional SPP form with general questions about the trafficking situation and any organizations that the individual has reached out to for support (City of Toronto, 2018). There is also a section that must be completed by a professional who can verify the abuse (City of Toronto, 2018).

The second funding option in Ontario is the COHB. This provincial program is a portable housing benefit that is used to help reduce the wait time for those on the social housing waiting list (Ontario, 2020). The COHB is only available to specific individuals on the social housing waiting list who reside permanently in Ontario, prioritizing those with the oldest RGI applications and priority groups such as human trafficking survivors (City of Toronto, n.d.). In order to apply, unlike RGI housing, individuals must first

¹ There may be additional housing funding available through specific anti-trafficking supports such as through organizations like Fight4Freedom, Defend Dignity's Survivor Support Fund, or through the Province of Ontario's Victim Quick Response Program, for example.

receive a letter from the COHB stating that applications are open and that they are eligible before applying (City of Toronto, n.d.). The COHB pays the difference between thirty percent of a household's income and the average market rent in the area, or for those receiving social assistance, the difference between the shelter allowance received and the average rent and utility costs in the area (City of Toronto, n.d.). This benefit is reassessed yearly and can be used anywhere in the province, although the average market rent amount may change (City of Toronto, n.d.). In order to receive the COHB, the individual is removed from the centralized waiting list (City of Toronto, n.d.). This benefit ends on March 31, 2029 (City of Toronto, n.d.)

There is also funding assistance for community organizations that support trafficking survivors. In 2017, the provincial and federal government announced an investment of seven million dollars into transitional housing, creating safe places where survivors can stay while they access support and providing them with rent assistance (Ministry of Children, Community, and Social Services, 2017). This funding was made available to select pre-approved organizations through the joint federal-provincial Investment in Affordable Housing (IAH) agreement and Ontario's Anti-Human Trafficking Community Supports Fund (Ministry of Children, Community, and Social Services, 2017). For example, the City of Toronto with the Covenant House was approved to receive funding both for a new transitional home and for survivor rent assistance (Ministry of Children, Community, and Social Services, 2017).

In these ways, despite a challenging lack of subsidized housing, federal and provincial governments are seeking to assist human trafficking survivors in obtaining affordable housing while they access the supports that they need and take time to heal (Ontario, 2020).

SECTION 1: HOUSING SUPPORTS FOR TRAFFICKED PERSONS

The discussion below refers to the survey that was distributed specifically to organizations that provide housing for trafficked persons.

DEMAND FOR HOUSING

The researchers hypothesized that if existing organizations that provided housing for trafficked persons reported the number of people they serve/are unable to serve it would help determine the demand for housing for this population group.

From January 2019-December 2019, 5 of the agencies surveyed provided support to 49 individuals who had been impacted by exploitation. 4 of the agencies did not house people during this time frame as they had not opened their services yet. Out of the 5 organizations that were providing housing services, 4 individuals were referred elsewhere because the shelter was at capacity.

Based on the scope of the study, it would appear that the housing provided for trafficked persons is underutilized. Out of the 9 agencies who completed the survey, 2 reported that they had to refer four individuals (combined) because their shelter was at capacity. Most organizations reported that they did not have to refer clients elsewhere due to capacity so it can be predicted that: a) the housing for trafficked persons sufficiently is meeting demand; b) they are being served elsewhere; or c) there are barriers preventing trafficked persons from accessing housing support. Based on the second survey and key informant interviews with staff at agencies, it appears that in fact many trafficked persons are being served elsewhere, and barriers are preventing individuals from accessing existing support.

ACCESS TO SERVICES

CHART 1



Up to 34 individuals were denied access to housing support services (or referred elsewhere) from various organizations due to the following reasons: substance use, actively engaged in the sex industry, current connection to traffickers, severe mental health challenges, and/or profound health needs. In some cases, individuals may have not accepted offers of admission.

100% of the housing spaces that provide shelter for people impacted by exploitation do not allow the use of substance in their shelters. Half of the respondents indicated that they were a harm-reduction agency, but due to various reasons, they do not permit substances within the home. Some of the agencies permit the use of substances on the property, but not within the shelter itself. Some organizations allow participants to return to the shelter under the influence. Through following up with survey participants, one housing organization indicated: “Because we often welcome mothers and their children into the home and in our program, we use a harm-reduction and abstinence approach concerning substance use for the children's health and

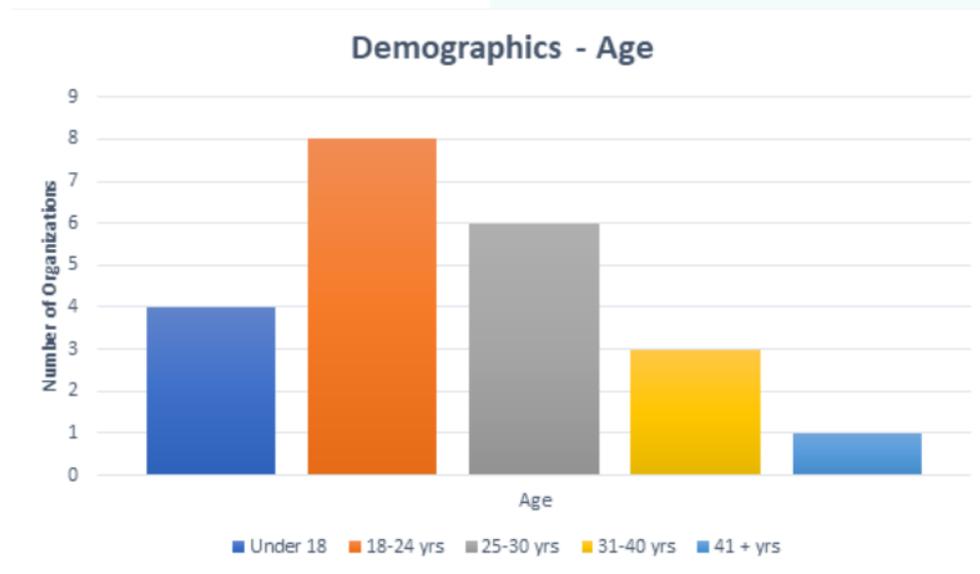
safety. As such, during our intake process, we only accept applicants that have chosen abstinence as a part of their recovery process.” Some agencies noted that their staff are trained on naloxone, and have developed policies specifically regarding cannabis use. One home noted that they have a sharps disposal available inside the shelter.

One agency identifies itself as barrier-free and indicated that they previously had an abstinence approach, but noticed that the behaviour of residents was driven underground. Staff were unable to have transparent conversations with the individuals they were journeying with, and there was shame and judgment around substance use. As a result, the agency has dramatically shifted their approach. Individuals can use substances, but not within the home. Cannabis with RX is permitted on the property and residents can return to the program under the influence but are required to participate in a Safety Screen. The organization will hold a bed for an individual if they are in need of medical support related to substance use.

DEMOGRAPHICS

AGE

CHART 2



Out of the 9 organizations that specifically provide shelter for trafficked persons, 4 provide services for individuals under the age of 18. One of the organizations explicitly cares for children under the age of eighteen. 89% of the agencies serve individuals between the ages of 18-24, whereas only 1 agency provides services for adults over the age of 41. These results reflect the current statistics available in Canada regarding individuals who have been trafficked. For example, 28% of people who are exploited are under the age of 18 (Cotter, 2020). In addition, “about half (45%) of all...police-reported human trafficking were between the ages of 18 and 24 and the remainder (26%) were 25 years of age or older” (2020). With this being said, it is important to note that individuals who may have been trafficked as a young person could be seeking support years after their exploitation occurred. According to Fight4Freedom’s Director of After Care, the individuals they support who are in need of housing, tend to be older than the age that housing agencies serve.

This is due to the fact that individuals often begin reaching out for support many years post-trafficking and thus well beyond the age they were when they were trafficked.

GENDER

All of the housing supports for people who had been trafficked offered services for individuals who identified as female. Only one of the organizations extended services beyond women to include men. Four of the organizations indicated that they support individuals who identify as LGBTQ+. Even though in the survey these organizations identified that they support folks in the LGBTQ+ communities, it is not clear if their housing spaces are designated only for people who identify as female or male. At Fight4Freedom, an individual who identified as non-binary could not find access to shelter space as they did not identify as female or male. As the LGBTQ+ community is overrepresented in trafficking cases, specific support services for these individuals who experience exploitation should be considered. Further research is needed to identify how gender is defined by organizations who provide support to trafficked persons.

FAMILIES

Between January 2019-December 2019 eleven of the individuals served by the agencies surveyed had children. Only one out of the nine housing organizations were able to accommodate the children of an individual who had experienced exploitation. The majority of shelters that exist specifically for trafficked persons are not designed to accommodate families. There is limited research on the people who have experienced sex trafficking who have children, although emerging studies reveal the need for parental supports. A research study based in British Columbia suggests that many individuals impacted by the sex industry have barriers to accessing parental support.

Out of the 399 people who were impacted by the sex industry² who reported a history of pregnancy one-third, or 34% “reported one or more barriers to health/social and support services while pregnant/parenting” (Duff et. al, 2015). There is a need for post-trafficking housing support options that enable families to stay together.

COMPETING DEFINITIONS

There are many competing definitions of sex trafficking and sexual exploitation. Individual agencies, governments, and not-for-profits identify exploitation differently. People who have been impacted by the sex industry have differing experiences and defining the issue is much more complex than mere definitions. Many people who have been trafficked do not understand that a crime has taken place.

There are individuals who engage in the sex industry by choice and who under certain perspectives and experiences within the Canadian context would identify themselves as “sex workers.” With this being said, it is important to examine this choice in relation to Canada’s colonial history, gender inequities, socio-economic disparities, patriarchy, systemic violence, and oppression. Over 50-70% of people impacted by the sex industry and sexual exploitation are Indigenous. Violence against Indigenous women and girls is ongoing and the link between Canada’s colonial past and the commodification of bodies through the selling and purchase of sex cannot be untangled.

There is a need for a more holistic definition that allows for varying experiences. Bettio, et al. (2017) discuss a “continuum of choice” whereby agency is expressed by those in the sex industry in degrees and “[w]omen’s

² This research study focused on “sex workers.” The authors of this paper understand that it is problematic to conflate independent work in the sex industry with sex trafficking however; it is the researchers position that there is a spectrum in which exploitation may occur and thus the findings of this report are relevant to this study.

agency is exercised within a system of norms and rules that identifies her social status” (p. 9). When agency is understood as existing in degrees as they argue, policies and support services must then expand the umbrella of support for any individual who desires to exit the sex industry, without a label attached. Within policy frameworks and even organizational operations, this suggestion may seem absurd. However, when exiting supports are limited to only individuals who identify themselves as trafficked, for those who do not understand a crime has taken place and have internalized a lie from their trafficker (such as that their trafficking situation is their fault), where do they access support? For individuals who entered the sex industry as a youth and have never known any other space in society and want to exit as a middle-aged adult, where do they seek support? For individuals who do not identify with the label ‘sex worker’ as they are focused on survival, might they be missed by an organization that explicitly serves people who define themselves with this term?

Further, there are ongoing efforts to overgeneralize the experiences of exploitation. It must be understood that each individual impacted by exploitation is inherently unique - their needs, experience, and future plans differ. There is a need to meet people where they are within the framework of their experience, and develop specialized support systems that accommodate the plethora of diverse needs of people impacted by the sex industry.

This complexity of how trafficked persons are defined is evident by the responses received in the survey results. Responses include:

- Women survivors...leaving human trafficking or commercial sexual exploitation;
- Survivor of sex trafficking;
- Canadian girls at risk of sex trafficking and sexual exploitation and for young girls who are victims³ of commercial sexual exploitation;
- Women exiting human trafficking, the sex trade or addictions;

³ This is a direct quote from the agency and is not a term endorsed by researchers.

- Female survivors of human sex trafficking or those who may be at risk of human sex trafficking;
- Survivor of sex trafficking;
- Survivor of sex trafficking, Labour trafficking;
- Sexual Exploitation.

As observed in these responses, how do organizations define sex trafficking versus commercial sexual exploitation? Only one organization indicated that anyone exiting the sex industry may receive support. How do the other organizations identify trafficked persons under their internal definitions and scope? Can individuals who do not identify as being trafficked, but have been impacted by the sex industry and are seeking shelter access their support? What may be problematic here is that often, these organizations simply view all work in the sex industry as trafficking and may force residents into a framework of "victim". when that's not the case. Further research is needed to understand how organizations assess applicant's eligibility based on their definition of and scope of whom they will provide with support.

It should be noted that only one of the organizations surveyed expands their support beyond sex trafficking to include support for persons who have been impacted by labour trafficking. One of the reasons for this result could be that agencies who particularly provide support for people impacted by sex trafficking were contacted for the purpose of this research. As Ranasinge highlights in her research, "the majority of organizations in Canada who address human trafficking are focused on sex trafficking ... In my compiled list of anti-trafficking organizations in the GTA, only one does not address sex trafficking and focuses on labour trafficking" (2020). Further research is needed to analyze the support available for people who have experienced other forms of trafficking and is beyond the scope of this study.

HOUSING COSTS

Funding models across the organizations that were surveyed varied. Twenty-two percent of the organizations reported that they provide their services free to participants, thirty-three percent collect the housing allowance portion of ODSP or Ontario Works, and forty-four percent charge monthly (\$300-\$825/month). Of those that charge monthly, some organizations provide food, cleaning supplies, and personal care items, and others require participants to supply their own. One organization uses a staged approach with gradually increasing rent as the individual progresses through the program.

The cost associated with a person residing in the shelter was not clearly given in most cases. One organization reported between \$135-\$150 per day, or \$4050-\$4500 per month. Another organization described costs as “quite expensive”, specifically citing staffing and operating costs. More information would be needed to determine the housing cost per person for these organizations.

TRANSITION TO INDEPENDENT LIVING

Since the organizations that were surveyed began providing housing to trafficked individuals, it was reported that 42 people were able to transition successfully into independent living. The questions included in the survey were limited in scope and therefore were not able to assess other housing program outcomes that would be helpful in determining the success of these support services. More research is needed to analyze the effectiveness of housing supports that currently exist.

Successful transition to independent living may be assessed differently by each agency. As one respondent noted, “trauma [is] not...a linear process for the individuals to work through.” It is well known that individuals who have

experienced trafficking often return to their traffickers due to a trauma bond, among other potential factors. These concepts need to be at the forefront of developing, measuring and assessing housing program outcomes.

CHALLENGES/CONSIDERATIONS TO HOUSING TRAFFICKED PERSONS

FUNDING

Several organizations highlighted that funding was a challenge to providing housing for people who had experienced trafficking. Funding challenges ranged from fundraising, lack of general public support through fundraising efforts, and funding to support other elements of an individual's recovery, such as through VQRP.

SUPPORT SYSTEMS

It was shared that continued support is needed at every stage of an individual's recovery and that organizations need to follow alongside people on their healing journey. If services are not available, it was highlighted that individuals who have experienced exploitation are more likely to be re-trafficked. It was also identified that mentorship by people with lived experience is essential for individuals who have experienced trafficking.

A challenge that was identified through the research is the lack of educated support services in the community. In addition, access to resources for HTSE (human trafficking sexual exploitation) specific services such as therapy and substance reliance, posed as a challenge to service organizations that are providing housing to people who have been trafficked.

TRAUMA

The importance of trauma-informed supports and understanding trauma was a theme that emerged. As one participant noted, a "trauma experience dictates behaviour". The women this organization supports "are aggressive and

may impose threats of violence”. It was expressed that “many shelters don't want people who are trafficked or who are experiencing addiction.” Organizations need to provide support through a trauma-informed lens. Services cannot be withdrawn because of presenting factors. It was noted that individuals who have been impacted by trafficking face a range of triggers and mental health challenges. Another concern that was identified was that there needs to be an understanding among service providers and support systems that trauma is not a linear process.

LONG-TERM HOUSING SOLUTIONS

Long-term housing supports were identified by several organizations as a challenge to providing support to individuals who had experienced trafficking. For agencies designed to provide short-term care, there is a lack of adequate affordable housing options available for individuals who need to transition out of the organization's program.

Once an individual has received housing support from a specific shelter, there is a lack of safe, affordable independent housing. As one key informant shared, as a result, women often find room and board in an unsafe environment where drug use is taking place. The space they find after leaving a shelter, often leaves them vulnerable and at-risk. Traffickers are often aware of these locations and frequent them.

OTHER CHALLENGES/CONSIDERATIONS

There were other challenges that organizations identified in housing trafficked persons including:

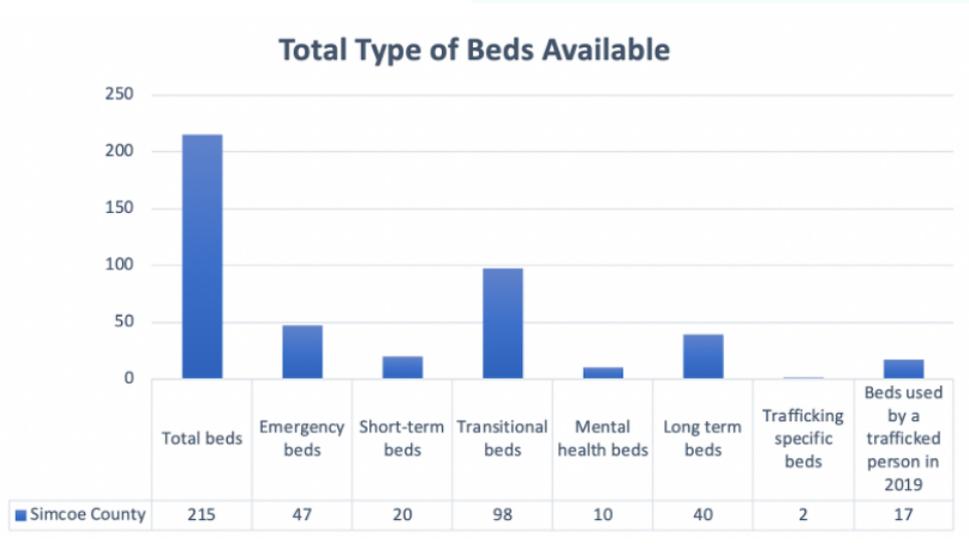
- Finding enough trained and passionate volunteers/staff to provide 24/7 support to keep the program running successfully;
- [The participant's] ability to stay out of the trafficking and the luring of their trafficker;
- Trying to abstain from substance use;

- Clients living in a structured environment;
- Challenges with finding stability at the house;
- Supporting youth with legal systems;
- Advocacy.

The challenges each organization faces in housing people who have experienced trafficking are diverse. Although themes emerged from the results, further study could be conducted to better understand why these challenges exist, how they are being addressed, and what could be done to mitigate them.

SECTION 2: GENERAL HOUSING SUPPORTS IN SIMCOE COUNTY

OVERVIEW



In Simcoe County, 6 shelters responded to the survey whose primary mandate is not providing support for trafficked persons, but who provide housing assistance in the community in general. Between the 6 survey participants, 215 beds are provided for emergency, short-term, transitional, and mental health supports. 2 of the 215 beds within these housing spaces are dedicated specifically for people who have experienced trafficking. One agency reported that in the summer months they dedicate beds for trafficked youth, but the number of beds made available was not disclosed. From January 2019-December 2019, the 6 shelters that completed the survey identified that 17 of the individuals they supported through housing were known trafficking cases.

4 people who had experienced trafficking were turned away from services because housing was at capacity. Most organizations responded that they were unable to report how many trafficked persons they referred

elsewhere because they do not collect information pertaining to that specific data point. In addition, 4 people were denied access to services because they did not fit the mandate/scope of the organization's focused support. One participant identified that some individuals ask to be referred elsewhere because the shelter is co-ed. One agency indicated "I am sure there were more women in 2019 and that is unfortunate that it is not clearly captured for your research." There is a need for more reporting and data collection to be able to more clearly depict the demand for housing for trafficked persons in Simcoe County.

IDENTIFYING TRAFFICKED PERSONS

Identifying trafficked persons is complex and there are a number of factors that need to be considered when analyzing the reported number of trafficked persons receiving support from agencies. For example, one organization expressed that "Unfortunately the trafficked person may not tell us that they have been trafficked." Further, it is common for individuals who have experienced exploitation to not understand that a crime is taking place. "Many of the women we serve do not know they are being trafficked or do not know that their experience is trafficking." Those who have been trafficked may not identify as being trafficked for reasons such as: they do not have the language to describe the situation, their situation is complicated by varying levels of agency, their personal relationship with trafficker, trauma, and other factors.

In addition, not every organization collects data specifically on trafficked persons. "Unfortunately we don't keep stats," one organization reported. As a result, the data represented through the responses of agencies in Simcoe County providing housing support, may reflect an incomplete picture of how trafficking intersects with the population group they serve. In some cases, there are suspected cases of trafficking within the individuals an organization

is supporting. As shared in one key informant interview, “The shelter has confirmed and suspected individuals who have been trafficked. We have way more suspected cases than confirmed.” Finally, some staff may not be equipped to know the signs of exploitation and some individuals receiving support may not be identified accurately. As one agency shared, “we question whether we are unknowingly supporting adults who have a history of trafficking.”

ACCESS TO SERVICES

One organization in Simcoe County shared that they have no barriers for women to access their services. As a result, some may recognize their situation as trafficking after 1-2 months of receiving support. Most individuals who have experienced trafficking and seek support from the shelter are still being actively trafficked; the organization meets them where they are at and provides them with support services. As was noted, “We can’t help them if they don’t come/can’t come. There needs to be a reduction of barriers.” Women can access their emergency shelter if they are using substances or still being trafficked.

TRAINING

83% of the participants had some form of training available for the staff in their organization. 2 organizations identified that they trained their staff through online platforms. One organization has access to training, but it is unclear if all staff receive training. More research is needed to better understand the type of education provided for service providers on trafficking.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING, SIMCOE COUNTY AND HOUSING SUPPORTS

One organization that participated in the study highlighted that “because we prioritize the highest needs individuals, human trafficking is prevalent in our clients.” Statistics Canada reports that the City of Barrie has double the national trafficking rate (Ibrahim, 2018). The trafficking of persons is a problem in Simcoe County. 17 individuals were identified as being trafficked between January 2019-December 2019 in the 6 shelters that completed the survey. This is a snapshot of the number of people impacted by trafficking who are receiving support services from various housing programs in the community.

During a key informant interview, the demand for housing trafficked persons in Simcoe County was made clear by a staggering statistic that was shared. “The shelter refers out 500 women a year. This number includes people who have been trafficked and people who have not experienced trafficking.” The lack of affordable, adequate housing, is also a risk factor that makes individuals vulnerable to exploitation in Simcoe County. As Sue McVeay, a harm reduction worker at the Gilbert Centre in Barrie expressed, “Affordable housing is a key component to fighting the cycle of drug abuse and human trafficking. ‘If you don’t have a place to lay your head down and lock the door at night, you think of life totally different. There is no housing that’s affordable – that’s No. 1” (Toronto News, 2020).

Although the participating agencies fulfill an important need in the community, trafficking-specific housing supports are essential in providing care for individuals impacted by exploitation (see literature review for further discussion). There is a need to develop specialized housing for people who have experienced trafficking in Simcoe County. One shelter expressed that “I do think specific housing support is an asset. However, the safety of housing location is paramount.” It was recommended that any additional housing

developed for trafficked persons have 24/7 staff and a high level of security. It was also expressed that “The skill level of staff supporting people who have been trafficked must be tremendously high. It’s very complex.”

SECTION 3: THE WAY FORWARD

CONCLUSION

The housing supports that exist specifically to support trafficked persons in Ontario are meeting a need. In particular, the housing supports available offer assistance to young individuals who identify as female who have experienced sexual exploitation, most of whom agree to receive support through an abstinence approach to substance use. It is noteworthy that only 22% of the organizations who completed the study had to refer an individual away from their agency due to capacity. Does this mean that more housing support for this population group is no longer required? Absolutely not. Up to 34 individuals who had experienced trafficking were denied services (or did not accept offer of service) due to barriers such as substance use, mental health challenges, ongoing ties to the sex industry, amongst other reasons. In addition to existing support in Ontario, there is a need for 'housing first'⁴ spaces that support varying challenges people who have experienced trafficking may face.

It appears that many of the general housing supports that exist in Simcoe County are based on this principle of "housing first" and as a result, serve people who are trafficked in the community. One shelter noted that although they have 2 beds for trafficked persons, they have to turn away 500 women from accessing their services a year due to capacity constraints - some of these include people who may have experienced trafficking. There is demand for housing for people experiencing trafficking in Simcoe County and specialized supports in this community are needed.

⁴ "Housing First" is a recovery-oriented approach to ending homelessness that centers on quickly moving people experiencing homelessness into independent and permanent housing and then providing additional supports and services as needed." <https://www.homelesshub.ca/solutions/housing-accommodation-and-supports/housing-first>

This study suggests that there are many people who have been impacted by trafficking who are in need of housing support that caters toward their needs and that meets them where they are at. There is a call for various kinds of housing that can accommodate diverse individuals with complex needs. As noted in the literature review of this report, individuals who have experienced trafficking often find respite in domestic violence shelters, yet as many studies suggest the needs of trafficked persons are different than someone who experienced other forms of violence. The “housing first” principle needs to be applied to housing supports made available for people who have experienced trafficking. There is also a need for varying stages of housing such as emergency, transitional and long-term solutions.

More research is needed to address questions about housing for people who have experienced trafficking. Data collection and reporting structures within service provider organizations would help strengthen research processes.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Below is a summary of recommendations based on the findings of this research study. Further research is needed in order to develop evidenced-informed approaches to effectively provide housing for people who are impacted by trafficking in Ontario.

1. Data collection tools and supports should be provided to agencies to assist with evidence-informed and collaborative approaches to providing support services to individuals who have experienced exploitation.
2. Longer-term data collection and analysis is needed to better understand the trends and challenges faced in housing people who have experienced exploitation in Ontario.

3. The following barriers to accessing funding support should be addressed:
 - a. Individuals must be permanent residents of Ontario to be eligible for COHB.
 - b. Individuals must apply as survivors within three months of exiting to be eligible for SPP. It may take them much longer to identify that they have been trafficked.
4. Support to help access government funding for survivors and organizations who provide services to people impacted by trafficking should be more readily available.
5. Further research is needed to identify how gender is defined by organizations who provide shelter and support to trafficked persons.
6. There is a need for post-trafficking housing support options that enable families to stay together.
7. There is a need for a more holistic definition of sex trafficking and exploitation that allows for varying experiences. Housing support services need to expand the umbrella of support for any individual who desires to exit the sex industry, without a label attached to their experience.
8. Funding should be made available to support individuals with diverse experiences. Most people who are being trafficked do not understand a crime is taking place. Where would they access funding for housing support if they do not self-identify as being trafficked? More flexible resources should be made available.
9. Further research is needed to understand how organizations who provide housing support to trafficked persons assess applicants eligibility based on their definition of and scope of who they will provide with support.
10. It is recommended that another study be conducted with a larger scope that includes all shelters who provide support to individuals in Ontario who have experienced any kind of violence or who are impacted by homelessness. This study should include: men's shelters, women's shelters, youth shelters and family shelters to better determine the need for specialized housing services for folks who have been impacted by sexual exploitation.

11. Diverse, barrier-free housing supports are needed to address the complex needs of individual experiences within the sex industry. This includes:
- a. Housing specifically for people who have experienced trafficking and have a developmental disability;
 - b. Housing specifically for people who have experienced trafficking and have severe mental health challenges;
 - c. Housing specifically for people who are in need of support and are currently impacted by the sex industry (such as in contact with their trafficker, working in the industry etc.);
 - d. Housing specifically for people who have experienced exploitation and who are using substances ;
 - e. Housing specifically for people who have experienced exploitation who identify as male;
 - f. Housing specifically for people who have experienced exploitation who identify as LGBTQ;
 - g. Housing options for individuals who are above the age of 30 and who may identify with any of the groups listed above;
 - h. Housing for people who have experienced exploitation and are under the age of 18.

For each of these population groups emergency, second stage and long-term housing supports are needed. Specific quantities of how much housing and demand for housing cannot be adequately understood without undertaking research as identified in Recommendation 1 and Recommendation 10.

12. Research is needed to better understand if individuals who have been impacted by labour trafficking require unique supports such as those required by individuals who have experienced sexual exploitation.

13. More research is needed to better understand the background and ethnicity of individuals who have experienced trafficking who are seeking housing support, in order to determine if culturally-relevant housing supports are needed.

14. More information is needed on how collecting the shelter allowance portion of ODSB or Ontario Works as rent benefits survivors. Since proof that the shelter allowance funds were used for housing costs is required, would collecting this be a good way to increase funding for organizations? How does this impact individuals who are exiting situations of exploitation who are not able to contribute to their cost of living in this way? Does a staged approach with gradually increasing rent benefit survivors? From the perspective of survivors, does this facilitate the healing journey and promote independence or limit it? These questions need to be addressed.

15. More information should be collected on the costs of providing shelter for individuals who have been trafficked. Data should also be collected on how many of the existing organizations designed to shelter individuals who have experienced trafficking have been able to access funding and if yes, where their primary funding is sourced.

16. Requiring survivors to supply their own food, cleaning supplies, and/or hygiene products could be a barrier for some individuals who have never had to shop for these items before. Appropriate funding and life skills training must be in place when this is required.

17. More research is needed to analyze the effectiveness of housing supports that currently exist.

18. Further study could be conducted to better understand why the challenges outlined in section 2 of this study for housing trafficked persons exist, how they are being addressed and what could be done to mitigate them.

19. More research is needed to better understand the type of education provided for service providers who provide general housing services in the community on human trafficking and if training equips staff to identify potential instances of trafficking.

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APPENDIX A: KEY TERMS

E

Emergency shelter: Any facility, the primary purpose of which is to provide temporary or transitional shelter for individuals experiencing homelessness in general or for specific populations.⁵ Length of stay is often client-driven⁶, for the purpose of this research it is defined as up to one week.

H

Harm-reduction: An approach, set of strategies, policy or any program designed to reduce substance related harm without requiring abstinence.⁷

I

Immediate, short-term shelter: In these shelters the survivor is protected from harm from the trafficker and has access to immediate short-term assistance. This may include basic medical attention, short-term counselling, legal information, emergency financial assistance and access to information.⁸ Length of stay is often client-driven⁶, for the purpose of this research it is defined as up to one month.

H

Halfway house, hostel, transitional housing: Programmes wherein a survivor can stay in the accommodation without fear of unwanted interference for a period while they recover and find a way forward. The essential elements of these shelters are a supportive environment, the provision of information about available services and access to community facilities and services.

⁵ <https://centralusa.salvationarmy.org/stopit/news/housing-first-and-survivors-of-human-trafficking/>

⁶ <https://ywcahalifax.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/Safe-Landing-Research-Report-Housing-Victims-of-Human-Trafficking.pdf>

⁷ <https://www.toronto.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/9522-housing-homlessness-services-glossary.pdf>

⁸ https://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/Toolkit-files/08-58296_tool_8-8.pdf

When survivors are not faced with imminent deportation or repatriation, less institutionalized forms of shelter may be appropriate.⁹ Length of stay is often client-driven¹⁰, for the purpose of this research it is defined as up to two years.

P

Permanent housing: Community-based housing without a designated length of stay in which individuals and families who were impacted by homelessness live as independently as possible.¹¹

Portable Housing Benefit: A subsidy given to survivors of domestic violence and human trafficking to manage housing costs. Province-wide. As of January 1, 2018, survivors of human trafficking are able to receiving priority access to rent-geared-to-income social housing.¹²

R

Rent-Geared-to-Income (RGI): Refers to a system of public subsidy in which rents in designated social housing units are set at a fixed percentage (approximately 30%) of gross household income. RGI is specifically targeted toward low-income renter households and eligibility is determined on the basis of income and/or need. Housing programs that produced RGI units were terminated in the 1990s; today, most new subsidized rental housing is

⁹ https://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/Toolkit-files/08-58296_tool_8-8.pdf

¹⁰ <https://ywcahalifax.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/Safe-Landing-Research-Report-Housing-Victims-of-Human-Trafficking.pdf>

¹¹ <https://ywcahalifax.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/Safe-Landing-Research-Report-Housing-Victims-of-Human-Trafficking.pdf>

¹² <https://news.ontario.ca/mma/en/2017/11/ontario-helping-survivors-of-domestic-violence-and-human-trafficking-access-affordable-housing.html>

affordable rental housing – that is, housing in which rents are set according to rents prevailing in the private market (rather than the incomes of households).¹³

S

Second stage housing: An apartment-style, year-long housing option, similar to residency programs.

Social Housing: Rental housing units that are owned and operated by a government or non-profit corporation on a non-market basis (e.g. in terms of rents) and are funded under government programs with comprehensive funding or financing arrangements. Social housing includes Rent-Geared-to-Income (RGI) and market-rent social housing.¹⁴

Supportive Housing: Accommodation in which residents receive intermittent 24-hour support and an on-site Registered Practical Nurse. Services include personal care, light housekeeping, laundry, medication reminders, security checks, and light meal preparation.¹⁵

T

Temporary shelter: Shelters where survivors often need some support to facilitate the rehabilitation process and their reintegration to their families or communities. Without the protection of the shelter and the interim assistance

¹³ <https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2019/ph/bgrd/backgroundfile-124480.pdf>

¹⁴ <https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2019/ph/bgrd/backgroundfile-124480.pdf>

¹⁵ <https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2019/ph/bgrd/backgroundfile-124480.pdf>

it can provide, survivors may be at risk of further harassment, or revictimization.¹⁶

Transitional housing: A project that facilitates the movement of individuals and families experiencing homelessness to permanent housing within a reasonable amount of time (usually 24 months)¹⁷. Can also be social housing provided for four years or less to people who need some structure, support and skill building as they move from homelessness to permanent housing.¹⁸

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APPENDIX B: SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE

SURVEY QUESTIONS FOR ORGANIZATIONS THAT PROVIDE HOUSING SPECIFICALLY FOR TRAFFICKED PERSONS

- 1- How many beds are made available for trafficked persons at your shelter/housing?
- 2- What type of shelter/housing do you offer for trafficked persons?
 - a. Emergency (up to one week)
 - b. Short-term (up to one month)
 - c. Transitional (up to two years)
 - d. Long-term (two years or more)
 - e. Other (please specify in field below)
- 3- Please explain how many beds are available for trafficked persons, for each type of housing you offer. I.e. Emergency beds: 4, Short-term beds: 12, Transitional beds: 8, etc.)
- 4- From January 2019-December 2019, how many people who have been trafficked has your organization provided housing for?
- 5- How many people who have been trafficked did you have to refer elsewhere because the shelter/house was at capacity?
- 6- How many people who have been trafficked did you deny shelter/housing because of substance use or other reasons? If other, please explain.
- 7- Which region(s) does your organization serve? (Select all that apply).
- 8- What region(s) are the majority of your residents from?
 - a. GTA
 - b. Northern Ontario
 - c. Southern Ontario
 - d. Outside Ontario
- 9- What is the cost associated with a person residing in your shelter/house? Does the person provide part of the cost of living? If yes, please explain.
- 10- How many of the individuals who have been trafficked that you have housed from January 2019-December 2019 had children?

11- From January 2019- December 2019, were you able to accommodate any of the children of someone who had been trafficked?

12- What criteria do you use to determine whether or not an individual may access your services? I.e. survivor of sex trafficking? Labour trafficking? Age? Gender? Please list.

13- Does your shelter/housing use an abstinence or harm-reduction approach?

14- Please select the demographic indicators that best apply to the individuals using your shelter/housing services (select all that apply)

- a. Under 18 years old
- b. 18 to 24 years old
- c. 25 to 30 years old
- d. 31 to 40 years old
- e. 41 years old and older
- f. Canadian citizen
- g. Immigrant
- h. Female
- i. Male
- j. LGBTQ+
- k. BIPOC
- l. Refugee
- m. Indigenous
- n. Other

15- What is the biggest challenge you experience in providing housing for trafficked persons?

16- When did your organization begin offering beds for trafficked persons?

17- If applicable, how many clients have transitioned from your housing to independent living successfully since you began providing housing for trafficked persons?

18- Would you be willing to have a follow-up phone call with us to discuss housing for trafficked persons?

SURVEY QUESTIONS FOR ORGANIZATIONS THAT PROVIDE HOUSING IN GENERAL IN SIMCOE COUNTY

1- How many beds are available at your shelter/housing?

2- What type of shelter/housing do you offer?

- a. Emergency (up to one week)
- b. Short-term (up to one month)
- c. Transitional (up to two years)
- d. Long-term (two years or more)
- e. Other (please specify in field below)

3- Do you offer specific beds for trafficked persons? If so, please explain how many beds are available for trafficked persons, for each type of housing you offer. I.e. Emergency beds: 4, Short-term beds: 12, Transitional beds: 8, etc.)

4- From January 2019-December 2019, how many people who have been trafficked has your organization provided housing for?

5- How many of the individuals who have been trafficked that you have housed from January 2019-December 2019 had children?

6- From January 2019- December 2019, were you able to accommodate any of the children of someone who had been trafficked?

7- How many people who had been trafficked did you have to refer elsewhere because the shelter/house was at capacity?

8- How many people who had been trafficked did you have to refer elsewhere because your mandate/scope is not geared to trafficked persons?

9- What region(s) are the majority of your residents from?

- a. Simcoe County
- b. Northern Ontario
- c. Southern Ontario
- d. GTA
- e. Outside Ontario

10- Please select the demographic indicators that best apply to the individuals using your shelter/housing services (select all that apply)

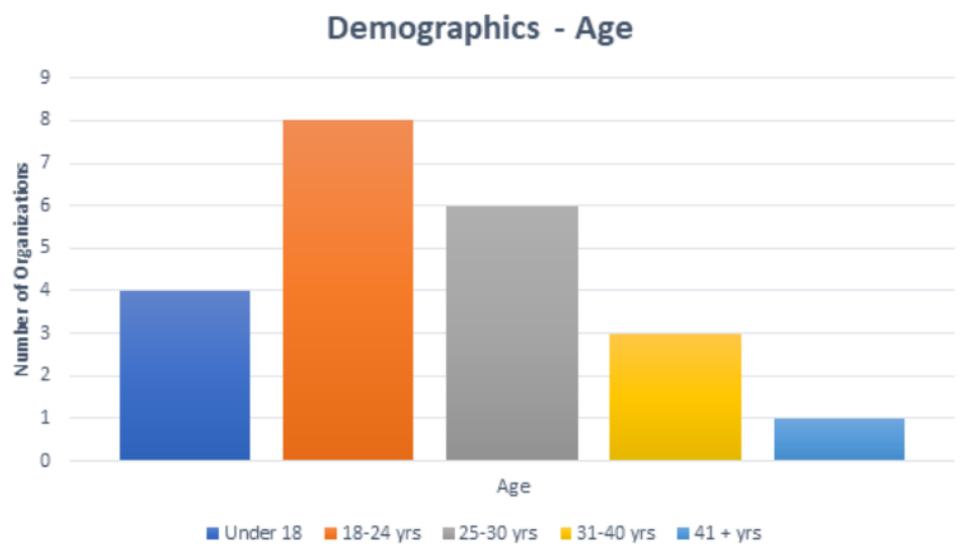
- a. Under 18 years old
- b. 18 to 24 years old
- c. 25 to 30 years old
- d. 31 to 40 years old
- e. 41 years old and older
- f. Canadian citizen
- g. Immigrant
- h. Female
- i. Male
- j. LGBTQ+
- k. BIPOC
- l. Refugee
- m. Indigenous
- n. Other

11- Do you have any training for staff or services offered to residents regarding human trafficking? Please explain.

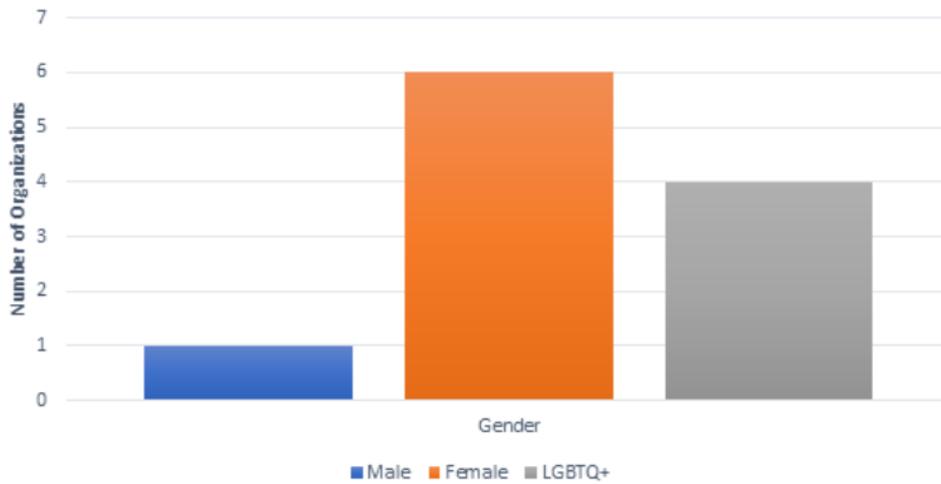
12- Please feel free to provide any comments you would like to share regarding housing for trafficked persons.

APPENDIX C: GRAPHS

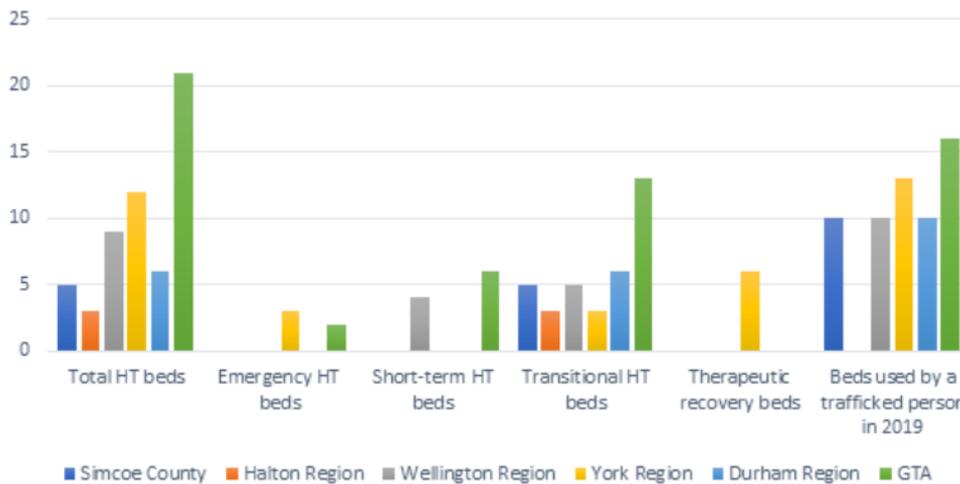
HOUSING FOR TRAFFICKED PERSONS IN ONTARIO SURVEY:



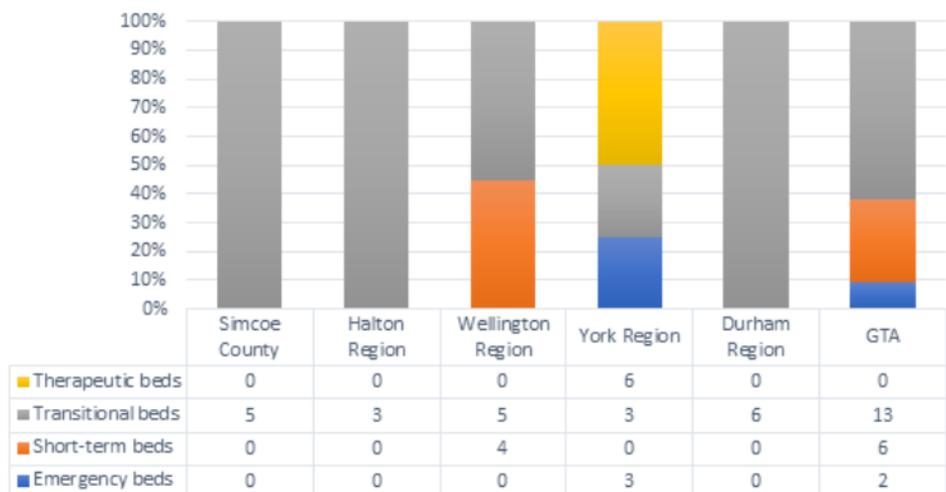
Demographics - Gender



Total Type of Beds Available



Type of Beds Available

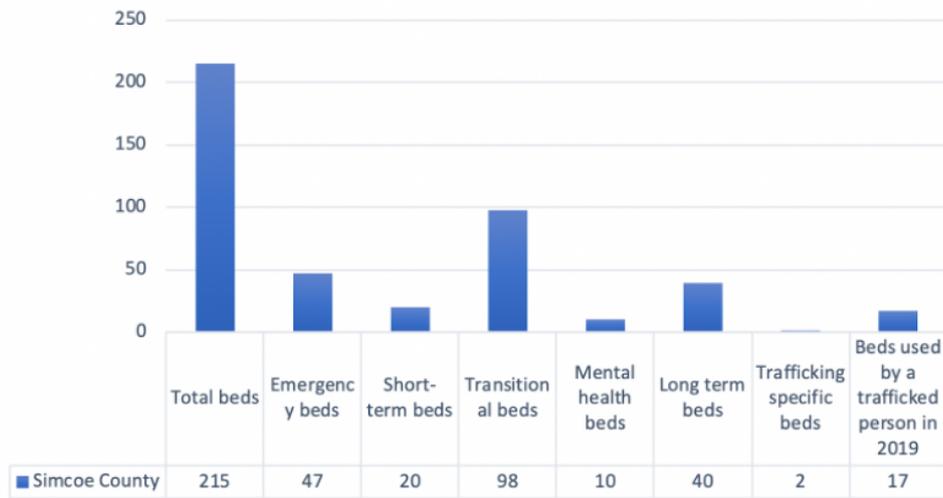


19

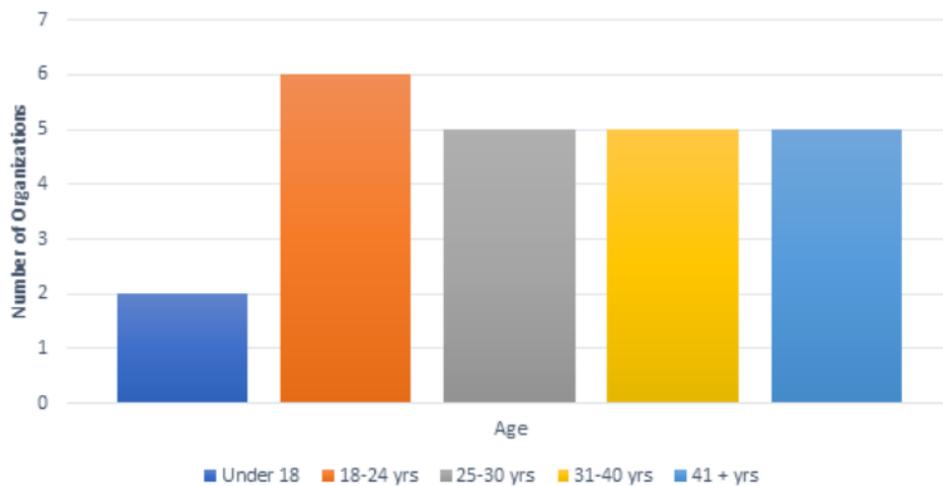
¹⁹ This chart reflects the organizations that specifically house people who have experienced trafficking. This does not include the other shelters in Simcoe County who were surveyed regarding general housing support. For example, there are 2 beds for emergency shelter for people who have been trafficked through the Women and Children's Shelter of Barrie. This information is not reflected in this graph.

SIMCOE COUNTY GENERAL HOUSING SUPPORTS SURVEY:

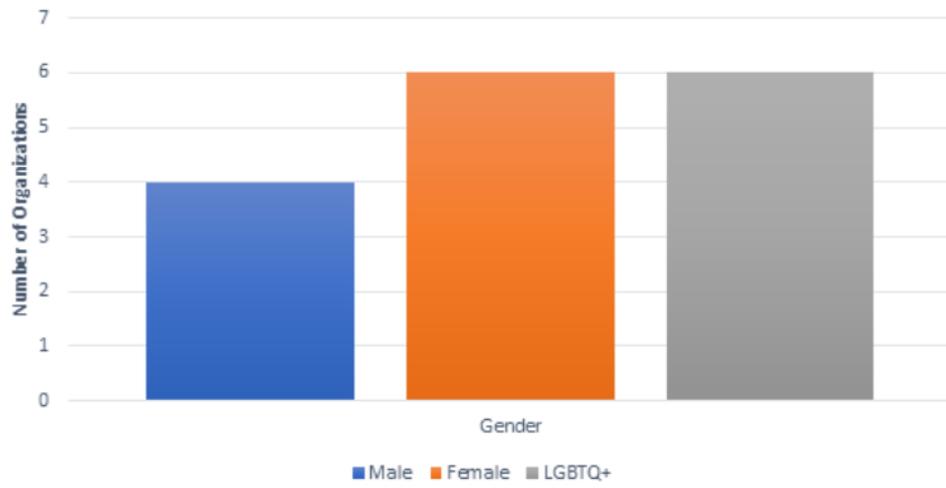
Total Type of Beds Available



Demographics - Age



Demographics - Gender



APPENDIX D: LIST OF SHELTERS FOR TRAFFICKED PERSONS IN ONTARIO

Shelter Name	Organization	Open?	Website
A New Day Youth and Adult Services	""	yes	http://anewdayyas.com/
Aurora House	""	yes	http://www.aurorahouse.ca/who-we-serve-1
Avdell Home	Covenant House	yes	https://covenanthousetoronto.ca/2019/06/20/avdell-home/
Barrie Women & Children's Shelter	""	yes	https://www.simcoe.com/news-story/9210803-barrie-women-and-children-s-shelter-dedicates-beds-for-human-trafficking-victims/
Elora House	""	yes	https://www.ercf.ca/elora-house
HOPE	360 Kids	yes	https://www.360kids.ca/programs-services/housing/hope-program/
Imani's Place	""	yes	https://www.imanisplace.org/
Maison Rosewood	Huronian Transition Homes	yes	https://www.huroniatransitionhomes.ca/program.php?id=10
Restorations Canada	""	no	http://bethesda-house.ca/our-services/
Rogers Home	Covenant House	yes	https://covenanthousetoronto.ca/our-solution/housing-and-aftercare/
Safe Hope Home	""	yes	https://safehopehome.com/referral-criteria
The Beauty For Ashes Transformation House	Father's Heart Healing Ministries	yes	https://www.fhfm.org/beauty-for-ashes-transformation-house
The Daughter Project Girls	Global Family	yes	http://www.daughterproject.ca/#home

*Not all organizations reflected in this list participated in the study.

APPENDIX E: LIST OF SHELTERS IN SIMCOE COUNTY

Name	Website	Type of Housing
Christian Horizons (Barrie/Bradford area)		Long Term
David Busby Centre	https://www.busbycentre.ca/	Emergency group lodging space
Elizabeth Fry Society Simcoe Muskoka (Joyce Kope House)	http://elizabethfrysociety.com/	Women's Shelter
Green Haven Shelter	https://greenhavenshelter.com/	Shelter for Women
Huron Transition Homes	https://www.hurontransitionhomes.ca/	La Maison Rosewood Shelter Human Trafficking
Jubilee House Orillia	https://jubileehouse.ca/	Transitional Housing for Women & their Children
My Friend's House	https://www.myfriendshouse.ca/	Emergency Shelter
My Sister's Place	http://www.mysistersplace.ca/	Shelter
Redwood Park Communities		Transitional
Salvation Army Barrie	https://salvationarmybarrie.com/	Men's Shelter
Shelter Now: North Simcoe Emergency Transitional/Residential Program Inc		Transitional, anyone over 18
The Light House	http://orillialighthouse.ca/	Shelter
Women and Children's Shelter of Barrie	https://barrieshelter.com/	Emergency Shelter
Youth Haven	https://youthhaven.ca/	Emergency Housing (16-24)