

After Rescue: Evaluation of Strategies to Integrate Survivors of Trafficking

Project description

The Institute for the Study of International Migration (ISIM) is collaborating with the US Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) on a 24-month research project to present a profile of survivors of human trafficking assisted by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) Anti-Trafficking Services Programs and to evaluate the effectiveness of interventions to stabilize, rehabilitate, and integrate them into the wider American society.

The profile will be generated by a systematic and careful use of agency data housed at the USCCB. The evaluation of interventions will be twofold and will include:

- quantitative history analysis of the USCCB individual case tracking data; and
- qualitative assessment of the intervention processes, measures, and survivor outcomes.

The objective of the project is to better our understanding of the characteristics of trafficked victims and the efficacy of different intervention strategies in stabilizing their well-being. The project will use a mixed-methods approach and will follow the principles of grounded theory inquiry, portrayed as a problem-solving endeavor concerned with understanding action from the perspective of the human agent (in the case of this study, the perspectives of the trafficked victims and service providers). The project will utilize several data sources:

- A longitudinal, relational database of 2,233 survivor cases as reported electronically by service providers;
- Intake assessment and case notes
- Group discussions and/or ethnographic interviews with service providers to gain an in-depth understanding of the dynamics involved in protecting survivors from repeat victimization and facilitating their reintegration into the mainstream society; and
- Ethnographic interviews and case files review of selected adult survivors to gain the insiders' understanding of the challenges and prospects for long-term reintegration into the U.S. society.

Research Team

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