

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### **WHAT IS THE LABORATORY TO COMBAT HUMAN TRAFFICKING (LCHT)?**

The **Laboratory to Combat Human Trafficking** exists to inform social change that eliminates human exploitation. Since 2005, we have trained over 27,000 professionals and community members; conducted research projects to drive action and inform policy change; administered the statewide 24/7 human trafficking hotline; and developed over 130 future human rights leaders. To learn more, visit [combathumantrafficking.org](http://combathumantrafficking.org).

### **WHAT IS LCHT'S COLORADO PROJECT TO COMPREHENSIVELY COMBAT HUMAN TRAFFICKING?**

The Colorado Project is a research-based endeavor with a purpose to empower states and communities with a model to create a common understanding of existing anti-trafficking efforts, followed by a collective approach to more efficiently and effectively focus responses to human trafficking.

- The Colorado Project was first conducted nationally, and in Colorado, from 2010-2013: [combathumantrafficking.org/our-research/the-colorado-project/](http://combathumantrafficking.org/our-research/the-colorado-project/)
- It resulted in a list of national promising practices; an assessment of strengths and gaps in Colorado's comprehensive response to human trafficking; a data-informed statewide action plan; research tools; and a replicable state-level project template.
- Original core project team and advisory boards consisted of more than 40 community/professional partners representing research and on-the-ground practitioner perspectives.
- Replication is under way in the state of Connecticut (2017-2018).

### **WHAT IS COLORADO PROJECT 2.0?**

The Colorado Project 2.0 is a replication of the original Colorado Project at its five-year mark and includes:

- Phase I (November 2017-March 2018): Planning, updating interview protocols
- Phase II (March-May 2018):
  - Survey dissemination statewide of 3Ps: prevention, protection, partnership (prosecution efforts were surveyed by Colorado Human Trafficking Council in 2015, 2017)
  - Focus groups and interviews in 24 communities across the state
- Phase III (May-July 2018): Data analysis, Advisory Committee review of findings
- Phase IV (August-December 2018): Update Colorado Action Plan, data dissemination

### **GUIDING THEORY: The "4Ps"**

Governments and international organizations have declared that an effective response to human trafficking must include four key elements ([state.gov/g/tip](http://state.gov/g/tip) and [unodc.org/unodc/en/human-trafficking/index.html](http://unodc.org/unodc/en/human-trafficking/index.html)):

1. **Prevention**—decrease the number of people trafficked
2. **Protection**—increase protection, support to victims and survivors
3. **Prosecution**—investigate and prosecute traffickers, strengthen laws and legal responses
4. **Partnerships**—bring together diverse experiences, amplify messages and leverage resources of law enforcement, service providers, community members and survivors

## PROJECT SIGNIFICANCE

- **“4P” Model:** Provides a framework to understand what anti-trafficking efforts are present and what efforts are absent. This information guides the answer to the question: *How truly comprehensive is a community’s response?*
- **Promising Practices:** In 2013, the Colorado Project established a national baseline of promising anti-trafficking practices in Prevention, Protection, Prosecution, and Partnerships. We use “promising practices” terminology in order to both 1. Acknowledge that no one holds sole authority to define what is working “best” in any given community or at any given time, and 2. Open the door to new and innovative practices that may emerge from non-traditional sources.
- **State-Level Assessment:** Data about strengths and gaps move beyond assumptions of what a community may think is needed and guides informed action toward common goals.
- **Community Roadmap:** An action plan that will provide direction for more efficient use of resources; drive alignment within a community, a state, or a country; and ultimately better assist victims and survivors of human trafficking.

## WHAT IS THE EXPECTED IMPACT OVER TIME OF THE COLORADO PROJECT?

For a research-based project, measurement of impact is a critical element and includes:

- Measurable change improvements every five years of anti-trafficking efforts, based on and building from the 2012-2013 baseline assessment in Colorado.
- Increased shared language among professionals and community members.
- Achievements in long-term goals to more efficiently and effectively focus responses to human trafficking.
- Regular review of national baseline of promising practices in Prevention, Protection, Prosecution, Partnerships.

## WHAT ARE THE TENETS OF THE COLORADO PROJECT RESEARCH METHODOLOGY?

- **Interdisciplinary:** The Colorado Project requires a collaborative, interdisciplinary research team to learn and better understand the efforts essential to combating human trafficking. Within those efforts, assess current promising practices that individuals and agencies are using to bring an end to human trafficking in the United States.
- **Mixed Methods:** Research methodologies include survey, focus groups and interviews to identify the most promising practices in four key areas: prevention, protection, prosecution, and partnerships.
- **Community-Based:** Researchers working alongside practitioners and survivors to design surveys, to listen and support the needs of community groups and individuals.
- **Social Ecology Framework:** An examination of the relationship between individuals and their communities, including the causes and conditions that create vulnerability and drive trafficking. Examples of these conditions include nationality, industry, displacement, and social marginalization within social, historical, cultural, and institutional contexts.

## WHO CAN PARTICIPATE IN THE PROJECT AND HOW?

- Professionals, whose day-to-day job description may include responding to human trafficking, are being asked to complete the survey. If interested, email [research@combathumantrafficking.org](mailto:research@combathumantrafficking.org)
- If you’re interested in following results from Colorado Project 2.0, sign up for updates at [combathumantrafficking.org/connect](http://combathumantrafficking.org/connect)