

Case Study 1 Summary

<p style="text-align: center;">Introduction:</p> <p>A young Spanish speaking patient came to the emergency department who appeared to be a victim of human trafficking. Without any plans implemented, the medical staff is unsure of how to handle the situation.</p> <p>Stakeholders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical administrators who are responsible for implementing plans to treat the survivors. • Medical professionals who are responsible for carrying out the plans implemented. • Survivors who are directly affected by any plans implemented. 	<p style="text-align: center;">Problem Statement</p> <p><i>Problem:</i> Organization(hospital) does not have a plan to handle and appropriately refer and connect positively identified human trafficking patients to resources within and outside of the hospital.</p> <p><i>Vision:</i> Our organization is prepared to handle human trafficking through development and implementation of a protocol including partnerships with local safe homes, child services, and translators.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">SWOT Analysis:</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">Strengths:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The hospital offered training for its employees on human sex-trafficking • The hospital had a well-established chain of command 	<p style="text-align: center;">Weaknesses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hospital staff are all not required to attend meetings and training, therefore, there was a lack of knowledge on the issue • The hospital had no translating services available • The hospital does not have a program established for sex-trafficking victims
<p style="text-align: center;">Opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Find funding to support establishing a sex-trafficking program • Find a translator or hire bilingual staff for non-English speaking natives • Establish strong connections with social services, police departments, and support groups • Showing that they are a safe place to disclose private information 	<p style="text-align: center;">Threats:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All areas do not have defined laws and what you legally can and cannot do, some places victims can be jailed • Sex trafficking continues to be an issue globally • Stigma surrounding sexual assault and sex-trafficking
<p>Alternative Solution(s):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Administrators (including Vice President of Patient Services, Joe Johnson) work with community partners to create a plan to respond appropriately to human trafficking identified in the hospital. 2. Make human trafficking training mandatory for ALL employees, including administrators. 3. Create community awareness programs educating on human trafficking 	<p>Optimal Solution:</p> <p>Solution 1 is the optimal solution. Creating or choosing best practices for human trafficking identification including implementation of the American Hospital Associations protocols, hiring translators, working with the Department of Social Services and local advocacy/safe home services will allow survivors to receive the best care and hospital staff to be better prepared to handle cases like Maria in the future.</p>

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References:

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