

CJRESEARCHUPDATE Research findings from the Criminal Justice Clearinghouse



Project overview

Project Living in Freedom from Exploitation (LIFE) was funded through a three-year grant from the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) (10/01/15-9/30/18). Project goals included identification, engagement, and provision of culturally appropriate and gender-specific support for male and LGBTQ trafficking victims. Project LIFE offered the only comprehensive, trauma-informed supportive case management and trauma counseling for victims in San Diego County, and is the only program county wide offering specialized services for LGBTQ and male trafficking victims.

Support and services were provided to clients at three levels, with increased interventions and contacts occurring at each level.* During the grant period, NCL reported engagement with 209 unique clients across the OES, STI, and ICM groups.

*For purposes of analysis, clients who qualified for more than one group were not permitted to have simultaneous group membership. When determining group membership, a hierarchy was applied where ICM > STI > OES.

Outreach and Engagement (OES)

•Includes the outreach and engagement of men, boys, and LGBTQ youth and adults of both genders in the community and institutional systems.

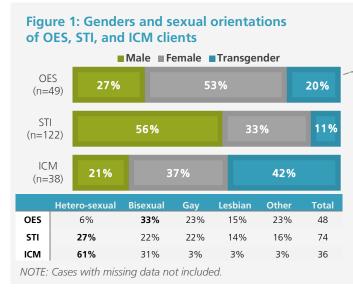
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Short-Term Intervention (STI)

• Clients who receive one (1) to five (5) case management contacts under or around 30 days are considered in this group. These clients receive a service package that is focused on resources and referrals with follow-up, crisis management, and safety planning.

Intensive Case Management (ICM)

• Clients who engage in case management contacts longer than 30 days are considered in this group. ICM clients are focused on achieving self-sufficiency and improving safety and well-being, as measured by the Project LIFE Matrix.





Most clients (92% of OES, 98% of STI, and 71% of ICM) reported being from the United States, although Mexico, El Salvador, Guatemala, Bangladesh, Cuba, Nicaragua, Russian Federation, or Unknown were also reported.

Figure 3: Reported trafficking types for ICM clients

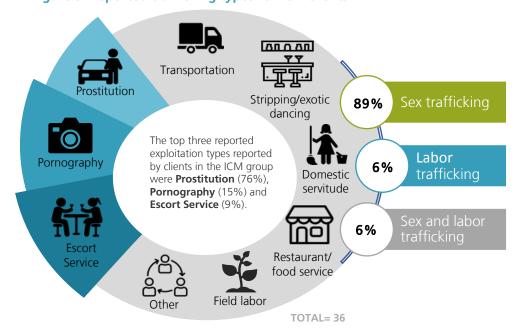


Table 1: Top five reported exploitation settings for ICM clients	
Street	40%
Hotel/motel	24%
Private home	28%
Office	12%
Retail	12%
Total = 25	

Other settings of exploitation reported by clients in both groups included agricultural, bar, bus/ truck stop, construction, group home, parking lot, restaurant, strip club, brothel, casino, factory, and massage parlor. NOTE: Cases with missing data not included.

NOTE: Percentages do not equal 100 due to rounding. Cases with missing data not included.



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ICM client spotlight: As the most engaged service group, additional information regarding service delivery and clinical assessment data for the 38 ICM clients is presented below. Outcome data (Figure 6) is only presented for clients who had both pre- and post- assessment data available (n=29).

Figure 4: Service delivery summary for ICM clients

24 service types delivered to ICM clients 9 different services were delivered to over half of the ICM group Top three services received by ICM clients

95% Emotional/moral support

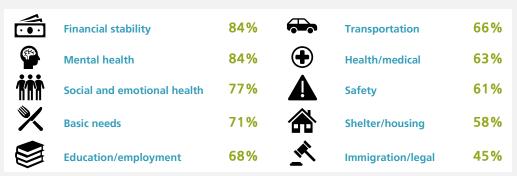
87% Ongoing case management

87% Protection/safety planning

Figure 5: Project LIFE matrix domains and percent of ICM clients scoring in crisis or vulnerable at intake

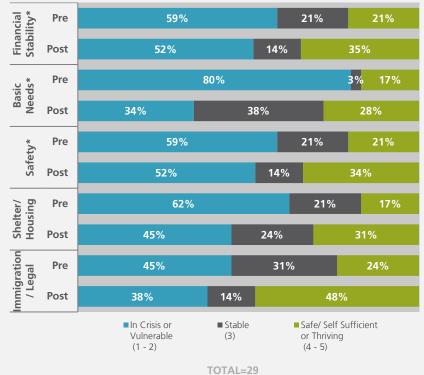
The **Project LIFE Matrix** is an assessment tool used to inform the case plan and assist staff in monitoring client progress over time. The matrix measures client improvement in terms of **level of stability** across domains. Possible scores are:

- 1-2: In Crisis or vulnerable
- 3: Stable
- 4-5: Safe/self-sufficient or thriving



TOTAL=38

Figure 6: Top five project LIFE Matrix domains with the greatest change between pre- and post- assessment



NOTE: Cases with missing data not included.

What did the Project LIFE Matrix reveal about ICM clients?

- On average (mean), ICM clients at intake reported being **least stable** in **financial** stability, mental health, and social and emotional health domains.
- From pre- to post- assessment there was an average positive shift across all 10 domains.
- The largest average positive changes were in the basic needs, immigration/legal, shelter/housing, financial stability, and **safety** domains.
- stable in immigration/legal, basic needs, and **safety** domains.

This product was supported by cooperative agreement number 2015-VT-BX-K026, awarded by the Office for Victims of Crime, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this product are those of the contributors and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice. Questions regarding these statistics should be directed to the Applied Research Division of SANDAG.

^{*} Significant at the p<0.05 level