

## Transcript for Video 2

### Trafficking of Youth with Disabilities: What Providers Serving Youth with Disabilities Need to Know

JAE JIN PAK: Hi. My name is Jae Jin Pak. I am the project coordinator for the trafficking of youth with disabilities education and outreach project coordinated by the International Organization for Adolescents or IOFA. I am also identified as a person with a disability. So I have low vision and also a seizure disorder.

And professionally I've worked for over 25 years addressing issues of domestic and sexual violence awareness and prevention, disability awareness, cultural competency, and in recent years doing education and work related to the anti-trafficking. And I think this is very important to have this conversation.

So first thing is to acknowledge that human trafficking happens to youth with disabilities. And it's important to recognize that anti-trafficking providers to remember that potentially missing a large community of youth with disabilities were potentially trafficked, those providers who serve youth survivors to understand that unintentionally by their practices and procedures and the way

that they conduct services may again unintentionally be creating barriers for youth survivors with disabilities.

So it's critical that anti-trafficking providers be intentional in recognizing and including youth with disabilities and consider youth with disabilities in their practice and becoming accessible. To that end, some simple tips that providers can start with is first of all connecting with and finding the various disability service providers in their local areas.

And a great place to start is to connect with their local center for independent living, which by nature is a organization that serves all individual with disabilities from youth to adulthood and seniors. And their job is to have a wealth of information about a variety disabilities and services. So there are a great starting point.

Additionally, as the anti-trafficking provider connects with their local disability service provider, invite them to learn and invite those providers to the anti-trafficking programs and networks to gain information and share resources, offer to provide anti-trafficking information to those providers as workshops, so that again, it builds that connection and builds that trust. And as disability issues or concerns come up in providing anti-trafficking services, they're able to know and easily connect and refer individuals as needed.

Additionally, they can also look into learning about disability through taking advantage of webinars or in-person training that they may hear about or get access to through connecting with the disability resource network.

And lastly, they can also join the National Human Trafficking and Disabilities Working Group, which IOFA was a co-founder of. And this network is a national network. We have members from the disability community, the anti-trafficking community, other social service providers, and mental health providers with a wealth of expertise all committed to working together to improve services and improve information to the disability community so that survivors of trafficking, whether they be youth or adults or seniors, with disabilities are better able to connect with services.

So if folks have questions or want to contact us for additional information, they can contact IOFA at [info@iofa.org](mailto:info@iofa.org), which is our email. You can also look us up at our website at [iofa.org](http://iofa.org) for our information and access to our resources. Organizations and individuals can also contact the National Human Trafficking and Disabilities Working Group at our email at [nhtdwg@iofa.org](mailto:nhtdwg@iofa.org). And we'd be happy to contact and respond with information and help connect with services and resources that you might have. So thank you again.