

BRUNCH & BRAINSTORM

October 16, 2025

Takeaways

Building Capacity to Combat Labor Trafficking

Key Discussion Takeaways:

Challenges in the Field:

- Partners are reporting funding limitations and resource gaps in the new fiscal year. Many organizations have lost staff, which makes it more difficult to offer effective services.
- Partners report concerns about the federal government shutdown, which has caused bottlenecks throughout the network.
- News about intensified ICE activity and deportations has increased fear among people in trafficking situations, many of whom are not US citizens. Partners report that many people are not willing to report trafficking because they fear interacting with law enforcement.
- Partners report a dramatic increase in demand for legal services.

What's Working:

- Despite constraints, providers remain dedicated to offering services, leveraging inter-agency collaboration to navigate and locate resources.
- Organizations are working with trusted local partners to respond to increased need for legal services among clients who are not US citizens.
- Partners are finding creative solutions to adapt their services to meet current needs and address clients' safety concerns.
- Organizations are building connections with local law enforcement so as to increase client safety and build understanding of the needs of trafficking survivors.



Upcoming Changes:

Framework will be expanding our Learning Collaborative in size as well as changing the way in which we facilitate it! It will be launched in January 2026 and will be open to all.

Join us for our next session on **November 20**. We will share upcoming resources at Framework such as the newly expanded Learning Collaborative 5-week course starting in January.

 [November 20th at 12 p.m. ET – Register here!](#)

Agency Spotlight Sign-Up:

Each month Framework offers a space for organizations to share resources, challenges, and successes in serving labor trafficking survivors. Please complete the [survey linked here](#) to apply to conduct a short 5-minute spotlight presentation during an upcoming Brunch and Brainstorm.