



# NORTH CAROLINA HUMAN TRAFFICKING COMMISSION

---

## APRIL 2026 REPORT ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING GRANTS

---

### **Competitive Grants for Nonprofit Organizations Providing Direct Services to Victims of Human Trafficking Under § 7A-354.1.**

#### **Annual Competitive Grant**

***Includes Fiscal Years 2024-2025 and 2025-2026***

Citation of Law or Resolution: S.L.2023-134

Section Number: Section 16.23

Due Date: April 1, 2026

Submission Date: March 30, 2026

#### Receiving Entities:

Senate Appropriations Committee on Justice and Public Safety  
House of Representatives Appropriations Committee on Justice and Public Safety  
Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Justice and Public Safety  
Fiscal Research Division

Submitting Entity: The North Carolina Human Trafficking Commission

## I. Summary of Activities

The Annual Competitive Grant for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 was awarded to nine agencies in the Spring of 2025. Each agency received an award of \$45,777.77, awarding \$411,999.93 in total. All grants for this period were closed by September 9, 2025. Further details are included in the table of the accompanying award year in the below charts and Appendix A.

The Annual Competitive Grant for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 accepted applications for the fiscal biennium of 2025-2027 and were due on April 25, 2025. Awards were made on the fiscal biennium basis rather than individual fiscal years to maximize a project's capability to make a lasting impact.

Applications that met all prerequisites for an award were scored by nine volunteers within the Appropriations Committee or their designees using the scoring matrix detailed in the Request for Proposals (RFP).

All applications were scored by five reviewers. Agencies selected for the 2025-2027 award were notified shortly after the Appropriations Committee meeting on June 23, 2025. However, uncertainties surrounding the state budget for this fiscal biennium delayed contract establishment until October. Eight of the nine contracts were established by October 27, 2025. These agencies have submitted reports for the first two quarters of this award. The last contract was finalized in February 2026. Details about the awarded projects are included in the table below of the accompanying award period and Appendix B.

Smartsheet has been used to manage all aspects of this grant aside from the application phase. HTC expects to continue using Smartsheet for all stages of grant management for the foreseeable future.

Funding for this grant's manager is not specified in the budget for future fiscal years, and this role is needed on a recurring basis to adequately monitor grantee spending.



## Annual Competitive Grant for Fiscal Year 2024-2025

(1) The number of applications received.	24
(2) The number of grants awarded.	9
(3) The names and locations of the grant recipients.	* Appendix A
(4) The Amount of each grant awarded.	\$45,777.77
(5) A description of the human trafficking program initiatives that were funded by the grant awarded, including the geographic area in which services were provided.	* Appendix A
(6) The total number of victims of human trafficking that were served, to date, by each grant recipient.	* Appendix A

## Annual Competitive Grant for Fiscal Year 2025-2027

(1) The number of applications received.	28
(2) The number of grants awarded.	9
(3) The names and locations of the grant recipients.	* Appendix B
(4) The Amount of each grant awarded.	\$45,778
(5) A description of the human trafficking program initiatives that were funded by the grant awarded, including the geographic area in which services were provided.	* Appendix B
(6) The total number of victims of human trafficking that were served, to date, by each grant recipient.	* Appendix B

## Appendix A - Agencies Awarded in 2024-2025:

AGENCY	FLORENCE CRITTENTON SERVICES, INC.
Location:	3350 Holabird Ln. Charlotte, NC 28208. Crittenton serves young women from across North Carolina, however, most of the clients served are from Mecklenburg and surrounding counties.
Description or program initiatives:	Crittenton’s clients are at-risk young women who live at their residential facility: they are pregnant and homeless/housing insecure or in foster care, they are young mothers in foster care at risk of being separated from their child or they are teenage girls in foster care at high-risk for a multitude of negative life outcomes. Crittenton provides residential services, educational programming, access to physical and mental health care, and referrals to community support services. Foster care youth and homeless women face a significantly higher risk of human trafficking due to limited support systems and being disconnected from community resources. Education, prevention and self-empowerment are the core of their programs, equipping clients with the skills and resources they need to be successful while building their self-confidence to help them accomplish their goals. Funds were used to fund positions that interact with trafficking victims, support staff training, and provide direct client support.
Total Number of Human Trafficking Victims Served by this Award:	4
AGENCY	GATE BEAUTIFUL
Location:	3901 Raeford Rd Fayetteville, North Carolina 28304. Cumberland County.
Description or program initiatives:	These funds subsidized two positions that supported client direct services. In this time the agency used two new programs: a minor’s program offering life-skills, entrepreneurship classes, art therapy, and mentorship, and an adult program focused on life-skills and professional development.
Total Number of Human Trafficking Victims Served by this Award:	76

<b>AGENCY</b>		<b>HAVEN HOUSE</b>	
Location:		1008 Bullard Ct. Raleigh, NC. 27615. Raleigh area.	
Description or program initiatives:		Haven House serves runaway and homeless youth and youth involved with or at high risk for juvenile justice involvement, populations known to be at significant risk of sexual exploitation and human trafficking. Initiative focused on continuing this work, prioritizing the implementation of the QYIT (human trafficking screener) to Haven House programs who had not yet done so, becoming increasingly effective in identifying youth and young adult victims of human trafficking, then providing them with services.	
Total Number of Human Trafficking Victims Served by this Award:		10	
<b>AGENCY</b>		<b>LANTERN PROJECT</b>	
Location:		57 Union Street, Suite #124. Concord, NC. 28025. The Lantern Project serves the greater Charlotte area.	
Description or program initiatives:		The Lantern Project serves survivors who are 18 years or older, including mothers with children. Grant funds were used to employ individuals to assist with increasing client load of sex trafficking/exploitation survivors. This included intake, general supervision, transportation, administration and job placement training.	
Total Number of Human Trafficking Victims Served by this Award:		14	
<b>AGENCY</b>		<b>PRESENT AGE MINISTRIES</b>	
Location:		5701 Executive Center Drive; Suite 108 Charlotte, NC 28262. Serves the Charlotte Metro Area, including Mecklenburg County and Cabarrus County.	
Description or program initiatives:		Initiative enhanced existing program by expanding and improving ability to provide critical support to victims of human trafficking in the Charlotte Metro Area, particularly in Mecklenburg and Cabarrus counties. The funds addressed key needs identified in their service areas—specifically, the transportation barriers and access to vital services like counseling, tutoring, and assessments.	
Total Number of Human Trafficking Victims Served by this Award:		233	

<b>AGENCY</b>		<b>SAFE HOUSE PROJECT INC</b>
Location:	Safe House Project operates nationally but maintains a strong focus on serving survivors in North Carolina, where human trafficking remains a critical issue. The majority of the survivors served in North Carolina come through a combination of direct outreach and partner referrals.	
Description or program initiatives:	Human trafficking victims in North Carolina face significant barriers to identification, safe exit, and access to essential services such as emergency housing, medical care, legal support, and trauma-informed case management. This funding enhanced the direct service capacity of Safe House Project, ensuring that more survivors can safely exit trafficking situations and receive the immediate and long-term support necessary for recovery.	
Total Number of Human Trafficking Victims Served by this Award:	176	
<b>AGENCY</b>		<b>THE SALVATION ARMY/PROJECT FIGHT</b>
Location:	1863 Capital Blvd Raleigh, NC 27604. The Salvation Army serves individuals and families residing in Wake and Lee County.	
Description or program initiatives:	Initiative aimed to enhance and expand our comprehensive services for victims of human trafficking by directly addressing critical needs. The initiative will focus on providing immediate safety, trauma-informed care, legal assistance, and economic empowerment to victims through case managers.	
Total Number of Human Trafficking Victims Served by this Award:	60	
<b>AGENCY</b>		<b>THOMPSON CHILD AND FAMILY FOCUS</b>
Location:	6800 Saint Peter's Lane. Matthew, North Carolina 28105. Thompson serves youth throughout NC in its residential mental health programs.	
Description or program initiatives:	Grant allowed Thompson to train and support case management staff in all residential programs with enhanced training in screening tools, resources and service modalities specific to human trafficking best practices available in NC. Enhancing the existing case managers' expertise in this area helped young people and their families (as applicable) access support as they transition back into the community and into adulthood so that they might remain safe.	
Total Number of Human Trafficking Victims Served by this Award:	9	

AGENCY	TRUE JUSTICE
Location:	1401 Park Avenue New Bern, NC 28560. True Justice primarily serves eastern North Carolina, while also accepting referrals from across the state and, as well as from other states, for individuals requiring relocation.
Description or program initiatives:	Funding assisted in essential repairs and maintenance of their safe house, a historic residence located in downtown New Bern, which serves as a sanctuary for survivors of human trafficking. Given the building's age and its location within a designated historical district, these repairs were needed to comply with specific regulatory requirements and to ensure the facility remains a secure and supportive environment for residents.
Total Number of Human Trafficking Victims Served by this Award:	42

## Appendix B - Agencies Awarded in 2025-2027:

Includes the first two quarters of this award.

<b>AGENCY</b>		<b>514 REVOLUTION</b>
Location:	101 N. Kerr Avenue Wilmington, NC 28405	
Description or program initiatives:	Women's Coordinated Care Initiative needs two part-time case managers to holistically serve our members with a focus on individualized care. These professionals provide comprehensive case management services, catering to the diverse needs of clients at both residential facility and Outreach Center. By offering personalized, wrap-around support, they will enhance the empowerment and care delivered to those served.	
Total Number of Human Trafficking Victims Served by this Award:	66	
<b>AGENCY</b>		<b>FIRST FRUIT MINISTRIES</b>
Location:	2750 Vance Street Wilmington, NC 28412	
Description or program initiatives:	With the funding, 5.11 House will provide rapid rehousing to two individuals or families for up to ten months each. The Programs and Operations Manager may also direct client-facing staff to offer rental assistance from 2 to 6 months to shift program participants from the transitional home to the clients' own residence (e.g. application fees, rent, security deposit, etc.).	
Total Number of Human Trafficking Victims Served by this Award:	12	
<b>AGENCY</b>		<b>HAVEN HOUSE</b>
Location:	1008 Bullard Ct. Raleigh, NC. 27615. Raleigh area.	
Description or program initiatives:	Haven House serves runaway and homeless youth and youth involved with or at high risk for juvenile justice involvement, populations known to be at significant risk of sexual exploitation and human trafficking. Initiative focuses on refining service delivery to align with emerging best practices specific to youth victims/survivors of human trafficking and strengthening case management related services via strong stakeholder relationships that will facilitate timely referrals to the many systems associated with the needs of youth victims/survivors.	
Total Number of Human Trafficking Victims Served by this Award:	3	

<b>AGENCY</b>		<b>THE HUNDRED MOVEMENT</b>
Location:	9 Sheppard Branch Rd Asheville, NC 28776. The majority of the clients served are from the Western North Carolina area. Clients are referred through several sources including through residential treatment facilities, rape crisis centers, or other victim serving organizations throughout the state.	
Description or program initiatives:	Funding from the NC Human Trafficking Commission will help The Hundred Movement continue to provide free individual and group counseling services to primary and secondary survivors of trafficking. Most of this funding will be directed at payroll costs for our three existing counselors.	
Total Number of Human Trafficking Victims Served by this Award:	Intend to begin using award during Q3 of this grant.	
<b>AGENCY</b>		<b>LEGAL AID OF NORTH CAROLINA</b>
Location:	319 Chapanoke Road Suite 104 Raleigh, NC 27603. Legal Aid of NC (LANC) serves survivors of human trafficking who live across the state of North Carolina. Their projects which specifically address human trafficking receive referrals from collaborative partners throughout the state.	
Description or program initiatives:	Legal Aid of NC's Immigration Pathways for Victims (IMMPAV) is a statewide project that provides free immigration assistance to financially eligible victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking. IMMPAV seeks to assist immigrant victims through direct legal advocacy, community education, and collaboration with other service providers. These initiatives help HT victims remove legal barriers to achieve stability in their lives, reunite with their families, and prevent future victimization. Funding supports staff for this project.	
Total Number of Human Trafficking Victims Served by this Award:	184	
<b>AGENCY</b>		<b>PRESENT AGE MINISTRIES</b>
Location:	5701 Executive Center Drive; Suite 108 Charlotte, NC 28262. Serves the Charlotte Metro Area, including Mecklenburg County and Cabarrus County.	
Description or program initiatives:	Proposed initiative ensures survivors are connected to the services that can help them begin the healing process and rebuild their lives. This funding provides support for one key employee while providing funding for key services to identified victims.	
Total Number of Human Trafficking Victims Served by this Award:	68	

<b>AGENCY</b>		<b>SAFE HOUSE PROJECT INC</b>
Location:	Safe House Project operates nationally but maintains a strong focus on serving survivors in North Carolina, where human trafficking remains a critical issue. Most survivors served in North Carolina come through a combination of direct outreach and partner referrals.	
Description or program initiatives:	Continued funding enhances the direct service capacity of Safe House Project, ensuring that a growing number of survivors can safely exit trafficking situations over time and receive the immediate and long-term support necessary for recovery.	
Total Number of Human Trafficking Victims Served by this Award:	81	
<b>AGENCY</b>		<b>TRUE JUSTICE</b>
Location:	1401 Park Avenue New Bern, NC 28560. True Justice primarily serves eastern North Carolina, while also accepting referrals from across the state and other states for individuals requiring relocation.	
Description or program initiatives:	Project delivers critical direct services through their Outreach Center in Jacksonville and Safe House in New Bern—both of which are central to addressing the urgent and layered needs of survivors, including emergency housing, mental health and substance use recovery, life skills development, case management, and access to healthcare and legal support.	
Total Number of Human Trafficking Victims Served by this Award:	52	
<b>AGENCY</b>		<b>THE SALVATION ARMY/ PROJECT FIGHT</b>
Location:	1863 Capital Blvd Raleigh, NC 27604. The Salvation Army serves individuals and families residing in Wake and Lee County.	
Description or program initiatives:	Initiative aims to enhance and expand comprehensive services for victims of human trafficking. The initiative will focus on providing immediate safety, trauma-informed care, legal assistance, and economic empowerment to victims through case managers.	
Total Number of Human Trafficking Victims Served by this Award:	Intend to begin using award during Q3 of this grant.	



**NORTH CAROLINA  
HUMAN TRAFFICKING  
COMMISSION**