

## For Immediate Release

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### **NAPNAP Leaders Participate in Development of HHS Core Competencies for Human Trafficking Response**

NEW YORK, Feb. 26, 2021 – The National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners (NAPNAP) and NAPNAP Partners for Vulnerable Youth (Partners) are pleased to have been key collaborators in the development of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office on Trafficking in Persons (OTIP) resource titled, "Core Competencies for Human Trafficking Response in Health Care and Behavioral Health Systems."

"In the face of rising awareness among health professionals of vulnerable, exploited and trafficked individuals, this practical guide provides actionable items spanning the care continuum. Crossing health disciplines, these inclusive core competencies inform, engage and equip individual care providers, health systems and organizations, as well as academic institutions, with invaluable guidance for action," said NAPNAP and Partners President, Jessica Peck, DNP, APRN, CPNP-PC, CNE, CNL, FAANP, FAAN.

During three years of collaboration, experts representing general health care practice, psychiatry, pediatrics, emergency medicine, child protection, nursing, behavioral health, research, health science, administrators and trafficking survivors identified the need for a strategy to improve the response of health systems and providers to human trafficking. The resulting resource describes six core competencies and one universal competency to improve prevention, identification and response to human trafficking.

In addition to the newly published core competencies resource, NAPNAP and Partners offer health care providers and other stakeholders additional human trafficking resources, including on-demand continuing education: [3-PARRT \(Providers Assessing Risk and Responding To Trafficking\)](#) and [Stop Child Trafficking In Your Community: Become An Act Advocate](#).

To learn more and view the Core Competencies for Human Trafficking Response in Health Care and Behavioral Health Systems, visit our human trafficking prevention [resource](#) page.

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The National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners (NAPNAP) is the nation's only professional association for pediatric-focused advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) dedicated to improving the quality of health care for infants, children, adolescents and young adults. Representing more than 8,000 healthcare practitioners with 18 special interest groups and



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53 chapters, NAPNAP has been advocating for children's health since 1973 and was the first APRN society in the U.S. Our mission is to empower pediatric-focused advanced practice registered nurses and key partners to optimize child and family health. [NAPNAP.org](http://NAPNAP.org)

NAPNAP Partners for Vulnerable Youth is dedicated to the health and well-being of all children but especially the most vulnerable children in the U.S. Its partners include pediatric nurse practitioners, fellow pediatric-focused advanced practice registered nurses (APRN) and nurses, pediatricians, child health and wellness specialists, generous philanthropists, foundations and organizations, dedicated caregivers and other stakeholders. [napnappartners.org](http://napnappartners.org)