

## Federal Legislative Update

- a. **Justice for Victims of Trafficking (JVTA)**
  - i. Passed! (signed into law on May 29, 2015)
  - ii. Provides millions of dollars for services for survivors of domestic human trafficking in the U.S.
    - 1. Creates a fund for survivors financed through fines on convicted human traffickers
    - 2. HHS matches whatever is raised from that fund up to \$30 million (and provides at least \$5 million)
  - iii. Key Amendments that passed as part of final package:
    - 1. **Safe Harbor** – legislation incentivizing states to adopt safe harbor laws, that discourage prosecution of minors for prostitution and encourage provision of services
    - 2. **CAPTA** – designates child sex trafficking as a form of abuse and neglect under CAPTA; training for CPS in re identifying, assessing, providing appropriate services to victims of child sex trafficking
    - 3. **Survivor Council** – creation of an advisory council composed of 8-14 survivors of human trafficking to advise federal gov't on trafficking policies and initiatives
  - iv. Bills that did not pass as part of the package but that we are still working to pass:
    - 1. ***Runaway and Homeless Youth Trafficking Prevention Act*** (RHYA)