

# Characteristics and Risk Factors of Male Commercial Sex Workers



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# Background

- Data collected from 2002-2006
- Sample comes from NW Virginia, primarily non-urban areas
- Data collection tools include survey, risk assessment forms, HIV test lab slips, interviews, case notes, health and mental health evaluations and screening tools
- Data collected during interventions funded by SAMHSA and VDH. (MSM, ASO, HRYA)



# Regional Background

- Predominantly White (approx 80%)
- Predominantly non-urban
- Borders and includes DC and Richmond Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA)
- Approximately 50% of all students attending college in Virginia, attend a school in this region
- Three large military bases in this region
- 73% of the area is medically underserved



# Background continued

- In 2003, as part of evaluation process, ASG noticed an unusual number of males responding to questions regarding exchanging sex for money or drugs, particularly with substance users, incarcerated men and college students.
- Online interventions with MSM noticed high number of males in chat rooms advertising sexual services in exchange for money.
- ASG made these men a priority to engage in risk reduction interventions.



# Background continued

- From Jan 1, 2002-Dec 31, 2006
- 4249 males with high risk behaviors completed risk assessment 621 (14.62%) reported a life-time incidence of exchanging sex for drugs, money, housing or protection, and/or working in the pornography industry (commercial sex trade)
- 357 (8.4%) reported engaging in commercial sex trade in the past year 3 or more incidence (targeted group)

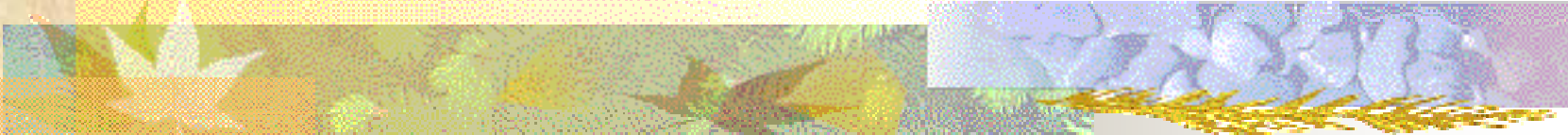


# Racial/Ethnic Demographics

African American	81	22.69%
Asian	13	3.64%
Hispanic	51	14.29%
White, Non-Hispanic	212	59.38%
Total	357	100.00%

# Demographics- Age by Race/Ethnicity

	14-15	16-17	18-22	23-24	25-29	30-35	Total
African American		3	31	21	15	11	81
Asian		1	9	3	0	0	13
Hispanic	3	6	26	12	3	1	51
White, Non-Hispanic	3	9	72	70	34	24	212
	6	19	138	106	52	36	357



# Demographics- Sexual Orientation

	N	Heterosexual	Bisexual	Homosexual	Other
African American	36	24	10	2	0
Asian	5		3	2	
Hispanic	31	14	12	5	
White, Non-Hispanic	176	59	54	53	10






## CSW as Primary Income

- Of the 357 in the target group, for 248 (69%) commercial sex work was their primary income.

# Primary Income= CSW

Primary Income	N	Total	18-22	23-24	25-29	30-35
African American	36	36	9	11	8	8
Asian	5	5	2	1	2	
Hispanic	31	31	24	7		
White, Non-Hispanic	176	176	98	30	25	23
		248	133	49	35	31



# Demographics- Other Employment (30.5%, n=109)

- Part-time=63 Full-time=46
  - Retail/Service Industry=58
  - Managerial/Administrative=23
  - Active Military=18
  - Sales/Marketing=6
  - Other=4



# Primary v Secondary Income from CSW Comparisons

- Income from CSW
  - Mean Annual Income from CSW
    - Primary (Full Time) \$46,000.00
    - Secondary (Part Time) \$16,500.00
- Education
  - Mean Education Attainment
    - Full Time 12.2 years
    - Part Time 15.3 years

# Non-CSW Partners

	total		non csw partners female		non csw partner male		non csw partner both	
African American	57	21.20%	32	56.14%	12	21.05%	13	22.81%
White (non-hispanic)	167	62.10%	68	40.72%	77	46.11%	22	13.17%
Hispanic	45	16.70%	35	77.78%	7	15.56%	3	6.67%
Total	269	100.00%	135	50.19%	96	35.69%	38	14.13%

# Client Characteristics

	<b>n</b>	<b>Primary male clients</b>		<b>Primary female clients</b>	
<b>African American</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>70.18%</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>29.82%</b>
<b>White</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>92.22%</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>8.38%</b>
<b>Hispanic</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.00%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>269</b>	<b>239</b>	<b>88.85%</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>11.52%</b>

# Primary Exchange

	n	PE= money		PE= drug		PE= housing, food, safety, gifts	
<b>African American</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>54.39%</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>38.60%</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>7.02%</b>
<b>White</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>86.23%</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>10.78%</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2.99%</b>
<b>Hispanic</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>86.67%</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4.44%</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>8.89%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>269</b>	<b>214</b>	<b>79.55%</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>15.61%</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>4.83%</b>

# Substance Use- Past Year

	N	IDU		Use of Cocaine		Use of Methamp		Alcohol/ Binge	
African American	57	9	15.79%	31	54.40%	16	28.07%	57	100.00%
White (non-hispanic)	167	4	2.40%	38	22.80%	53	31.74%	166	99.40%
Hispanic	45	4	8.89%	12	26.70%	13	28.89%	45	100.00%
Total	269	17	6.32%	81	30.10%	82	30.48%	268	99.60%



# Sexual Risks- Past Year

	N	UP Anal as RP	%	UP Vaginal as IP	%	UP Anal IP	%	Performed UP Oral on a male sex partner	%	UPA, UPV with known HIV positive partner	%
African American	57	12	21.10%	39	68.42%	27	47.37%	19	33.33%	9	15.79%
White (non- hispanic)	167	97	58.10%	86	51.50%	84	50.30%	143	85.63%	29	17.37%
Hispanic	45	28	62.20%	32	71.11%	29	64.44%	45	100.00%	6	13.33%
Total	269	137	50.90%	157	58.36%	140	52.04%	207	76.95%	44	16.36%

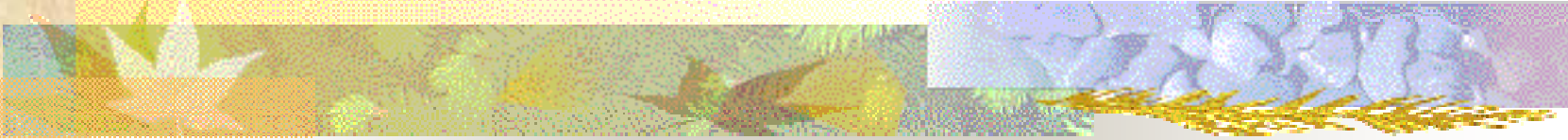
# History of Mental Illness, Substance Abuse Treatment, Childhood Sexual Assault, Incarceration

	total		history of MI		history of CSA		history of SAT		history of incarceration	
African American	57	21.20%	9	15.79%	21	36.84%	12	21.05%	17	29.82%
White (non-hispanic)	167	62.10%	18	10.78%	74	44.31%	21	12.57%	23	13.77%
Hispanic	45	16.70%	6	13.33%	26	57.78%	2	4.44%	7	15.56%
Total	269	100.00%	33	12.27%	121	44.98%	35	13.01%	47	17.47%




# Mental Illness Named by Those who Received Treatment (N=33)

- Depression 57%
- Personality Disorder 21%
- Anxiety Disorder 12%
- PTSD 10%



## Characteristics of Childhood Sexual Assault Victims (N=54)

- Average Age of first assault= 11 years old (range 5-16)
- Average number of assaults= 5
- Perpetrator relationship
  - Family Member 40%
  - Friend of Victim or Victim's Family 48%
  - Teacher, Clergy, Authority Figure other than family 7%
  - Stranger 5%



# Characteristics of Incarceration (n=47)

- 45 were incarcerated/placed in detention for drug possession
- 2 incarcerated for theft
- None were incarcerated for prostitution



## Reasons Given for CSW

- Pay rent/food 42%
- Buy drugs or alcohol 28%
- Pay for school 12%
- Pay other bills 9%
- Extra spending money 5%
- Freedom from financial dependence on parent(s)/family 4%



## Income from CSW

- Per hour fee ranged from \$50.00-\$250.00
- Average monthly income from CSW was \$1,325.00 (annual \$15,900.00)
- Average Range was \$200.00- \$5,650.00
  - (Annual income \$2,400-\$67,800)
- 8 reported making over \$100,000 in past year from CSW



# Client characteristics

- Sex workers reported their clients as being primarily:
  - Middle aged men (35-55)
  - Traveled a lot for business
  - Married or “discreet due to job”
  - Repeat clients
  - Alcohol users during session





# Initiation into CSW

- 43% stated due to seeing adds by other CSW on Internet
- 38% stated they got involved in CSW due to recommendation by friend
- 11% said they were recruited by an agency or “manager”
- 5% said they were forced into it by someone that they owed money to
- 3% said other (worked in strip club, bar, got idea from a movie, saw transactions on street, etc)



# Geographical Area where CSW is Practiced

- College Students- most (87%) made trips to Washington DC, Richmond, Norfolk, New York City to practice CSW. They also usually had a “few clients” in the town/city they attended school in.
- Non-College Students- (93%) said they primarily practiced in the area they lived in.



# HIV Testing

- Only 26 (9.67%) had been tested for HIV in the past year
  - 23 returned for their results
- 186 (69.14%) had never been tested for HIV that they knew of

# Pre/Post HIV Status

	<b>n</b>	Pre Intervention HIV Positive Status		Post Intervention HIV Positive Status		<b># Tested</b>
<b>African American</b>	<b>57</b>	5	8.77%	9	15.79%	36
<b>White</b>	<b>167</b>	9	5.39%	14	8.38%	133
<b>Hispanic</b>	<b>45</b>	2	4.44%	3	6.67%	32
<b>Total</b>	<b>269</b>	16	5.95%	26	9.67%	201



# Interventions

- PCM
  - Average duration 5 month
- Sex Drugs and Latex
  - Combines group and individual level sessions
  - Most referred to PCM from this intervention



# Preliminary Outcomes

## ■ Sex Drugs Latex

- 63% tested for HIV
- 67% reported better negotiation skills
- 63% discussed condom use with at least one partner
- 49% reported increased condom use

## ■ PCM

- 100% tested for HIV
- 19% entered drug treatment/support group
- 86% reported increased condom use
- 37% reported consistent condom use



# Preliminary Outcomes continued

## ■ PCM continued

- 73% reported consistent condom use with clients
- 26% referred to mental health counseling
- 16% stopped CSW
- 88% refused a client that did not want to wear a condom
- 82% asked client their HIV status
- 96% carried condoms and lube to each appointment



# Conclusions

- Hidden but significant population
- High incidence rates of HIV
- High sexual and drug risks behaviors
- Responds well to risk-reduction interventions
- Interventions need to address current financial status, past CSA, SA, condom negotiation