Is this linked to drug trades?

Yes, by all means - they are intertwined definitely. These are examples that have surfaced beneath this heinous crime:

First, I don't like to use the word pimp - it's outdated language. They are traffickers of drugs and people period. I've not heard one testimony of a survivor yet, that either had a drug problem or drugs are used to lure them in. In some cases this is a drug that was used to overpower and kidnap and exploit. The drugs keep coming which is a way of control. You're hooked and at their mercy.

Second, there aren't too many in labor trafficking that have not been introduced/forced into drug use. And again, many trafficked for labors are also sexually abused. This goes on in the agricultural/food industry.

Third, families/caregivers who have a drug problem, will coerce another household member into sex trafficking in order to pay the bills/pay the habit.

References:
Dept. of Homeland Security/Blue Campaign
National Human Trafficking Resource Center
UN Office on Drugs & Crime

What are the hubs of human trafficking?

A bit hard to answer that one. Every piece of information I've reviewed always refers to their area as being a major hub. It is everywhere and not just in the big cities. I'd like to say right in your own back yard, as tiny communities have various venues they use - motels, truck stops, massage parlors, nail salons. They are there - expect it. I know it is hard to grasp, let alone begin to intervene. Now that doesn't discount that the larger the city is, the more crime you have - Atlanta > lots of people coming for business, sports events, etc. The demand is huge - especially for the young child.

References:
Dept. of Homeland Security
PolarisProject

How does this all correlate to human trafficking?

The focus of the webinar was primarily geared toward the school setting, and my focus was on the PREVENTION aspect. So some of the venues used by the traffickers include schools, malls, outside shelters - all places where they have a captive audience
of children to exploit. I may not have relayed this message, but I look at the school and the community its in, as a unit. It takes a village.

Reference:
Human Trafficking in America's Schools >www.safesupportivelearning.ed/gov/human-trafficking-Americas-schools

So are you saying that there are cartels like individuals set up in schools to solicit for sex? If so, how can we teach safety about how they set up?

So, just like drugs and guns in the schools. And from a prior question - how are they related? Pretty much they go hand in hand. But it's new era - not only are there drugs peddled and used on campuses, but these same individuals (who probably have past issues/chronic trauma that has occurred to them), are ones who would also be groomed/taught by someone (like a cartel, but it's referred to as crime networks - very sophisticated organizations who are in it for the money and place no value on human beings). Business is to make money and they train their "employees" in exploitation/intimidation/recruitment methods. So yes, there are boys and girls, mostly in middle and high schools who are involved.

So with that information, think Awareness, Policies, Protocols. But you got to believe it exists before you will be able to act upon the problem. So it requires lots of collaboration in ones community - reaching out to businesses, law enforcement, hospitals, health provider offices, you name it. If you will go to above reference, they speak to:
- developing, adopting, enforcing, implementing a protocol;
- train everyone from janitor on up
- safety at school
- provide programs of awareness to parents/caregivers, others in the community so all are informed

This requires buy in from all - some administrations will welcome it and others will shoot it down. And I must say, of utmost importance, is also tying in sexuality education/health promotion classes, needs to hand in hand - providing our children with the knowledge and skills to making healthy choices, i.e. not being vulnerable to exploitation. And I would go any of my referenced resources regarding trauma-Informed care.

References:
Advocateforyouth.org - has a wonderful k-12 curriculum, it's free, it has lesson plans - lets you pull in or take out what particulars you want
Q & A from ASHA Human Trafficking webinar, 8-17-17

What's the best way to dialogue in a health class?

I will refer you to a great site, beheroes.net (I believe it is in the PPT), Joe Langford, has a website and is a sex educator. He has great free resources and will talk about the "conversations ". The 3 R's curriculum provided by Advocatesforyouth, also has step by step of "how to".

How do you identify perpetrators?

I will refer you to Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia Center for injury research and prevention. They have lots of research going with the end goal being that of PREVENTION of child injury and its consequences. They can help you understand 1: the trafficker/perpetrator & 2: the buyer on the demand side of the equation.

Who is behind the scenes?

If you mean the perpetrators, see previous question/answer.

Is this money or sex for money?

Crimes like these - drugs & trafficking - it is all about the money. A child can be sold numerous times a day and bring in 400-500 per buyer. So add that up. Refer to Dept. of Homeland Security/Blue Campaign & PolarisProject

So is the crust that at risk emotional students are targets and this is organized or people taking advantage of a weaker person?

Oh it's organized - trafficking networks are just like the drug networks - the same in most cases. Hidden crime is hard to get at - but they utilize the venues, i.e. School grounds, malls, hotel industry, truck stops, outside shelters where they know there are runaways. And yes, those of us who don't think a lot of themselves, have ACE's, are still in dysfunctional places, who are in detention centers, who are on meds treating outward behavior, but not the underlying trauma, etc. Think about it, easier to prey on someone vulnerable, than someone with many protective factors in their life.

I am interested in the best resource to do community education?

So think partnering with businesses, law enforcement, child welfare agencies, etc. - to teach Human Trafficking 101 and about engaging youth & families to also educate them - rally them into taking ownership as well.

References:
Dept. of Homeland Security/Blue Campaign (lots of basic courses, access to already prepared material, PPT, etc.)
PolarisProject (same as above)

Brycs.org (focus on refugee services, so lots of info on community education)