

HUMAN TRAFFICKING

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development - Center for Faith Based and Neighborhood Partnerships



HUD Center for Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships developed this fact sheet on human trafficking. Though HUD has no enforcement authority or program responsibility in this area, the Center is sharing this information to raise awareness about the issue. You and members of your community can play an important role in identifying and ending human trafficking. To ensure your safety and the safety of possible victims, contact a service provider or law enforcement official – do not undertake investigations on your own. Any questions or requests for assistance should be directed to the Immigration and Customs Enforcement Homeland Security Investigations (ICE HIS) Tip Line at: 866-347-2423.

HOW TO RECOGNIZE THE SIGNS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

The following is a list of red flags or indicators that will help you recognize human trafficking:

- Shows signs of physical and/or sexual abuse, physical restraint, confinement, or torture
- Is fearful, anxious, depressed, submissive, tense, or nervous/paranoid especially after bringing up law enforcement
- Is not allowed or able to speak for themselves (a third party may insist on being present and/or translating)
- Has few or no personal possessions
- Has numerous inconsistencies in his/her story
- Is not in control of his/her own identification documents (ID or passport)
- Claims of just visiting and inability to clarify where he/she is staying/address

WHAT IS HUMAN TRAFFICKING?

Human trafficking is considered a modern day form of slavery and a crime against humanity. According to the United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime, human trafficking is the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring, or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability, for the purpose of exploiting them.¹

WHO IS AFFECTED BY HUMAN TRAFFICKING?

Over 900,000 people in the United States became victims of this crime last year. And each year, approximately 300,000 American children are forced into slavery. Human trafficking is a crime against humanity, and there are 27 million slaves living in the world today. Every country in the world is affected by trafficking, whether as a country of origin, transit, or destination for victims.²

HOW CAN I HELP?

Listed below are the steps you can take to end this crime against humanity.

- Report suspicious activity to law enforcement Immigration and Customs Enforcement Homeland Security Investigations (ICE HIS) Tip Line at: 866-347-2423 or report online at www.ice.gov/tips
- Promote awareness by educating yourself and your community on the basic signs of human trafficking mentioned above.
- Generate awareness by distributing this flyer and obtaining the "Blue Campaign" Anti-Human Trafficking materials from the Department of Homeland Security www.dhs.gov/humantrafficking
- Partner with your community to support victims by calling the National Human Trafficking Resource Center at 888-373-7888. This hotline will help victims safely and securely rebuild by connecting them to basic services related to immediate shelter, food, health and dental care, legal and immigration services.



RESOURCES

- Department of State, Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons <http://www.state.gov/j/tip/>
- Department of Justice, Anti-Human Trafficking Task Force Initiative https://www.bja.gov/ProgramDetails.aspx?Program_ID=51
- Department of Justice, Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section
- Department of Justice, National Criminal Justice Reference Service
- Department of Justice, Office for Victims of Crime
- Department of Justice, Office of Legal Policy
- Federal Bureau of Investigation
- Department of Health and Human Services
- Department of Labor
- United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
- United Nations Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

- National Human Trafficking Resource Center at 888-373-7888
- Dalit Freedom Network, www.dalitnetwork.org
- End Slavery Now, www.endslaverynow.com
- Stop Modern Slavery, www.stopmodernslavery.org
- Prevent Human Trafficking, www.preventhumantrafficking.org
- Polaris Project, www.polarisproject.org



Citations:

¹ United Nations Convention Against Transitional Organized Crime and the Protocols There To, 2004; United Nations, NY

² Human Trafficking Awareness Council; <http://www.thextremesolutions.com/hta/home.html>



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