How to get help or report suspicious activity

If you know someone is being trafficked or sexually exploited, please call your local police department or 911.

To report a tip or get information, call:

National Human Trafficking Hotline

1-888-3737-888

or

Text INFO or HELP to 233733

This national hotline is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. All calls are free and confidential.

Kansas Human Trafficking Information and Referral

1-800-828-9745

Available 8 a.m. – 5 p.m., Monday– Friday

People of every age, gender, ethnicity and class, from any country, can be trafficked.

Resources and Publications

Raise awareness and learn more about human trafficking:

Office of Kansas Attorney General Derek Schmidt
Victims Services Division
www.ag.ks.gov

U.S. Department of State
Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons
www.state.gov/j/tip

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Office on Trafficking in Persons
https://www.acf.hhs.gov/otip

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Immigration and Customs Enforcement
https://www.ice.gov/investigations/human-trafficking

U.S. Department of Justice
www.justice.gov/crt/about/crm/htpu.php

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Investigative Programs, Crimes Against Children
www.fbi.gov/hq/cid/cac/crimesmain.htm

Polaris Project
www.polarisproject.org

Shared Hope International
www.sharedhope.org

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
www.unodc.org/unodc/en/human-trafficking/

National Center for Missing and Exploited Children
www.missingkids.org

Report Suspicious Activity to the Kansas Bureau of Investigation

- Call (800) KS-CRIME.
- Report online at www.kbi.ks.gov/sar or scan the QR code with your phone.

July 2021

Human Trafficking

A modern form of slavery

OFFICE OF KANSAS ATTORNEY GENERAL DEREK SCHMIDT
(785) 291-3950 • (800) 828-9745 (toll-free)
www.ag.ks.gov

What is human trafficking?

Human trafficking, a modern form of slavery, is one of the largest and fastest-growing criminal industries in the world. It is based on recruiting, harboring and transporting people for the purpose of exploitation.

More than 80 percent of human trafficking involves domestic victims, and the majority of these are children. That means most trafficking in Kansas involves local children. They may be lured, forced or coerced into sex or labor exploitation. The U.S. Justice Department has identified Kansas as an originating state for human trafficking.

Sex trafficking is a lucrative practice and involves any form of sexual exploitation such as prostitution, pornography or commercial sexual entertainment such as stripping or commercial sexual abuse. All sexually exploited children are victims even if no force or coercion is present.

Through the Internet, interactive video games, blogs and chat rooms, traffickers target children because they are vulnerable, gullible and there is a market for young victims. Studies show traffickers prey on children who are an average of 12-13 years old.

Labor trafficking can be found in a wide range of businesses and homes where men, women or children work as indentured servants.

Combating human trafficking

Kansas has adopted laws that seek to protect and rescue human trafficking victims – especially children. Kansas now has increased penalties and put in place other measures to enhance the prosecution of traffickers and buyers in a comprehensive effort to reduce sexual exploitation and other trafficking statewide.

Kansas Human Trafficking Laws

Human trafficking includes, "recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision or obtaining a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud or coercion for the purpose of subjecting the person to involuntary servitude or forced labor."

K.S.A. 21-5426(a)

Aggravated human trafficking includes "recruiting, harboring, transporting, providing or obtaining, by any means, a person under 18 years of age … **with or without** force, fraud or threat or coercion … to engage in forced labor, involuntary servitude or sexual gratification…"

K.S.A. 21-5426(b)

Commercial sexual exploitation of a child includes knowingly "hiring a person younger than 18 years of age … to engage in [selling sexual relations or other sexual exploitation]." It also includes knowingly "establishing, owning, maintaining or managing any property … where sexual relations are being sold … by a person younger than 18 years of age."

K.S.A. 21-6422

Recognizing a victim of human trafficking

- Are there multiple people living in one space?
- Are people living with their employer or at their job site?
- Are there bruises or other signs of physical abuse?
- Is the person submissive, depressive or fearful?
- Is there evidence of inability to move or leave a job?
- Are minors not in class during school hours?
- Does a minor have a "boyfriend" who is noticeably older?
- Does the person show signs of drug addiction?
- Does the minor refer to sexual situations that are not age-appropriate?
- Is the person inappropriately dressed for the weather?
- Is the person accompanied by someone who seems controlling?
- Does the person appear hungry or malnourished?
- Are there sudden changes in attire, behavior or material possessions?

This is not a comprehensive list of all signs of human trafficking, nor are all adults or children who exhibit these signs victims of human trafficking. The list is intended to prompt further exploration to determine if human trafficking is occurring.