

### **Common Myths About Human Trafficking**

**Myth:** Human trafficking requires an International or state border crossing.

**Fact:** No movement is required for a situation to be considered "trafficking."

**Myth:** Smuggling is a required element of the human trafficking definition.

**Fact:** Smuggling is not required, but a person who is smuggled may also be a victim of human trafficking.

**Myth:** Human trafficking victims are always foreign nationals.

**Fact:** Victims may be U.S. citizens, foreign nationals, or undocumented persons.

**Myth:** Trafficking victims must be kidnapped and/or restrained physically.

**Fact:** Trafficking victims may be threatened or manipulated into compliance, but do not necessarily have to be physically restrained or locked up.

**Myth:** Only girls are victims of child sex trafficking.

**Fact:** Anyone can be a victim: boys, girls, and transgender people of all races.

**Myth:** Human trafficking only occurs in illegal underground industries.

**Fact:** Trafficking can occur in legal and legitimate business settings as well. Human trafficking has been reported in business markets such as restaurants, hotels, and manufacturing plants, as well as underground markets such as commercial sex in residential brothels and street based commercial sex.

If you are in Ulster County and identify a youth who is being trafficked or is at risk, please contact:

### **National Human Trafficking Resource Hotline**

**1-888-373-7888**

### **Crime Victims Assistance Program**

5 Pearl Street  
Kingston NY 12401  
Phone: 845-340-3443  
TTY: Available Upon Request  
**HOTLINE: 845-340-3442**

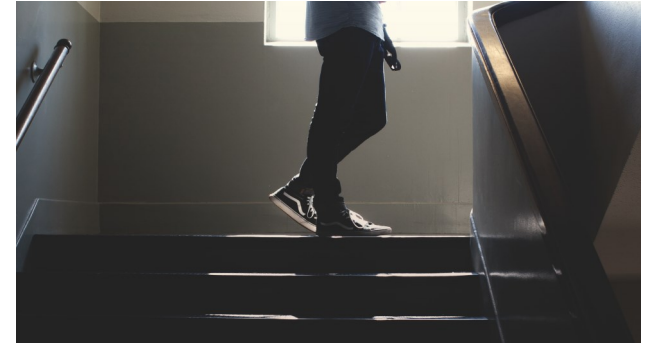
### **FAMILY of Woodstock, Inc.**

39 John Street  
P.O. Box 3516  
Kingston, NY 12402  
(845) 331-7080  
**HOTLINE: 845-679-2485 or 845-338-2370**

If you believe a youth is in immediate danger, promptly call 9-1-1

DO NOT INTERVENE directly or confront individuals you believe to be traffickers, as this may endanger you or the victim involved.

## **Ulster County Safe Harbour Program**



The Ulster County Safe Harbour Program offers supportive and rehabilitative services to all youth under the age of 18 who have been trafficked or are at risk of being trafficked.

Services include food, clothing, shelter, medical care, crisis intervention, educational & vocational counseling, and legal services.

**Ulster County Safe Harbour**  
**1091 Development Court**  
**Kingston, NY 12401**  
**(845) 340-3927**



Michael P. Hein, County Executive  
Michael A. Iapoce, Commissioner Social Services

## **Safe Harbour For Exploited Children Act (2008)**

Defines a sexually exploited child as any person under 18 years of age who has been subject to sexual exploitation as a result of their loitering for the purposes of prostitution or their engagement in an offer to exchange sexual conduct in return for food, clothing, a place to stay, drugs, or a fee. Forms of commercial sexual exploitation of children can include images of sexual abuse (pornography), exotic dance or performance, cyber-enticement, sex tourism, and domestic minor sex trafficking. Safe Harbour law defines children who are involved in these crimes as victims, not perpetrators.

## **NYS Definition For Labor Trafficking**

Compelling or inducing another to engage in labor, or recruiting, enticing, harboring or transporting another by providing drugs, withholding or destroying government documents, debt servicing, force, or a plan or pattern of coercive conduct.

## **Trafficking Indicators**

*(Not all indicators listed are present in every trafficking situation, and the presence or absence of any indicator is not necessarily proof of trafficking.)*

### **SEX TRAFFICKING**

- »Youth is under the age of 18 and engaged in commercial sex, regardless of force, fraud, or coercion.
- »Youth feels they must provide commercial sex in exchange for money, housing or other necessities.
- »Has a history of multiple runaways or AWOLS, or any episodes of child homelessness.
- »Photos of the youth have been placed online for advertising purposes.
- »Youth presents with an inexplicable appearance of excessive cash, expensive gifts, clothing, or other costly items.
- »Is in a controlling relationship or has visible signs of physical abuse such as bruising, scars, or hearing loss.
- »Has tattoos or markings indicating ownership or control by another Individual.
- »Has a history of untreated sexually transmitted diseases.
- »Youth frequently stays at or is seen at hotels/motels.
- »Shows signs of or admits to substance abuse or gang involvement

*One in six runaways in 2014 were likely sex trafficking victims and 68% of these likely victims were in the care of social services or foster care when they ran. (NCMEC)*

## **Trafficking Indicators**

*(Not all indicators listed are present in every trafficking situation, and the presence or absence of any indicator is not necessarily proof of trafficking.)*

### **LABOR TRAFFICKING**

- »Youth references employment scams or physical/sexual/psychological abuse by employers.
- »Youth works unusually long hours or works instead of attending school.
- »Was required to pay a recruitment fee for their job.
- »Is not paid, is paid very little or someone takes all or part of the money he/she earned.
- »Is accompanied by a controlling person or boss; cannot or will not speak on their own behalf.
- »Presents with bruises, is depressed, fearful or overly submissive.
- »Is transported to or from work; lives and works in the same place.
- »Lacks control over personal schedule, money, I.D., travel documents.
- »Has been threatened with deportation or law enforcement action.
- »He/she wants to leave his/her job, but can't.

*The International Labor Organization estimates that 5.5 million children are in forced labor worldwide. In 2014 alone, the National Human Trafficking Resource Center received nearly 150 reports of child labor across the United States.*