The Search KC

Human Trafficking
“Trafficking in persons” shall mean the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring 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 or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation. Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs.

*** Palermo Protocol
What is the Palermo Protocol

Adopted by a number of countries to combat human trafficking in country or across borders

Covers:

Terms, criminalization, training/education, protections for survivors/victims, border measures and other topics

Secretary General of the United Nations is ‘in charge’ of the protocol
Types of Human Trafficking

**Sex trafficking**
- Escort Services
- Residential
- Outdoor Solicitation

**Labor Trafficking**
- Domestic work
- Agriculture/trades
- Peddling and begging

**Sex and Labor Trafficking**
- Massage parlors, bars, strip clubs, pornography
The 3 Elements of Trafficking...

1. The act (what is done) 'Recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring, or receipt of persons';

2. The means (how it is done) '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 or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person';

3. The purpose (why it is done) 'For the purpose of exploitation... Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs' (Note there is no requirement for the purpose to have been achieved, so a person who is rescued before exploitation occurs is still a victim of trafficking).
But I heard...

Common perceptions about trafficking include:

- Kidnapping
- Only girls and women
- Not that common
- Victimless
- Only sex trafficking
How does someone get trafficked?

Sex Trafficking
- Intimate Partner
- Familial
- Posing as a benefactor
- Job Offer
- False Promises

Labor Trafficking
- False promise/fraud
- Smuggling related
- Familial
- Posing as a benefactor

No matter how it starts, Human Trafficking is at its core, an EXPLOITATION of one or more VULNERABILITY factors.

Sorted by total percentage highest first
Who is involved in Human Trafficking?

Anyone can experience human trafficking.
What are vulnerabilities/risk factors

- Being in Foster care
- LGBTQ
- Loneliness
- Abuse in the home
- Missing persons
- Mental Illness
- Sexually/Physically abused
- Recent migration or immigration
- Homelessness
- Kids who feel misunderstood
- Don’t have stable living environments
- History of domestic/sexual violence

Once they build the trust of a vulnerable person or someone in desperate circumstances, it becomes much easier to start to coerce them. This is a very different reality than traffickers finding random strangers to kidnap off the streets.

Native American women are at particular risk. In 2016, a reported 506 Native American women disappeared or were killed in American cities. In Phoenix, another of the top trafficking jurisdictions in the US, it was estimated that 40% of sex trafficking victims in 2015 were Native American.
Top 5

Risk factors:
- Recent migration/relocation
- Substance use
- Runaway/Homeless youth
- Mental health concern
- Involvement with child welfare system

Methods-force/coercion/fraud:
- Isolation (includes confinement)
- Emotional Abuse
- Economic Abuse
- Threats (any)
- Physical Abuse (non-sexual)
Where it takes place...
Pornography is trafficking when it features children or adults who participate under circumstances of force, fraud, or coercion (even if they started voluntarily!)

More visible but less seen places it takes place
Average age of entry into commercial sexual exploitation in the U.S. is 11-14 years old.
What does that mean in Kansas City?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN KANSAS CITY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>These numbers were provided by organizations in the Kansas City area. Minor and adult victims are identified by these organizations every year.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some data was unavailable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some overlap among agencies may occur when the same individual is identified and/or receives services from multiple agencies. Therefore, these numbers should not be understood as an actual count of victims. Additional victims are served or identified by agencies not represented here. Many victims are not identified nor do they receive services.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Children’s Mercy Hospital Youth Trust</strong></td>
<td>2 victims</td>
<td>17 victims</td>
<td>29 victims</td>
<td>39 victims</td>
<td>62 minor victims</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Stop Trafficking Project</strong></td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>3 victims</td>
<td>41 victims</td>
<td>22 victims as of 5/4/19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>National Human Trafficking Hotline - MO</strong></td>
<td>5 victims</td>
<td>10 victims</td>
<td>11 victims</td>
<td>11 victims</td>
<td>15 minor victims</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>National Human Trafficking Hotline - KS</strong></td>
<td>23 minor victims, 44 adult victims, 381 calls</td>
<td>57 minor victims, 83 adult victims, 419 calls</td>
<td>41 minor victims, 84 adult victims, 420 calls</td>
<td>24 minor victims, 35 adult victims, 138 calls</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rended Heart</strong></td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>0 minor victims, 9 adult victims, 20 calls</td>
<td>5 minor victims, 43 adult victims, 221 calls</td>
<td>9 minor victims, 78 adult victims, 410 calls, 492 victims identified</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Restoration House</strong></td>
<td>14 victims, 20 calls</td>
<td>12 victims, 44 calls</td>
<td>16 victims, 81 calls</td>
<td>16 victims, 119 calls</td>
<td>6 victims, 92 calls as of 5/3/19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>The Justice Project</strong></td>
<td>2 minor victims, 20 adult victims</td>
<td>1 minor victim, 10 adult victims</td>
<td>3 minor victims, 6 adult victims</td>
<td>4 minor victims, 20 adult victims</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Veronica's Voice - residential &amp; nonresidential services</strong></td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>2 adult victims</td>
<td>44 adult victims</td>
<td>125 adult victims</td>
<td>72 adult victims</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Recognizing the Signs

- Does they appear disconnected from family, friends, community organizations, or houses of worship?
- Has a child stopped attending school?
- Has they had a sudden or dramatic change in behavior?
- Is the person disoriented or confused, or showing signs of mental or physical abuse?
- Does they have bruises in various stages of healing?
- Is the person fearful, timid, or submissive?
- Is the person often in the company of someone to whom they defers? Or someone who seems to be in control of the situation, e.g., where they go or who they talk to?
- Does they appear to be coached on what to say?
- Are they living in unsuitable conditions/unstable living situation?
- Does they lack personal possessions?
- Does they have freedom of movement? Can they freely leave where they live? Are there unreasonable security measures?
What to do when you notice the signs

Local Resources:

- Veronica’s Voice - (816) 483-7101 or (913) 214-1401
- Rended Heart - 816.343-4558
- Restoration House - (816) 793-0500
- KCAVP (LGBTQ specific) - info@kcavp.org

National Human Trafficking Hotline

1-888-373-7888  •  Text "BEFREE" or "HELP" to 233733  •  Chat or email help@humantraffickinghotline.org