 SERVICES FOR VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

- SHELTER
- CASE MANAGEMENT
- ADVOCACY
- THERAPEUTIC SERVICES
  Including restorative yoga, mindfulness, animal-assisted therapy, and other evidence-based treatments, such as EMDR and cognitive behavior therapy.
- EDUCATION AND AWARENESS
  On addiction, codependency, the dynamics of human trafficking, healthy relationships, job readiness, and life skills.

IDENTIFYING A TRAFFICKER

Traffickers prey on the vulnerabilities of their victims. They may promise jobs, adventure, and/or a secure relationship to lure victims into trafficking. Traffickers may be:

ANY GENDER OR ANY AGE
FOREIGN NATIONALS OR US CITIZENS
SINGLE INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS OF PEOPLE
FAMILY MEMBERS, INTIMATE PARTNERS, FRIENDS OR STRANGERS

RESOURCES

MISSISSIPPI
The Center for Violence Prevention
800-266-4198 | 601-932-4198 | www.mscvp.org
@msc4vp
The Center For Violence Prevention

NATIONAL
Polaris Project
888-3737-888 | www.polarisproject.org

FOREIGN NATIONAL
Tapestri
800-317-3733 | www.tapestri.org

INTRODUCING
THE CENTER FOR VIOLENCE PREVENTION'S
THE TOWER

The Tower provides trauma-informed mid to long term care for victims. Through our multi-disciplinary professional and community partnerships, The Tower will work to achieve victim safety, recovery, and restoration.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN MISSISSIPPI

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MISSISSIPPI HUMAN TRAFFICKING ACT

The Mississippi Human Trafficking Act, found at Mississippi Code Section 97-3-54 through 97-3-54.9, pertains to forced labor and forced commercial sexual activity of both minors and adults.

LABOR TRAFFICKING
The recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery.

SEX TRAFFICKING
Occurs when someone uses force, fraud, or coercion to cause a commercial sex act with an adult or induces a minor to perform a commercial sex act.

A minor’s consent to his or her involvement is not a defense to the crime. Miss. Code § 97-3-54.1(1)(c).

There is no statute of limitations for prosecuting human trafficking offenses. Miss. Code § 99-1-5.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING IS A FORM OF MODERN DAY SLAVERY

“Traffickers” and “facilitators” are those people who recruit, enable, assist, or benefit from the sexual exploitation of another person for monetary or other non-monetary gain. Miss. Code § 97-3-54.1(1)(a). Facilitators—those who assist, enable, or financially benefit from sex trafficking—are subject to the same penalties as traffickers. This means that “johns” can be punished to the same extent that pimps are punished.

The punishment for human trafficking of a minor is five to 20 years in prison and/or a fine of $20,000 to $100,000. If the victim is older than 18, the punishment is two to 20 years in prison and/or a fine of $10,000 to $100,000.

A minor’s consent to his or her involvement is not a defense to the crime. Miss. Code § 97-3-54.1(1)(c).

The defendant’s belief the minor was over 18 is not a defense to the crime. Miss. Code § 97-3-54.1(1)(c).

A minor involved in prostitution related activity as a direct result of being trafficked is immune from prosecution. Miss. Code §§ 97-29-49(4), 97-29-51(3).

RED FLAGS FOR HUMAN TRAFFICKING

- Not free to leave or come and go
- Under 18 and providing commercial sex acts
- In commercial sex industry and has pimp/madam
- Unpaid, paid very little, or paid only through tips
- Not in control of his/her own money, and/or has no financial records, or bank account
- Works excessively long/unusual hours
- Not allowed breaks/suffers unusual restrictions at work
- Lack control over documents/pay
- Overcrowded/substandard living conditions

TEEN VICTIMS

Common red flags for teen victims include: a significantly older boyfriend, travel with an older male (not guardian), chronic runaway, multiple delinquency charges, homelessness, and/or substance abuse.

DEFINING:

FORCE
physical abuse, sexual assault, or confinement.

FRAUD
false promises of work or living conditions, withholding money, or a better life.

COERCION
threats, debt-bondage, psychological manipulation, or document confiscation.

GET THE FACTS:

The International Labour Organization estimates that there are 20.9 million victims of human trafficking globally.

Through our partnership with the Central Mississippi Human Trafficking Task Force, The Tower will offer screening, assistance, and rapid response when appropriate.