

# SAFE HARBOR

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# HUMAN TRAFFICKING

A form of modern day slavery where traffickers use force, fraud, or coercion to control victims to engage in commercial sex acts or labor services against his/her will.

## **Sex trafficking**

Has been found in a wide variety of venues within the sex industry, including: residential brothels, escort services, fake massage businesses, strip clubs, & prostitution.

## **Labor trafficking**

Has been found in diverse labor settings including, domestic work, small businesses, large farms, and factories.



## THE SCOPE OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

- Human trafficking is a multi-billion a year international enterprise that forces the most vulnerable among us into the horrors of modern-day slavery.
- Criminals who are involved in trafficking other human beings prey upon those already at risk in our society, often our children.
- Nationally, over 100,000 children are involved in the sex trade.
- In Ohio, the most common age for youth to become victims of sex trafficking is 13.

# HUMAN TRAFFICKING MYTHBUSTER

Common Myths about Human Trafficking Debunked  
www.LIRS.org/etn

**myth**  
Human trafficking is just another word for prostitution



**worldwide**  
4.5 million people are trafficked into sex work  
16.4 million people suffer from other forced labor

78% sex trafficking  
22% other forced labor

COMMON TYPES OF LABOR TRAFFICKED IN THE U.S.

- DOMESTIC SERVICE
- FARM WORK
- FACTORY WORK

**myth**  
Human trafficking isn't an issue in the United States



According to recent State Department numbers, approx. **17,500** foreign nationals are trafficked into the U.S. ANNUALLY though many estimates put the number MUCH HIGHER

Additionally, over **100,000** (approx. population of BURBANK, CA) U.S. CITIZEN CHILDREN are exploited through sex trafficking in any given year **WITHOUT** crossing any borders\*

**THE STATE DEPT.** identifies the U.S. as a **SOURCE, TRANSIT & FACT DESTINATION** country for trafficked people\*\*

**myth**  
Only adults are trafficked



The average age of entry into the **U.S. SEX TRADE**

**12-14**  
YEARS OLD



**11-13**  
YEARS OLD



Globally, **26%** of all people trafficked are **CHILDREN**

74% trafficked children  
26% trafficked adults



Children migrating to the U.S. **ALONE** are especially vulnerable to trafficking\*\*

\* Polaris Project, International Labor Office  
 \*\* Polaris Project, Shared Hope International  
 \*\*\* Department of Homeland Security, State Department  
 \*\*\*\* International Labor Office



STAND for WELCOME  
LIRS Advocacy with Migrants and Refugees

## Human Traffickers:

- Lure people into forced labor and sex trafficking by manipulating and exploiting their vulnerabilities.
- Prey on people who are hoping for a better life, lack employment opportunities, have an unstable home life, or have a history of sexual or physical abuse.
- Promise a high-paying job, a loving relationship, or new and exciting opportunities and then use physical and psychological violence to control them.
- Work alone or part of extensive criminal networks, with common thread of exploiting people for profit.

TRAFFICKERS EXPLOIT OTHERS FOR THE PROFIT GAINED FROM FORCED LABOR AND COMMERCIAL SEX.

## HUMAN TRAFFICKING VICTIMS: WHO ARE THEY?

### ***THERE is no single profile for trafficking victims!***

- ❑ Trafficking victims are adults & minors in rural, suburban, & urban communities, in every state in the US.
- ❑ Victims: diverse SES; varied levels of education; documented or undocumented.
- ❑ Traffickers target victims using tailored methods of recruitment and control they find to be effective in compelling a person into forced labor or commercial sex.



**50%**  
are children



# OHIO STATISTICS

- A 2010 Ohio Attorney General Trafficking in Persons Study Commission Report estimated that more than 1,000 minors are sex trafficked in Ohio annually.
- A follow-up study released in 2012 surveyed more than 300 women involved in the sex trade in five Ohio cities and asked when and how they were recruited and surveyed their experiences.
  - The study revealed that 35 percent of these women were sex trafficked as minors, and were most often recruited at some point by a female who was also involved in selling herself or who first acted like a friend.
  - Those who were sex trafficked as children reported having experienced child abuse and neglect, having a close family member involved in the sex trade, suffering depression, being raped, having difficulty in school and being in proximity of those who bought or sold others for sex.
  - The biggest risk factor associated with a child recruited into sex trafficking was having a history of running away from home.
    - Sixty-three percent of those who were sex trafficked as minors reported having run away one or more times before they were trafficked.

# WHY OHIO?

- Interstate highway system
- Many truck stops
- Within a days drive to major cities
- Rising immigration population
- Agricultural Industry
- Many strip clubs
- High unemployment rate
- High poverty rate



## OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE: WARNING SIGNS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

- If you are going into a nail salon, for example, look for sleeping bags that indicate employees are living in the same place where they work and that backrooms appear to be living space.
  - When a worker answers casual questions, those answers seem scripted or rehearsed.
- Workers may appear exceptionally young or fearful or particularly submissive.
- If you are staying in a hotel or if you work at a hotel, you might see an older male checking in with a young female or females. You might see a young girl refer to that older man as her boyfriend or as "daddy," sometimes street slang for pimp. Look for a tattoo of a man's name, a slang name, or "daddy" on the girl's neck, leg, or shoulder. Does the guest have multiple cell phones, laptops, etc.?
- Are the guests at the hotel frequent customers on weekends, but have a local address and identification?
- Small children serving in a family restaurant.
- Security measures that appear to keep people inside an establishment - barbed wire inside of a fence, bars covering the insides of windows.
- Not allowing people to go into public alone, or speak for themselves.

**WHAT CAN YOU DO?**  
To prosecute those who are preying upon our vulnerable populations, report any about human trafficking to BCI by calling 1-855-BCI-OHIO (224-6446).



## OHIO LAW: R.C. 2905.32

Trafficking in persons is defined as to: knowingly recruit, lure, entice, isolate, harbor, transport, provide, obtain, or maintain, or knowingly attempt to do any of these things, to a person knowing that the person will be either be:

- (1) Subjected to involuntary servitude (labor trafficking); or
- (2) Compelled to engage in sexual activity for hire, engage in a performance that is obscene, sexually oriented, or nudity oriented, or be a mode or participant in the production of material that is obscene, sexually oriented, or nudity oriented (sex trafficking).

The Ohio statute explicitly defines "compulsion" in a trafficking in persons case as requiring that the victim's will was overcome by "force, fear, duress, or intimidation.



## OHIO SAFE HARBOR

- Created procedures for a **diversion program for juvenile trafficking victims**. R.C. 2151.021.
- Allows records of adult human trafficking victims to be expunged. R.C. §2953.38.
- Change a human trafficking charge to a first degree felony with a mandatory prison term of at least ten years in prison.
- Requires convicted human traffickers to register as sex offenders.
- Authorizes human trafficking victims to file a civil suit against their traffickers and receive compensatory and punitive damages for harm sustained as a result of their victimization. R.C. §2307.51.

## OHIO SAFE HARBOR: SUMMIT COUNTY JUVENILE COURT

### Restore Court:

A specialized docket that empowers juvenile victims of human trafficking & high risk youth.

The mission of Restore Court is to empower juvenile victims of human trafficking and those at high risk for trafficking to achieve successful lives by providing services and support through collaboration of caregivers, the community, and the court.



# RESTORE COURT



## The Program

Restore Court empowers juvenile victims of human trafficking and those at high risk to achieve successful lives. Participating in Restore Court means that the youth will have a team to work with and support their family through this season of involvement with the court. Youth will have access to **relationships, services, activities, and rewards** as they work toward their goals.

- The program consists of 3 phases- phase movement is determined by the youth's progress
- Participants set personal goals unique to their situation
- Participants graduate the program based on demonstrated ability and responsibility at home, school, and in the community with adherence to all Restore Court guidelines

Treatment requirements may include: counseling, substance abuse treatment (residential or intensive outpatient), mentoring, group work, education and employment assistance.

## Services

Restore Court believes in empowering the youth to change their circumstances through **collaborative action**. Participants in the program agree to meet regularly with...

- Judge Teodosio
- Program Coordinator
- Case Manager
- Intake Officer or Probation Officer (If Required)
- Guardian ad Litem (If Applicable)
- Counselor
- Mentor

## What is Restore Court?

A participant of Restore Court may qualify for one of the following tracks

**Safe Harbor Track**- For victims of human trafficking with charges related to victimization. Participants could be eligible to have their charges dismissed and immediately expunged upon graduation from the program.

**Traditional Track**- For those who do not qualify under Safe Harbor, but have been identified as a victim of human trafficking, or are at high risk to be trafficked.

**Statutory Diversion Track**

## Contact

Summit County Juvenile Court  
650 Dan Street  
Akron, Ohio 44310

Restore Court Coordinator  
Andrea Esowa  
alesowa@scjcourt.summitohio.net  
330-643-7471



# RESTORE COURT

In order for a juvenile to “qualify” for diversion:

- Defense must file a motion.
- State must either stipulate to eligibility: (that youth is a victim AND victimization is connected to the alleged charge) OR
- If State does not stipulate, Defense must put on a “qualification” hearing :
  - Defense must present witnesses and prove:
    - (1) juvenile is a victim of human trafficking and
    - (2) Connection/nexus between victimization and the charge alleged.

## PAY ATTENTION & REPORT



The life expectancy of a child from the day they are first exploited is 7 years.

*Bad things happen when good people do nothing.*