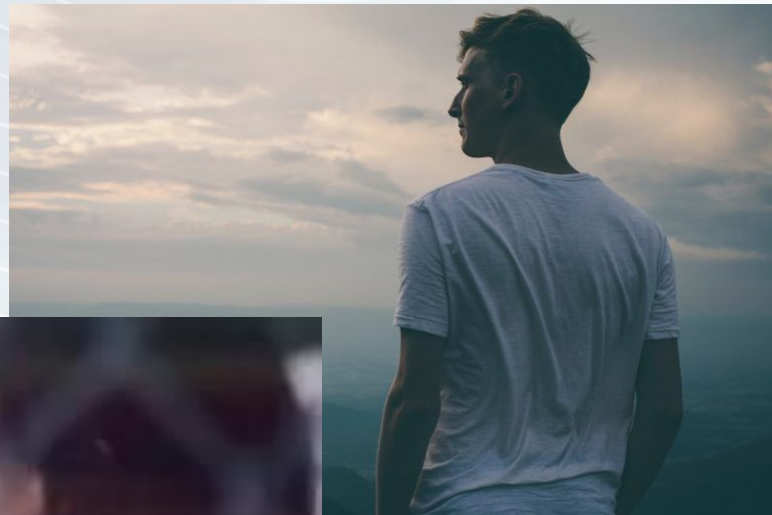


Intersections of Human Trafficking and Youth Homelessness

April 2024

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NC Department of Public Instruction
NC Homeless Education Program

Setting The Tone



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.

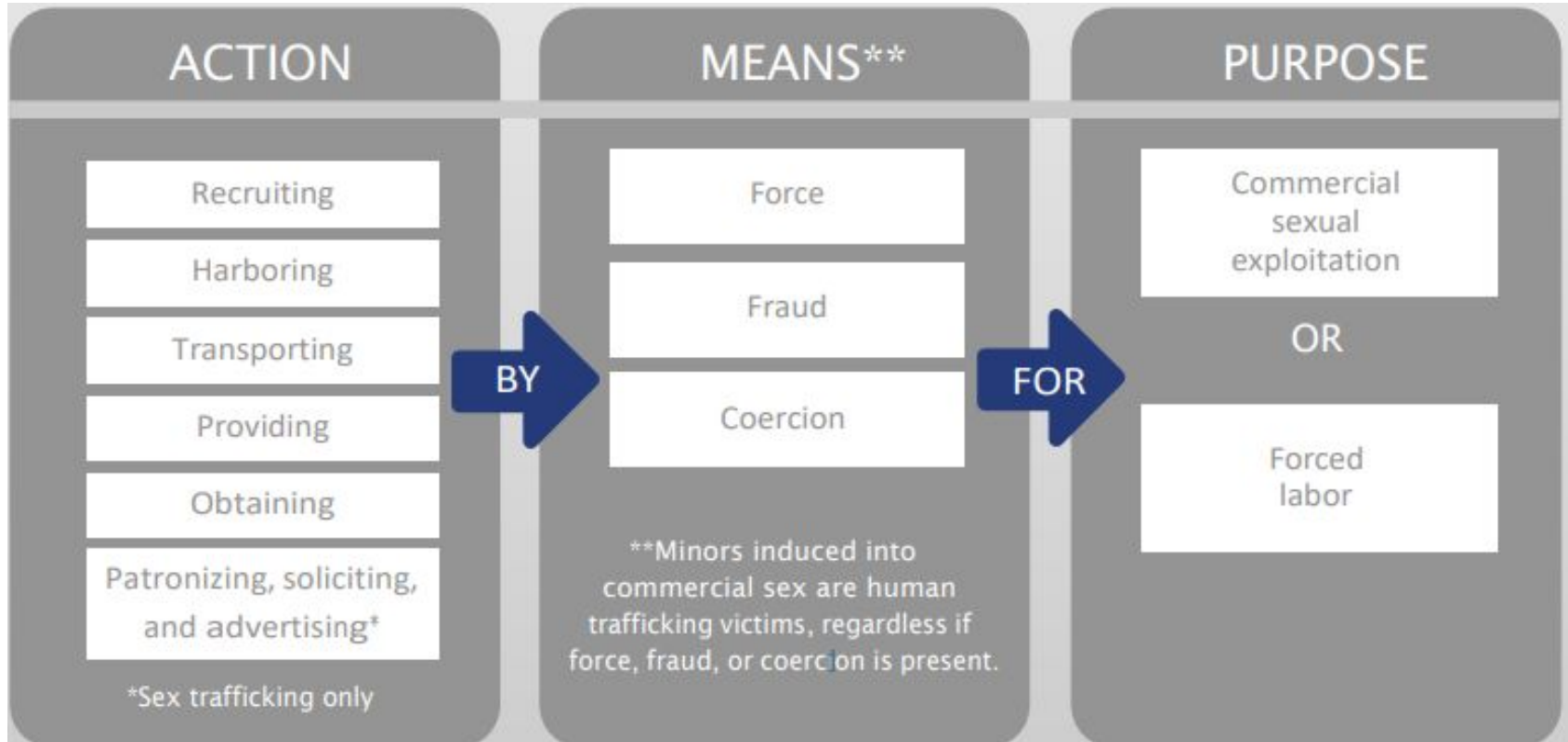
What Is Human Trafficking?

SEX TRAFFICKING

The recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for a commercial sex act induced by force, fraud, or coercion, OR in which person induced to perform such an act has not obtained 18 years of age.

The Two Types

What Is Human Trafficking?



Force

Power, violence, compulsion,
or constraint exerted upon or
against a person or thing.



Fraud

A false representation of a matter of fact—whether by words or by conduct, by false or misleading allegations, or by concealment of what should have been disclosed—that deceives and is intended to deceive so that the individual will act upon it to her or his legal injury.



Coercion

The intimidation of a victim to compel the individual to do some act against his or her will by the use of psychological pressure, physical force, or threats.



Forms of Force, Fraud, & Coercion

- Lack of mobility
- Debt bondage
- Document confiscation
- Recruitment fraud
- Lack of payment
- Long hours without reprieve
- Inability to walk away



US Human Trafficking

Cases Identified in 2021

10,360

cases were identified in 2021.



16,710

victims were involved in these cases. Cases can involve multiple victims.

Types of Trafficking

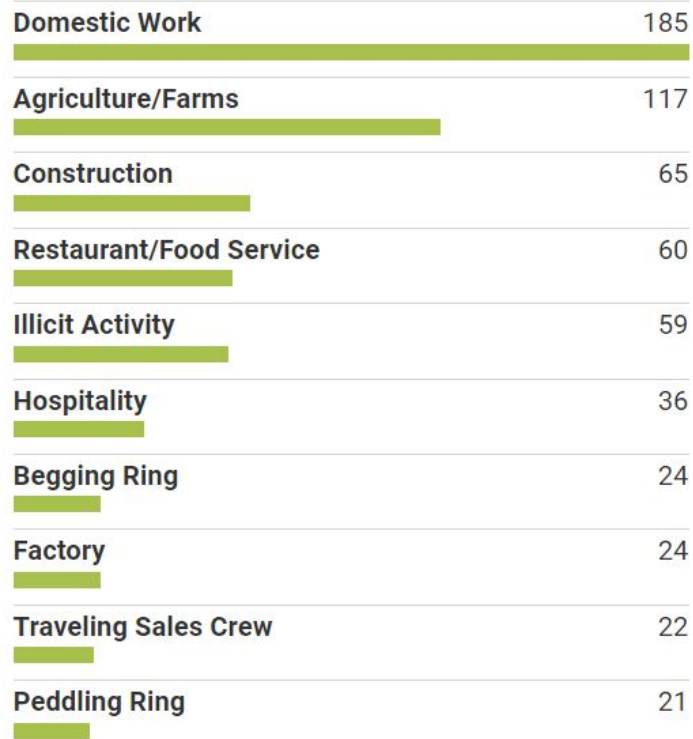


US Human Trafficking

Venues for Sex Trafficking



Venues for Labor Trafficking



NC Human Trafficking

Cases Identified in 2021



Types of Trafficking

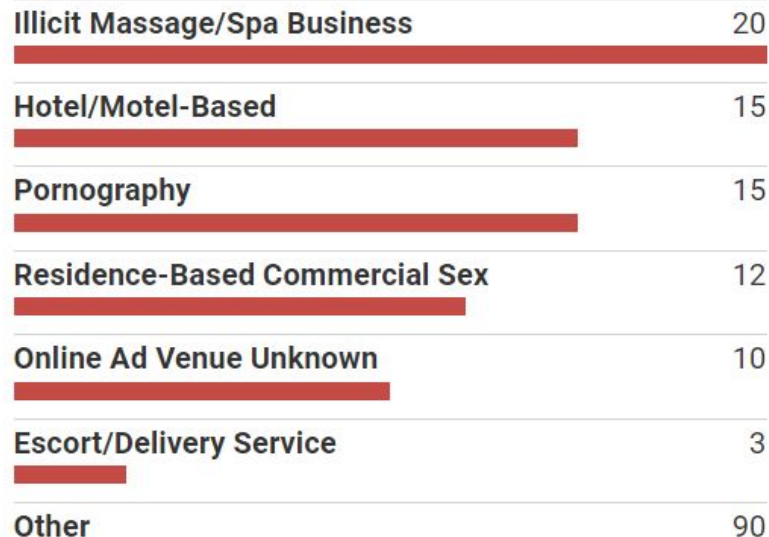


Ages

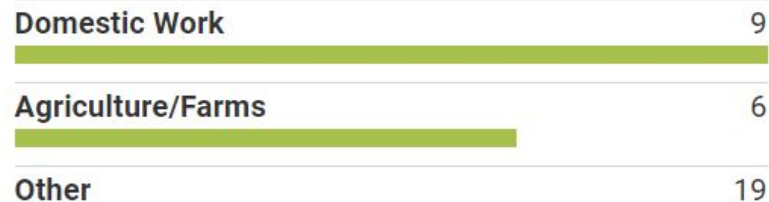


NC Human Trafficking

Venues for Sex Trafficking



Venues for Labor Trafficking



NC Human Trafficking

- In 2022 the state Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force received a total of 18, 873 Cybertips from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children -a 48% increase from the year 2021. This is a 383% increase since 2019.
- NC convicts 100% of the federal sex trafficking defendants (with imprisonment).
- Analyzing 3 years of data exploring the impact of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children within Mecklenburg County found that 64% of identified minors since 2020 were 15 years old or younger.

State Laws

Safe Harbor/Victims of Human Trafficking (GS 14.430-20)

GS 115C-81(e)(4a)

SL 2019-245

SL 2019-158

In NC, human trafficking of an adult constitutes a Class F felony for cases with adult victims and a Class C felony for cases with child victims.

Convictions carry sentences of jail time up to 19 years.



Is it Trafficking?

ACTION

Induce
Recruits
Harbors
Transports
Provides
Obtains

MEANS*

Force
Fraud
Coercion

PURPOSE

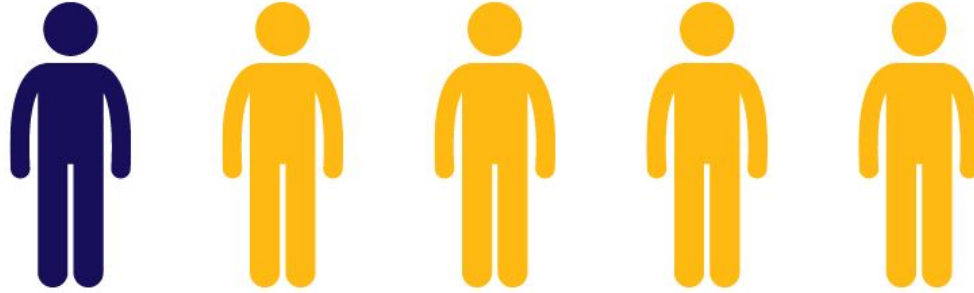
Commercial Sex
(Sex Trafficking)

Labor/Services
(Labor Trafficking)

*Minors induced into commercial sex are human trafficking victims, regardless if force, fraud, or coercion is present

Trafficking & Homelessness

Youth Experiencing Homelessness



One in five youth had been a victim of sex and labor trafficking or both

The Modern Slavery Research Project's reported that homeless youth have higher rates of primary risk factors for trafficking such as poverty, unemployment, and a history of sexual abuse or mental health issues and that those aging out of the foster care system faced high rates of sex (18 percent) and labor (10 percent) trafficking.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING ASSESSMENT FOR RUNAWAY & HOMELESS YOUTH

Recruitment of RHY

- Romance, love, & affection
- Friendships
- Gifts
- Physical violence
- Scams, advertisements, jobs
- Social media
- Parks, shelters, bus stops, malls



Sex Trafficking of Boys and Young Men

Researchers found that boys and young men are ignored, underreported, and underserved for a number of reasons, including the following:

- Unwillingness of boys to self-identify as sexually exploited due to shame and stigma
- Lack of appropriate screening and intake
- Limited outreach to areas and venues
- Oversimplification of the reality that boys are not generally



Homelessness as a Precursor to Trafficking

Survival Acts



Identifying Trafficking

Risk Factors

Make It Stick!

ABUSE



Physical



Emotional



Sexual

NEGLECT



Physical



Emotional

HOUSEHOLD DYSFUNCTION



Mental Illness



Incarcerated Relative



Mother treated violently



Substance Abuse



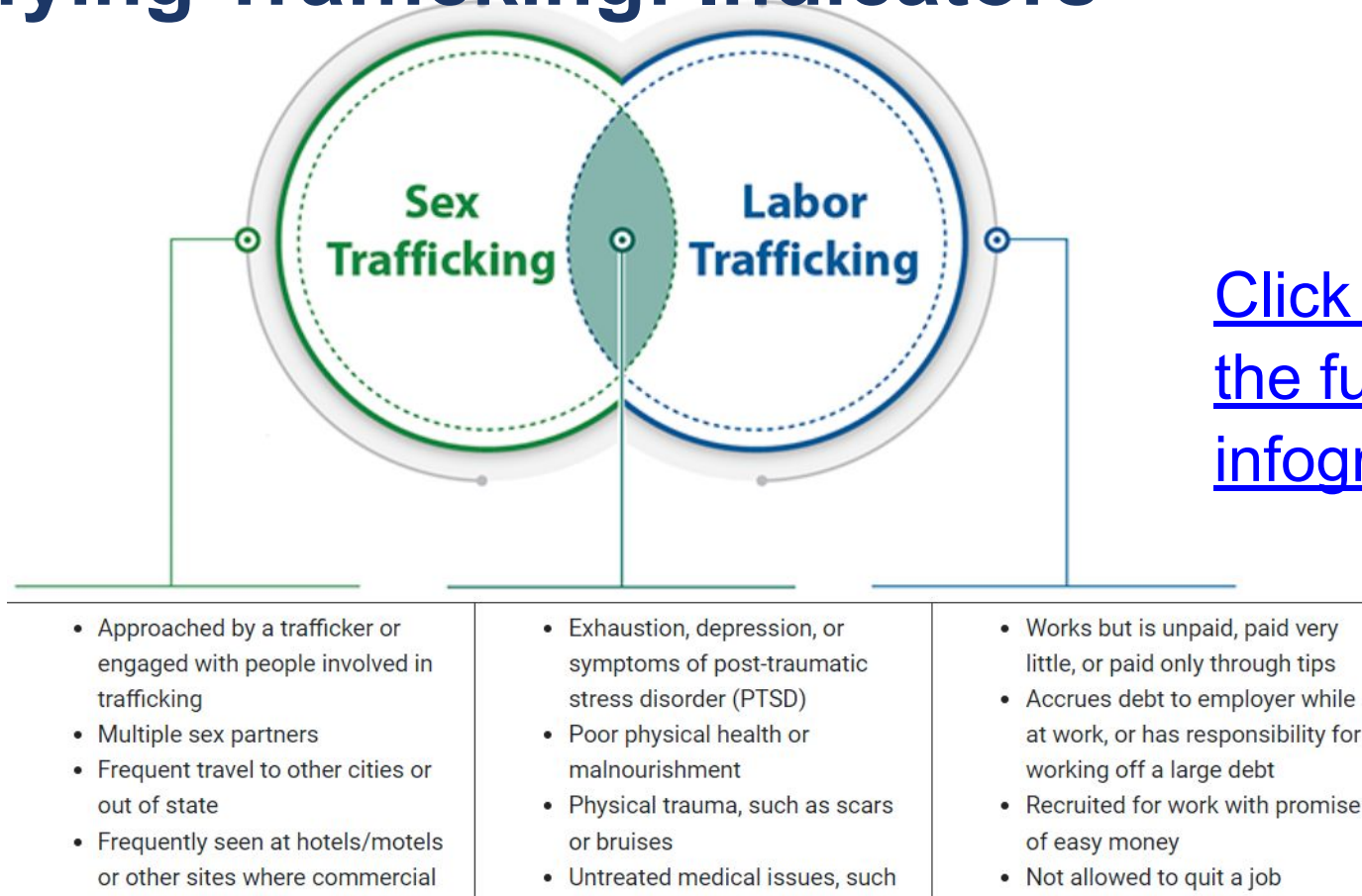
Divorce

Identifying Trafficking: Risk Factors

Identifying Trafficking: Risk Factors

- History of abuse or neglect
- History of sexual abuse
- Family involvement in illicit or illegal activities
- History with child welfare system
- Lack of support system or safety net
- Few or no employment options
- Job history
- Lack of stable housing
- Poverty or lack of opportunities
- Untreated mental illness
- Low cognitive functioning and learning disabilities
- Relationship history
- Emotional reasoning
- Substance abuse or dependence
- Immigration status
- Identification as LGBTQ

Identifying Trafficking: Indicators



[Click to see the full infographic](#)

Mandatory Reporting

North Carolina has several laws that require **any person** to make a report when they suspect, reasonably believe, know, or have reason to know a person is a victim or survivor of human trafficking.



Circumstances Requiring a Mandated Report

Mandated Report

A **juvenile** who is a victim or survivor of human trafficking

An **adult** who was a juvenile victim or survivor of human trafficking

A **disabled adult** who is in need of protective services and is a victim or survivor of human trafficking

A person who makes a report in good faith is immune from any civil or criminal liability, and good faith is presumed. G.S. 7B-309.

Response to a Report

Local DSS Process



Law Enforcement Process



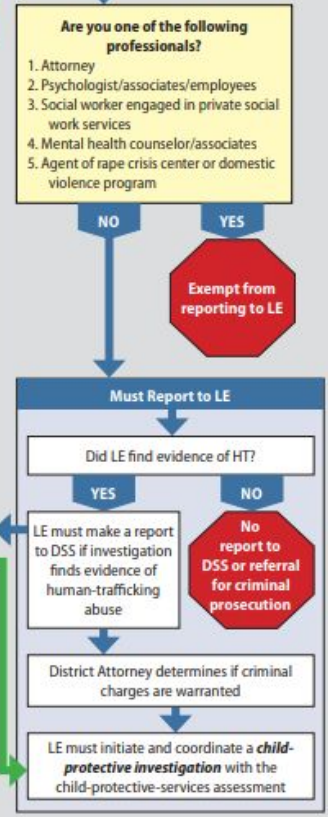
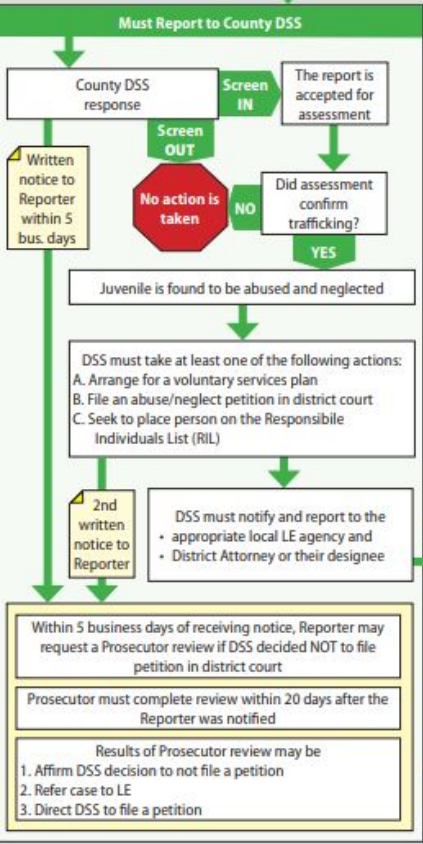
Case Examples

1. In the course of working with a 17-year-old student, you discover that they are a victim of sex or labor trafficking. Do you have to make a report, and if so, to which agency do you report?
2. You work with an adult woman who discloses that her live-in partner has exchanged her 12-year-old child for drugs. Do you have to make a report, and if so, to which agency do you report?
3. You work with an adult survivor of human trafficking. The survivor discloses that they are aware of two juveniles who are currently being trafficked. Do you have to make a report, and if so, to which agency do you report?

Mandated Reporting of Juvenile Victims or Survivors of Human Trafficking (HT) (Includes Sex or Labor Trafficking)

Any person or institution that has *cause to suspect* and that *knows or reasonably should have known* that the juvenile is a victim or survivor of HT reports to BOTH

Dept. of Social Services (DSS) Law Enforcement (LE)



Reporting Flowchart

NC Human Trafficking Commission



1 Thing

Share one thing that surprised you from this session or that you were reminded of.

Resources

- [Human Trafficking Handout for Parents from NC CFSS](#)
- [Human Trafficking Assessment For Runaway & Homeless Youth](#)
- [SOAR for School-Based Professionals](#)
- [Human Trafficking for RHY Serving Agencies](#)
- [Human Trafficking in America's Schools: What Schools Can Do to Prevent, Respond, and Help Students Recover from Human Trafficking](#)
- [Trafficking Prevention and Protection Resources for Working with Unaccompanied Children](#)
- [Screening and Assessment Tools and Practices for Runaway and Homeless Youth](#)



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