Human Trafficking

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Drug Enforcement Bureau
Human Exploitation and Trafficking Unit
The Phoenix Police Department recognizes & respects the inherent dignity of every member of our community regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation or resident status.

It is with this respect that the Phoenix Police Department aggressively investigates allegations of Human Trafficking.
Human Trafficking Statistics

- Estimated **27 million** victims of human trafficking globally
- Estimated **5.5 million** children trafficked around the world
- Estimated **14,500 to 17,500** trafficking victims in the United States every year.
- Estimated **$150B/Year Industry**
- Estimated **$99B** from Sexual Exploitation

Statistics from National Human Trafficking Hotline – operated by Polaris
What does Human Trafficking look like?

**Labor Trafficking** Includes:
- Construction
- Agricultural/Farm Work
- Factory/Manufacturing
- Domestic Servitude
- Cleaning Services,
- Restaurant/Hotel Work, etc.

**Sex Trafficking** Includes:
- Massage Parlors
- Brothels
- Strip Clubs
- Escort Services
- Street Prostitution, etc.
It is helpful to understand that there are many similarities in victimization between **DV or intimate partner violence** and sex trafficking.

Victims of sex trafficking and domestic violence tend to hide their situations and both victim groups are hesitant to disclose their victimization in medical or clinical settings.

Similarities between Domestic Violence & Sex Trafficking (Roe-Sepowitz, 2012)

- Secrecy
- Involvement of children as a tool
- Violence
- Dominance
- Rules
- Unexpected responses
- Relationship-based
- Power imbalance
- Grooming
- Traumatic events
- Financial control

ST only
- Culture (unique rules, language)
- Involvement of others who do not assist
- Always involves exploitation
- Always involves sex outside of the relationship
- Financial exploitation
Victimology

◊ What you think you know about human/sex trafficking victims is probably wrong
◊ Victims come from all demographics
◊ As a result of their TRAUMA they are fundamentally changed as a person
◊ How do they normalize the abnormal?
◊ Sense of Self
  ◊ Do not view themselves as victims
  ◊ Lying as Self-preservation
What are the risk factors for sex trafficking?

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<th>Childhood abuse</th>
<th>Parental alcohol and drug use</th>
<th>Domestic violence, neglect, or abandonment</th>
<th>Running away from home</th>
<th>Homelessness and economic need/poverty</th>
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WHO ARE THE VICTIMS?

While there is no commonly accepted profile for victims of minor sex trafficking, certain populations are more vulnerable than others.

HOMELESS, RUNAWAY, THROWAWAY, AND FOSTER CHILDREN ARE THE MOST VULNERABLE POPULATION OF YOUTH AT RISK FOR SEX TRAFFICKING

Adolescent boys and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered and queer/questioning (LGBTQ) can also be victims. According to a recently released study, boys make up almost half of the victim population.

The average age at which girls first become exploited through prostitution in Arizona is 14.9 years old.
Collaborative Process for Preventing and Treating Trafficked Youth

Collaborative Process on the coordination of:

- Identification
- Assessment
- Documentation
- Treatment
- Therapeutic interventions

From October 1, 2017 to date, we have had just under 300 Victims as part of this Process -
Structured Partnership

- Mercy Care
- Phoenix Police Department HEAT unit
- Phoenix Children’s Hospital
- St. Luke’s Observation and Services for Children and Adolescents Unit/ Inpatient
- Aurora Hospital Tempe location
- Mercy Care contracted Children’s Behavioral Health Homes
- Mingus Mountain and Devereux Behavioral Health inpatient facility
- Streetlight USA Behavioral Health Residential Facility and Group Home
Training/resources for educators

- Sex Trafficking 101 training, brochures and certification
- Class and schoolwide activities
- Educate students, increase awareness
- Classroom lesson plans
- Case studies with real life scenarios

✧ ASU Office of Sex Trafficking Intervention Research
  (https://socialwork.asu.edu/stir)
✧ McCain Institute
  (https://www.mccaininstitute.org/)
✧ Project STARFISH
  (http://projectstarfish.education/)
The ALERT program at the IRC assists foreign national victims of human trafficking by providing comprehensive case management in the areas of social, legal, psychological/psychiatric and health/medical. ALERT works in partnership with local law enforcement and The Department of Homeland Security in providing safety and security for identified victims.

Eligibility:
- Must be a *Foreign National* Victim of Human Trafficking
- Labor and/or Sex Trafficking
- Any Gender (Male, Female & Transgender)
- Any Age (Minors and Adults)
The goals for the CAUSE task force are to:

1. Enhance and strengthen the multidisciplinary human trafficking task force implementing victims-centered trauma-informed collaborative and sustainable approaches;
2. More effectively identify victims of all types of human trafficking;
3. Investigate and prosecute all forms of trafficking cases;
4. Address the individualized needs of victims through a comprehensive array of quality services; and
5. Conduct professionalized training and outreach to fellow law enforcement, service providers, stakeholders, and the greater Phoenix metropolitan community.