Human Trafficking in Your Community

- Sgt. Jennifer Mansfield, Road Patrol, Community Relations, Redford Township Police Department
- Theresa Rich, Councilmember, Farmington Hills
- Laura Swanson, Director/Producer, Break the Chain Documentary Film, Break the Chain Productions
- Representative Laurie Pohutsky, Michigan House of Representatives
Human Trafficking in Your Community

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Behavioral Intelligence:
The application of skills and abilities to accurately explain existing behavior, predict future behavior, influence other people’s behavior, and control one’s own behavior.
Human trafficking generates billions of dollars of profit each year, making it one of the world’s fastest growing criminal activities.
What is Human Trafficking?
What is Human Trafficking?
Victims of Human Trafficking
Objectives

- Explore what Human Trafficking is and how it effects a community
- Discuss key industries where Human Trafficking is often found
- Discuss reporting mechanisms and approaches to combatting Human Trafficking in your community
Definition of Human Trafficking

- Recruitment, harboring, or transportation of any person through the use of force, fraud, threat, or coercion

- Victims are exploited for commercialized sex or labor purposes
Definition of Human Trafficking

- **Force:** Physical violence, sexual assault, weapons, narcotics
- **Fraud:** Promises of job, money, fame, love
- **Threats:** Will hurt family, deportation
- **Coercion:** Blackmail (photos, videos, reputation damage)
# Types of Human Trafficking

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Myths about Sex Trafficking

• A child prostitute is not a victim of Sex Trafficking.
  FALSE: No one under the age of 18 may consent to commercialized sex.

• Movement across county or state lines is a requirement of sex trafficking.
  FALSE: No movement is required. Smuggling is a different crime. A victim can be trafficked from anywhere.
Sex Trafficking in your Community

- Hotels and Motels
  - Outdoor entrance access
  - Cash & hourly rentals
  - Anonymous registrations
  - Narcotic paraphernalia & condoms sold in office
  - Lower quality conditions of building

- Strip Clubs
  - Underage dancers / Wait staff
  - High level of narcotic use
  - Commercialized sex
Sex Trafficking in your Community

- Street Trafficking
  - Stroll, hook, loop
  - Sexual activity in vehicles
    - Parks, schools, alleys

- Truck Stops
  - Runaways
  - Shower & restroom facilities available
Myths of Labor Trafficking

• Victims of Labor Trafficking in the United States are foreigners who were smuggled into the country
  • FALSE: Many victims came to the country legally and became victims after arrival or are United States Citizens

• Labor Trafficking victims are only found in sweat shops and farm fields.
  • FALSE: Victims can be the man who cuts your grass or brings your food, as well as the woman who does your nails or cleans the house
Labor Trafficking in your Community

- Restaurants / Nail Salons
  - Authentic, speak language
  - Little time off
  - Live on site or in one house

- Au Pairs / Housekeepers
  - Came to US on contract
  - Withheld documentation
  - Long hours, little pay
Recruitment of Teens

- Traveling Sales Crews
  - Offers of travel, fun, friendship
  - Promised return ticket home

- Missed quotas:
  - No food
  - Beaten
  - Left in unknown location
“[Traffickers] don’t necessarily want to work in big cities. They are drawn to small towns... because they feel like they won’t get caught. So areas that have a lot of agricultural farming, areas that have not a lot of law enforcement on patrol... those are areas that are also breeding grounds. Traffickers know that and they want to do some of their work there.”

- Scott Santoro, Homeland Security Federal Law Enforcement Training Center
2018 Michigan Statistics

Numbers based on reporting to Human Trafficking Hotline

TYPE OF TRAFFICKING

- Sex Trafficking (283)
- Labor Trafficking (37)
- Trafficking Type Not Specified (35)
- Sex and Labor (28)

# of Cases: 383

1,038 CONTACTS THIS YEAR

383 HUMAN TRAFFICKING CASES REPORTED THIS YEAR

- HumanTraffickingHotline.org
Community Characteristics that invite Human Trafficking

- **Social Issues**
  - Poverty
  - High narcotic prevalence
  - Few employment opportunities
  - Large immigrant population
  - Gang presence

- **Businesses**
  - Agriculture
  - Massage Parlors with covered windows or door buzzers
  - Low cost motels
  - Strip clubs
  - Au Pairs / Housekeepers
What can you do?

- Order and distribute informational posters, cards, and brochures

  - https://www.dhs.gov/blue-campaign/request-materials
  - https://sharedhope.org/resources/
  - https://humantraffickinghotline.org/get-involved/downloadable-resources
  - https://ovc.ncjrs.gov/humantrafficking/publicawareness.html
What can you do?

• Awareness and training

  • Host community forums and hotel outreaches (SOAP Project, Alternatives for Girls, Human Trafficking Institute)

  • Sponsor presentations in schools and churches (Shared Hope)

  • Fund educational opportunities for law enforcement and judicial personnel (Blue Campaign – Homeland Security)

  • Partner with hospitals and clinics to ensure medical staff recognizes the signs of human trafficking (Coeus Creative Group)
What can you do?

- **Licensing**
  - Know the licenses required for establishments frequently involved in Human Trafficking
    
  - Dance cards or cabaret cards
  - Monitor and enforce licenses

- **Ordinances**
  - Review and update or create local ordinances regarding business activities frequently involved in Human Trafficking
  - Empower and encourage building inspections and compliance
What can you do?

- Partner with non-profits
  - Collect funds, supplies, clothing
  - Possible housing for victims in your community
  - Job training or employment opportunities for victims

- Join or support Human Trafficking Task Forces
  - Federal or local law enforcement
What can you do?

- Legal Considerations
  - Prosecution of Traffickers and Johns vs victims (prostitution, theft, drugs)
  - Immigration support
  - Restitution / Resources

University of Michigan – Michigan Law
The Human Trafficking Clinic
https://www.law.umich.edu/clinical/humantraffickingclinic/Pages/default.aspx
Reporting Mechanisms

- Local or State Police

- National Human Trafficking Hotline
  888-373-7888
  or
  Text “Help” to
  BeFree (233733)
Thank You!
Jennifer Mansfield

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