



CRA INSIGHTS

Information to grow with



New Beginnings Your donations at work

When you donate to CRA shelter, you are helping Survivors and their families. Something as simple as a pair of warm socks given to a Survivor the night (s)he enters shelter can start them down the healing path. Many Survivors are forced to leave their homes without their clothing or personal belongings. When they come through our doors, they are in need of all basic and personal items. Your new or gently used clothing donations & new personal care items aid them as they settle in. Once they have a plan in place and are moving out of shelter, they may require donations of household items and furniture. Though the journey may be a long process for these Survivors, having donations available to them, when they need them is comforting & restorative.

To view a complete list of shelter needs, visit our website at CRASHELTER.ORG

If you are unsure of what to donate, you may always make a monetary donation for items to be purchased for shelter Survivors dependent on their needs.

FREE HUMAN TRAFFICKING PRESENTATION

Increase your
understanding
of Human Trafficking

An Advocate from CRA will walk you through the underlying forces of Human Trafficking. Learn how it happens & what to do if you suspect someone you know is being trafficked

**To sign up your
agency or
organizations,
call Heidi at CRA,
715-825-4414**

Human Trafficking

CRASHELTER.ORG

What is Human Trafficking? The recruitment, harboring, transportation or obtaining of a person to provide involuntary servitude, debt bondage or slavery for labor or commercial sex act.

How can this happen?

Human traffickers are very good at what they do. They use means of force that might include intimidation, sexual or physical abuse, harassment, food or sleep deprivation or drug addiction.

It is common for Traffickers to recruit a person through false promises, such as a job offer or free or promised items typically "too good to be true". Sometimes they will set a price for travel or shelter only to change the price, therefore the person will be in debt to the Trafficker for paying the difference.

Often threats against family or friends, confiscation of personal documents, threats of deportation and blackmail are used to make a person compliant and submissive.

Victims of sex trafficking can be women or men, girls or boys, but the majority are women and girls. There are a number of common patterns for luring victims into situations of sex trafficking, including:

- A promise of a good job in another country
- A false marriage proposal turned in to a bondage situation
- Being sold into the sex trade by parents, husbands, boyfriends
- Being kidnapped by traffickers

Sex Traffickers use a variety of methods to "condition" their victims including starvation, confinement, beatings, physical abuse, rape, gang rape, threats of violence to the victims and the victims families, forced drug use and the threat of shaming their victims by revealing their activities to their family and the families friends.

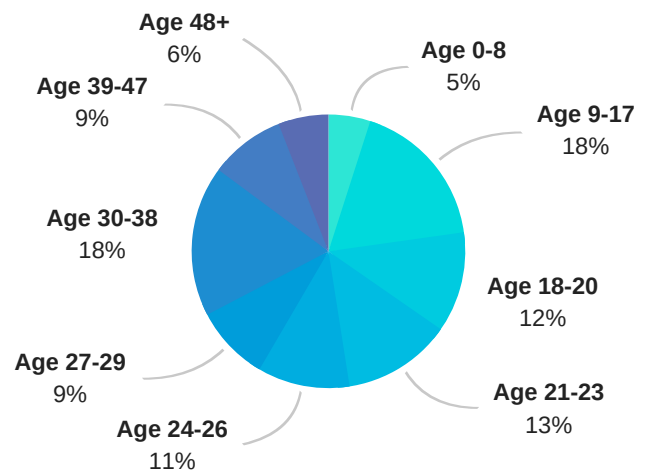
THE ILO ESTIMATES HUMAN TRAFFICKING GENERATES \$150.2 BILLION IN ILLEGAL PROFITS EACH YEAR. MORE THAN ONE-THIRD OF THESE PROFITS ARE FROM FORCED LABOR EXPLOITATION AND THE REMAINING TWO-THIRDS FROM SEXUAL EXPLOITATION.

Why can't we see this happening?

You may be looking for the wrong thing.

Trafficking victims aren't always bound in chains and shackles. If the Trafficker has used coercion to keep the victim in line, some victims may be able to come and go to their homes or school as usual. Knowing that a family member would be in danger or they may be deported keeps the victim tied to the Trafficker.

Trafficking victims aren't always minors, they can be adults and can also male or female. According to the CT Data Collaborative, the highest percentage of female victims can be found in the 18-20 age group, while the highest percentage of male victims can be found in the higher age groups.



How you can help

Be aware as you are out shopping, dining, getting gas or in schools. You could be the one to save a victim from further abuse. There are a lot of red flags to look for that can indicate problems. Look below the surface of what appears to to be "normal".

Things to look for;

- The potential victim is accompanied by another person who seems controlling
- The person accompanying the potentials victim insists on giving information on the victim's behalf
- There are signs of physical abuse
- There are signs of untreated work-related injuries
- The potential victim seems submissive or fearful, and avoids eye contact
- The potential victim had difficulty communicating because of language or cultural barriers
- The potential victim doesn't have identification
- The potential victim appears to be "coached" or continuously looks to the potential trafficker
- In school, the potential victim no longer hangs with friends, becomes a "loner"

Just one story

TRAPPING TEENS

The names have been changed in this story, but the events are real. It is just as easy for teens or adults to be swept into human/sex trafficking in a rural area as in a big city. All of us need to keep our eyes open for signs that could point to a current ring in our area. As you read through this story, realize that this could be your neighbor, niece or daughter. It is also not limited to just girls or women, men and boys can also be swept into this horrific web.

It is up to us to do our part to help stop this unimaginable crime.

Sixteen year old Georgie was working her part time job at the cell phone accessory kiosk at the mall. Time was moving slow but she was down to her last 15 minutes of her shift. She planned to meet her friend Beth at the theater to see the new chick flick. She was getting antsy to clock out and meet her friend. With just two minutes to go, a well dressed couple came up to the kiosk. After a few seconds of looking at the merchandise, the man asked Georgie if she would think it rude if he complimented her on her looks. Georgie had never thought that she was beautiful, just ordinary. The woman went on to explain that they owned a modeling agency and would love to take some photos of her. They told her that she could easily make thousands of dollars modeling in her area. Georgie was excited. It was a much better opportunity than working at the kiosk at the mall. And just think of what she could buy with all of that money! The man said that they were leaving to go back to their home tomorrow, so if she wanted to take them up on their offer to get into the modeling business, they would need to get the pictures today. Georgie didn't hesitate, she clocked out and went with the couple.

Two weeks have passed since that day. Georgie never did get her modeling pictures taken. She was sold to the highest bidder. She was forced to endure unspeakable acts. When she wasn't with her "owner", her hands and feet were bound. Her "owner" repeatedly told her that if she tried to run or talk to anyone he would harm her family, forcing her to comply with his torture. Eventually, her "owner" would force her to go with other men, while he collected top dollar for her services. Georgie was so frightened that something would happen to her family, she was determined to put up with whatever happened to keep them safe.

The night that Georgie was supposed to meet her friend Beth was her parent's worst nightmare. After piecing together what had happened to Georgie that night after work, the Police were at a dead end. Not knowing where the couple had taken her, there were very few leads to work with. At this point there were several agencies involved. Georgie's picture was circulated and people were encouraged to call the National Human Trafficking Hotline at 888-3737-888, but there was no word for weeks.

Georgie's "owner" decided to branch out. He liked the extra money coming in. He would send her to the local truck stop. There she was to pick up 5 different men within the course of the night. She was repeatedly reminded that her family's safety relied on her returning each night, with the money. Georgie thought often of making a run for it, but she was a long way from home and she feared for her family. One night Georgie approached a trucker as he was leaving the truck stop café. She asked him if he wanted company, just as her "owner" instructed her. He nodded and they walked to his semi. Once they were locked in the vehicle the man turned to her and asked if she was in trouble. Georgie had never had anyone ask her if this was something she didn't want to do. She started to cry and within minutes the trucker had called the local authorities. Georgie was lucky, this trucker belonged to the Truckers against Trafficking, an award winning group that trains truckers to identify human trafficking victims. (truckersagainstrafficking.org).

Georgie was reunited with her parents. She was lucky, she will have to work through the emotional scars, but is alive to live out the rest of her life. Her "owner" was captured and faces charges, however the couple that initially abducted her remains at large.

Approximately 300,000 children are at risk of being sex trafficked in the U.S. Sex Trafficking is a \$99 BILLION dollar industry and can affect any gender, ethnicity, age or economic level. Most children come from "normal" homes and go to school regularly, but are groomed to fear repercussion if they do not cooperate.



WI, we need to talk.

Help us **start the conversation** about youth sex trafficking in WI.



Learn what puts youth at risk for trafficking so you can help prevent it.

Visit WisconsinTalks.org or call **211**.

In Wisconsin

Can it happen here? In the state of Wisconsin, the National Human Trafficking Resource Center reports that through June 30th, 2017 they had 47 proven human trafficking cases reported. You may think that because we live in a rural area that traffickers won't target our kids. **WRONG!** Rural areas are just as easy to target, especially with social media. Something to remember when allowing your children to use social media.

Three to four victims are trafficked online.

Sex Trafficking in Wisconsin

- 80% of Trafficking cases are Sex Trafficking
- Trafficking exists in both urban and rural areas
- The first federal case of Human Trafficking was prosecuted in 2006
- One in three runaways will be lured toward prostitution within 48 hours of leaving home
- Milwaukee consistently ranks among the top five cities in the U.S. for the recovery of trafficked adolescents. The highest numbers were reported in 2011
- Milwaukee is a hub for Sex Trafficking

From September 2017 to January 1, 2018, the DOJ Human Trafficking Bureau has:

Conducted 23 child and adult sex trafficking investigations;

Arrested 15 child and adult sex traffickers;
Arrested six "Johns;"

Recovered 20 adult sex trafficking victims;

Recovered four child sex trafficking victims.

What to do if you suspect someone is a victim of Trafficking

If you or someone you know is in immediate danger, please call 911. ... Call the National Human Trafficking Hotline toll-free hotline at 1-888-373-7888: Anti-Trafficking Hotline Advocates are available 24/7 to take reports of potential human trafficking.

Keeping safe

Tips for adults

- 1) Keep Facebook and social media pages private
- 2) Don't post personal information
- 3) Protect your pictures
- 4) Do not add people you have never met to your friends list
- 5) Remind your children that you never know who is on the other side of the conversation. They may tell you they are a 14 year old girl but may be a predator.

Tips for Teens

- 1) Think twice if a friend or friends ask you to do a favor for money
- 2) Be mindful of your friends dating older guys
- 3) Ask questions if your friend has a large amount of money, unexpectedly or an upgrade in clothing, hair, nails etc.
- 4) Check in with friends and parents often
- 5) Be wary of a stranger you see several times in different places
- 6) Listen to your gut feelings. If it feels wrong/weird or too good to be true, it probably is
- 7) If you think someone is following you, stay in a crowded place
- 8) Never open the door for someone you don't know
- 9) If someone asks you if you are alone, tell them you are meeting a friend
- 10) If you suspect that a friend may be in trouble, tell a trusted adult
- 11) DO NOT go with someone offering you money, a new cell phone, great paying job etc.

What can you do? Be aware. As a parent, monitor your children's whereabouts. As a citizen, be aware. Watch your community for things that just don't look right and report them. If you would like to learn more, you can find important information at the following websites;

humantraffickinghotline.org

truckersagainstrafficking.org

5-stones.org/statistics

Unluckythirteen.org

Sharedhope.org

Learn more

National Runaway Safeline
1-800-RUNAWAY TEXT 66008
1800RUNAWAY.ORG

Wisconsin Department of Children & Families
CALL 211
WISCONSINTALKS.ORG

National Human Trafficking Hotline
CALL 888-373-7888 text help OR info TO 233733
ACF.HHS.GOV/ENDTRAFFICKING
HUMANTRAFFICKINGHOTLINE.ORG

Recovery

THE ROSE HOUSE

GREEN BAY, WI
eyeheartworld.org

The Rose Home
Survivors of sex trafficking experience unspeakable trauma. As a result, they require a highly specialized level of care that's rooted in best and promising practices. The Rose home, based in Green Bay, Wisconsin is a residential aftercare program that serves survivors ages 18-25 through a holistic, strength-based approach. Treatment includes group and individual therapy, life skills courses, and workforce preparation. The Rose Home is a place for survivors to gain confidence and become empowered to live life to the fullest. What started out as an awareness and fundraising effort has exploded into a full scope of services. Through our work in Northeast Wisconsin and South Alabama, we provide aftercare resources for trafficking victims, prevention for at-risk youth, and training for professionals and community members. Eye Heart World was born in 2010 when Brian and Season Russo decided to take action against human trafficking in an innovative way. For the first awareness event they organized, Season and her mother, Denise Foster, created 30 bags, hoping to raise funds for a safe home in their community.

THE ROSE HOUSE CONTINUED

Supporting the cause in a tangible way proved to be contagious - every single bag was sold that day. To this day, our product line funds a small part of our operating budget and serves as a way for people to Carry The Cause.

Contrary to popular belief, many victims of trafficking have difficulty realizing the gravity of what they're involved in, deceived by the belief that unless she's kidnapped, she's not worth helping. Based in Mobile, Alabama, The Rose Center is a drop-in center for young women who are severely at risk for trafficking or already being exploited and it provides services ranging from job preparation, to group counseling, individual therapy, and more. The Rose Center serves as a bridge between the life of trafficking and the long-term care she needs to live an empowered life.

It takes motivated, informed people to make a profound change on human trafficking. That's why we are dedicated to educating and empowering our communities in order to make a difference. We provide targeted trainings tailored to professionals like health care providers, social service providers, and public servants, teaching them what to look for and how to respond when they encounter a victim. All the while, we engage the community with awareness resources.

Information in this newsletter

was used from the following web

sources

ctdatacollaborative.org

agupdate.com/agriview/news/crop/human-trafficking-lurks-in-rural-areas/article

acf.hhs.gov/archive/otip/resource/factsheet-sex-trafficking-english

wisconsintalks.org

doj.state.wi.us/newsletter/human.trafficking-happening-here

eyeheartworld.org

CRA is not affiliated with any of these sites and does not have an opinion or preference to any. The sites were used are for informational use and should be researched to determine if the information provided is valid in your situation.



Donations needed in shelter

CRASHELTER.ORG

Sometimes a survivor will only be able to leave their home safely with the clothes on their back. While in shelter they will need basic items to restore their quality of life for themselves and their children. You can view a larger ["WISH LIST"](#) of needed donations on our web page. The items listed here each month are things we are in immediate need of.

If you are able to help out and drop off a donation, you can do that right at the shelter. If you would rather make a monetary donation, you can mail the donation check to:

CRA
PO Box 365
Milltown, WI 54858

January Donation requests

- XL fitted twin sheets
- Laundry Soap/dryer sheets
- Drawstring FLEX garbage bags
- Batteries- C
- Size 5 & 6 diapers
- Dry cereal & canned soup
- Shampoo & Conditioner



Donations are greatly appreciated and help us to carry out our commitment to survivors and their children.

Call our 24/7 Crisis Line, 800-261-7233 for help.

Community

Education

CRA works to increase the communities awareness about domestic and sexual violence through community outreach. Part of CRA's mission is to help eliminate violence in our communities, and with that in mind, we offer presentations regarding our services and education on a variety of topics related to domestic and sexual violence awareness to schools, community organizations, church groups and other service providers. If you are interested in learning more about the cycle of violence and how to help stop domestic violence and sexual assault in your community, Call us at **715-825-4414** to find out more.

Support Groups

All groups are held every week unless noted.

Please call to sign up 715-825-4414

POLK COUNTY GROUPS:

MONDAY'S:

Amery S.T.A.R.S. Group: From 4-5 pm
(Surviving Trauma Advocacy Resource Support)

TUESDAY'S:

Osceola S.T.A.R.S. Group: From 6-7 pm
(Surviving Trauma Advocacy Resource Support)

WEDNESDAY'S:

Milltown Parenting Group: from 1-2 pm
Milltown S.T.A.R.S. Group: from 2-3 pm
(Surviving Trauma Advocacy Resource Support)
Domestic Violence Education Class: from 10-noon
every other Wednesday

THURSDAY'S:

Milltown Family Group: Dinner from 5-5:30pm
F.U.N. Family Group Milltown: from 5-6pm
Milltown S.T.A.R.S.: from 6-7 pm
(Surviving Trauma Advocacy Resource Support)

Burnett County – 715-349-7272

Burnett County Group: from 4-5 pm on Monday

Barron County – 714-651-4969

Barron County Group: from 5:30-6:30 on Thursday



your donations are greatly appreciated

DECEMBER 2018

CASH DONATIONS

Catholic Congregation of our Lady
Lyn Dueholm
East Balsam Baptist Church
St. Croix Elementary School
Elim Lutheran WELCA
First Lutheran Church WELCA
Philip & Susan Foster
Fred Grimm
Harmony HCE
Holy Trinity Joel Homemakers
Laketown Lutheran WELCA
Little Falls Lutheran Church WELCA
Dick & Sally Mackie
Milltown Lutheran Church

Greg & Nancy Moore
Doris or Robert Nelson
North Valley WELCA
Jeff Peterson & Nancy Stewart
Patricia Robbins
Joan Romans
Valerie Rowe
St Johns the Baptist Church
St Johns the Baptist CCW
St Croix Press
Bob & Kay Thorsbakken
United Methodist Church SCF
United Methodist Women Danbury

DECEMBER IN-KIND DONATIONS

\$10,179.00



*Thank
you!*

We cannot thank you enough for
your donations of clothing, toys,
food, blankets and more!
You truly made this Christmas a
happy one for all of our families.
Thank you!

JENSEN FURNITURE

Jensen Furniture of Luck made a very generous donation
of 13 new mattresses to the shelter!
These mattresses will be used for survivors & their families
when they move into their own residence.
THANK YOU JENSEN FURNITURE !
Mark, Jake & Sonya

**JENSEN
FURNITURE**

*Family Owned
Since 1956*

ST CROIX REGIONAL

MEDICAL CENTER

Michelle Doolittle & Melanie Hicks from SCRMC shown
with a trunk full of Christmas gift donations for Survivors
and their families in shelter.
Receiving them on behalf of CRA is Advocate Brandy
Houman.
Thank you for your generosity and kindness SCRMC!

