

How to Get Help

If you need help or suspect someone is a victim

**Call Kansas Protection Report Center,
1-800-922-5330**

and

**Report to Local Law Enforcement
9-1-1**

For more information on human trafficking visit the
Department's website at:

HUMANTRAFFICKING.DCF.KS.GOV

or call

National Human Trafficking Resource Center

1-888-373-7888 or text **INFO** or **HELP** to **BeFree (233733)**



Department for Children
and Families

Strong Families Make a Strong Kansas



Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children
What You Need to Know

Kansas Definitions

In Kansas, *human trafficking* is defined as 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 subjecting the person to involuntary servitude or forced labor. K.S.A. 21-5426(a).

Aggravated human trafficking includes recruiting, harboring, transporting, providing or obtaining, by any means, a person *under 18 years of age, with or without force*, fraud or threat or coercion, to engage in forced labor, involuntary servitude or sexual gratification. K.S.A. 21-5426(b).

The law defines *commercial sexual exploitation of a child* as giving, receiving, offering or agreeing to receive....anything of value, which *does not require a showing of force, fraud, threat or coercion* and references existing statutory definition of human trafficking and aggravated human trafficking. K.S.A. 21-6422.

Kansas Response

- Victims provided special *Child in Need of Care* procedures and expedited expungement procedures for children convicted of selling sexual relations if they were subject to coercion.
- *Increased penalties* for those buying or selling or promoting sales of sexual relations with persons under age of 18.
- *Human Trafficking Victim Assistance Fund* to provide support for victims paid for through mandatory fines on individuals convicted of human trafficking and related sex crimes.
- *Rapid Response Team* provided by statute to be called upon by law enforcement any time an officer reasonably believes he has identified a child victim to provide immediate safety and placement recommendations.
- *KDHE established regulations for Staff Secure Facilities* as a police protective custody placement option for child victims. This serves as another placement option for children in the DCF Secretary's care.

Who is at Risk?

Kansas is a hub for traffickers and their victims, partly due to intersections of multiple major interstates and highways. Victims can be of any age and either gender, but statistics currently show eighty percent are girls with the *average* age of initial exploitation between 12 and 14 years old.* Assessing the family system is key as trafficked children under 12 are frequently exploited by their family members, usually a parent who is using drugs and sometimes the mother is also a victim of human trafficking.

Possible signs could be:

- Are minors not in class during school hours?
- Does a minor have a “boyfriend” who is noticeably older?
- Does the minor refer to sexual situations that are not age-appropriate?
- Is the person accompanied by someone who seems controlling?
- Are there sudden changes in attire, behavior or material possessions?
- Is there drug usage in the home?
- Are there signs of domestic violence in the home or child sexual abuse allegations?
- Is homelessness an issue with the child or their family?***

Examples of human trafficking in Kansas:

- Traveling sales crews: magazines, carnivals, landscaping, etc.
- Venues: internet-based commercial exploitation, hotel/motel, commercial front brothel, truck stops, etc.

What to report

Information regarding victim: Name, Date of Birth, Social Security Number, Address, and any special needs child may have

Information regarding parents: Name, Date of Birth, Social Security Number, Address, and information on Caregiver (if different from parent)

Details about alleged abuse/neglect concerns

Any concerns about social worker *safety* when visiting the home

* *Human Trafficking Statistics*, POLARIS PROJECT, (last visited Dec. 15, 2014) <http://wiki.preventconnect.org/file/view/Human+Trafficking+Statistics+from+the+Polaris+Project.pdf>.

***Answering yes to one of these questions may not necessarily indicate human trafficking, but when you begin answering yes to several or more, human trafficking should be considered as a possible situation.