

How to Get Help

**If you need help or suspect someone is a victim,
call the Kansas Protection Report Center
1-800-922-5330
and
report to local law enforcement
911**

**For more information on human trafficking, visit
humantrafficking.dcf.ks.gov
or
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 may proceed through Child In Need of Care proceedings.
- There are expedited criminal expungement procedures for children convicted of selling sexual relations.
- Increased penalties for those buying or selling or promoting sales of sexual relations with persons under age of 18
- The Human Trafficking Victim Assistance Fund to provide support for victims is funded with mandatory fines on individuals convicted of human trafficking and related sex crimes.
- The Rapid Response Team (RRT) is required by statute to be contacted by law enforcement any time an officer reasonably believes he has identified a child victim of human trafficking. RRT conducts assessment to determine safety, placement and treatment needs.
- Regulations have been established for Staff Secure Facilities (SSF). SSF provides police protective custody placement options for child victims, which serves as an additional placement option for children in the custody of the DCF Secretary.

Who's 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. 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 minor 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?

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.

Examples of human trafficking in Kansas:

- Traveling sales crews: magazines, carnivals, landscaping, etc.
- Possible 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 the caregiver (if different from parent)
- Details about alleged abuse/neglect concerns
- Any concerns about social worker safety when visiting the home