

HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS MONTH

What is human trafficking?

The recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or other services, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion, for the purpose of subjugation to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery. Human trafficking includes sex trafficking in which a commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the victim is under the age of 18.

Cases in Westchester County

Since 2010, the Westchester Anti-Trafficking Task Force has made great strides to create a community response to trafficking throughout the county.

Is it happening here?

Yes. The Westchester County Department of Social Services has identified 80 child victims.

My Sisters' Place has served 45 victims of sex trafficking and 74 victims of labor trafficking since 2009.

The Blue Ribbon Campaign



Working in collaboration with law enforcement, government, non-governmental and private organizations, the Blue Campaign strives to protect the basic right of freedom and to bring those who exploit human lives to justice. Through this campaign, we raise public awareness about human trafficking, leverage partnerships to educate the public to recognize human trafficking and report suspected instances.

Raise Awareness: Wear a Blue Ribbon in January

The Westchester County Blue Ribbon Campaign is sponsored by the International Organization for Adolescents (IOFA), My Sisters' Place (MSP), the Junior League of Northern Westchester (JLNW), the Pound Ridge Police Department, and the Westchester County Anti-Trafficking Task Force.



What to Look For

Recognizing potential red flags and knowing the indicators of human trafficking is a key step in identifying more victims and helping connect them to resources

- Fearful, anxious, depressed, submissive, tense, or nervous/paranoid
- Avoids eye contact
- Lacks healthcare
- Is not free to leave or come and go as s/he wishes
- Is under 18 and is providing commercial sex acts
- Works excessively long and/or unusual hours
- Is not allowed breaks or suffers under unusual restrictions at work
- Owes a large debt and is unable to pay it off
- Has few or no personal possessions
- Is not in control of their own money, no financial records, or bank accounts
- Was recruited through false promises concerning the nature and conditions of their work
- High security measures exist in the work and/or living locations

To request help or report suspected human trafficking, call the National Human Resource Center 24 hour hotline at 1-888-373-7888.

Or text HELP to BeFree (233733)

Learn more at
www.humantrafficking.org
www.iofa.org
www.mspny.org
www.justice.gov

