

## HUMAN TRAFFICKING INDICATORS

Human trafficking is a crime. Human trafficking happens when (1) force, fraud, or coercion are used to compel a person into work or prostitution or (2) a minor trades sex for anything of value. Many victims have received help thanks to the kindness of bystanders.



### CONTROL

*A person displays unusual control over another person or group of people*

- Threatening
- Isolating
- Holding travel documentation
- Speaking for someone
- Tricking or lying
- Debt bondage
- Unusual power dynamic
- Surveillance
- Employer-controlled housing
- Violence



### DISTRESS or INJURY

*A person appears distressed or injured*

- Distress or fear
- Fleeing an abuser
- Injury, such as bruising or a cut
- Not allowed to make eye contact
- Not allowed to communicate
- Discomfort with companions
- Malnourished
- Unusually fatigued
- Signs of trauma, such as becoming hostile, fleeing, or freezing up
- Answers sound rehearsed



### CONFUSION

*A person shows an unusual level of confusion*

- Person has been tricked or did not receive pay they were promised
- Unsure of where they are or where they are going
- Do not know their travel companions or who is picking them up
- Moving to new locations based on promises that sound suspicious



### BUYING SEX

*A person solicits sex from a minor or from a person coerced into the sex trade*

- Approaching and attempting to buy sex from a person
- Talking or joking about buying sex
- Accessing websites to buy sex

## STEPS TO TAKE IF YOU SUSPECT HUMAN TRAFFICKING

**CALL 911** or your local emergency number if you see:

- an emergency, a minor is involved, or a controller is present.

**If the potential victim is alone:**

- Ask: "Are you OK?" "Do you want me to call the police?"
- If they want you to contact police, **CALL 911** or your local emergency line.
- Let them know there is help by contacting the National Human Trafficking Hotline.

📞 Call **1-888-373-7888** 📱 Text "**BeFree**" (**233733**) 💬 Chat at **HumanTraffickingHotline.org**

**If you suspect human trafficking, follow your organization's protocols.**

