



A.C.T.
United

STORIES FOUNDATION

The Stories Foundation

What can we do?

To help someone in need:

- Call the police
- Contact school teachers, counselors, or other staff
- Tell a parent or a friend's parent
- Contact country health and human services
- **Call the hot lines:**

Central MN Sexual Assault Center:
1-800-237-5090

National Human Trafficking
Resource Center: 1-888-373-5428

Sherburne County Health and
Human Services: 763-765-4000

To help combat the problem:

- Get the **WORD** out that sex trafficking is here. Tell your neighbors, coworkers, friends, family, and even post on social media using #ItHappensHere2. No one want to BELIEVE it is happening in their own **COMMUNITY**, but this lack of awareness allows the **PROBLEM** to continue.
- **EDUCATE** others. Teach them the warning signs, let them know of resources available, and what they can do to help.
- **VOLUNTEER** at local and state organizations to spread awareness
- Contact your local and state **REPRESENTATIVES**. Express your concern about sex trafficking and ask what they are doing to combat the problem.



www.runningforjustice.org
advocate@runningforjustice.org

Sex trafficking happens everywhere.



What is sex trafficking?



Sex Trafficking is any sexual activity that is exchanged for something of value.

This is included, but not limited to:

- Money
- Shelter
- Food
- Clothes
- Transportation
- Medication
- Survival/protection
- Jobs
- Diapers

Warning Signs

Characteristics of Traffickers

- Promises things of value in exchange for sexual acts
- Secretive - does not want you looking at their phone
- Pressure you into uneasy situations and uncomfortable sexual acts
- Controls what you do and where you go
- Takes nude photos of you and shares them with others
- Coaches you on what to say about your age and other personal information
- Jealous and controlling

There is no shame in being a victim.

Traffickers are most often the people we **TRUST** the most. Friends, family, neighbors, employers, etc. It has become easier for traffickers to find people because of **SOCIAL MEDIA**. They pose as talent agents or children of the same age. They know **EXACTLY** what to do because they are professionals. They have perfected their craft of **MANIPULATION**. They know exactly who, when, where, and how to target their victims.

Minnesota Safe Harbor Law

states that anyone under the age 18 is considered a **victim** and cannot be charged for prostitution, even if there is consent.



Research: Do your own research. Become familiar with how sex traffickers work and how to avoid them



Protect: Learn how to protect yourself and others. Know the signs and spread awareness for the sexually manipulated



Restore: Help the victims restore faith in humanity. Nurture and support them through hard times.

Who are the victims of child sex trafficking?

Runaways are the most vulnerable

Kids inherently **NEED** and **WANT** protection. They do not just **RUN** to the street. They are either running **FROM** something or running **TO** something.

- 90% of victims result from single-parents homes with documented abuse or neglect
- 96% of victims are runaways
- 75% of victims are ages 12-17
- 70% of victims experience sexual abuse in early childhood