

Tips for Addressing Human Trafficking



What is Human Trafficking?

Human trafficking is the exploitation of human beings for gain. Trafficking can exist in many forms and usually entails individuals being caused to provide sexual services or labour through force, coercion, deception and/or abuse of trust, power or authority. Human trafficking therefore results in substantial physical, psychological, and emotional trauma to individuals.

Possible Signs of Human Trafficking

Living with employer, Inability to speak to individual alone, Poor living conditions, Answers appear to be scripted and rehearsed, Multiple people in cramped space, Employer is holding identity documents, Signs of physical abuse, Submissive or fearful, Under 18 and in prostitution, Unpaid or paid very little

What a person may experience facing Human Trafficking?

Anger, fear, worthlessness, depression, anxiousness, lack of self-control and trust, PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder), Homelessness

What can we do to help individuals who are human trafficked?

It is important to remember that it is not the individual's fault, human trafficking is a crime done by the exploiter. The individual's response may be different than you expect. The intensity and range of emotions can make it hard to talk about their situation. If someone discloses involvement in human trafficking to you, you should:

- Stay calm, listen carefully, without interrupting and judgement
- Avoid asking "why" questions
- Believe the person, reassure them it is not their fault
- Encourage the person to get immediate medical help (if necessary)
- Maintain confidentiality and privacy

Note: If you're the individual is under the age of 18, you may be required to make a report to Child and Family Services and/or the police.

Resources

1. **Elmwood Community Resource Centre Counselling** Ph: 204-982-1720 ext. 201 or 304
 2. **Mount Carmel Clinic- Sage House** Ph: 204- 943-6379
 3. **Marymound** Ph: 204-338-7971
 4. **Canadian Human Trafficking Hotline** Ph: 1-833-900-1010 or Email: hotline@ccteht.ca
- Hotline Response Advocates are available 24/7/365 and support is available in over 200 languages. The hotline can connect callers to local service providers and/or emergency services in communities across Canada.
5. **Chrysalis Anti- Human Trafficking Network** (National Toll-Free Counselling Line) Ph: 1-866-528-7109