



# Educational Page



## January is Human Trafficking Awareness Month

Written By: Amelia Esposito  
Southern Columbia Area High School Honor Student


Human trafficking is modern-day slavery. It involves the use of force, fraud, abduction, or coercion to obtain some type of labor or commercial sex act. Human Trafficking is a highly-organized and lucrative business that generates about 150 billion US dollars every year. Millions of women, men, and children are trafficked in countries around the world, including the United States. This modern slave trade is a threat to all nations.



Human trafficking primarily involves exploitation which comes in many forms. According to National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, approximately 80% of trafficking involves sexual exploitation, compelling victims to commit sex acts for the purpose of creating pornography. Women and girls represent the largest share of forced commercial sex act victims. Many victims are girls who run away that were sexually abused as children. Traffickers may confiscate

their identification documents and money making it very difficult for the victim to get away from the traffickers.

## PA Human Trafficking Statistics:

SINCE 2007 

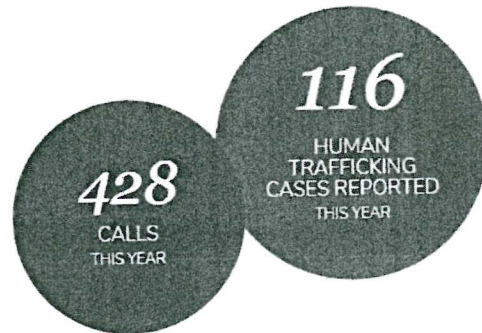
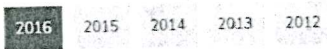
Total Calls: 3,052

Total Cases: 688

Total Victims - Moderate: 871 

Total Victims - High: 667

2016 statistics are current as of September 30, 2016.



### VICTIMS & SURVIVORS IDENTIFIED

High Indicators

76

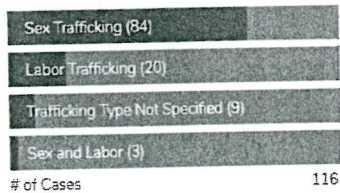
Moderate Indicators

178

Calls From Victims & Survivors

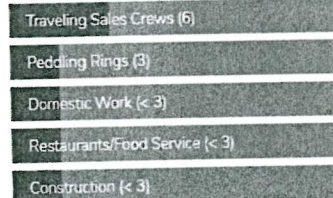
57

### TYPE OF TRAFFICKING



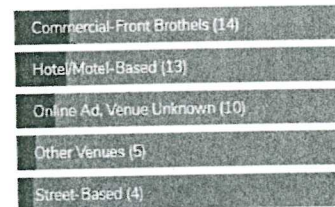
# of Cases 116

### TOP VENUES/INDUSTRIES FOR LABOR TRAFFICKING



# of Cases 20

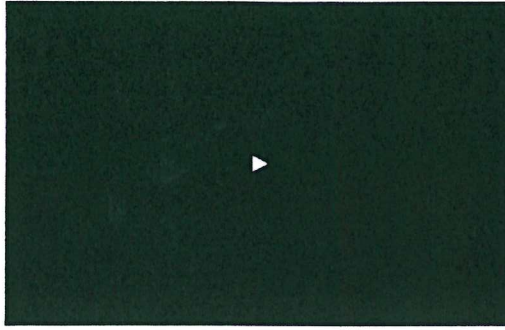
### TOP VENUES/INDUSTRIES FOR SEX TRAFFICKING



# of Cases 84



Traffickers can kidnap victims, use physical violence and substance abuse to control them. Victims of human trafficking have indicators that can be helpful to identify someone who is or has been a victim. These indicators include victims lacking personal items, transportation, or knowledge about how to get around the community. Victims may also have restricted communication, may have been frequently moved around, and may live on or near their work premises. Being cognitive of these indicators can help identify a potential victim.



Human trafficking is difficult to prevent because victims are hard to track. Since human trafficking is such an elusive issue, it's difficult to know how one person can prevent it. There are many organizations that give communities and individuals a chance to help victims of human trafficking. Global organizations include World Hope International, Anti-Slavery International, and Awareness Against Human Trafficking (HAART). Local organizations include The Women Center Inc. of Columbia/ Montour Counties, Crusaders Against Slavery and Trafficking (CAST) in Lancaster, and Freedom and Restoration for Everyone Enslaved (FREE) in Berks County. There are many more organizations that can be found online as well.

Resources:

[www.nimby.me/pa-organizations/](http://www.nimby.me/pa-organizations/) (<http://www.nimby.me/pa-organizations/>)  
[www.soulmunchies.com/human-trafficking/](http://www.soulmunchies.com/human-trafficking/) (<http://www.soulmunchies.com/human-trafficking/>)

After reading the Education Page, please fill out the information below to count it as 30 minutes toward your additional educational training.

### Services at The Women's Center

The Women's Center offers educational training's on human trafficking. To schedule any of our training's please contact the Education Department at 570-784-6632.

If you are a victim of domestic violence and sexual assault and want to know the resources that are available to you, then you can always reach out to The Women's Center at 570-784-6631 or toll-free at (800) 544-8293. All of our services are free and confidential.