

Human Trafficking: What to Do?

It can be hard to know what to do if you think that someone is a victim of human trafficking. This resource provides information about ways to keep people safe, important skills to teach, and what to do if you suspect trafficking.

If you ever see physical or behavior changes that are signs of abuse, report it to:

- Adult Protective Services (for individuals over 18 with a disability) at 1-800-490-8505.
- Human Trafficking Hotline at 1-888-373-7888.
- Police, if you believe the individual is in immediate danger.

If you're unsure if someone is a victim, it may be helpful to spend time with them and talk to them.



If you feel comfortable talking to the individual, see if anything sounds strange or out of the ordinary. Some tips for having a conversation:

- Keep calm. Strong emotions from you may cause fear or shame, which may make the individual less likely to open up.
- Show them that you are listening and not judging them.
- Allow them to do most of the talking and allow quiet times if they need it.
- Ask simple questions to better understand the situation.
- When talking to individuals with disabilities, remember they may not be aware of the risk of their situation.
- Some victims of human trafficking are threatened to stay silent. For this reason, they may seem scared after talking with you. It's important to reassure them that you are a safe person and are here to help them.
- Do not promise to keep secrets. Let the person know that if they are in danger or someone is hurting them, you need to tell the police and get them help.
- Keep a record of changes in behavior or conversations that concern you. If you suspect something and aren't sure, talk to your supervisor.

It is Important to Remember:

- Individuals with disabilities are at an increased risk of being victims of human trafficking.
- Anyone can be a trafficker, including family members, caregivers, men, and women.