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and
South Carolina Human Trafficking Task Force

Southern Legislative Conference
of the Council of State Governments
Human Services & Public Safety Committee
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Global Issue

40.2 Million Victims Worldwide
US Federal Law

**Sex trafficking** is the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, obtaining, patronizing, or soliciting of a person for the purposes of a commercial sex act, in which the commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such an act has not attained 18 years of age.

**Labor trafficking** is the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purposes of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery.

*(22 USC § 7102)*
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<tr>
<th>Actions</th>
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<th>Purpose</th>
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<td>Induce</td>
<td>Force</td>
<td>Commercial Sex</td>
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<td>Recruits</td>
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<td>Harbors</td>
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<td>Transports</td>
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*Minors who are induced into commercial sex are human trafficking victims regardless of the means used by the trafficker.*
Anything of value is given, promised to, or received, directly or indirectly, by any person.
Human Trafficking vs. Human Smuggling

Human Trafficking is a Crime Against An Individual
- Legal, illegal, or no border crossing
- Legal or illegal documents
- Documents taken
- Coercion or repeated exploitation
- Restricted movement, control
- **Commodity:** an Individual

Human Smuggling is a Crime Against The State
- Illegal border crossing
- Illegal (false or stolen) documents
- Voluntary
- **Commodity:** a service, movement
Who are the victims?

There is no single profile of a trafficking victim—human trafficking can occur anywhere and to anyone.

Vulnerable Populations:
- Runaway/homeless youth
- Foreign nationals
- Individuals with disabilities
- Individuals with a history of trauma or abuse
- LGBTQIA+ individuals
- Low-income persons
Risk Factors

Societal
Lack of awareness about the crime, sexualization of children, and lack of resources

Community
Peer pressure, social norms, social isolation, gang involvement, under resourced schools and neighborhoods

Relationship
Includes:
Family conflict, disruption, and/or dysfunction

Individual
History of:
Child abuse, homelessness, runaway, systems involved
Approaches Used By Traffickers

- Romeo
- CEO
- Guerilla
Physiological needs: food, water, warmth, rest

Safety needs: security, safety

Belongingness and love needs: intimate relationships, friends

Esteem needs: prestige and feeling of accomplishment

Self-actualization: achieving one's full potential, including creative activities

Self-fulfillment needs
National Priorities

- Impact of COVID-19 on Victims/Survivors, online commercial sex, and victim service providers
- Incorporating labor trafficking into child welfare policies
- Data collection
- Legislation
- Survivor engagement
- News coverage of sex trafficking
- Emphasizing labor trafficking
- Best practices for awareness campaigns
- Network building
The Southeast Region Human Trafficking Leadership Advisory Group
(DHHS/ACF Region IV)
The Southeast Region Priorities

- Guiding Principles for Agencies Serving Survivors of Human Trafficking
- Training and public awareness recommendations
- Labor trafficking
- Network building
- Development of specialized services
- Identifying and obtaining needed resources
2012 Legislation
S1135
Section 16-3-2100

(A) The Attorney General shall establish an interagency task force to develop and implement a State Plan for the Prevention of Trafficking in Persons. The task force shall meet at least quarterly and should include all aspects of trafficking, including sex trafficking and labor trafficking of both United States citizens and foreign nationals, as defined in Section 16-3-2010.
Mandated Task Force Membership
SC Human Trafficking Task Force Advisory Council 2020

- Mental Health
- Hospitality
- Substance Abuse
- Transportation
- Finance

- Additional Focus Areas:
  - Language Accessibility
  - Cultural Competency

- Underserved/Underrepresented Populations
  - People of Color
  - Indigenous Population
  - LGBTQIA+
  - Runaway Youth
  - Homeless Populations
  - Individuals with Disabilities
  - Elderly/Aging Population
Regional Human Trafficking Task Forces
2018 Legislation
H3701 & H3329
H3701

Changed the Department of Social Services Definition of Abuse and Neglect to include Minor Victims of Trafficking

• Aligned with South Carolina’s needs for a coordinated response
• Met federal expectations under the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) - Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act (2015-2017)
State Definitions of Child Abuse and Neglect

**All States** include sexual abuse in their definitions of child abuse.

In **33 States**, the definition of sexual abuse includes human trafficking, specifically sex trafficking or trafficking of children for sexual purposes.

In **15 States**, the crime of human trafficking includes labor trafficking, involuntary servitude, or trafficking of minors) in the definition of child abuse.

The human trafficking specialized service providers must be certified by the Attorney General through criteria established by the Human Trafficking Task Force. The Attorney General, through the task force, must also establish necessary criteria for Human Trafficking Acute Crisis Care and Resource Centers to be established in the communities of South Carolina.

Once the service providers are certified and the assessment centers are open, the information must be disseminated to the family court bench and bar as well as law enforcement to be utilized in carrying out the mandates of this statute. The court must determine the most appropriate way to provide specialized services to the juveniles to address the concerns relating to human trafficking.
What Does This Mean for South Carolina?
What Did H3329 Encompass?

Direct Service Providers

- Individual Professionals
- Residential Programs for Minor and Adult Victims/Survivors
- Community-Based Programs for Minor and Adult Victims/Survivors
- Acute Care & Resource Centers
January 2019
Victim Service Provider Certification–Human Trafficking (VSP-HT)

15 Initial Hours Including:

- SC Victim’s Rights and Statutes (2 Hours)
- Crime Victim Compensation (1 Hour)
- Ethics (1 Hour)
- Criminal Justice System/Court Procedures (2 Hours)
- Communication (2 Hours)
- Multidisciplinary Collaboration (2 Hours)
- Self-Care (1 Hour)
- Specialized Training (4 Hours)

*Plus 12 Yearly Credits of Continuing Education
South Carolina
HT Direct Service Provider Certification
Process to begin Fall 2021

Specialized Service Provider
▶ Programs specifically designed to provide services to human trafficking victims/survivors, including both sex and/or labor trafficking

Supplemental Services
▶ Other agencies that commit to assisting in providing a portion of the specific services required to support a victim/survivor of human trafficking (shelter, substance abuse counseling, clinical mental health services, case management, vocational training, etc.)
123 Children ranging between the ages of birth to 19 years
- 113 sex trafficking victims (91.9%)
- 5 labor trafficking victims (4.1%)
- 5 both labor and sex trafficking (4.1%)

Majority of victims identified are between the ages of 12 and 15 (48.8%) followed by
- 16-19 year olds (38.2%)
- 8-11 year olds (8.9%)

5 cases under 7 years of age (4.1%)
Acute Care and Resource Centers
Strategic Response Areas

**Acute Care**
- Immediate residential needs (boys and girls)
- Crisis stabilization
- Forensic interview and exam
- Psychological assessment
- Substance use screening
- Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) Approach
- Adequate safety and security measures

**Resource Center**
- Strategic Response Coordinator
- SC Law Enforcement Division (SLED) Special Agent
- SLED Victim Advocate
- Fusion Center Analyst
- Social Workers and Case Managers
- Children’s Advocacy Center Partnership(s)
- Offices, meeting/training space, and exam rooms
Questions?

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National Human Trafficking Hotline: 888-373-7888