



**THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF
PALM BEACH COUNTY, FL**

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Action By: Information Only
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TO: All Principals

FROM: Cheryl C. Alligood, Chief Academic Officer

SUBJECT: JANUARY IS HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS MONTH

The Department of Student Intervention Services is promoting the month of January, 2014 as Human Trafficking Awareness month. Human trafficking is a form of modern day slavery. Commercial sexual exploitation is a violation of federal anti-trafficking laws. This crime occurs even if there is no force, fraud, or coercion. Attached is information for District and school center use to enhance awareness.

How Does Human Trafficking Affect Our Schools?

The U.S. Department of Education states that trafficking can involve school-age youth, particularly those made vulnerable by challenging family situations. Trafficking can take a variety of forms including forced labor, domestic servitude, and commercial sexual exploitation.

The children at risk are not just high school students; traffickers are known to prey on victims as young as nine years old. Traffickers may target minor victims through social media websites, telephone chat lines, afterschool programs, at shopping malls, bus depots, in clubs, or through friends or acquaintances who recruit students on school campuses.

U.S. Department of Education Urges Reporting any Suspected Incidence of Human Trafficking

If you have information regarding suspected human trafficking of a child in Florida please contact:

- Florida Abuse Hotline at 1-800-96-ABUSE (1-800-962-2873)
- In the case of an immediate emergency, call your local police department or emergency access number
- To report suspected human trafficking crimes or to get help from law enforcement, call toll-free (24/7), 1-866-347-2423 or submit a tip online at www.ice.gov/tips
- To report suspected trafficking crimes, get help, or learn more about human trafficking from a non-governmental organization, call the toll-free (24/7), **National Human Trafficking Resource Center** at 1-888-373-7888.

The following resources are available for your school:

Hope for Freedom - Free Presentations

To schedule a Hope for Freedom presentation, please contact Bonnie Jo Daniels at 561-776-3216 or Bonniejod@cftoday.org

Hope for Freedom is an anti-human trafficking initiative available to the School District of Palm Beach County. Hope for Freedom offers a one-hour awareness presentation on the topic of domestic minor sex trafficking, geared specifically to middle and high school girls. The goal of the program is to provide students with a better understanding of this exploitation, ways to avoid it, and, make better choices to ensure their safety.

The presentation consists of an introduction to domestic minor sex trafficking, group participation, and video segments to include interviews with survivors, including the true story of a Florida teen that left home to meet someone she met online. The program is best displayed in a large group setting, consisting of girls only.

Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children - Free Presentations

To schedule a presentation for staff and/or parents regarding Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) contact Laura Shoemaker at 561-494-1449 (PX 81449) or laura.shoemaker@palmbeachschools.org. Additional information is attached for your review.

EWG/CCA/JML/EV/LS:dh/cy/jb

Attachment

Approved: _____



E. Wayne Gent, Superintendent

Human trafficking is modern-day slavery,
and it's happening right here in the United States.

National Human Trafficking Resource Center (NHTRC)

1-888-3737-888

or email: NHTRC@PolarisProject.org

TOLL-FREE | 24 Hours/day, 7 Days/week

Confidential | Interpreters available if needed

WHO ARE THE VICTIMS?

Victims are forced to provide labor or commercial sex, and can be:

- U.S. citizens or foreign nationals
- Men, women, or children

WHERE DOES HUMAN TRAFFICKING HAPPEN?

Human trafficking can happen in many situations, including in:

- Commercial sex industry (street prostitution, strip clubs, massage parlors, escort services, brothels, internet)
- Factories (industrial, garment, meat-packing)
- Farms, landscaping, or construction
- Peddling rings, begging rings, or magazine crews
- Private homes (housekeepers, nannies, or servile marriages)
- Restaurants, bars, and other service industries (nail or hair salons)

Call to report a potential case, get information or resources,
request training or technical assistance, or receive referrals.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: www.PolarisProject.org/nhtrc

