

Preventing Human Trafficking:

Resources for the Hospitality Industry

Human traffickers exploit people as commodities in conditions of sexual and labor servitude. Traffickers take advantage of the privacy and anonymity offered by hotels and motels, operating with low risk when hotel staff and the community are not aware of the signs of human trafficking.

Employees in the hospitality industry are in a unique position to help protect children and adults from human trafficking.

Signs of possible trafficking:

- Extended stays with few possessions
- Excessive traffic in and out of a room
- Constant flow of men to room at all hours
- Adult guest with minor who:
 - » Did not originally come with the guest
 - » Exhibits fearful, anxious or submissive behavior
 - » Doesn't make eye contact
 - » Has no knowledge of current or past whereabouts
 - » Shows signs of poor hygiene, malnourishment or fatigue
 - » Appears to lack control of their own money, cellphone, identity or movement appears controlled
 - » Is not on vacation but is seen late at night or during school hours
 - » Takes on adult roles, i.e. paying bills, requesting services

Additional signs for Front Desk, Concierge, Bellman, Doorman

- Room paid with cash or pre-paid credit card
- Requests room overlooking parking lot
- Reluctant to provide full names, home address or vehicle information
- Lack of identification
- Excessive use of hotel computers for adult web sites
- Rental of pornography with child in room
- Room has fewer beds than patrons

Housekeeping and Room Service

- Do Not Disturb sign used constantly
- Will not allow housekeeping in the room for multiple days
- Excessive amounts of cash, multiple computers, cell phones, pagers, credit card swipe machines or other technology observed
- Illegal drugs or excessive amounts of alcohol

Restaurant and Bar Staff

- Patron entertaining a minor at the bar or restaurant that he did not come in with originally
- Individuals loitering and soliciting male customers
- Individuals waiting at a table or bar and picked up by a male
- Individuals asking staff or patrons for food or money

If you suspect trafficking:

- Never interfere with a situation or attempt to assist the victim.
- Immediately alert the designated manager on duty if indicators are observed.
- Contact the National Human Trafficking Resource Center at 1-888-373-7888 to report tips, to connect with trained law enforcement or a local task force, or for additional resources and referrals to social service providers.
- Call 9-1-1 for emergency situations (e.g. threats of violence, physical assault, emergency medical needs).
- Follow existing internal protocols that govern actions when criminal activity is suspected.

Resources:

National Human Trafficking Resource Center:
1-888-373-7888 or text HELP to BeFree (233733)
www.Polarisproject.org/initiatives/hotels
www.Ecpatusa.org

Niagara County Safe Harbour Project

www.cacofniagara.org/services/safe-harbour



THE
CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER
OF NIAGARA

A Service of Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center

This information made possible through a grant from the New York State Office of Children and Family Services to the Niagara County Department of Social Services.