

What Is Human Trafficking?

Human Trafficking is defined by the US State Department as *commercial acts or services induced by force, fraud or coercion*. This can include: Forced Labor, Bonded Labor, Debt Bondage, Sex Trafficking, Involuntary Domestic Servitude, Child Soldiers or Organ Trafficking

What does it Look Like in our World?

There are an estimated 40 million people currently enslaved worldwide.
(Polaris, Global Slavery Index)

There are an estimated 1 million people enslaved in the United States.
(CIA)

Human trafficking is the 2nd largest and fastest growing criminal industry in the world.
(United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, 2008)

The total market value of human trafficking is \$150+ billion
(United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, 2015, traffickinghope.org)

In the United States, the majority of victims of sex trafficking are U.S. citizens (83%).
(U.S. Department of Justice Office of Justice Program Bureau of Justice Statistics)

Both domestic and international trafficking occurs in the New England region and are linked to cartels, mobs, gangs, and individuals. Boston serves as a source, transit, and destination location for human trafficking. According to Homeland Security, the majority of U.S. victims are U.S. citizens.
(US Department of Health and Human Services)

Massachusetts passed its anti-trafficking legislation in November 2011, and the law was enacted in February 2012. It was one of the last 3 states in the US to pass legislation. The first arrest under the new law happened on March 22, 2012.
(MA Office of the Governor, Boston Globe)

In the United States, only ~700 specifically allocated beds are available for trafficking survivors.
(Polaris Project)

"Trafficking human beings for sex and labor is a growing problem in Massachusetts and has existed underground for far too long."
(Massachusetts Attorney General Maura Healey)

"We must aggressively target the drivers of human trafficking to ensure this horrific practice is eliminated in the Commonwealth and our society as whole."
(Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker)