IOWA SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Crime Victim Assistance Division within the Iowa Attorney General's Office

Celine Villongco
Human Trafficking Coordinator
celine.villongco@iowa.gov
800-373-5044 or 515-725-4109

Iowa Network Against Human Trafficking & Slavery

Dr. George Belitsos
Chair, Board of Directors
gbelitsos55@gmail.com
The network website, **www.iowanaht.org**, is the go-to place for Iowa human trafficking information, training, and volunteer opportunities. You can subscribe to receive a twice-monthly email blog post by going to the contact tab on the website.

Office to Combat Human Trafficking within the Iowa Department of Public Safety

Terry Cowman,
Human Trafficking Coordinator
cowman@dps.state.ia.us
515-725-6037

SIGNS OF TRAFFICKING

Signs of Teen Sex Trafficking

- Unexplained absence from school
- Runs away from home
- Fearful, anxious, depressed, tense
- Inability to speak for themselves
- Deprived of food, water, sleep, medical care (malnourished)
- Minimal contact with family
- "Boyfriend" or "Uncle" or "Daddy" controls teens life, speaks for teen
- Tattoos of someone's name
- Sexually transmitted diseases
- Multiple cell phones

Signs of Labor Trafficking

- Escorted to and from a work-site
- Living at or near the work-site
- Kept under surveillance
- Housed with others who have similar jobs
- Extreme reluctance or fearful of talking with others
- Indicators of physical abuse
- Payment does not go to worker
- The worker does not posses their own identification documents

Iowa Network Against HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND SLAVERY

NAHT and Slavery
IOWA NETWORK AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND SLAVERY

Coordinating Iowa's solution to end sex and labor trafficking through coalition building, advocacy, raising awareness, prevention, education, advocating for victim services, justice system reform, and effective public policy.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING

is the recruitment, harboring, transporting, obtaining, or maintaining of a person by means of force, fraud, or coercion for purposes of servitude, debt bondage, slavery or participation in the sex trade.

For children under age 18, force or coercion do not need to be shown for the minor to be considered a victim of sex trafficking.

National & Statewide Crisis Lines

National Human Trafficking Hotline
888-373-7888 or text "HELP" to BeFree (233733)
help@humantraffickinghotline.org
www.humantraffickinghotline.org

Statewide Iowa Crisis Line
800-770-1650 or text "iowahelp" to 20121
www.survivorshelpline.org

DHS Child Abuse Hotline
for reports of suspected child sex trafficking: 800-362-2178

CALL 911 IF THERE IS AN IMMEDIATE CONCERN FOR SAFETY.

Who We Are

The Iowa Network Against Human Trafficking & Slavery (NAHT) was Iowa's first and remains the only statewide volunteer organization devoted exclusively to ending trafficking in all its forms.

When we began more than ten years ago, most Iowans thought that sex and labor trafficking took place only in third world countries, and, if domestic trafficking occurred in the USA, it was rare and only took place in large metropolitan cities.

The undeniable truth is that both sex and labor trafficking are in Iowa just as they are in all other states in our country.
It is in Iowa's small towns and our cities. Because Iowa has three major U.S. interstate highways running through it, north to south and east to west, victims are transported to and from our state to every corner of the nation.

The Iowa NAHT is a non-profit organization that is overseen by a board of Directors (18 members) from across Iowa. There are no employees and the Iowa NAHT does not provide direct services to victims or survivors. The NAHT does not receive state funding and operates on private donations.

Our Mission:

Coordinating Iowa's solution to end human trafficking and slavery through coalition building, raising awareness, promoting education, and advocacy.

To end human trafficking in Iowa in all of its forms through:

- Providing a platform for collaboration between state and local agencies working on anti-trafficking efforts.
- Advocating for effective investigation, rescue, prosecution of trafficking.
- Leading and coordination of Iowa's human trafficking public policy, and legislative efforts.
- Collaborating between regional groups, nonprofits, law enforcement, faith communities, and community service providers.
- Raising awareness and promoting education and training.
- Advocating for expansion of survivor services and best practice.

NAHT

Iowa Network Against HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND SLAVERY

facebook.com/IowaNAHT www.IowaNAHT.org

Become Part of the Solution:

1. If you see something that doesn't look right take action and call *The National Crisis Line* **888-373-7888** and *State Crisis Line* **800-770-1650**
2. Public awareness plays a key role, given the hidden nature of trafficking. Educating yourself about the signs of trafficking can help to identify victims and may assist in the investigation of cases.
3. Go to *The Iowa Network Against Human Trafficking & Slavery* website **www.iowanaht.org** and select the contact tab, then complete the Sign-Up form. Receive blog posts and stay informed. Volunteer your time by serving on the *NAHT Legislative Advisory Council or Best Practice CMTE*. Volunteers are also needed to train hotel/motel employees on signs of sex trafficking and how to report.
4. To find dates and locations of anti-trafficking trainings and events, please go to *The Iowa Network Against Human Trafficking & Slavery* website **www.iowanaht.org** and select calender. Get Informed.
5. Get your child involved in *Teens Against Human Trafficking* **www.letsgetangry.org**, or start your own local school-based team.
6. Provide financial support for human trafficking public awareness and prevention programs. Go to **www.iowanaht.org** and select *"Donate"*.
7. Select hotels and motels that display a code of conduct for the protection of children from sexual exploitation in travel and tourism. For more information, go to **www.thecode.org** or **www.ecpatusa.org** to reach End Child Prostitution and Trafficking.
8. Ask your local city council to adopt a massage therapy local ordinance to root out sex trafficking.

Advocates for effective investigation, rescue, and best practice survivor services.

9. Volunteer with a local agency serving survivors of trafficking. Go to **www.iowanaht.org** and click on "Resources" to find a non-profit provider in your area. Join a local anti-trafficking coalition.
10. Ask your Iowa representative or senator to support legislation that will provide tougher penalties for convictions of human trafficking, funding for survivor services and prevention and education programs.
11. For more national and international information on trafficking, go to **www.sharedhope.org** or *End Child Prostitution and Trafficking* at **www.ecpatusa.org.**
12. Support federal and state laws to combat human trafficking.
13. Work to end advertising and media that glorifies pimps and exploits children. Contact the company responsible for this type of advertising when you see it and share your concerns.
14. Share your growing awareness through arranging speakers in your school, service club, or faith community.
15. Work to eliminate Backpage and similar websites that promote sexual exploitation.

Iowa Human Trafficking Strategy

Statewide Sex and Labor Trafficking Solution

Iowa needs to implement a coordinated strategy:

1. Public awareness efforts, to identify the signs of trafficking and identify how to report suspected incidents.
2. Development of a statewide strategic plan in which all sectors have a role and involvement.
3. Training, especially for law enforcement, the judicial system, hotel and motel employees and healthcare providers.
4. Expansion and coordination of recovery and long term community resources to recognize and provide support to trafficking survivors, especially child victims of trafficking.
5. Development of sustainable state, federal and private funding sources, which can promote investigation, rescue, prosecution and community support.
6. Legislation and improved public policy.