

# BETHE ONE

## IN THE FIGHT AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Health care professionals are often in a unique position to recognize and report human trafficking since victims may seek care at hospitals, clinics, or in emergency settings, even while under their trafficker's control. When suspicion arises, medical professionals should create a safe, private environment, use trauma-informed communication, and ensure the patient's confidentiality.

### INDICATORS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

#### LABOR TRAFFICKING

- Persons arrive and leave at the same time/ are brought to the location by a manager
- Person does not have possession or control of documents (ID, passport, license, travel documents)
- Person forced or coerced to do a different job than agreed upon or forced to work under different conditions
- Person unsure/vague about where they reside
- Person exhibits signs of sleep deprivation, poor hygiene
- Person has untreated medical conditions or appears malnourished, dehydrated, etc.
- Person treated in demeaning or aggressive manner, or evidence of verbal threats

#### SEX TRAFFICKING

- Person appears submissive, fearful, tense, paranoid
- Person has physical injuries or branding such as a name, money, or pimp phrase tattoos
- Person defers to another person when answering questions
- Person is unsure about who they are with or what they are doing, often failing to make eye contact
- Excessive inquiries from third parties ("What room will they be taken to?")
- Persons with numerous laptops and cell phones
- Person has clothing or luggage inappropriate for the weather
- Person does not have possession or control of documents (ID, passport, license, travel documents)

All health care practitioners, medical assistants, and first responders are required to receive human trafficking prevention training.

An employee may not be disciplined, retaliated against, or otherwise discriminated against for reporting in good faith a suspected act of human trafficking.

If you are experiencing or suspect human trafficking, call the **Texas Suspicious Activity Reporting Network iWatchTexas** at **844-643-2251** or visit [iWatchTx.org](http://iWatchTx.org).

For assistance for victims of human trafficking, contact the **National Human Trafficking Hotline** at **888-373-7888** or **text 233733**.

## DIAL 911 IN AN EMERGENCY

