

# Hyde County Hotline, Inc.

**24-Hours Crisis Line 252-925-2500**

Visit us at: [HydeCounty-Hotline.org](http://HydeCounty-Hotline.org) Facebook: [Hyde County Hotline](#)

## *January is Human Trafficking Awareness Month*

**It is estimated that up to 40.3 million people around the world are being trafficked. Sex trafficking and labor trafficking are an issue world-wide.**

**Let us all reach out to our community, local businesses, civic groups, schools and faith-based organization to share the facts about this horrific epidemic and were victims can get help. Knowledge is power and the victims of trafficking need their power back.**

Are you or someone you know being trafficked? Is human trafficking happening in your community? Recognizing potential red flags and knowing the indicators of human trafficking is a key step in identifying more victims and helping them find the assistance they need.

### **Common Work and Living Conditions: The individual(s) in question**

- Is not free to leave or come and go at will
- Is under 18 and is providing commercial sex acts
- Is in the commercial sex industry and has a pimp / manager
- Is unpaid, paid very little, or paid only through tips
- Works excessively long and/or unusual hours
- Is not allowed breaks or suffers under unusual restrictions at work
- Owes a large debt and is unable to pay it off
- Was recruited through false promises concerning the nature and conditions of his/her work
- High security measures exist in the work and/or living locations (e.g. opaque windows, boarded up windows, bars on windows, barbed wire, security cameras, etc.)
- Is living and working on site
- Experiences verbal or physical abuse by their supervisor
- Is not given proper safety equipment
- Is not paid directly
- Is forced to meet daily quotas

### **Poor Mental Health or Abnormal Behavior**

- Is fearful, anxious, depressed, submissive, tense, or nervous/paranoid
- Exhibits unusually fearful or anxious behavior after bringing up law enforcement or immigration officials
- Shows signs of substance use or addiction

### **Poor Physical Health**

- Shows signs of poor hygiene, malnourishment, and/or fatigue
- Shows signs of physical and/or sexual abuse, physical restraint, confinement, or torture

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## Lack of Control

- Has few or no personal possessions
- Is frequently monitored
- Is not in control of their own money, financial records, or bank account
- Is not in control of their own identification documents (ID or passport)
- Is not allowed or able to speak for themselves (a third party may insist on being present and/or translating)

## Other

- Claims of just visiting and inability to clarify where they are staying/address
- Lack of knowledge of whereabouts and/or do not know what city he/she is in
- Appear to have lost sense of time
- Shares scripted, confusing, or inconsistent stories
- Protects the person who may be hurting them or minimizes abuse

This list is not exhaustive and represents only a selection of possible indicators. The red flags in this list may not be present in all trafficking cases. Each individual indicator should be taken in context, not be considered in isolation, nor should be taken as “proof” that human trafficking is occurring. Additionally, cultural differences should also be considered.

To request help or report suspected human trafficking, call  
Hyde County Hotline’s **24-hour Crisis Line at 252-925-2500** or the  
**National Human Trafficking Hotline** at 1-888-373-7888 or text "help" to BeFree (233733).

## *Human Trafficking Statistics for North Carolina During 2018*

**859 CONTACTS REGARDING HUMAN TRAFFICKING  
287 IDENTIFIED HUMAN TRAFFICKING CASES**

These statistics are based on the contacts -- phone calls, texts, online chats, emails, and webforms -- received by the National Human Trafficking Hotline that reference North Carolina.

## *Human Trafficking Statistics for Hyde County During 2019*

***Hyde County Hotline identified and served 5 victims of human trafficking  
from June 2019-December 2019  
62 human trafficking related calls and 4 in-person contacts***

These calls represent initial contact with the victims as well as follow-up calls to help meet the victim’s needs.

When we hear of an epidemic like human trafficking, we feel overwhelmed or stand in disbelief, but these issues are a part of our communities. They are real! We may not feel we have the power to do anything, but there is always a way to help.

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*Learn the signs of human trafficking. Report suspicious activities or people.  
Support the victims.  
You always have the power to do something!*

## Prayer for an End to Human Trafficking (Source: Adapted from CRS.org)

Oh God, we didn't see them.  
But you did-  
The hundreds and thousands of human beings  
Trafficked each year to join the millions who are trapped in  
modern-day slavery.  
Under terrible conditions, they work in factories, plow fields,  
harvest crops, work quarries, fill brothels, clean homes and haul water.

Many are children with tiny fingers for weaving rugs  
and small shoulders for bearing rifles.  
Their labor is forced, their bodies beaten, their faces hidden  
from those who don't really want to see them.

But you see them all, God of the poor.  
You hear their cry and you answer  
by opening our eyes, and breaking our hearts  
and loosening our tongues to insist:

No more...

You are merciful and we ask for mercy.  
Mercy for the children trafficked by their mothers,  
And the spouses trafficked by their husbands and mercy  
For the broken and lost that they find healing, restoration and peace in you!

Mercy...

In the name of JESUS!

AMEN!



*We are so thankful for all of our volunteers!*

*Your service and hard work changes lives!  
Thank you for taking the time to make a  
difference!*

**If you want to know more about volunteering,  
please call our office at 252-925-2502.**

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## Human Trafficking Laws

In the state of North Carolina, human trafficking is considered a felony. As defined by the North Carolina General Statutes in Chapter 14, Article 10A, human trafficking in North Carolina is defined by coercion, deception, involuntary servitude, minor status, and sexual servitude. For an adult, trafficking constitutes a Class F felony. For a child, it constitutes a Class C felony.

### **GS.14.430-20 (Safe Harbor/Victims of Human Trafficking)**

- Provides protections for and responses to minor victims of human trafficking
- Decriminalizes prostitution-related offenses for minors
- Ensures child welfare system has jurisdiction over child trafficking victims
- Mandates the creation of a plan of action for law enforcement and child welfare

### **GS 115C-81(el)(4a)**

- Boards of Education must address sex trafficking awareness and prevention in schools
- 7th graders will be taught reproductive health and safety education
- Awareness of sexual assault, sexual abuse and risk reduction

(Source: <https://www.dhs.gov/blue-campaign>)

## New NC Law Means School Workers Must be Trained to Spot Signs of Sex Trafficking

All North Carolina school districts must choose an employee training program for reporting and preventing child sexual abuse and sex trafficking.

The new training requirements are part of an overhaul of the state's sexual assault laws that include making it a Class 1 misdemeanor for anyone age 18 or over to fail to notify the authorities when he or she suspects or knows that a child is being physically or sexually abused. Other changes include extending the statute of limitations for civil suits against perpetrators of child abuse and includes a number of other safety protections for children. Senate Bill 199 was unanimously approved by state lawmakers in October.

“Justice will not be denied just because it’s delayed,” Gov. Roy Cooper said at a ceremony in November where he signed the new legislation. “Finally, in North Carolina, people are required to speak up for sexually abused children.”

## North Carolina Ranks High in Human Trafficking

The need for the training is high. The former chairwoman of the state Human Trafficking Commission said North Carolina is thought to have one of the top rates of human trafficking in the nation, the News & Observer previously reported.

In November, a Durham jury convicted a man of attempted human trafficking of a 16-year-old minor and first-degree kidnapping. But human trafficking charges in North Carolina are rare and convictions rarer still, the News & Observer previously reported.

Across the state, there have been only nine human trafficking convictions, including five involving children, in North Carolina courts since 2013, according to the N.C. Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission.

## Learning About Warning Signs of Sex Trafficking

The law requires all public schools, including charter schools, to train school employees who work directly with students. The training program is supposed to include:

- Best practices from the field of prevention.
- The grooming process of sexual predators.

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- The warning signs of sexual abuse and sex trafficking.
- How to intervene when sexual abuse or sex trafficking is suspected or disclosed.
- Legal responsibilities for reporting sexual abuse or sex trafficking.
- Available resources for assistance.

(SOURCE: INFORMATION FROM THE NEWS AND OBSERVER- T. KEUNG HUI)

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*Hyde County Hotline has been working hard to build a team of professionals who can quickly respond to the needs of a survivor of human trafficking. The North East Coastal Regional Rapid Response Team meets quarterly to work toward the goal of assisting human trafficking victims and to hold community trainings to give the community and those agencies working with victims a better understanding of what human trafficking is and how to respond to it.*

*You are invited to join us at our upcoming NECRRRT meeting to learn about labor trafficking.*

*Please mark your calendars for January 23, 2020.*

**We look forward to having Nancy Hagan from *Project NO REST* join us for this meeting to be held on January 23, 2020 from 10:00a.m.-12:00p.m. (Call for registration and location)**

**Please let us know if you plan to attend by calling 252-925-2502.**



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**Choice Hyde County Hotline, Inc. and Amazon will donate 0.5% of the purchase price to our agency.**



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**Family Violence Prevention  
& Services Program**



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Youth Involvement**  
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