



MID-MICHIGAN DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT

CHED/Family Planning

Human Trafficking

Policy Number: 708.37

Effective Date: 8-1-15

Approved By: Andrea Tabor, RN, BSN, MPH Division Director Last Review Date: New

PURPOSE/POLICY

Trafficking Defined: Human trafficking is a form of modern-day slavery in which traffickers use force, fraud, violence, threats, lies, debt, bondage and other forms of coercion to control victims for the purpose of engaging in commercial sex acts or labor services against his/her will.

It is the policy of Mid-Michigan District Health Department to report all known or suspected cases of human trafficking of minors to Child Protective Services and local law enforcement and may report cases of non-minor clients with their consent.

PROCEDURE

1. Identify Those Available Human Trafficking Resources Within Your Community
 - a. National Human Trafficking Resource Center (1-888-373-7888). This national referral line can assist in finding local resources for the victim and developing a safety plan that is acceptable to the client.
 - b. Referral sources in place for victims of child sexual abuse and domestic violence may be key allies.
2. Educate staff on human trafficking and the existing human trafficking policy
3. Identify the physical and behavioral signs that may identify a victim of trafficking:
 - a. Is not free to leave or come and go as he/she wishes
 - b. Is in the commercial sex industry and has a pimp/manager
 - c. Is unpaid, paid very little, or paid only through tips
 - d. Works excessively long and/or unusual hours
 - e. Is not allowed breaks or suffers under unusual restrictions at work
 - f. Owes a large debt and is unable to pay it off
 - g. Was recruited through false promises concerning the nature and conditions of his/her work
 - h. 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.)
 - i. Is fearful, anxious, depressed, submissive, tense, or nervous/paranoid
 - j. Exhibits unusually fearful or anxious behavior after bringing up law enforcement

Original Policy Date:
Original Policy Name:

Supersedes Policy Date:
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- k. Avoids eye contact
- 4. Plan of Action After Assessment
 - a. Once a victim of trafficking is identified, the clinician and client will need to put together a plan of care. The health care provider should be aware of the following:
 - 1) the provider cannot force the victim to report the crime, and
 - 2) the victim and/or victim's family may be at risk for immense harm if she reports the crime. If the victim is a minor, the provider is under legal obligation to phone child protective services.
 - b. Because victims of human trafficking have already experienced significant powerlessness, this is an opportunity for the provider to purposefully give the client some decision-making ability. For example, the provider and client can anonymously call the referral line together and ask pertinent questions about the client's situation. Or the provider can give the client a phone, the phone number, and a safe space in which to make the call herself/himself. The clinician is not mandated by law to call anyone (either the referral line or law enforcement) unless the client is under 16 years of age. While the clinician may call the referral line anonymously without the client's permission, it is not advisable to make an official report without the client's consent. Please note that this is a gray area and that each clinician will have to make his/her own moral decision regarding the reporting of suspected trafficking.

Resources: Human Trafficking "Keeping Providers Informed"

<http://mediasite.mihealth.org/Mediasite/Play/e266787fbcef46969e4e4a81ac58ef651d>

Presenters: Marie Osborne (CBS Detroit News Reporter), and Suellyn Scarnecchia, Clinical Professor of Law, University of Michigan, Human Trafficking Clinic.

Human Trafficking Discussion Guide

http://www.famplan.org/Resources/Docs/human_traffic_discuss_guide.pdf

2014 Michigan Human Trafficking Legislation

https://www.michigan.gov/ag/0,4534,7-164-60857_60859---,00.html

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