Minnesota Department of Health

# Human Trafficking and Exploitation Prevention and Response

## What is Labor Trafficking?

**Use of manipulation, intimidation, abuse (emotional, physical, sexual), coercion, threats, debt bondage, or control to make someone work against their will.**

Has been seen in several industries including:

* Domestic work
* Agriculture
* Construction
* Traveling sales crews
* Restaurants, hospitality
* Massage businesses
* Manufacturing
* Beauty salons
* Illegal activities (such as drug possession and sales)

Tactics include:

* Withholding or destroying important personal documents
* Withholding wages to pay a debt
* Garnishing wages (for example: for housing, laundry)
* Requiring workers to live in overcrowded or unsafe housing provided by employer
* Isolating worker physically or culturally
* Blocking worker from leaving the job
* Monitoring communication
* Threats of physical violence, deportation

**What is Labor Exploitation?**

When an employer violates laws and standards that protect workers, ensure fair pay, set safety standards, and prohibit discrimination, including through:

* Wage theft (withholding legally or contractually promised wages, including overtime)
* Fraud by employer impacting employee
* Illegal contract conditions
* Being underpaid for labor
* Child labor (child working illegally under age 14 or in unsafe conditions)

## Where to Get Help

All people have a right to a safe workplace under state and federal laws.

Services are available to all potential victims/survivors of labor trafficking and exploitation.

[**Direct Service Providers list (https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/humantrafficking/labortrafficking/services.html)**](https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/humantrafficking/labortrafficking/services.html)

* [The Advocates for Human Rights (http://www.theadvocatesforhumanrights.org/)](http://www.theadvocatesforhumanrights.org/), 612-746-9845
* [Dodge and Olmsted Victim Services (http://www.olmstedcounty.gov/)](http://www.olmstedcounty.gov/), 507-328-7270
* [The Enitan Story (https://enitan.org/)](https://enitan.org/), 763-273-6624
* [Lutheran Social Services Refugee Services (http://www.lssmn.org/services/refugees/services)](http://www.lssmn.org/services/refugees/services), 612-879-5258 or 320-251-7700
* [Someplace Safe (http://www.someplacesafe.info/)](http://www.someplacesafe.info/), 218-739-3359 or 800-974-3359
* [Standpoint (http://www.standpointmn.org/)](http://www.standpointmn.org/), 800-313-2666 or 612-343-9842

## Additional Assistance

[**Day One: The Call To Safety (https://dayoneservices.org/)**](https://dayoneservices.org/)

Support and information regarding labor trafficking and other crimes.

Call: 1-866-385-2699  
Text: 612-399-9977  
Email: [safety@dayoneservices.org](mailto:safety@dayoneservices.org)  
Chat: dayoneservices.org

**General Crime Victim Services line**:

Call: 612-767-9844   
Hours: M-F 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**24/7 Crisis Hotline for victims of domestic violence, sexual violence, and sex trafficking**  
Call: 1-866-223.1111, text 612-399-9995  
Email: [safety@dayoneservices.org](mailto:safety@dayoneservices.org)

[**Office of MN Attorney General Wage Theft Unit (http://www.ag.state.mn.us/Consumer/Publications/WageTheft.asp)**](http://www.ag.state.mn.us/Consumer/Publications/WageTheft.asp)

Call (Twin Cities): 651-296-3353  
Call (Outside of Twin Cities): 800-657-3787

**MN Department of Human Services**

Visit: [Safe Harbor/Child Welfare Response (http://www.mn.gov/dhs/safe-harbor)](file:///\\data2gr\grhomes\HPCD\anders2\Products\handouts\Safe%20Harbor\Safe%20Harbor\Child%20Welfare%20Response%20(http:\www.mn.gov\dhs\safe-harbor))   
Email: [DHS.Safeharbor@state.mn.us](mailto:DHS.Safeharbor@state.mn.us)

**The MN Department of Labor and Industry**

Visit: [Employment Practices (https://www.dli.mn.gov/business/employment-practices)](file:///\\data2gr\grhomes\HPCD\anders2\Products\handouts\Safe%20Harbor\Employment%20Practices%20(https:\www.dli.mn.gov\business\employment-practices))

Labor Standards Office:  
Call: 651-284-5075  
Email: [dli.laborstandards@state.mn.us](mailto:dli.laborstandards@state.mn.us)

**Bureau of Criminal Apprehension Human Trafficking Investigators Task Force**

Tor immediate help call 911.

Call: 1-877-996-6222  
Email: [bca.tips@state.mn.us](mailto:bca.tips@state.mn.us)

**Administration for Children and Families, Office of Trafficking in Persons**

Child protection specialists:  
Call: 202-205-4582  
Email: [childtrafficking@acf.hhs.gov](mailto:childtrafficking@acf.hhs.gov).

For foreign national victims of trafficking visit: [Office on Trafficking Persons: Victims Assistance (https://www.acf.hhs.gov/otip/victim-assistance)](https://www.acf.hhs.gov/otip/victim-assistance)

Learn more about the [MDH Trafficking and Exploitation Prevention and Response Program (https://www.health.state.mn.us/humantrafficking)](https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/humantrafficking/index.html).

Minnesota Department of Health  
Human Trafficking Prevention and Response  
PO Box 64975  
St. Paul, MN 55164-0975  
651-201-5000  
[health.human.trafficking.mdh@state.mn.us](mailto:health.human.trafficking.mdh@state.mn.us)   
[www.health.state.mn.us](http://www.health.state.mn.us/)

10/23/2024

To obtain this information in a different format, call: 651-201-5400.