The North Carolina Human Trafficking Commission (HTC), housed in and staffed by the North Carolina Judicial Branch, is the legislatively mandated leader of anti-human trafficking efforts in North Carolina per S.L. 2013-368. The Commission is charged with:

- Examining and combating human trafficking
- Funding and facilitating research
- Creating measurement, assessment, and accountability measures
- Suggesting new policies, procedures, and legislation
- Informing and educating law enforcement personnel, social services providers, and the general public
- Developing regional response teams
- Identifying gaps in law enforcement or service provision and recommending solutions

In 2018, North Carolina received an “A” rating in the national fight against human trafficking, according to a recent report produced by Shared Hope International thanks to the work of the North Carolina Human Trafficking Commission. North Carolina’s report card rating of 90 is significant and demonstrates an improvement from the “B” rating received in 2017 and illustrates significant improvement from 2011 when North Carolina received a score of 61 or “D.” North Carolina’s ranking among states improved from 26th in 2017 to ninth overall over the past year.

UNDER FEDERAL AND NORTH CAROLINA LAW:
- Minors involved in any commercial sexual activity;
- Adults induced into commercial sexual activity through force, fraud, or coercion; and
- Children and adults induced to perform labor or services through force, fraud, or coercion

... ARE VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN NORTH CAROLINA

• North Carolina has consistently ranked within the top 10 states with the most reported human trafficking cases in the nation.

• Since 2016, human trafficking prevention and awareness is required to be taught in every public middle school in North Carolina. (G.S. 115C-81(e1)(4a))

• There is no single profile of victims of human trafficking. Victims are represented by all demographics and can be anyone.

• Ending human trafficking will take involvement from all disciplines and every community.

• In 2017, SB 257 required certain businesses, hospitals, public transportation facilities, and employment offices to post a human trafficking public awareness sign.

• Since 2018, G.S. 7B 101 allows the Department of Social Services to investigate cases of potential human trafficking of minors regardless of if the perpetrator is a parent or caregiver.

• The Fayetteville Observer reports that law enforcement throughout the county filed 48 charges against 34 people last year for human trafficking, sexual servitude, or involuntary servitude.

• The numbers from the N.C. Administrative Office of the Courts show Wake County ranked second with 33 charges against 15 people.

THE COMMISSION’S KEY SUCCESSES

• 2016 N.C. Certified Law Enforcement Training

• 2016 Federal SOAR Training Pilot

• 2017 Darkness to Light Stewards of Children Training

• 2017 Truckers Against Trafficking coalition build

• 2017 Mandatory Hotline Posting legislation (over 20,000 key locations across North Carolina)

• 2017 – 18 Two Multi-Disciplinary Human Trafficking Training Symposiums in North Carolina

• 2018 Establishment of Human Trafficking Commission Staff (initially through a grant)

General Assembly Mandates and / or Legislation:

• Participation in Erin’s Law, S.L. 2014-199, 4: Study on Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse

• National Human Trafficking Hotline awareness posters, S.L. 2017-57


• Study assigned to HTC in consultation with the Conference of District Attorneys and the Office of Indigent Defense Services, S.L. 2018-75

• Appropriation for funding victim services in FY 2018-2019, S.L. 2018-97

• Restorative Justice Act, S.L. 2018-75

HELP US TO RAISE AWARENESS!

CONTACT THE NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING HOTLINE AT 1-888-373-7888 TO ASK QUESTIONS, REPORT AN INCIDENT, OR FIND HELP FOR A POTENTIAL VICTIM.