

Report to the North Carolina Human Trafficking Commission: Resources for Local Governments about Human Trafficking

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Suggestions for Local Government Elected Officials:

1. Begin a process of self-education.
2. Encourage professional training of local government staff.
3. Convene multi-disciplinary, cross-organizational meetings to initiate or boost local efforts.
4. Request progress reports on those local efforts.
5. Build community awareness through public recognition events or by requiring that human trafficking hotline posters be displayed in all governmental buildings.
6. Pass ordinances to control businesses that might provide cover for traffickers, such as “pop-up” massage or nail parlors, 24-hour adult video stores, and other sexually oriented businesses.

First Steps for Local Governments to take:

1. Build awareness of the indicators and basic dynamics of trafficking across all governmental departments, beyond law enforcement and social services.
2. Develop protocols for reporting indicators of potential trafficking. Debrief and adjust as needed, once reports are made.
3. If your community has a particular challenge with any of the environmental conditions that enable trafficking or any of the business models that traffickers employ, consider taking a focused approach.
 - Suggestion: Convene a multi-departmental team to apply existing processes, policies, and procedures to the challenge that enables trafficking, in order to develop strategies of prevention or intervention.
4. If your community is working on any wicked problem (homelessness, food scarcity, success in school, etc.), know that you are also working to prevent trafficking.
 - Suggestion: Take time out in those existing work groups to consider the issue through the lens of human trafficking.

2018-2019 Basic Training for Local Government Audiences:

(~755 participants to date)

- Eleven training events completed in ten of the sixteen Council of Government regions.
- Durham County Department of Public Health clinic staff.
- Orange County Government staff.
- North Central Environmental Health District regional meeting.
- City of Lexington Fire Department hosted three training sessions.
- Davie County EMS hosted two training sessions.
- NC City/County Managers Association Conference
- International City/County Managers Association Conference, Academic Symposium

Media Outreach:

- Articles in quarterly publications:
 - County Lines, NC Association of County Commissioners, Summer 2019
 - PM, International City/County Managers Association, Fall, 2019
- UNC-TV, ncIMPACT, 2019 season, “Human Trafficking in the Triad,” January 2019
- Pending article with the FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin: *Low/No Cost Strategies to Build Capacity to Identify Human Trafficking*

Online Resources: The SOG hosts a resource page on human trafficking. Go to sog.unc.edu and search for “human trafficking” to find these documents and blogposts related to HT laws:

1. [Forced Marriage article for Registers of Deeds](#)
2. [Basic Information About Sex and Labor Trafficking. \(handout\)](#)
3. [Public Management Bulletin #16: Labor Trafficking – What Local Governments Need to Know.](#)
4. [Public Management Bulletin #15: Exploring the Intersections between Local Governments and Human Trafficking: The Local Government Focus Group Project](#)
5. [Public Management Bulletin #14: Ten Questions about Local Governments: A Primer for Anti-Human Trafficking Advocates](#)
6. [Public Management Bulletin #12: Human Trafficking in North Carolina: Strategies for Local Government Officials](#)

In Progress:

Planned publications relate to building awareness of specific local government staff positions and various forms or victims of human trafficking:

- Behavioral indicators of labor trafficking via **traveling sales crews** that might be visible to staff who manage business permitting processes.
- Physical indicators of trafficking visible to tax property **appraisers/assessors**.
- Prevention and identification of trafficked **teens** through both voluntary (library, parks & recreation, etc.) and mandated (Child Protective Services, foster care, probation and parole, etc.) services of local government and the judicial system.

Meeting with NFocus Planning Group in Salisbury in July to integrate HT awareness into **code enforcement** training.