



### **What is Fierce Freedom?**

Fierce Freedom was founded to combat human trafficking and exploitation in west-central Wisconsin. The non-profit organization, based in Eau Claire, aims to educate people, groups, and organizations about trafficking-related issues and works with law enforcement, victims, and community members regarding human trafficking in the Chippewa Valley and beyond. Visit us at [www.fiercefreesdom.org](http://www.fiercefreesdom.org) to learn more.

### **What We Do**

Fierce Freedom believes that educating people about human trafficking and its devastating effects is an important step in stopping this horrible crime. We give presentations to churches, schools, community organizations, and other groups. We work with local law enforcement in their efforts to fight human trafficking. We also advocate for victims and connect them with resources to help in their journey of healing.

### **Why Does This Matter?**

We realize how devastating of an issue human trafficking is, but we also believe we can all be a part of the solution. In the past few years, we have seen a societal shift to recognize trafficking as a core problem, but we also acknowledge that there is a long way to go. Fighting a crime like human trafficking will take many passionate people to have an impact and create lasting change.

### **Human Trafficking Definition**

The recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services, using **force, fraud, or coercion** for the purpose of subsection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery. *Sex trafficking* in which a commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such an act *has not attained 18 years of age*. Victims of sex trafficking include young children, teenagers, men, and women.

### **When Working with Victims:**

- Health Care professionals – include screening when possible. ER and doctor's office. Question the unusual, some signs of trafficking may include:
- Lacks medical care and/or is denied medical services by employer
- Appears malnourished or shows signs of repeated exposure to harmful chemicals
- Shows signs of physical and/or sexual abuse, physical restraint, confinement, or torture
- Look Beneath the surface because victims most likely will not self-identify.
- Educate yourself on trauma, its impact and effects, or collaborate with a trauma specialist to assist with interviews.
- Conduct interviews individually and in private, remembering that the victim may need a counselor, advocate or attorney present for support
- When an interpreter is needed, select a skilled interpreter who you are confident is in no way connected to the traffickers.

### **Possible Screening Questions:**

- Have you been forced to do something you didn't want to do?
- Have you been harmed or assaulted?
- Can you come and go as you please?
- Have you or your family members been threatened?
- What are your living conditions like?
- Do you get paid?
- Do you have possession of your ID or documentation? If not, who does?
- Are there locks on your doors and windows? Do they prevent you from leaving?
- Has there ever been a time when you went without food, water, sleep or medical care? How often does this happen?

### **Tools to Help You:**

- National Human Trafficking Hotline: 1-888-373-7888
- Fierce Freedom: 715-514-2890, email [office@www.fiercefreedom.org](mailto:office@www.fiercefreedom.org)
- Blue Campaign website: [www.dhs.gov/blue-campaign](http://www.dhs.gov/blue-campaign)
- Bridge to Hope Shelter: 715-235-9074
- Local Law Enforcement: 911 or 715-839-4972 (Eau Claire Police PD)
- Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Agencies
- Child Protective Services: 715-839-711
- Wisconsin DOJ: 715-839-3830
- Dial 211 or Visit Wisconsin DCF website: [dcf.wisconsin.gov/](http://dcf.wisconsin.gov/)
- Report abuse/neglect: <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/reportabuse>
- Wisconsin Child Sex Trafficking and Exploitation Indicator and Response Guide