Ohio Department of Health - Ohio School Nurses

Human Trafficking Observing and Reporting Protocol (May 2013)

If you suspect you have come into contact with a victim of human trafficking,
ASK YOURSELF
Is victim in immediate life threatening danger?

YES

1. Call 911.
2. Call the Trafficking National 24 Hour Hotline 1-888-3737-888 to report tip.

Note: School Nurses are mandated reporters (ORC 2151.421).

NO

If victim is not in immediate danger, do you suspect the situation meets the Trafficking Victim’s Protection Act Definitions of human trafficking?

YES

1. Call the Trafficking National 24 Hour Hotline 1-888-3737-888.
2. Report suspected child abuse or neglect to Children Services per school policy. Call Ohio’s Child Abuse Reporting Hotline 1-855-642-4453.

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NO

Examples of signs and indicators to look for
- Does not attend school regularly, may have unexplained absences or be identified as truant.
- Runs away from home regularly.
- Talks about frequent travel to other cities.
- Has bruises or other physical, mental or sexual signs of abuse.
- Shows signs of fear, anxiety, depression or emotional distress.
- Physically exhausted; works long hours; responsible for childcare or cleaning.
- Experiences malnutrition or hunger, poor hygiene, back problems or urinary difficulties.
- Shows signs of drug addiction.
- Demonstrates a sudden change in behavior or clothing.
- Makes references to sexual situations that are unusual for a child of that age.
- Has a “boyfriend” or “girlfriend” who is noticeably older (10+ years).
- Poor dental health.

Sex Trafficking: the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services through the use of force, fraud or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage or slavery.

Victim may be experiencing abuse or have other significant needs.
- 211 may be available in your area or contact local resources (e.g., domestic violence shelter, mental health).
- Report suspected child abuse or neglect to Children Services per school policy. Call Ohio’s Child Abuse Reporting Hotline 1-855-642-4453.

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