Male Survivors of Human Trafficking

Although the majority of human trafficking victims are female, the exploitation of males for labor or commercial sex is largely underreported. This is, in part, due to the following reasons:

1. Culturally-enforced, gender stereotypes (i.e., Males are “strong” and “tough”, males can’t be victims)
2. Unaware they are being victimized or exploited
3. Belief that there are no resources or supports
4. Fear and/or shame

Considerations for Supporting Male Survivors

TRAUMA-INFORMED
Build on the survivor's strengths and emphasize the survivor's physical and psychological safety to prevent further harm

SURVIVOR-CENTERED
Support the survivor in building their capacity for decision-making, goal setting, and self-advocacy in ways they are comfortable with

COMMUNICATION
Give clear, transparent explanations of medical/legal processes and available services while exercising empathy and understanding for the survivor's experience.

1 in 7

adult men have been the victim of severe physical violence by an intimate partner in their lifetime.

48.9% of labor trafficking cases & 5.4% of sex trafficking cases reported to the National Human Trafficking Hotline in 2017 involved male victims.

Most communities in North Carolina lack services for male survivors.

There were no beds in the United States allocated for male victims of sex trafficking until 2014.

NC is here to help
SEE NC is a project of the NC Council for Women and Youth Involvement created to empower communities to identify and provide services to all survivors of human trafficking. For information visit: ncadmin.nc.gov/human-trafficking

To report human trafficking, call or text:
National Human Trafficking Resource Center
1.888.373.7888
Text “BEFREE” (233733)
Toll-Free Hotline
24/7
Confidential

Sources: National Domestic Violence Hotline, National Human Trafficking Hotline, NCBI