

JUVENILE **SEX** TRAFFICKING (CSEC) CHECKLIST

Juvenile Trafficking, whether labor trafficking or sex trafficking (also commonly called commercial sexual exploitation of children or CSEC), may not be immediately identified due to the complex nature of the maltreatment. Additionally, children may not view themselves as victims or may be fearful of disclosure. The below list of factors and vulnerabilities which enhance risk, as well as indicators that suggest trafficking activity may be present, is provided to assist MDT members in detecting potential trafficking situations during the course of their work. MDT members are reminded to report any concerns for possible trafficking activity to the DFS Report Line at 800-292-9582. **Additionally, any child under the age of 13, exhibiting some of the below risk factors, vulnerabilities, and/or indicators should be considered at enhanced risk.**

RISK FACTORS & VULNERABILITIES: **SEX TRAFFICKING**

- ☐ Homelessness/unstable housing situation
- ☐ Current or prior foster care
- ☐ Current or prior involvement with child welfare system (DFS/PBH/YRS)
- ☐ History of abuse, neglect, or maltreatment
- ☐ Inability to meet basic needs / economic hardship
- ☐ Runaway activity, especially increasing occurrence or longer events
- ☐ Social isolation
- ☐ Substance use/misuse by child and/or caretaker
- ☐ Mental health concern/diagnoses for child and/or caretaker
- ☐ Association with gang members or gang involvement
- ☐ Truancy/ frequent absence from school / home-schooling
- ☐ Recent migration/relocation, esp. from another country
- ☐ Unstable immigration status
- ☐ Language barrier
- ☐ Controlling and/or abusive partner
- ☐ Identifying as/being identified as a member of the LGBTQ, gender non-conforming, non-binary community
- ☐ Family history in commercial sex industry
- ☐ Association with peers in the commercial sex industry

INDICATORS: SEX TRAFFICKING

- ☐ Appearing exhausted and/or malnourished
- ☐ Signs of abuse (burns/cuts/bruises), esp. if unexplained
- ☐ Changes in behavior/demeanor, loss of interest in previous activities
- ☐ Truancy/frequent absence from school
- ☐ Frequent travel to other cities/counties/states
- ☐ Rehearsed responses to questions about activities or situation
- ☐ Providing multiple inconsistencies with his/her/their story
- ☐ Threats of injury/harm to child or child's family
- ☐ Changes in physical appearance, such as new style of clothing, hair, nails
- ☐ Tattoos and/or branding, esp. if unexplained
- ☐ Possession of multiple cellphones or pre-paid phone(s)
- ☐ Possession of money, gift cards, and/or prepaid credit cards, esp. if unexplained
- ☐ Located in or frequenting hotels/motels or other areas associated with commercial sex industry
- ☐ Possession of hotel/motel keys
- ☐ Older boyfriend/girlfriend, esp. if referred to as "daddy" or "unc"
- ☐ Strong online presence and/or unusual number of social media accounts
- ☐ Multiple sex partners
- ☐ Current or historical diagnoses of multiple STIs
- ☐ Unexplained pregnancy or history of terminated pregnancy
- ☐ Allegations of sharing explicit images online or exchanging explicit images for something of compensation (money/drugs/vapes/alcohol/shelter/food/transportation)