ANYONE CAN BE A VICTIM

Although all children are vulnerable, previously identified cases of CSEC suggest that the following populations are at a higher risk:

- Runaway and Homeless Youth
- Children within the Foster Care System
- Children with Histories of/ Family History of Substance Abuse
- Children with Disabilities
- Youth in the Juvenile Justice system
- LGBTQ Youth
- Refugees, Immigrants, and Non-English-speaking persons

REVISED 7/1/24

Local Safe Harbour Contacts:
***Connecting Communities in Action 24 Hour Hotline:**
1-888-945-3970
Olean General Hospital 24-Hour Crisis Hotline:
1-800-339-5209
Connecting Communities in Action
716-945-1041
Southern Tier Child Advocacy Center **716-372-8532**
Non-emergency Safe Harbour Number **585-449-1488**
Cattaraugus County Department of Social Services
716-373-8065

National Safe Harbour/National Human Trafficking
24/7 Hotline 1-888-373-7888 or **211**
Text "Help" to BeFree (233733)

National Center for Missing and Exploited Children
1-800-843-5678

Department of Homeland Security Tip Line
1-866-DHS-2-ICE or **1-888-347-2423**

Contacts

Al Meyers
Connecting Communities in Action
716-969-5119

Nicole Barton
Child Advocacy Center
585-449-1488 or 716-372-8532

If someone is in Immediate Danger, Dial 911

SAFE HARBOUR OF CATTARAUGUS COUNTY

Child Advocacy Center
HOPE • HEALING • SAFETY

CCA Building Resilient Communities

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Cattaraugus County Safe Harbour Program provides case coordination and advocacy for youth who have been the subject of commercial sexual exploitation. Assistance is provided to access services including: medical care, mental health counseling, financial assistance, emergency shelter and other basic living and safety needs. The program also provides community education and conducts public awareness campaigns on the issue. The goal is to address the immediate life and safety issues of identified youth and to reduce the risk of continued sexual exploitation and abuse by providing access to needed resources. The commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC) occurs when any child under the age of 18 years old exchanges sex for anything of value including: money, gifts, shelter, food, clothing, or drugs. The commercial sex industry victimizes girls, boys, and transgendered youth. Any child under the age of 18 who is induced to perform a commercial sex act is considered a sex trafficking victim.

WHAT DOES CSEC LOOK LIKE?

Children may be subjected to human commercial sexual exploitation in a variety of ways.

Common examples include:

- Images of child sexual abuse
- Intra-familial sexual child exploitation of children and youth
- Prostitution on the streets or in private residence, club, hotel, massage parlor etc.
- Online commercial exploitation or enticement (i.e. backpage.com)
- Exotic dancing/stripping
- Street peddling/begging
- Domestic sex trafficking of minors

COMMON RED FLAGS

- Child frequently runs away or goes missing for long periods of time
- Disconnection from social supports such as church/family/friends
- Over-sexualized behaviors
- Multiple sexually transmitted infections, abortions, or anonymous partners
- Signs of sexual, physical, and mental abuse
- Tattoos expressing ownership
- Malnourishment and poor hygiene
- Untreated injuries
- Indications or reports of domestic violence or intimate partner violence
- Significantly older romantic partners or spending a lot of time with an older adult
- Uses slang for sex work
- Reluctant to discuss how they make money or where they obtained gifts
- Minor is working more than they are in school
- Scared of consequences to a degree greater than the situation warrants
- Signs of physical, sexual, or mental trauma