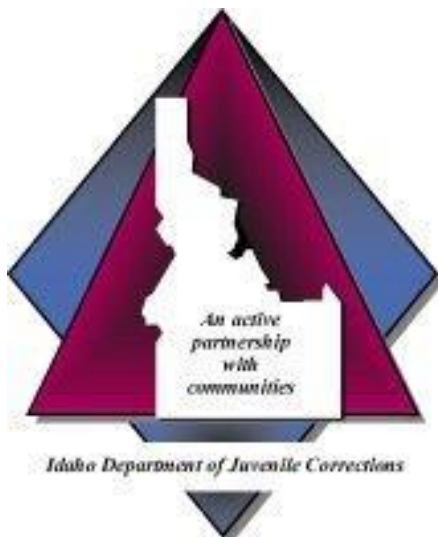


# Guide for Idaho Juvenile Human Trafficking Screening Tools

Idaho Department of Juvenile Corrections



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## Purpose

The purpose of this guide is to provide information to Idaho’s juvenile justice professionals on the use of Idaho Juvenile Human Trafficking Screening Tools.

## Required Action

[RS31335/S1350](#) is a product of the recommendations of the Human Trafficking report required by [H.B. 341a \(2023\)](#). This bill calls for the development of standardized training, screening, and assessment tools for human trafficking victims. The Idaho Juvenile Human Trafficking Screening Tools shall be included in the social history report identified in [SB1350 SECTION 1](#).

## Identification of Victims and Those at Risk of Being a Victim

Juvenile justice staff should be aware of potential indicators that a child is a victim of human trafficking or at increased risk of being a victim. The presence of an indicator(s) does not mean the child is a victim of trafficking; rather workers should look for a pattern of indicators when screening/assessing youth.

Key indicators and vulnerabilities for child trafficking include, but are not limited to:

INDICATORS FOR HUMAN TRAFFICKING	
<b>SEX TRAFFICKING</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Changes in the child or youth’s appearance, friend groups, socioeconomic status, level of sexualization, activities, or relationship to authority</li><li>•Lack of freedom to leave or come and go as they wish</li><li>•Signs of physical or sexual abuse, physical restraint, confinement, or neglect/abandonment</li><li>•No or limited control over identification and/or immigration documents</li><li>•Claims of a romantic relationship with an older individual</li><li>•Frequent and/or extended periods of absence from home (“missing from care or home”) or episodes of homelessness</li><li>•Gang signs or affiliation</li><li>•Photographs, videos, social media posts, or other recordings of sexual abuse and/or assault experienced by the child</li><li>•Health complications, such as sexually transmitted infections (STI). that may be resulting from multiple sexual partners</li></ul>	<b>LABOR TRAFFICKING</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Excessively long or unusual work hours or hours that violate child labor laws (<a href="#">Idaho Code §44 1301 through §44-1308</a>)</li><li>•Lack of breaks or presence of other unusual restrictions at work</li><li>•High security measures in the work or living location</li><li>•Dental or visual problems</li><li>•Workplace injuries that indicate a potentially dangerous work environment</li><li>•Signs of physical or sexual abuse, physical restraint, confinement, or neglect</li><li>•No or limited control over identification and/or immigration documents</li><li>•Living where they work in a space not zoned for a residence</li><li>•Transportation to and from work by the employer</li><li>•Squalid living conditions with too many people in the space and insufficient beds</li><li>•Food, hygiene, and living conditions provided by the employer</li><li>•Recruitment through false promises concerning the nature and conditions of their work</li><li>•Gang signs or affiliation</li></ul>

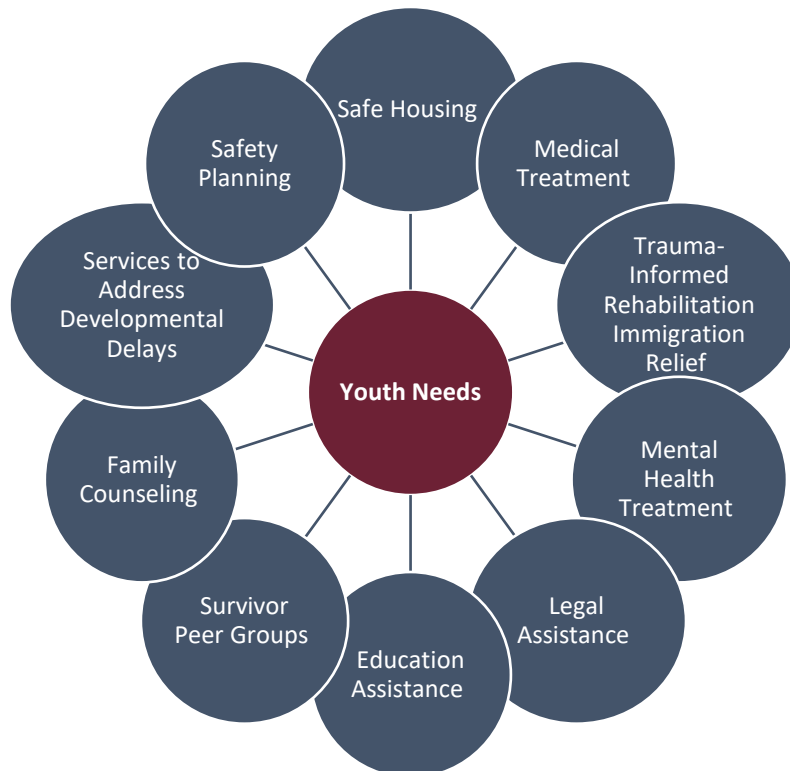
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Identification of victims and those at higher risk is important for several reasons. First, and foremost, once identified, a juvenile can receive services that are responsive to their needs. It can also provide an opportunity to advocate for said juvenile to mitigate or avoid inappropriate punitive responses where allegations of illegal activities may be part of the investigation. For those identified as being at risk prior to a trafficking incident, preventative services and supports can be put in place. In addition to better meeting the needs of trafficking victims and those at risk, identification can assist child welfare and other stakeholder agencies with developing more of an understanding of the scope of the problem, strategies for primary prevention, and amount of services needed to address the issue.

Child trafficking victims' needs vary depending on the individual's unique set of circumstances and experiences. Therefore, it is important that services provided are "survivor-centered". In addition, whenever possible, it is best to employ a multidisciplinary approach when services are provided as well as safety planning with coordination between social service agencies, law enforcement, health services, mental health providers, etc. Staff should follow their facility protocols in reference to case management and coordination. Facilities should explore resources that exist locally to provide appropriate services.

Types of services a child trafficking victim may need include, but are not limited to:



For children who are determined to be at risk of trafficking, but who are not identified as having been victimized, it is important that services are offered that help decrease the risk for victimization. Such services should focus on addressing the child's specific vulnerabilities and offering education and information about trafficking and exploitation.

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### Background

Studies on the prevalence of human trafficking have discussed the challenges in determining the number of children who have experienced sex and/or labor trafficking since these cases remain under identified and under reported. However, multiple studies on the characteristics of children who have been identified as trafficking victims show that these children have high rates of interaction with the juvenile justice system prior to and/or after their human trafficking victimization. Histories of abuse and neglect, abandonment or poor family attachments, and other childhood trauma as well as trauma-related behaviors such as truancy and substance misuse create vulnerabilities and increased risk for involvement in the justice system and human trafficking victimization.

It is important to also highlight that some children are compelled by their traffickers to commit delinquent acts (e.g. prostitution, trafficking of other children, theft, sale of illicit substances) that may also cause them to become involved with the justice system.

Statistics from reports to the [National Human Trafficking Hotline](#), [Idaho's Uniform Crime Report](#), and [local service providers](#) show that dozens of cases of sex and/or labor trafficking are identified in Idaho each year. These cases involve people of all genders and ages. Even with limitations on the prevalence data, we know that juvenile justice professionals play a vital role in identifying youth who have experienced trafficking or are at increased risk. As noted above, staff also play a key role in connecting youth to services and ensuring support for them during their time involved with the system.

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### Identification Tools

The Idaho Juvenile Human Trafficking Screening Tool (IJHTST) is broken up into two parts- Observations (Part A) and Questions (Part B).

#### Part A: Observations

The observation tool is intended to be used as a quick screening to determine if the child is at risk and needs a more comprehensive screening.

#### *Results of Part A:*

- a) If the quick screening finds that the child does not have any indicators that give cause to believe they are a victim or at risk of being a human trafficking victim: no further screening is needed at this time.
  - If after this screening, a worker learns new information that leads him or her to believe that the child is a victim or at risk, Part B should be completed.
- b) If Part A finds that the child is either a victim or at risk of being a human trafficking victim: Part B must be completed.

#### Part B: Questions

Questions are intended to help staff gather more information about a child's potential human trafficking victimization or risk for victimization.

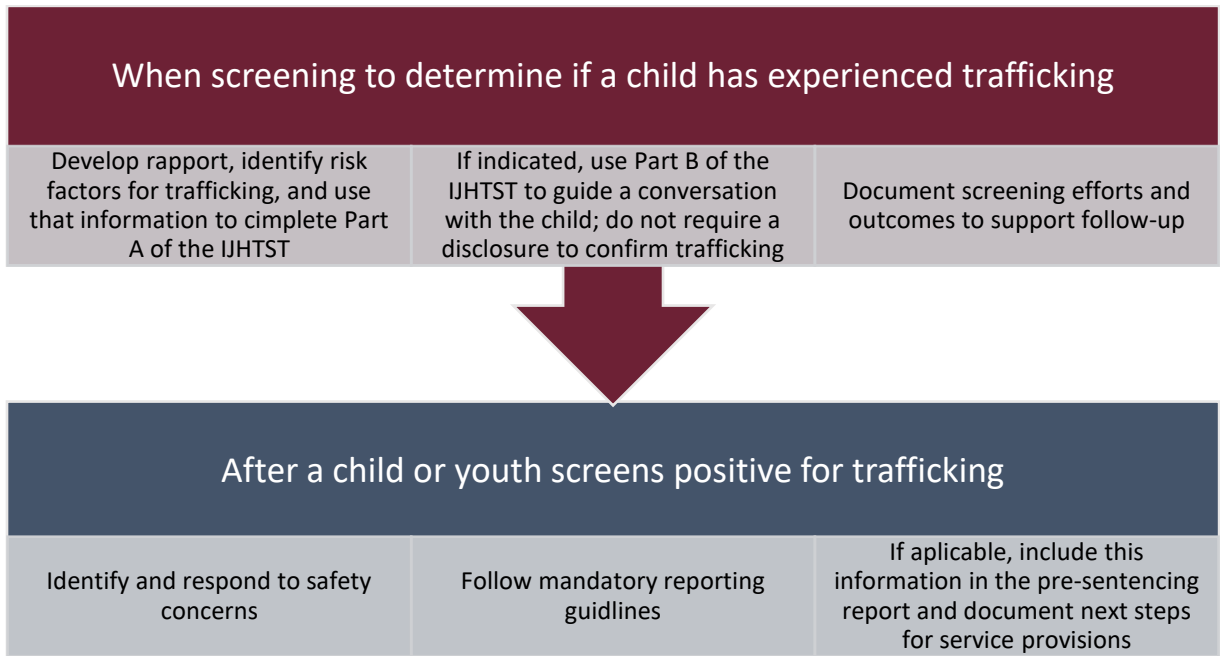
#### *Results of Part B:*

- a) If the comprehensive screening finds that the child is a human trafficking victim, staff must immediately report the child abuse and neglect to 855-552-KIDS (5437) (statewide) or 208-334-KIDS (5437) (Treasure Valley). Staff should work with the child to refer them to the most appropriate resources based on their individual needs and, when indicated, clinical staff for treatment.
- b) If the comprehensive screening finds that the child either has no trafficking indicators, a medium level or a high level of indicators, the case should continue to be monitored and services should be put in place to address any indicators present.

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### Screening Process:



### Engaging Children During Screening and Identification

Building rapport is important for engaging children and youth when screening for human trafficking. Screening efforts should include questions and techniques that build trust and help juvenile justice staff to understand the immediate needs of the child.

Engaging a child during the screening process is particularly important because reluctance to disclose trafficking victimization results in low disclosure rates similar to those of other forms of sexual violence. Many factors might impact disclosure, such as guilt or shame, fear of judgment, distrust of authority, fear of retaliation from the trafficker toward the child or their family, and a lack of understanding that their experiences are considered trafficking. The goal of the screening should always be to determine the child's needs based on the experiences they share during the screening. Disclosure should not be the focus.

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## Trauma Informed Techniques

Trauma-Informed Techniques to Support Screening Engagement	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● When possible, ensure that the child’s basic needs are met (e.g. offer them water, snacks, breaks from the screening)</li><li>● Use a quiet area in a safe location</li><li>● Be aware of other people present during the screening and how that might impact a child’s responses</li><li>● Confirm the child’s autonomy, when possible, by offering them opportunities to control the situation (e.g., where they sit)</li><li>● Consider the screener’s gender or other aspects of their identity that might impact a child’s response</li><li>● Discuss confidentiality and any limitations on it (e.g., mandated reports)</li><li>● Provide a trained interpreter when necessary</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Note the child’s body language. Recognize and address any trauma responses</li><li>● Be mindful of what you say and how you say it, being careful to avoid shaming and stigmatizing language.</li><li>● Check in with the child throughout the conversation to ensure understanding and engagement</li><li>● Validate the child’s strengths</li><li>● Use any collateral information that can help support identification efforts</li><li>● Be mindful of and actively address personal biases, whether implicit or explicit.</li><li>● Do not just read questions off the paper. Use a conversational approach to gathering information</li></ul>

## Staff Training

Child human trafficking is a very complicated issue and assisting children who are victims, or who are at risk, requires a high level of knowledge and sensitivity to the issue. Idaho Department of Juvenile Corrections (IDJC), Community Operations and Program Services (COPS) Division worked with Idaho probation and detention representatives to develop Idaho resources. IDJC’s training tools assist workers in becoming more knowledgeable on what human trafficking is and what is required by workers in assessing, identifying, documenting, and responding to child trafficking victims as prescribed in this guide.

## Staff Resources

The following resources are available on the [IDJC Website](#).

- a. Idaho-specific Training
- b. State and Federal Human Trafficking Resources

## Contact Information

[IDJCProjects@idjc.idaho.gov](mailto:IDJCProjects@idjc.idaho.gov)



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### Definitions

[18-8610.HUMAN LABOR TRAFFICKING OF A CHILD](#). A person commits the felony of human labor trafficking of a child if the person knowingly:

- (1) Traffics a child with the intent that the trafficked child engage in forced labor or services; or
- (2) Receives any benefit from participating in a venture that involves an activity described in subsection (1) of this section, including by receiving labor or services the person knows are forced labor or services.

[18-8608. HUMAN SEX TRAFFICKING OF A CHILD](#). A person who is eighteen (18) years of age or older commits the felony of human sex trafficking of a child if the person:

- (1) Traffics a child and knowingly, by any means, causes or attempts to cause the trafficked person to engage in or become the victim of:

(a) Commercial sexual activity;

(b) A sexually explicit performance; or

(c) Conduct prohibited by:

(i) Section 18-924 (sexual battery);

(ii) Section 18-925 (aggravated sexual battery);

(iii) Section 18-1601 (rape);

(iv) Section 18-1506 (sexual abuse of a child under sixteen years);

(v) Section 18-1507 (sexual exploitation of a child);

(vi) Section 18-1507A (sexual exploitation of a child by electronic means);

(vii) Section 18-1508 (lewd conduct with a minor child under sixteen);

(viii) Section 18-1508A (sexual battery of a minor child sixteen or seventeen years of age);

(ix) Section 18-5602 (procurement);

(x) Section 18-5603 (receiving pay for procurement);

(xi) Section 18-5604 (paying for procurement);

(xii) Section 18-5605 (detention for commercial sexual activity);

(xiii) Section 18-5606 (receiving proceeds of illegal sexual activity);

(xiv) Section 18-5608 (place of commercial sexual activity);

(xv) Section 18-5609 (inducing a child into commercial sexual activity);

(xvi) Section 18-5610 (utilizing a child for commercial sexual activity);

(xvii) Section 18-5611 (inducing a child to engage in commercial sexual activity);

(xviii) Section 18-5613 (providing commercial sexual activity);

(xix) Section 18-5614 (soliciting commercial sexual activity);

(xx) Section 18-6601 (incest);

(xxi) Section 18-6602 (sexual abuse of an animal);

(xxii) Section 18-6603 (sexual abuse of human remains); or

(xxiii) Section 18-6604 (forcible penetration by use of a foreign object);

- (2) Engages in sexual contact with a child being trafficked in the manner described in subsection (1) of this section; or

- (3) Receives any benefit from participating in a venture knowing that the venture involves an activity described in subsection (1) of this section.