If you think a youth is being sex trafficked, here are some clues you can look for:

- Under 18 and engaged in commercial sex
- Access to money/items that do not fit their situation, (e.g., multiple phones)
- Sexual or romantic experiences that seem inappropriate or unsafe
- Uses prostitution terms or has relevant tattoos
- Not in control of money or documents
- Sexualized images on social media, pictures taken in a hotel
- Prostitution or criminal charges
- Fearful, anxious, depressed, withdrawn, avoids eye contact
- STIs, unplanned pregnancies
- Runs away for extended periods
- Signs of physical/sexual abuse, confinement, malnourishment
- Not allowed to speak for themselves

What is sex trafficking?

- A minor involved in commercial sex is automatically a victim of trafficking, whether or not force, fraud, or coercion were used

What might it look like?

- A trafficker controls someone's activities and makes them engage in commercial sex
- A family member has the victim have sex for something of value
- A gang exploits people to have sex for valuables, as part of their activities
- A minor engages in commercial sex to earn income or meet basic needs

No one clue alone necessarily indicates sex trafficking...

BE COMPASSIONATE...
This person may be experiencing abuse, legal issues, isolation, immigration issues, and separation from a support network.

BE CAUTIOUS...
Do not draw attention to their situation. It could put them in danger.

MAKE THE CALL!
Call the National Human Trafficking Resource Center to report what you're seeing: 1-888-373-7888 | humantraffickinghotline.org/TTY 711

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