Dear Palm Beach County Subscriber:

January is Human Trafficking Awareness Month. Palm Beach County Victim Services works diligently year round to address this issue. While the #MeToo movement has brought sexual harassment and sexual assault to the forefront, human trafficking is often hidden in plain sight. We invite you to join us and learn how you can get involved to help prevent it.

How do I help? Learn to recognize the signs. Know what to do if the situation presents itself. You may even save a life!

Trafficking victims are often lured into another country by false promises and so may not easily trust others. They may:

- Be fearful of police/authorities
- Be fearful of the trafficker, believing their lives or family members’ lives are at risk if they escape
- Exhibit signs of physical and psychological trauma, e.g., anxiety, lack of memory of recent events, bruising, untreated conditions
- Be fearful of telling others about their situation
- Be unaware they have been trafficked and believe they are simply in a bad job
- Have limited freedom of movement
- Be unpaid or paid very little
- Have limited access to medical care
- Seem to be in debt to someone
- Have no passport or mention that someone else is holding their passport
- Be regularly moved to avoid detection

If you know someone who may be a victim of human trafficking, please contact Palm Beach County Victim Services at 1-800-96ABUSE or Palm Beach County Sheriff’s Office Investigations, Department of Children and Families, and Barry University.

Please complete our survey on the back page of this program guide and reach out to us directly with any questions.

Thank you,
Nicole Bishop
Director of Victim & Justice Services
Behind The Star

Check out all the latest happenings inside the Palm Beach County Sheriff’s Office on the January episode of Behind The Star. This month, we feature the “Shop with a Cop” program, which provides gifts for children in our area. Also, we profile K9 Kasper, who took a bullet meant for his human partner during an armed robbery.

Air Mondays at 8:00pm, Tuesdays at 7:30pm, Wednesdays at 8:00pm, Thursdays at 7:30pm, Fridays at 8:00pm, Saturdays at 9:00am and Sundays at 10:00am

Politically Speaking

As 2019 begins, there is a long list of local and legislative issues facing Palm Beach County. Find out what are the hot topics and critical issues that will fuel debate and demand a decision at the county and state level. Join host Todd Blixtoran with his guests Palm Beach County Mayor Mack Bernard and Representative Matt Willhite as they take on the issues on Politically Speaking.

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On The Town

Tune in for another edition of the show that celebrates all the great attractions, historical and cultural venues across the Palm Beaches. This month, you will never run out of things to do or places to go for an enjoyable Palm Beach County experience.

Air Mondays at 9:30pm, Tuesdays at 8:30pm, Wednesdays at 9:30pm, Thursdays at 8:30pm, Fridays at 9:30pm, Saturdays at 10:00am, Sundays at 11:00am and Mondays at 12:00pm
Vision
Justice for all crime victims.

Mission Statement
With compassion and respect, we assist victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, homicide, and other violent crimes through crisis response, advocacy, therapy, and community awareness.

Florida Statute 960 Provides Guidelines For Fair Treatment & Specific Rights For Victims In The Criminal Justice System
Some of these include the following:

- Office of Attorney General Crime Victim Compensation, when applicable;
- To be informed, present, and heard, when relevant at all crucial stages of criminal or juvenile proceedings, to the extent that right does not interfere with the Constitutional rights of the accused;
- To be provided information concerning services available including Victim Compensation, community treatment programs, crisis intervention services, counseling and social services;
- To a prompt and timely disposition of the case, to the extent that this right does not interfere with the Constitutional rights of the accused;
- To have your property returned to you as soon as possible after the investigation and/or prosecution is completed, unless there is a compelling reason for its retention;
- Have a Victim Advocate present during depositions of the victim;
- Request, for specific crimes, an exemption prohibiting the disclosure of information to the public which reveals your identification.

Palm Beach County Public Safety Department Victim Services Division
www.pbcgov.org/publicsafety/victimservices

24/7 Sexual Assault Violent Crime Helpline
Helpline: (561) 833-7273
Toll Free: (866) 891-7273

Main Courthouse
205 North Dixie Hwy., Suite 5.1100
West Palm Beach, FL 33401
(561) 355-2418
TTY: (561) 233-2595

Victim Services SART Center
4210 North Australian Ave.
West Palm Beach, FL 33407
(561) 625-2568
TTY: (561) 624-6520

North County Courthouse
3188 PGA Blvd., Suite 1436
Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410
(561) 355-2418
TTY: (561) 624-6643

South County Courthouse
200 West Atlantic Ave., Suite 1E-301
Delray Beach, FL 33444
(561) 274-1500
TTY: (561) 274-1015

West County-Glades Courthouse
2976 State Road 15, 2nd Floor
Belle Glade, FL 33430
(561) 996-4871
TTY: (561) 992-1113

Services are provided to all crime victims in Palm Beach County regardless of the victims’ race, sex, color, religion, national origin, disability, age, sexual orientation, marital status, or gender identity or expression.

Services are funded through Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners with grants from the Office of the Attorney General and Florida Council Against Sexual Violence.
Services Provided

Professional training and community presentations are also available.

- Information about Victims’ rights
- 24-hour crisis response to hospitals, law enforcement agencies and crime scenes
- Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) and a Forensic Exam site ~ The Butterfly House
- Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) ~ to provide Victim-centered assistance
- Criminal Justice advocacy and court accompaniment
- Assistance with filing State Crime Victim Compensation applications and Restraining Orders
- Individual therapy and support groups
- Information and referral to community resources, including shelters and Legal Aid

Sexual Assault

Sexual Assault is a violent crime including rape, incest, sexual harassment or any other sexual contact without consent.

Per Florida Statute 90.5035, a victim of sexual violence who consults a sexual assault counselor at a rape crisis center has the right to confidentiality of information shared with the counselor.

No one except the victim can compel the sexual assault counselor to reveal information about their communications. Only the victim can waive the privilege, and this must be done in writing.

If rape victims are not sure whether to report to law enforcement, victim advocates will assist them through their decisionmaking process, respecting whatever choices are made.

Certified Rape Crisis Victim Advocates Will Provide:
- Crisis Intervention and Personal Advocacy
- Accompaniment during forensic rape exams at The Butterfly House and other medical facilities
- Coordination of follow-up medical care, therapy and referrals
- Criminal Justice advocacy and court accompaniment

Domestic Assault

Domestic Assault involves power and control tactics such as physical violence, emotional abuse, sexual violence, economic abuse, and isolation.

Victim Advocates Will Provide:
- Crisis Intervention
- Safety Planning
- Assistance with filing Restraining Orders
- Safe-Shelter Referrals
- Personal and legal advocacy during criminal justice proceedings

Homicide and Other Violent Crimes

Homicide and other violent crimes shatter the lives of injured victims and survivors causing severe emotional trauma and grief.

Victim Advocates Will Provide:
- Crisis Intervention and emotional support for victims and surviving family members
- Assistance with filing crime victim compensation for medical expenses, funeral costs and loss of support
- Court Accompaniment
- Referrals for individual therapy, support groups and community assistance

Start by Believing: A Public Awareness Campaign to Change the Way We Respond to Sexual Violence in Our Community...

YOUR REACTION MAKES THE DIFFERENCE.
When someone tells you they’ve been raped, there’s a simple response. Start by Believing.
BREAKING THE CHAINS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING THROUGH AWARENESS

Did you know that Florida ranks #3 out of all states in the country for incidents of human trafficking? Did you know that Palm Beach County ranks #3 out of all counties in the state for suspected cases of human trafficking?

In fact, human trafficking cases in Palm Beach County have included both sex and labor trafficking, both child and adult victims, and both foreign and domestic born. Unfortunately, many people do not recognize the signs of human trafficking and as a result, opportunities to rescue victims and likewise to hold traffickers accountable are missed. We invite you to learn more about human trafficking through our website, www.pbcgov.com/publicsafety/victimservices/Pages/human-trafficking.aspx. By raising our collective awareness, we can more readily identify and help victims of human trafficking, more often hold traffickers accountable, and ultimately create a safer community for everyone.

WHAT IS HUMAN TRAFFICKING?

Human trafficking is a form of modern-day slavery in which traffickers use force, fraud, or coercion to control victims for the purpose of engaging in commercial sex acts or labor services against a person’s will. Human trafficking affects every community in the United States across age, gender, ethnicity, and socio-economic backgrounds. Simply put, anyone can be a victim of human trafficking. Not only are victims trafficked in other countries, they are also our children, our teenagers, and our young adults. Knowledge is power, and together we can raise awareness of the crime of human trafficking to help victims and stop traffickers.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Human trafficking is a crime against a person. It does not have to involve travel, transportation or border crossings. The federal Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 outlines trafficking under two main headings:

**SEX TRAFFICKING:** The recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, obtaining, patronizing, or soliciting of a person for the purpose of a commercial sex act, in which the commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion *or in which the person induced to perform such act has not attained 18 years of age.* (22 USC § 7102)

**LABOR TRAFFICKING:** The recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services through the use of *force, fraud, or coercion* for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery. (22 USC § 7102)

Florida Statute § 787.06 defines human trafficking as the transporting, soliciting, recruiting, harboring, providing, enticing, maintaining, or obtaining another person for the purpose of exploitation of that person.
HUMAN TRAFFICKING STATISTICS

Human trafficking is estimated to be a $150 billion annual business. Trafficking is the second largest source of illegal income internationally; drug dealing is #1.

20.9 million
Number of people estimated to be trafficked around the world at any given time

Florida is ranked 3rd in the nation for reported call volume to the National Human Trafficking Hotline.

Palm Beach County is ranked 3rd in the state for reported call volume to the National Human Trafficking Hotline.

2016 HOTLINE CALLS

- **SEX**: 73%
  - 18+ 65%
  - <18 32%
- **LABOR**: 14%
- **UNSPECIFIED**: 9%
- **SEX & LABOR**: 4%

Of those callers identifying citizenship, 84% were U.S. citizens or legal permanent residents.
Palm Beach County’s Enhanced Collaborative Human Trafficking Task Force

In 2016, the Palm Beach County Sheriff’s Office (PBSO), in partnership with Catholic Charities Diocese of Palm Beach (CCDPB), was awarded federal funding through the United States Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance and Office for Victims of Crime, to establish an enhanced collaborative strategy to combat human trafficking in Palm Beach County. Through this project, the Palm Beach County Human Trafficking Task Force has been established which includes local, state, and federal law enforcement, prosecution, victims’ services, and other key community stakeholders working together to address human trafficking in our community. Task Force members work together to identify victims of all types of human trafficking through coordinated training, public awareness, and outreach efforts; to conduct proactive investigations of sex and labor trafficking; to make data-driven decisions based on the prevalence, scope and nature of human trafficking in PBC; and to provide a comprehensive array of services to meet the individualized needs of human trafficking victims.

The Human Trafficking Coalition of the Palm Beaches

The Human Trafficking Coalition of the Palm Beaches along with Palm Beach County Victim Services provides trainings to Palm Beach County employees, local schools, community agencies, and law enforcement to raise awareness of the crime of human trafficking.

Direct service agencies who assist victims with needed support including crisis intervention, food, clothing, transportation, housing, employment, education, and legal assistance include Palm Beach County Division of Victim Services, Catholic Charities, Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County, and International Rescue Committee.

WARNING SIGNS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Work or Living Condition Indicators:

- Is not free to leave or come and go as he/she wishes
- Is under 18 and is providing commercial sex acts
- Is in the commercial sex industry and has a pimp / manager
- Is unpaid, paid very little, or paid only through tips
- Works excessively long and/or unusual hours
- Is not allowed breaks or suffers under unusual restrictions at work
- Owes a large debt and is unable to pay it off
- Was recruited through false promises concerning the nature and conditions of his/her work
- High security measures exist in the work and/or living locations (e.g. opaque windows, boarded up windows, bars on windows, barbed wire, security cameras, etc.)
- Living at place of employment
- Lives with multiple people in cramped space
Behavioral Signs:

People who are trafficked may:

- Show fear or anxiety
- Seem depressed, intimidated, submissive, tense, nervous, or paranoid
- Become unusually fearful or anxious after bringing up law enforcement or are distrustful of authorities
- Avoid eye contact or lack emotional responsiveness
- Act as if someone else instructed them, give responses that seem scripted or rehearsed
- Allow others to speak for them or are accompanied by a group or a controlling friend or boyfriend who speaks for them
- Resist assistance

Physical Signs:

People who are trafficked may:

- Appear malnourished
- Show signs of physical abuse such as bruises, scratches, scars, missing teeth, lacerations, burns, carvings
- Lack health care and have rotten teeth
- Be dressed inappropriately for the weather or venue
- Have tattoos or other forms of branding usually on the neck or lower back. Tattoos may say “Daddy” or “Property of” or “For Sale”

QUESTIONS TO ASK

✓ Can you leave your job if you want to?
✓ Can you come and go as you please?
✓ Have you been hurt or threatened if you try to leave?
✓ Has your family been threatened?
✓ Do you live with your employer?
✓ Are you in debt to your employer?
✓ Where do you eat and sleep?
✓ Do your family/friends know where you are?
✓ Do you have access to your personal identity information (ID, SS card, passport)? Who keeps it for you?

WHAT TO DO IF YOU SUSPECT TRAFFICKING

If you see someone who may be a victim or if it does not look or feel right, call:

**National Human Trafficking Hotline**
1-888-373-7888

or

**Department of Children and Families Hotline**
(for children under 18 years old)
1-800-96-ABUSE (1-800-962-2873)
Vision
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Mission Statement
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Palm Beach County Victim Services
is a Certified Rape Crisis Center that provides therapy services to all crime victims in Palm Beach County regardless of the victims’ race, sex, color, religion, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, marital status, familial status or gender identity or expression.

Start by Believing:
A Public Awareness Campaign to Change the Way We Respond to Sexual Violence in Our Community... one response at a time.

YOUR REACTION MAKES THE DIFFERENCE.
When someone tells you they’ve been raped, there’s a simple response. Start by Believing.

24/7 SEXUAL ASSAULT VIOLENT CRIME HELPLINE
HELPLINE: (561) 833-7273
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Like Us on PBCVictimServices
Serving Victims of Violent Crimes
Assessment and treatment for child victims of crime

Therapeutic interventions that teach child safety

Play Therapy

Assistance for parents during this difficult time

Sadness: The child may feel despondent or hopeless. The child may cry easily or withdraw/isolate from others.

Loss of interest in activities: The child may complain of feeling “bored” or reject offers to participate in activities they have previously enjoyed.

Anxiety: The child may become anxious and tense, and feel panic.

Turmoil: The child may feel worried and irritable. The child may lash out in anger resulting from the distress he/she is feeling.

Regression: The child may revert to acting like a baby, bedwetting, clinging and demanding extra care.

Identify trauma reactions

Explore the impact that trauma has on your daily life

Reduce the intensity of negative emotional responses and symptoms

Learn about common trauma reactions and phases in healing

Feel hopeful and positive regarding the future

Develop coping mechanisms to utilize when thinking or talking about the crime

Experience a reduction of trauma symptoms

Return to work or school

Explore the impact on current and future relationships

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Have You Been A Victim Of A Crime?

Do You Experience Any Of The Following?

Inability to fall or stay asleep?

Feeling anxious or depressed?

Having outbursts of anger?

Inability to concentrate?

Feeling emotionally numb?

Loss of interest in the things you used to enjoy?

Painful memories of the traumatic event?

Bad dreams about the traumatic event?

Flashbacks or a sense of reliving the events?

Racing thoughts?

Physiological stress response to reminders of the event? (pounding heart, rapid breathing, nausea, muscle tension, sweating)

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Return to work or school

Explore the impact on current and future relationships

Services Provided

Free services include individual therapy for children and adults and adult-support groups.

If you are a crime victim or have been a victim of crime in the past and are considering therapy, we welcome your call.

Therapists are available for appointments Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays.

Therapists Will Help You:

Identify trauma reactions

Explore the impact that trauma has on your daily life

Reduce the intensity of negative emotional responses and symptoms

Learn about common trauma reactions and phases in healing

Feel hopeful and positive regarding the future

Develop coping mechanisms to utilize when thinking or talking about the crime

Experience a reduction of trauma symptoms

Return to work or school

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Therapy For Children & Teenagers

Assessment and treatment for child victims of crime

Therapeutic interventions that teach child safety

Play Therapy

Assistance for parents during this difficult time

Signs Of Trauma In Children

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