**THE BLUE CAMPAIGN**

**Human Trafficking**

Human trafficking is a modern-day form of slavery involving the illegal trade of human beings for the purpose of exploitation or commercial gain. It is an inhumane act that robs a person of his or her freedom, and it is a crime. Human trafficking is detrimental to our economy, the safety and health of our nation, and the very dignity of our society.

Every year, millions of men, women, and children are trafficked in countries around the world, including the United States. It is estimated that human trafficking is a $32 billion per year industry, second only to drug trafficking as the most profitable form of transnational crime.

 Traffickers use force, fraud, or coercion to lure their victims and then force them into labor or commercial sexual exploitation. Human trafficking is not the same as smuggling. “Trafficking” is exploitation-based and does not require movement across borders. Under federal law, every minor induced to engage in commercial sex is a victim of human trafficking. “Smuggling” is movement-based and involves moving a person across a country’s border, with that person’s consent, in violation of immigration laws.

Human trafficking exists nationwide—in cities, suburbs, and rural towns—and in our own communities. Although human trafficking is widespread, many victims go unnoticed. Victims rarely come forward to seek help out of fear of their traffickers, language barriers, and/or fear of law enforcement. For this reason, human trafficking has largely remained a hidden crime.

Until now.

**Blue Campaign: Join Us**

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) is responsible for investigating human trafficking, arresting traffickers, and protecting victims. DHS also provides immigration relief to foreign-born victims of human trafficking.

Blue Campaign is the unified voice for the DHS’ efforts to combat human trafficking. Working in collaboration with law enforcement, government, non-governmental and private organizations, Blue Campaign strives to protect the basic right of freedom and to bring those who exploit human lives to justice.

Increased awareness and training will lead to more tips to law enforcement, which results in more victims being identified.

We cannot do this alone. Join us in the fight to end human trafficking.

Visit the Blue Campaign website to learn about how we can work together and to learn about training, outreach materials, and victim assistance. Go to: www.dhs.gov/bluecampaign. “Like” us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/bluecampaign. Or, contact us at: BlueCampaign@hq.dhs.gov.

Source: The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.