

APPENDIX D: DRAFT SCREENING INSTRUMENTS FOR MINORS AND ADULTS

Guiding principles

- i. The subcommittee recognized the need for a uniform and simple definition of human trafficking to guide identification and collaboration. However, the subcommittee agreed that definitions of human trafficking are often complex and ambiguous. Instead, we recommend that practitioners throughout the Commonwealth be trained to use a set of screening questions or questions should guide the development of indicators or red flags that would guide practitioners in making referrals about potential victimization.
- ii. The screening questions should not be asked as a checklist. Rather they should help guide conversations with potential victims about their experiences to identify indicators of human trafficking.
- iii. The subcommittee recommends a process to regularly screen all individuals arrested for prostitution offenses for potential human trafficking victimization.
- iv. In addition to the detailed screening questions, the subcommittee recommends a few questions be added to a broad range of regular intake forms to help alert different types of practitioners that they should be on the lookout for human trafficking victimization. (These questions might include “Is anyone making you do something you do not want to do?” “Has there been a time when you felt you could not leave your job/pressured to work” “Have you ever exchanged sex for money or something of value” or “Is anyone threatening you?”) If the answer to these basic screening questions was “yes” we would recommend the practitioner screen further using the recommended screening questions.

Screening Tool for Minors:

1. How old are you?
2. Are you in school?
 - a. If yes, where do you go to school?
3. Where do you live?
 - a. Who else lives there?
 - b. Can you come and go as you please?
 - c. Have you ever been threatened if you tried to leave?
4. Who would you contact in an emergency?
5. Do you work or how do you get money?
6. Have you ever exchanged sex for food, clothing, shelter or money?
7. Has anyone forced you to do something that you don't want to do?
8. Did someone ever touch you in a way you did not like?
9. Has anyone hurt or tried to hurt you?
10. How are you feeling?
 - a. Do you need any medical assistance?
 - b. Do you feel safe?
 - c. Are you lonely? Do you get to see your friends?

Screening for Adults:

1. How old are you? (Question used to screen whether or not the victim is a minor.)
2. Where do you live (where do you sleep and eat)?
 - a. Who else lives there?
 - b. Do you feel that you can leave if you want? Do you have to ask permission to leave?
 - c. Have you ever been threatened if you tried to leave?
3. Does anyone stop you from getting food, water, sleep or medical care?
4. Do you work? (Alternative: Do you get paid for what you do?)
 - a. How do you get to and from work?
 - b. Do you get paid for your work?
 - c. How did you find your job?
 - d. Do you owe anyone money because they helped you find your job?
 - e. Have you ever felt like you could not leave your job or felt pressured to work?
5. Have you ever exchanged sex for anything of value such as shelter, food, clothing or money?
6. Have your identification or travel documents been taken from you?
7. Have you ever been physically harmed in any way or seen anyone else harmed?
8. Has anyone ever threatened you or your family?
9. Has anyone ever threatened you with calling immigration authorities or the police?
10. Is anyone making you do anything that you do not want to do?
11. How are you feeling?
 - a. Do you need any medical assistance?
 - b. Do you feel safe?