

HIDDEN IN PLAIN SIGHT

LABOR TRAFFICKING IN MARYLAND

LABOR TRAFFICKING IS...

forcing or coercing someone to do work.

BONDED LABOR (DEBT BONDAGE):

Forced to work to pay debt to the trafficker.

Value of labor is more than the original debt.

Value of the victim's labor is not assessed nor is the victim's labor applied to the debt.

FORCED LABOR

Trafficker wields ownership over the victims.

Limits freedom and forces the victim to work through force, threat of force, or punishment.

TYPES OF WORK MIGHT INCLUDE...

Nannies | Housekeepers | Nail technicians | Construction workers | Agricultural work

Hotel & restaurant staff | Factory staff | Fishery staff & crab pickers

VICTIMS ARE OFTEN...



Isolated... Escorted... Not in possession of their own documents... Unable or not allowed to speak for themselves... Telling a story that seems rehearsed or coached... Protective of their trafficker

WHERE IS THIS REPORTED?



Adapted from Polaris of Maryland's Heat Map: humantraffickinghotline.org

SIGNS THIS IS HAPPENING...

Traffickers use force, fraud, or coercion to force people to work.



Lend victims money & force them to repay debt using exploitative terms that may never be met



Physically, emotionally, or psychologically abuse or punish victims



Withhold important documents, trapping victims

WHAT SHOULD YOU DO IF YOU SEE LABOR TRAFFICKING?

FOLLOW THE 3 C'S!

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