**SOUTH DAKOTA**

**Total Score: .5 Points of 8 Total Available**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TASK FORCE:</th>
<th>0 of 1.5 total points</th>
<th>PREVENTION EDUCATION:</th>
<th>0 of 4.5 total points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DEFINITION OF ABUSE:</td>
<td>.5 of 1 total points</td>
<td>STAFF TRAINING:</td>
<td>0 of 1 total points</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Why did my state receive this grade?** South Dakota is in the bottom tier and should actively work to improve statutes to make prevention education viable and accessible for youth.

**Who does this exploitation and trafficking impact?** Each year millions of children are victims of trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation, affecting communities small and large. This happens all over the world, including in your own community.

**How does this happen?** Children are most often exploited by an acquaintance (significant other, friend, family member, etc.). They are targeted, groomed, tricked, and manipulated.

**SOUTH DAKOTA BY NUMBERS**

- 84 calls to the human trafficking hotline.
- 16 human trafficking cases reported.
- 8 cases concerned a minor.
- 15 cases involved females, 3 involved males.

**SOUTH DAKOTA LAWS AND PROVISIONS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mandated Task Force?</th>
<th>None identified.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Terms included in South Dakota’s Definition of Abuse:</td>
<td>Exploitation only (trafficking not included)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prevention Education Law, Scope, and Grade Levels</td>
<td>None identified.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff Training Requirements</td>
<td>Neither mandated nor recommended</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
EXPLOITATION BY NUMBERS

- Approximately 1.6 million children run away every year in the United States.\(^2\)
- Of the nearly 27,000 runaways reported to NCMEC in 2017, one in 7 were likely victims of child sex trafficking.\(^3\)
- There were 8,524 human trafficking cases reported in the United States in 2017 and 32% of those cases involved a minor.\(^4\)
- In 2017, 88% of trafficked children were in the care of social services at the time the exploitation began.\(^5\)

RECOMMENDED STEPS AND LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS

**TASK FORCE**

- Create a state task force focused on the prevention of child exploitation and trafficking.
- Direct that a seat on the task force is filled by a child exploitation prevention expert.

**STATE DEFINITION OF CHILD ABUSE**

- Amend state statute defining child abuse to include trafficking.

**PREVENTION EDUCATION CURRICULUM**

- Mandate child exploitation prevention curriculum in all state public schools for all grade levels.
- Identify within the curriculum the need to educate youth with age appropriate curriculum on child exploitation, child trafficking, and child abuse.

**STAFF TRAINING**

- Mandate all state public school staff are trained to effectively recognize and respond to the signs of child exploitation and factors that make youth vulnerable to child exploitation.

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1 Polaris Project, Human Trafficking Hotline, 2017 State Statistics: [https://humantraffickinghotline.org/states](https://humantraffickinghotline.org/states). Note that not all demographics are captured by every report to the hotline.
4 National Human Trafficking Hotline Statistics: [https://humantraffickinghotline.org/states](https://humantraffickinghotline.org/states)