**THE PREVENTION PRIORITY**

**MINNESOTA**

Total Score: **4 Points** of 8 Total Available

<table>
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<th>TASK FORCE:</th>
<th>.5 of 1.5 total points</th>
<th>PREVENTION EDUCATION:</th>
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<tr>
<td>DEFINITION OF ABUSE:</td>
<td>1 of 1 total points</td>
<td>STAFF TRAINING:</td>
<td>.5 of 1 total points</td>
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**Why did my state receive this rating?** Minnesota has elements that are friendly to prevention but should take further action to make prevention education viably accessible to youth.

**Who does 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.

**MINNESOTA BY NUMBERS**

- **254** calls to the human trafficking hotline.
- **74** human trafficking cases reported.
- **16** cases concerned a minor.
- **61** cases involved females, **10** involved males.

**MINNESOTA LAWS AND PROVISIONS**

- **Mandated Task Force?**
  - Minnesota Human Trafficking Task Force
  - [http://mnhttf.org/](http://mnhttf.org/)

- **Terms included in Minnesota’s Definition of Abuse:**
  - Exploitation and Trafficking

- **Prevention Education Law, Scope, and Grade Levels**
  - **MN Stat § 120B.021 (2017)**
  - Topics: child abuse, child sexual abuse awareness and prevention (not including exploitation or trafficking)
  - Mandated for K-12

- **Staff Training Requirements**
  - Recommended
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

WHAT CAN I DO?

Contact your child’s school administrator about adding prevention education at your child’s school.

Contact your local representative to ask them to get involved in prevention education legislation.

Be a mentor to youth in your community.

Sponsor prevention education for schools and other youth-serving organizations. Visit donate.iempathize.org.

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


³ National Center for Missing and Exploited Children: http://www.missingkids.com/theissues/cse/cstt

⁴ National Human Trafficking Hotline Statistics: https://humantraffickinghotline.org/states

⁵ National Center for Missing and Exploited Children: http://www.missingkids.com/theissues/cse/cstt

MISSION: We equip adults to empower youth to eradicate exploitation. For more info visit: http://iempathize.org/educators/the-prevention-priority/