



I AM FREE

I GOT HELP

YOU CAN TOO

## Project Traffic Stop

For many, it may be surprising that **sex trafficking**—exploitation of people for the purpose of commercial sex—happens in Allegheny County. Yet it does. The victims are as young as 13, all genders, some are immigrants, but most are domestic youth.

Commercially Sexually Exploited Victims are at a significantly higher risk of short- and long-term mental health consequences, including depression, anxiety, suicide, eating disorders, substance abuse, low self-esteem, psychiatric hospitalizations, and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) than most other crime victims.

PAAR provides intensive case management, life skill classes, trauma and group therapy to address the comprehensive needs of trafficked individuals. The overall goal is to help the victim break free from their trafficker, heal from abuse, become self-sufficient, and build a strong support system.

Our skilled, credentialed professionals are specifically trained to provide victim-centered, trauma-focused services to all victims, all genders, and LGBTQ+.



### DROP-IN CENTER

Located in the city of Pittsburgh, provides a safe, secure place for victims. *No appointment needed.*

Mondays – Thursdays 10 am to 6 pm

Fridays 12 pm to 4 pm

# WARNING SIGNS OF SEX TRAFFICKING

- Appearing malnourished
- Showing signs of physical injuries and abuse
- Avoiding eye contact, social interaction and authority figure/law enforcement
- Seeming to adhere to scripted or rehearsed responses in social interaction
- Lacking official identification documents
- Working excessive, long hours
- Living at place of employment
- Checking into hotel/motels with older males, and referring to those males as boyfriend or “daddy,” which is often street slang for pimp or John.
- Poor physical or dental health
- Tattoos/branding on the neck and/or lower back
- Untreated sexually transmitted diseases
- Small children serving in a family restaurant
- Security measures that appear to keep people inside an establishment — barbed wire inside of a fence, bars covering the insiders of windows
- Not allowing people to go into public alone, or speak for themselves

*These warning signs are adapted from information provided by the Polaris Project, the National Human Trafficking Resource Center and Innocents at Risk.*

**1-866-END-RAPE**

(1-866-363-7273)

24-HOUR CONFIDENTIAL HELPLINE

---

**PAAR.net/PTS**