



HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Kansas Department for
Children and Families

Protecting Child Victims

The 2013 legislation that Governor Brownback signed into law creates a tremendous opportunity for Kansas Department for Children and Families (DCF) and the other state departments to work together to combat this serious problem. Children who are subjected to human trafficking are victims not criminals. DCF is committed to ensuring that the necessary supports and services are provided to these vulnerable children.

DCF's response to commercial sexual exploitation of children:

- Is victim-centered
- Includes strengths-based services
- Involves trauma-informed care
- Ensures better tracking of victims to provide ongoing services and evaluation for treatment

The 2013 legislation establishes:

- The creation of the crime "commercial sexual exploitation of children."
- These minors are not placed into juvenile detention centers for prostitution charges and the word "prostitute" is eliminated, thanks to the new statutes.
- When a law enforcement officer identifies a minor who they reasonably believe is a victim of human trafficking, statute requires the officer to contact DCF's Rapid Response Team.
- The DCF Rapid Response Team completes an initial assessment regarding recommendations for safety, placement and immediate treatment needs.
- Wichita Children's Home is providing a staff-secure facility which is a placement option.
- Foster families are trained in trauma-informed care.

DCF will continue its commitment to safety and treatment needs of human trafficking victims.

For more information, please contact Deputy Secretary Anna Pilato, 785-296-3271.



Strong Families Make a Strong Kansas