HUMAN TRAFFICKING
MYTHS VS. FACTS

**MYTH**

- Human trafficking involves moving, traveling or transporting a person across state or national borders
- Human trafficking is always or usually a violent crime
- All human trafficking involves commercial sex
- Only women and girls can be victims and survivors of sex trafficking
- Traffickers target victims they don’t know

**FACT**

- Human trafficking is often confused with human smuggling, which involves illegal border crossings. The crime of human trafficking does not require any movement whatsoever. Survivors can be recruited and trafficked even in their own homes.
- Most human traffickers use psychological means such as tricking, manipulating or threatening victims into providing commercial sex or exploitative labor.
- Human trafficking is the use of force, fraud or coercion to get another person to provide LABOR or commercial sex. Worldwide, experts believe there are more situations of labor trafficking than of sex trafficking.
- One study estimates that as many as half of sex trafficking victims and survivors are male. Male victims are far less likely to be identified. LGBTQ boys and young men are seen as particularly vulnerable to trafficking.
- Many survivors have been trafficked by romantic partners, including spouses, and by family members, including parents.

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