

Transit's Approach to Human Trafficking and Awareness



AMERICAN
PUBLIC
TRANSPORTATION
ASSOCIATION

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Introduction

- The American Public Transportation Association (APTA) serves and leads its diverse membership through advocacy, innovation and information sharing. Women's safety in transportation has been a focus.
- APTA assembled examples of best practices from APTA members and created a toolbox resource for members looking for best practices or examples of public awareness campaigns used by transit agencies.

Resources Available

- Resources are available to transportation stakeholders regarding training and education, policy development, public awareness, and information sharing and analysis.
- Transportation agencies across the country partner with local government and other stakeholders on human trafficking awareness initiatives.



LEARN THE SIGNS

report it now.
888.3737.888

text befrec
(233733)

**WHAT YOU SEE
COULD SET SOMEONE FREE.**

www.humantraffickinghotline.org

Transportation Leaders Against Human Trafficking

Metro Transit's Involvement 2013

Help end the exploitation of our kids

To get help or report suspected sex trafficking, call 1-888-373-7888.
If you have an emergency, call 911.



**T Metro Transit
Police**

Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority (SEPTA) - Philadelphia, PA

- SEPTA raised awareness in connection with National Human Trafficking Month, directing customers to signs that provide resources for reporting suspected incidents.
- "Transit can play a role in helping to stop human trafficking, considering the number of people that use our buses, trains, and trolleys or access depots and stations 24 hours a day," said SEPTA General Manager Jeffrey Knueppel.



Trafficking is about exploitation and subjects victims to slavery or involuntary servitude.

You can help victims of trafficking.



If you SEE something, SAY something.

Report suspected trafficking to:
National Human Trafficking Hotline
1-888-373-7888

 **TRAFFICKINGRESOURCECENTER.ORG**



National Human Trafficking Hotline



Victims of human trafficking are protected under United States and Pennsylvania Law.

1-888-373-7888

**Línea Nacional
Contra la Trata de Personas
1-888-373-7888**

Victimas de la trata de personas son protegidas bajo la Ley de los Estados Unidos y Pennsylvania.



Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) - Dallas, TX

- DART's fight against human trafficking also involves working with Safe Place, a national youth outreach and prevention program for young people needing immediate help and safety.
- DART officials signed the U.S. Department of Transportation's Transportation Leaders Against Human Trafficking initiative. Since 2014, their police officers, fare enforcement officers, and bus and rail operators received training on how to spot and report possible indicators of human trafficking.



LA Metro - Los Angeles, CA

- The 'Don't Be Silent' campaign was a critical step in encouraging Angelenos to become involved in the fight against human trafficking.
- Metro's campaign included 3,000 ads placed on buses and rail cars across L.A. County. In addition, 85,000 brochures containing resources on how to help victims of human trafficking will be placed in Metro's customer centers, stations, buses and trains.



VTA – Santa Clara Valley

In 2015, VTA was recognized by the White House for its partnerships.

VTA partnered with the County of Santa Clara's Office of Women's Policy to train over 700 bus drivers and maintenance personnel on recognizing the warning signs of human trafficking, and to date has trained over 2,000 employees.

Governor Jerry Brown signing into law a bill authored by California Assembly Member Ash Kalra (D-San Jose), Assembly Bill 2034, requiring all California transit employees in bus, train, or light-rail operations to undergo human trafficking awareness training.



Amtrak

- Beginning in 2012, Amtrak trained all employees nationwide about the dangers of human trafficking and the signs that go along with the often hidden crime.
- Using materials from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the U.S. Department of Transportation, Amtrak workers in 46 states, Washington, D.C., and Canada learned how to identify trafficking victims and how to report potential crimes.



County Connection – A Small Agency example



County Connection Protocol

Observe *Potential Victim* on bus

- Use PRTT on the radio
- If *potential victim* is on the bus use the code words “County Connection 2477 “ Follow instructions given by Dispatch
- Do Not make contact
- Complete an occurrence report

Law Enforcement's Role

Suspected cases of human trafficking should be approached through a victim-centered, trauma-informed lens.

Agencies should involve victim service providers as early as possible in human trafficking investigations.

Agencies should provide regular, up-to-date training in human trafficking for all police officers, including supervisors.

Task forces are a promising approach to combating human trafficking.

APTA

APTA hosts presentations at APTA conferences, seminars, and the TSA/APTA Security and Emergency Management Roundtable.

APTA's toolbox resource link

<https://www.apta.com/advocacy-legislation-policy/advocacy/human-trafficking/>

Call the National Trafficking Hotline at 1-888-373-7888 or text “HELP” to Polaris Project’s BeFree Text line at 233733.

Questions and Contact Information

- CONTACT INFORMATION

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