**SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS OF TRAFFICKING IN THE MIDWEST/HEARTLAND**

• Rebellion

• Disconnection from family and/or friends

• Depression or Anxiety

• Use of drugs or alcohol – specifically to the blackout phase or to hallucinate (escaping reality)

• Insecurity or self-hatred

• Sleep issues or frequent nightmares

• Sexualized or seductive behavior or attire

• Tattoos related to trafficking (names of pimps, barcodes)

• Unexplained weight loss

• Baffling cuts, bruises, burns

• Secretive relationships or social media contacts

• Unusual interest or attention towards your child by adult(s)

• Inexplicable exhaustion

• STD’s

• Frequent health issues or lowered immune system

• Sudden loss in hygiene or extreme attention to hygiene

• Difficulty making direct eye contact with others

• Uncomfortable laughter or smiles (often mistaken for insincerity)

• Deception or secrets surrounding whereabouts

• Dark circles under the eyes or unexplained bloodshot eyes

• Extreme intrigue with sex and/or pornography

• Relationships with significantly older men and/or women

• Ties to criminal elements, criminal motorcycle clubs, or street gangs (in the larger communities)

It should be noted that a single symptom does not necessarily constitute a concern that someone is being trafficked. A combination of any of these may be a danger sign and should not be disregarded.