

# Human Trafficking in our Community

Greenlink will host two drop-in style open house events to raise awareness about human trafficking and how individuals can help combat human trafficking in our community:

**Tuesday,  
November 10**  
8:30 - 10:30 a.m.  
Greenlink Transit Center  
100 W McBee Avenue

**Thursday,  
November 12**  
3:30 - 5:30 p.m.  
Greenlink Transit Center  
100 W McBee Avenue

Can't attend in-person?  
Visit [RideGreenlink.com/  
HumanTrafficking](https://ridegreenlink.com/humantrafficking) for  
a virtual open house and  
submit feedback.  
*Available November 9 - 20.*

There were 156 cases of sex trafficking reported via the National Human Trafficking Hotline (1-888-373-7888) from SC in 2018. As of December 15, 2019, 68 human trafficking cases were pending in SC.

## Facts About Human Trafficking

- Human trafficking is a form of exploitation where any of the following may apply: the victim is physically forced, the victim is lured under fraudulent conditions, the victim is coerced into actions by manipulation/threat or the victim is a minor.
- Minors (anyone under 18) do not have to prove force, fraud or coercion and cannot consent to commercial sex. Therefore, any sexual exploitation of a minor is considered human trafficking.
- Human trafficking does NOT require transporting a victim from one place to another.
- Human trafficking victims can be any nationality, gender or socioeconomic status.
- Human trafficking victims may be able to leave their traffickers and may appear to live a normal life.
- Even when it appears that someone is participating in prostitution willingly, he/she can also be a victim. Paying the victim does not cancel out or invalidate human trafficking.
- Human traffickers may control their victims by using physical violence, by withholding money or by threatening to reveal secrets to family members to shame the victim.
- Trafficking victims may not realize they are being victimized, they may blame themselves or they may be scared of the potential consequences of leaving.

(1) "South Carolina Statistics." National Human Trafficking Hotline, Polaris,  
<https://humantraffickinghotline.org/state/south-carolina>

(2) Office of the South Carolina Attorney General. (2019). Human Trafficking Task Force 2019 Annual Report.  
<http://2hsvz0l74ah31vgcm16peuy12tz.wpengine.netdna-cdn.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/02184897.pdf>