

January is National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month

By Rep. Ann Flood

Human trafficking is one of the fastest growing crimes in the nation. While many may not realize it, it is happening right here in the Commonwealth, not only in big cities but also in our suburban and rural communities.

In fact, according to the National Human Trafficking Hotline, Pennsylvania consistently ranks among the top states in reported trafficking cases.

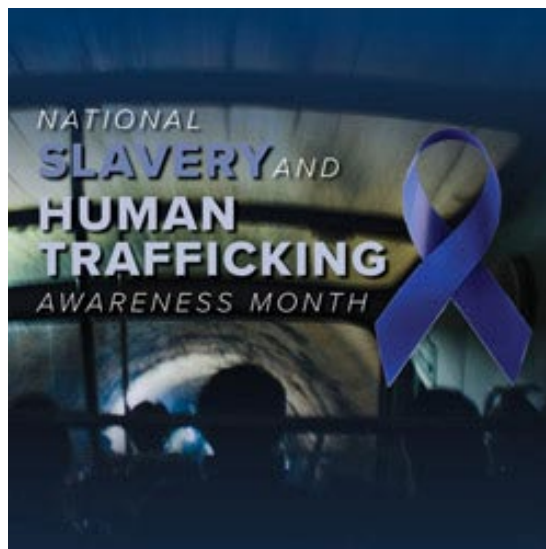
One of the most persistent myths about human trafficking is the assumption that it exclusively involves abduction or kidnapping. In reality, fewer than 10% of trafficking cases nationwide involve kidnapping. Instead, traffickers often groom their victims over time, exploiting vulnerabilities like age, poverty, substance

abuse or unstable housing. Many victims know their trafficker, whether it's a family member, romantic partner or someone embedded in the local community. These relationships of trust make trafficking more difficult to detect.

Children and adults of all ages and demographics can become victims. Through force, fraud and coercion, traffickers push their victims into demeaning forms of abuse, including domestic servitude and commercial sexual exploitation.

If you are a victim of human trafficking in need of help, or you suspect someone else is a victim:

- Call 911 if you are in immediate danger.
- Call the National Human Trafficking Resource Center Hotline at 1-888-373-7888.
- Text HELP or INFO to BeFree (233733) to reach the National Human Trafficking Resource Center.



Probst Secures \$100,000 For Stroudsburg Little League

By Office of Rep. Tarah Probst

HARRISBURG, Jan. 21 – State Rep. Tarah Probst said she is pleased to announce that she was able to secure a \$100,000 grant for the Stroudsburg Little League.

“Connecting local organizations, businesses and municipalities with state government programs is one of the gratifying parts of my job. I am happy that my office was able to work with Stroudsburg Little League officials to find this important funding that will allow so many young kids to have great facilities to play and practice on,” said Probst, D-Monroe/Pike.

The money will be used for needed renovations at Morey Field.

Probst said the grant was provided by the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development.


Probst maintains a regular list of state grant programs that are accepting applications on her website www.RepProbst.com. She encourages organizations seeking funding to contact her office for assistance at 570-420-2850.



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