Human Trafficking and Stalking Awareness

What is Human Trafficking?
Human Trafficking is becoming more of a problem here in the United States and in Indian Country. The Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, differentiates the two forms of trafficking and defines them as follows:

- **Sex Trafficking**: the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for the purpose of commercial sex acts, in which the commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such acts has not attained 18 years of age; and
- **Labor Trafficking**: the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery.

To further define some of the terms associated with human trafficking here are definitions for force, fraud and coercion.

- **Force** can involve the use of physical restraint or serious physical harm including rape, beatings, and physical confinement. It is often used as a means of control over the victim and used to break down their resistance.
- **Fraud** involves false promises regarding employment, wages, working conditions, or other matters.
- **Coercion** can involve threats of serious harm or physical restraint against any person; any scheme, plan or pattern intended to cause a person to believe that failure to perform an act would result in serious harm or physical restraint against any person; or the abuse or threatened abuse of the legal process.

http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/endtrafficking/resource/fact-sheet-human-trafficking

Human Trafficking in Indian Country
Native American women experience trauma and violence at higher rates than any other population. Statics show that 1 in 3 Native women will be raped in their lifetime. Risk factors for this community include high rates of poverty, homelessness, unemployment, domestic violence, child abuse and neglect, and substance abuse; low levels of educational attainment; disconnection from culture and community. These factors make young people especially vulnerable to sexual exploitation. Native girls and women may be targeted because of their perceived vulnerability, because of their marketability as "exotic," and because of the barriers to effective law enforcement on tribal lands.
http://www.htcourts.org/wp-content/uploads/Ch-8_140425_NACM_Guide_OnlineV_v04.pdf

To learn more about human trafficking or if you think that you have come in contact with a victim of human trafficking, call the National Human Trafficking Resource Center at 1.888.373.7888.

To learn more about the LRBOI Domestic Violence Program or if you believe you are the victim of abuse please feel free to contact the Family Service Department and ask for Shanaviah Canales at 231.398.6719 .