

# Safe Harbor Communications Toolkit

## Background

Sexual exploitation in Minnesota is commonly overlooked, misidentified as something else and undocumented. Safe Harbor provides a comprehensive approach to helping Minnesota's sexually exploited youth and young adults, up to age 24, get the services they need. For those 18 and under, the Safe Harbor Law can protect them from facing criminal charges for being sexually exploited. Parents, friends, teachers and others who are in close contact with sexually exploited and at-risk youth are looking for support to create awareness of the issue, and guide these youth to get support through Safe Harbor.

## Objective

Build awareness of Minnesota's Safe Harbor Program; help at-risk and sexually exploited youth self-identify and learn where to seek help.

## Primary audience

Sexually exploited youth, and at-risk youth.

## Secondary audience

Parents, friends, teachers, community leaders and others in close contact with sexually exploited and at-risk youth.

## Key message

Minnesota recognizes that young people who are sexually exploited need understanding, support and services. There is even a law to protect and help young people, called the Minnesota Safe Harbor Law. If you are 24 or under, Safe Harbor can help you get services to meet your needs.

## Supporting messages

- Safe Harbor is a safe place to receive help and support.
- No shame, no judgement, just support.
- Sexually exploited youth are victims, not criminals.
- Sexual exploitation is preventable.

# Outreach Materials

In human trafficking, those who are most vulnerable are often the most difficult to reach. Youth are particularly vulnerable, yet distrustful of authority-driven interventions. Insight from youth who are or have been involved in sexual exploitation and youth prevention peer advocates drove the direction of these materials. Participating youth shared their extensive knowledge and insights to make sure that other youth who see these messages would think about their own situation, identify others who may be vulnerable, and confidently reach out, when ready.

## Posters

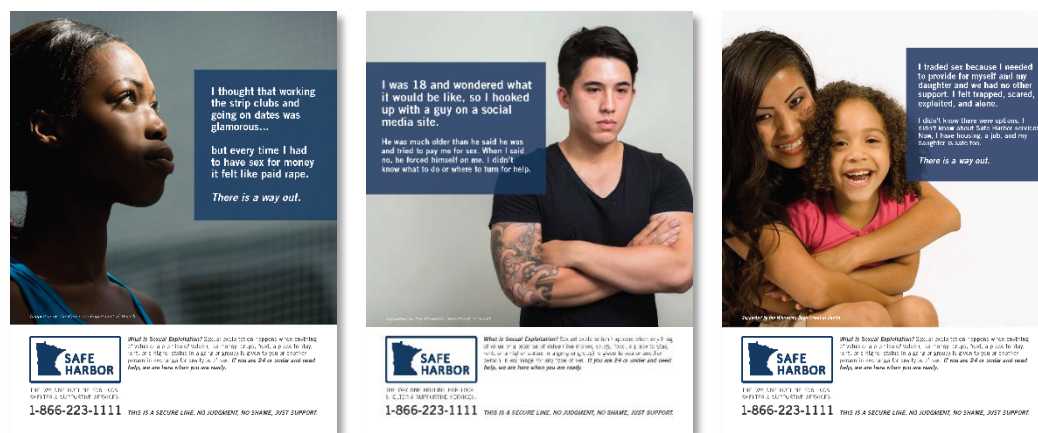
### Main posters

There are two versions of the official Safe Harbor main poster. They both use the same language and images; however, one is a tear off version with the Day One text number. Alongside this poster, you'll find survivor-specific posters that speak directly to people's experiences.



### Survivor-specific posters

The Safe Harbor outreach materials include 28 different posters. The posters represent imagery and messaging from youth survivors across the state – including culturally specific posters for LGBTQ, African American, American Indian, Hmong, Somali and Latino youth.



## Tips on poster displays

- Place posters in visible locations where at-risk youth will see them.
- Display posters at eye level in areas where people gather, such as cafeterias, hallways, lobbies, entrances and exits.
- Consider placing posters in more discreet locations, such as bathrooms, changing rooms, offices and meeting rooms.

## Possible poster locations

- Offices
- Parks
- Gas stations and convenience stores
- Restaurants
- Grocery stores
- Schools
- Community centers
- Places of worship
- College campuses
- Movie theaters
- Shopping centers
- Health clinics
- Libraries

## 5 x 7 outreach card

The Safe Harbor outreach card provides information on sexual exploitation, identifies who is eligible for services through Safe Harbor, and lays out services youth can expect to receive.

## Business cards

Two business cards are available – one with the definition of sexual exploitation and one without.

## Safe Harbor stickers

Place these stickers on any type of outreach material. The stickers make it easy for providers and outreach workers across the state to share the Day One text number and to connect their work to the statewide Safe Harbor efforts.

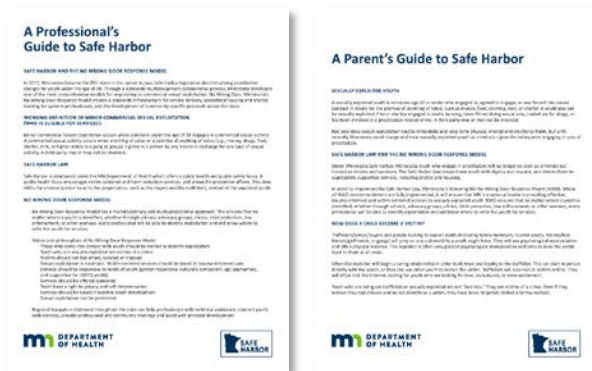


## Handout for parents or professionals

These two page handouts introduce the issue of Minnesota’s sexually exploited youth, explain the Safe Harbor law and identifies who is eligible for services.

The parent handout offers warning signs of trafficking and offers five action steps to help keep their children safe. This handout can be a valuable tool to educate parents on how they can protect their child from trafficking.

The professional handout is geared toward those who are in frequent contact with potentially at-risk or exploited youth. It explains Safe Harbor and the No Wrong Door response model, and offers a quick guide for professionals on how to identify and respond to at-risk and exploited youth.



## Printing Instructions

We’ve designed the posters to allow individuals to print on their own, especially for those who have access to a high-quality printer. However, they will look best if you have them printed professionally. You can also print the parent and professional handouts yourself.

The remaining materials will require professional printing.

## If you suspect sexual exploitation

Be understanding. Even if a person does not identify as a victim, or may seem abrasive, they have been abused, traumatized and are in need of services. It can be dangerous for you and the victim to try to interfere directly with the trafficker. Do not try to rescue the victim. Get help. Call your local law enforcement, your Safe Harbor Regional Navigator, or the Day One Hotline 1-866-223-1111.

### Basic Tips

- Stay calm and listen.
- Be non-judgmental and kind.
- Refer to a Regional Navigator, social worker or another trained advocacy group who understands sexual exploitation.

A protective factor for youth at-risk or those that have been exploited is having healthy relationships with adults. You can be that person by:

- Setting a high standard of love in your home.
- Talking to your children about healthy relationships.
- Talking about internet safety.
- Pay attention to your children – monitor their social media accounts, be alert to friends who are much older, or who tend to isolate your child from others.
- Talk honestly about pornography.

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*To obtain this information in a different format, call: 651-201-5484. Printed on recycled paper.*