



**ARIZONA**  
DEPARTMENT  
of CHILD SAFETY



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Mike Faust, Director  
Douglas A. Ducey, Governor



**January 11<sup>th</sup> is #WearBlueDay**

**Human Trafficking is real. Sex trafficking and child exploitation knows no bounds, and Arizona is no exception.**

In this context, no child is safe. Any child can become a victim, and so we must be vigilant in fighting on their behalf.

As average citizens, we may feel powerless to address such a serious issue.

Through public awareness, though, every citizen can aid in the identification and reporting of potential trafficking situations. We can also create safe and accepting avenues for survivors to disclose their abuse, and help connect them to trauma-informed services so healing can begin.

***"It takes a village to intervene in the life of a child that has been trafficked."***

Arizona is making great progress in the fight against human trafficking. I invite you to watch this video on the collaborative efforts and progress Arizona is making in serving the needs of trafficking survivors:



In Maricopa County, we've established STRENGTH Court, which uses a therapeutic approach and tailors each case to serving the trafficking survivor.

**STRENGTH = Strength Through Resilience - Empower New Growth Through Hope**

Since its inception in 2018, STRENGTH court has succeeded in lowering the number of minor victims that have fled placement to return to the streets. At least two survivors have also assisted with the identification and prosecution of their traffickers.

Across the state, several multi-disciplinary teams are working to strengthen our ability to respond to the complex needs of victims and to hold perpetrators responsible:

- The Coalition Against Human Trafficking Northern Arizona (CAHT-NAZ)
- The Arizona Coalition for Victim Services
- The Flagstaff Initiative against Trafficking
- Yavapai County Trafficking Task Force
- Southern Arizona Anti-Trafficking Unified Response Network
- FBI Task Force
- Central Arizona United To Stop Exploitation Joint Task Force (CAUSE)

To learn more, [Click here](#) to download the Arizona Human Trafficking Council's 2019 Prevention & Intervention Report.

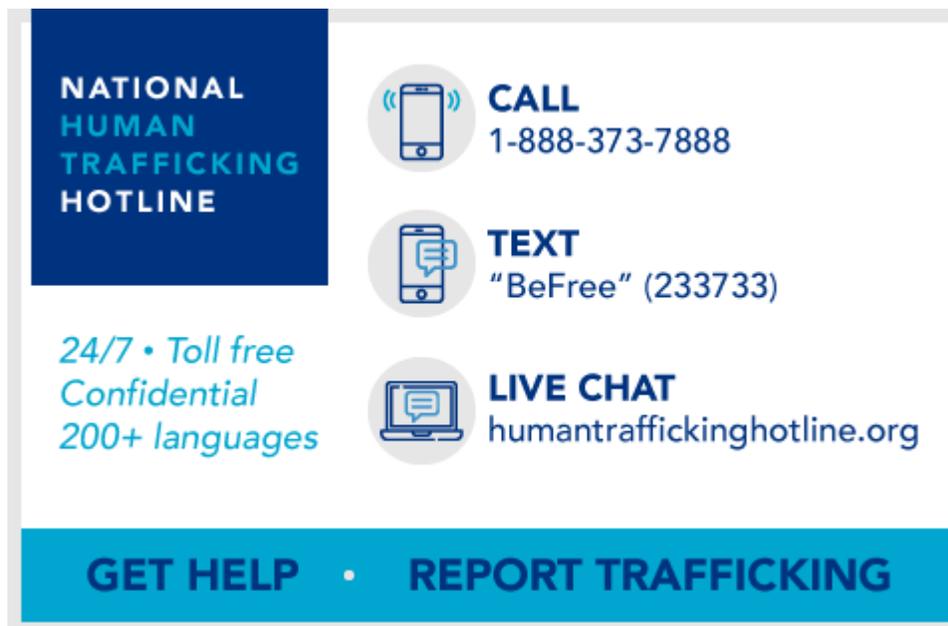
## January 11<sup>th</sup> is #WearBlueDay

As a state, we are making real progress, but we must continue the fight against human trafficking. The Arizona capitol dome will again be lit **BLUE** in for the month of January to help raise awareness. I invite you all to **WEAR BLUE** on January 11th to show solidarity with trafficking survivors and encourage victims to report their abuse.

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**If you or someone you know is in immediate danger, please call 911.**

To report a potential human trafficking situation, call the National Human Trafficking hotline or [submit a tip online](#).



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"BeFree" (233733)

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**GET HELP • REPORT TRAFFICKING**

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As a member of the Arizona Human Trafficking Council, I promise to do my part to put an end to all human trafficking and to support our youngest trafficking survivors on their paths to healing.

I wish you a safe and happy new year!

Sincerely,

Mike Faust  
Director  
Arizona Department of Child Safety

## ABOUT DIRECTOR MIKE FAUST

Mike Faust is the Director of the Arizona Department of Child Safety.

Mike began his state career in September 2015 at the Arizona Department of Administration's Government Transformation Office. During this assignment he worked closely with the DCS leadership team to build the agency's management system, supported development and implemented the Department's strategic objectives and improvement priorities. Mike found working in child welfare to be extraordinarily rewarding. He officially joined the Child Safety team in December 2016 as Deputy Director where he continued to support strategic planning, projects and management system definition across state agencies.

Before joining the state, Mike spent over 15 years in the aerospace manufacturing industry in various capacities including general management, value stream management, manufacturing engineering and continuous improvement. Mike's hands-on approach and ability to practically apply lean manufacturing concepts to human services delivery has made a lasting impact on Arizona's child welfare system. Key contributions include the elimination of the 16,000 inactive case backlog, safe reduction of Arizona's out-of-home care population by 25 percent, and increased timeliness of service referrals.

## ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILD SAFETY

The Department of Child Safety is dedicated to the vision that "Children thrive in family environments free from abuse and neglect." As highly motivated and caring public servants, the DCS team is committed to fulfilling this mission with excellence, providing safety and well-being for the most vulnerable population in Arizona - our children. If you suspect child abuse, call [888-SOS-CHILD](tel:888-SOS-CHILD).



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