



## ***Red Flags***

*Here are common warning signs to be aware of:*

- Child has a significant change in behavior
- Child uses trafficking-related terms like “The Life” or “The Game”
- Child often stays out late or is gone overnight
- Child appears preoccupied with “getting money”
- Child suddenly has a new group of friends
- Child becomes involved in criminal activity, such as shoplifting or selling drugs
- Signs of physical abuse: burn marks, bruises or cuts
- Provocative Dress
- Social Media (sexualized pictures, flirtatious messaging, etc.)
- Suddenly has cash, expensive clothes, bags, phones
- Exhibits withdrawn behavior, depression, fear or hypervigilance
- Appears to be afraid or under the control of another person
- Unexplained absences from school
- Chronically runs away from care
- Associates with other youth who have been identified as victims of CSEC
- Has a boyfriend or girlfriend that is noticeably older
- Child becomes involved in a gang
- Child has a name or symbol tattooed, burned, or branded onto their body, particularly when coupled with the child’s reluctance to explain the tattoo, the tattoo indicates money or ownership
  - (such as a barcode or \$)
- Child has items or an appearance that does not fit their current situation
  - (a homeless or runaway child who has money, new clothes or shoes, and who has their hair and nails done)
- Child references traveling job opportunities