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POLICY BRIEF: HUMAN TRAFFICKING PREVENTION

CHECK OUT TIME: NO ROOM FOR HUMAN TRAFFICKING

PRLA leadership, including the Board of Directors and Policy Committee, have identified the need to combat human trafficking as a top policy priority for the association.

Pennsylvania's hotel and lodging industry has an unwavering commitment to eradicating human trafficking. Through advocacy and collaboration, PRLA is committed to enhancing awareness, prevention, and intervention efforts in the Commonwealth.

GENERAL OVERVIEW

Pennsylvania faces significant challenges related to human trafficking, necessitating the urgent need for the lodging industry to take a leading role in preventing and addressing this issue. Pennsylvania ranks 9th in the nation for most reported cases of human trafficking.

AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

PRLA has launched a campaign to unite the industry in its mission to combat human trafficking and contribute to the broader statewide effort to protect vulnerable individuals. Employees in the lodging community that have undergone anti-human trafficking training are more aware of trafficking when it happens. They're also more willing to report it. Hotels across the country have expanded training tools and resources to ensure employees are trained on the indicators to spot human trafficking.



Through our partnership with the American Hotel & Lodging Association (AHLA), PRLA members receive **free human trafficking prevention training through PACT.**

PARTNERSHIP

PRLA's partnership with the American Hotel & Lodging Association Foundation allows us to provide anti-human trafficking training to member hoteliers and their employees free of charge. More than 1 million hotel employees have completed the AHLAF training, and many brands have implemented their own effective training programs internally.

OUR POSITION

PRLA supports and encourages hoteliers to work with state and federal authorities to combat human trafficking in the following ways:

- Work to identify and report suspicious or unusual behavior or booking activity to authorities.
- Implement a training program that's developed in consultation with a regionally, nationally, or globally recognized organization with expertise in anti-trafficking measures.
- Display back-of-house indicator signage to further support and reinforce training programs.
- Establish policies and procedures for identifying and reporting suspected trafficking activity.
- Familiarize staff with applicable federal and state laws targeting human trafficking in the hospitality industry and prioritize compliance with state requirements.
- Encourage and advocate for awareness training for alternative accommodations and non traditional lodging community.
- PRLA intends to work with the Pennsylvania General Assembly and the Administration to expand and grow statewide training efforts in line with the aforementioned priorities.

Human trafficking is a \$150 billion industry. This modern-day form of slavery impacts 40 million men, women, and children across the globe. As an industry, we can tackle this issue head-on by proactively working together and engaging at all levels.

