



Custer County Health Department  
Creating a State of Health

**For Immediate Release**

5-3-19

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**5-14-19 Human Trafficking Awareness Class in Clinton**

While movements have started to bring crimes like sexual harassment and sexual assault out of the shadows, human trafficking largely remains hidden. Putting an end to human trafficking starts with acknowledging its existence. In an effort to educate and inform, the Custer County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) and the Custer County Health Department is sponsoring a “Human Trafficking Awareness” course on Tuesday, May 14, 2019 from 9 am to 11 am at the Custer County Fairgrounds on Highway 183 in Clinton. The presenter is Michael Snowden, Agent-in-Charge of the Human Trafficking Unit within the Oklahoma Bureau of Narcotics, who is a renowned speaker.

According to the Department of Homeland Security, human trafficking is “modern-day slavery and involves the use of force, fraud, or coercion to obtain some type of labor or commercial sex act.” Human trafficking is not the same as human smuggling, which involves illegal transportation of a person across a border.

Victims of human trafficking are of all genders, ages, races, countries, socioeconomic statuses, and more. While human trafficking can happen to anyone, people who are already in vulnerable situations – such as people experiencing homelessness – may be more likely to be targeted. Human trafficking is an issue that touches every community, including cities, suburbs, and rural towns, but there is something each of us can do to help prevent it.

To register for the training, email [rebeccaw@health.ok.gov](mailto:rebeccaw@health.ok.gov) or contact Emergency Manager Mike Galloway at 580-331-9536.

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