



Stepping Stones Network Moms & Kids Program Admission Criteria

We believe that lives damaged by abusive and destructive experiences can be restored one step at a time. We do this by engaging the community and selecting clients who are determined to actively participate in rebuilding their lives.

To enter the Stepping Stones Network 12-24 month program, person must be female and at least 18 or an emancipated minor in care. Clients are considered in the following priority order:

- With one or more children under 8
- Who has a confirmed pregnancy and plans to keep the baby
- With one or more children over 8
- With no children

In addition, she must fit one or more of the following:

- Self identifies as currently being sex trafficked with accompanying evidence.
- Has a history of having been trafficked in the past as a child or adult with accompanying evidence.
- Is not self-identifying, but we have evidence of her being trafficked.
- Engaged in sex for survival, wants new life, and has no other way out.
- She and/or children are being sexually exploited and are at high risk for being trafficked.
(Note: we must be cautious of serving families where children have been exploited, but not the mother. These may be DCFS cases and would take approval by the Executive Team.)

She must also be:

- Capable of pursuing education, physical and mental health, and spiritual growth.
- Speaks English.
- Medically stable.
- 30 days sober from alcohol and 90 days from narcotics OR have completed a 30-90 day substance rehab or trafficking assessment program AND willing to live a drug and alcohol-free lifestyle and submit to random testing (pharmaceutical drugs, with exception of narcotics, taken as prescribed and overseen by a medical doctor are allowed). Individuals with 90 days sobriety or assessment program grad will be preferred.
- Limited in resources or skills to pursue likely recovery and restoration on her own, while keeping her children safe and well-cared for.
- Capable of utilizing public transportation if needed.
- If has children, must be legally allowed to serve as their guardian in our location.



Services provided to Moms & Kids Program Participants

- Case Management including covering of basic needs (shelter, food, and clothing)
- Therapeutic assessment and referrals to a psychiatric team.
- Safe Circle - a circle of love and support that provides safety, basic needs, and individualized therapeutic programming that addresses purpose, home management, financial literacy, health and wellness, spirituality, parenting, relationships, trauma and addiction recovery, and education and job preparation.
- Childcare & Development

Exclusion Criteria

- IQ below 70
- Diagnosed with Antisocial Personality Disorder, Histrionic Personality Disorder, Narcissistic Personality Disorder, DID, Schizoid Personality Disorder
- Infectious disease must be disclosed and will be addressed on case-by-case basis
- Any psychiatric hospitalization in the past 90 days must be disclosed and be addressed on case-by-case basis
- Has a history of sexually abusing children or is a registered sex offender
- Has active warrants unless willing and able to face them honestly and incorporate into goals
- Requires Methadone (OK to be on suboxone)
- Prescription Benzodiazepines will be considered on case-by-case basis