Moms & Kids Program Description & Eligibility Criteria

Stepping Stones Network (SSN) operates in Chicagoland, primarily in Lake, Cook and DuPage counties. The Stepping Stones Network Moms & Kids Program provides long-term, high-touchpoint services for survivors of human trafficking or sexual exploitation who are mothers with children. Services treat both mother and child as participants in facilitating their road to recovery while protecting them from additional exploitation. The participant family is surrounded by staff members who provide a sense of community and family-like support via face-to-face programming, home visits, phone calls and video conversations.

Program Services (24-48 months)

- **Housing, Basic Needs & Case Management:** Family receives case management to coordinate subsidized housing, utilities, benefits, and other needs in a scattered site, independent living model. Subsidies vary based on need and program stage.
- **Adult Development & Holistic Health:** Therapeutic assessment, counseling, specialty coaching and adult group programming are offered to address purpose, home management, financial empowerment, spirituality, parenting, relationships, health and wellness, trauma and addiction recovery, and education and job preparation. Depending on location and program stage, participants may engage virtually or face-to-face at SSN's Development Center in Libertyville, IL.
- **Parenting Support & Child Development:** Parenting and pregnancy coaching are provided. SSN partners with Safe Families for Children and various childcare providers.

Eligibility

- A mother with one or more children in custody OR confirmed pregnant and planning to keep the baby OR actively regaining custody of children in Lake, Cook or DuPage counties, IL.
- At least 18 years of age OR an emancipated minor OR in foster care under DCFS guardianship.
- A victim of sex trafficking currently or in the past OR has engaged in sex for survival to provide for her children OR she and/or children are being sexually exploited and/or are at high risk for being trafficked. May have evidence or be suspected by SSN or referring agency.
- Capable of pursuing growth in life skills and holistic health and determined to actively participate in building a new life and moving toward economic independence.
- Capable of living independently and keeping children safe.
- If in active addiction, will be highly encouraged to pursue rehabilitation with our active support.

Questions, Referrals & Intake

Info Line: 224-931-0919 Email: info@steppingstonesnetwork.org