

# Stepping Stones Network

## Programs and Services Fact Sheet

**Phone:** 224-789-3054 Hotline (If need response inside 24 hours. If voicemail, will return ASAP)

**E-Mail:** info@steppingstonesnetwork.org (If not urgent and for Speaking Requests)

**Web:** steppingstonesnetwork.org

### **Mission**

To educate and engage the community to prevent domestic commercial sexual exploitation and to provide comprehensive, restorative care to survivors.

### **Programs & Services**

#### **1. Community Engagement**

- Education
  - Get Educated session every 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday night 7 pm. Register on website.
  - Speaking engagements and specialized training for organizations or service providers
- Communications
- Volunteerism and Network Relations. See Get Involved page on our website.

#### **2. Prevention/Protection**

- Hotline
- Outreach
  - Jail visits, support for law enforcement via stings
  - Resources for parents, adults and children. See Resources page on our website.
- Advocacy
  - Case Management or Mentorship for those involved and/or their loved ones
  - Encouraging belonging and safety for at-risk youth and young adults via mentoring, fostering, adoption, and Safe Families programs.

#### **3. Restorative Services**

- Residential Program – 24x7, 12 to 18-month structured program for trafficked moms with children. See other side for description and criteria.
- Day Program – Monday through Friday program in central Lake County for trafficking survivors. Similar programming and criteria as Residential. May include Rental Assistance and Childcare.
- Child Care & Development - Provided Monday through Friday for children, while mothers are in programming
- Therapeutic Groups
  - Journey Groups - adult men and women that experienced trauma, neglect, or sexual violations of any kind
  - Conquer Groups - men who are struggling with pornography or harmful uses of sex

#### **Restorative Services Coordination for Survivors**

- Assessment/intake to determine which services or support are recommended for and desired by the individual.
- If Stepping Stones Network Residential or Day Program services cannot be provided or are not a fit:
  - Find bed matches in other residential programs through Chicago and US network and coordinate intake.



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- Coordinate local services to meet the needs of the individual.
- Can become an Advocacy client. We will serve as a central point of contact, friend and mentor to individuals and their families as they move through the process of healing and rebuilding their lives.

### Long-Term Residential Recovery Program

Stepping Stones Network (SSN) provides holistic, structured residential programming for trafficked mothers and their children, while also preventing these children from being exploited or sold. Our 12 to 18-month program, staffed 24x7, provides safety, community, beauty and basic needs. To help survivors achieve sustainable life change, we employ strength-based and trauma-informed approaches in the context of licensed therapeutic services, life and parenting skills, health coaching, education and vocational planning, and supportive relationship building. Child care and therapeutic options will be provided for children, while their mothers set goals, develop practical plans and skills, and establish social and professional networks to rebuild their lives. Residence is at confidential location in central Lake County, IL.

### Day Program

Programming takes place Monday through Friday at our confidential Day Program facility. Each day includes themed programming (Planning & Purpose, Holistic Health, Parenting, Relationships, & Recovery), plus some form of fitness/movement and introspection time. On Wednesday afternoons, parents and children will be together either at the Day Program location or the Childcare and Development Program location.

### Child Care & Development Program

Child care will take place at our confidential Residential Facility to serve children of mothers who are fully participating in our Day Program. The program will provide structured child care, as well as intentional individualized and group developmental activities and individual therapy sessions. Individual therapy sessions will be provided by our partner, Guardian Angel.

### Call 224-789-3054 for Placement to SSN or other programs for trafficking survivors

Please note that long-term residential placements often take 3-7 days from intake call to actual admission. SSN may be able to refer to an emergency bed with another agency during that period.

### Day Program Admission Criteria

To enter the Stepping Stones Network Day Program, person must be female and at least 18 (in 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

### Residential Program Admission Criteria

To enter the Stepping Stones Network recovery program, person must be female and at least 18 or over with one or more children under 8 OR must have a confirmed pregnancy and plans to keep the baby.



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### ***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 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.

### 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 rehab or 30-day trafficking assessment program AND willing to live a drug- and alcohol-free lifestyle and submit to random testing.
- 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.

### **Services provided to Day Program and Residential Program Participants**

- Case Management
- Therapeutic Groups and Individual Support, Addiction Recovery, Emotional Regulation, Relationships,

#### Trauma

- Life Skills: Home Management, Financial Literacy, Education/Career Development, Independent Living
- Parenting and Family Coaching and Support
- Child Development Groups and Activities
- Health & Wellness



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