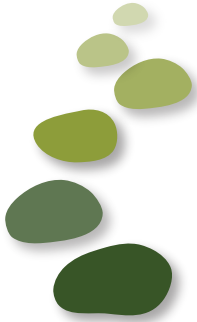


# Stepping Stones Network

## Impact Plan



### Change Theory

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. We then surround them with a circle of love and support that provides safety, basic needs, and individualized therapeutic programming that addresses purpose, home management, financial empowerment, health and wellness, spirituality, parenting, relationships, trauma and addiction recovery, and education and job preparation.

### The Problem

Vulnerability arising from broken family systems, early sexual abuse, neglect, and/or economic instability, combined with our hyper-sexualized culture, creates a high risk of being sold for sex via force, fraud, or coercion.

### Causes

- Objectification
- Normalization of explicit sexual content
- Pornography
- Sex addiction
- Sexting and vulnerability via technology
- Sexual abuse

### Consequences

Survivors have experienced extreme trauma, including psychological, social, physical, and spiritual harms, including...

- Suicidal thoughts, trauma bonds, complex trauma;
- Lack of life skills, minimal social skills, isolation, homelessness;
- Beatings, STDs, addictions, burn marks, tattoos representing pimp, bad teeth, poor hygiene, fractures, memory loss, early death;
- Shame, loss of faith/spirituality, questioning God's love, hopelessness, despair.

### Who We Are

We are a network of trained professionals and compassionate individuals who partner with adults and nurture children impacted by commercial sexual exploitation as they take steps to interrupt the cycle of trauma, develop life skills, and build a safe circle of support.

### Our Impact

Adult and child participants are benefiting from a constructive environment, free from exposure to harmful uses of sex. The cycle of vulnerability is interrupted and families are being restored.

### Evidence of Impact

- Living in a safer environment and developing a safe circle of support.
- Establishing economic independence via working or pursuing education consistently.
- Remaining free from the cycle of exploitation.
- Children's ACE scores lower than the scores of their parent(s).
- BASK\* scores show improvement with each program stage. Graduates' BASK scores improve by 50% from baseline.