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 individuals who are determined to actively participate in rebuilding their lives. We then surround them with a circle of 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

Human Trafficking: Our hyper-sexualized culture combined with poverty and inequity leads to the vulnerable being exploited for profit via force, fraud and coercion.

Causes

Vulnerability arising from:

- Economic instability
- Lack of viable living wage jobs
- Homelessness
- Conflict or violent environment
- Social media exposure
- Childhood sexual abuse and neglect
- Lack of affordable housing & childcare
- · Lack of a safe support system

Consequences

The physical, psychological and practical effects of being trafficked are traumatic and often devastating.

- Personal identification withheld
- Daily freedom controlled
- Extreme medical & dental issues/disabilities
- Anxiety disorders, PTSD, depression, memory loss
- Substance abuse/addictions
- · Debt & damaged credit scores
- Criminal records & lack of legal support
- · Lack of life skills & education
- Difficulty getting & holding a job
- Loss of one's childhood or life

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 Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE scores) lower than their parent(s).
- BASK* scores show improvement with each program stage.