Collaborative Process for Preventing and Treating Trafficked Youth
• Collaborative Process on the identification, assessment, documentation, treatment and therapeutic interventions for children and youth identified as a victim of sex trafficking.

• Partnership includes: The Department Of Child Safety, all Maricopa County Police Departments, St. Luke's Observation and Services for Children and Adolescents Unit, DCS approved Placements and Mercy Care contracted QSP.
The Process

• There is no wrong door
  • Recovered by PD - call Mercy Care HT project Coordinator
  • Returned to DCS after AWOL – call Mercy Care
  • Identified through other means call Mercy Care

• Mercy Care to call OSCA if guardian approves – Mercy Care to notify the appropriate behavioral health provider to ensure immediate services are in place

• DCS/Guardian to determine appropriate placement if returning to the community is deemed appropriate.
The Process – cont.

• Law Enforcement to transport child if case is open with police or child is a higher then normal risk for running and has other needs such as medical or behavioral.

• Law Enforcement will transport youth to the placement if the child is open with that Police Department or the child is in urgent need and is a high risk.
Treatment for Child remaining in the Community

1. Child to be seen by provider within 48 hours of placement –

2. The following services will be provided to the child victim:
   A. High Needs Case Management
   B. Therapy (frequency depends on clinical recommendation)
   C. Medication monitoring
   D. Sex Trafficking and Awareness Recovery Group (if clinically recommended) or Healthy Relationships Group.
   E. Any further services needed as clinically recommended by provider.
If a Higher Level of Care is Approved

1. Child will be receiving treatment in a Behavioral Health Inpatient Facility (BHIF) or Behavioral Health Residential Facility (BHRF) that has programming to treat the child victim of sex trafficking.

Treatment includes:

A. Therapeutic groups
B. Substance Abuse treatment (if needed)
C. Trauma Therapy, Family Therapy
D. Med Management
E. Case Management and discharge planning, as well as any other unique needs.
Some Statistics

• From October 1st 2017 to now, we have had 160 victims as part of this process –

  • In placement – 152
  • AWOL – 8
  • OSCA – 70
  • DCS Guardian – 115
  • Aged Out - 7
Questions??

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IT’S ALL ABOUT STRENGTH

Succeed Through Resilience *
Empower New Growth Through Hope
Therapeutic approach in cases involving confirmed sex trafficking victims.
Identifying confirmed sex trafficking victims

Identified when the case is filed:

- Police,
- Mental Health Providers, and
- Probation Officers.
Even if the victim self identifies, we rely on the professionals for confirmation.
What happens upon confirmation

Confirmed upon filing as a new case: The case is assigned to Judge Gass or Judge Svoboda depending on location.
What happens upon confirmation

Confirmed after the case has been pending: We decide whether to transfer the case to Judge Gass or Judge Svoboda.
In Maricopa County, we have existing specialized resources:

- Police Departments have special details focused on juvenile sex trafficking.
Mental health providers have specially trained trauma therapists to work with trafficking victims.
Residential providers have programs at various levels of care depending on the juvenile’s medical needs.
EXISTING RESOURCES

We have support from various sources, including the Governor’s Office, the McCain Institute, Mercy Care, the Office of Sex Trafficking Intervention Research (STIR) at A.S.U, and others.
Victims of sex trafficking experience extreme and unique trauma. The cases are more complex because of the level of services the juveniles need to succeed.
What are we doing?

We recognize the juveniles unique needs.

But the trauma is extreme and requires additional attention.
WHAT ARE WE DOING?

We work with professionals to put the proper services in place.

BUT THE SERVICES MUST BE CLOSELY TAILORED TO THE VICTIM’S NEEDS.
WHAT ARE WE DOING?
We work hard to build a rapport with the juvenile.
BUT BUILDING TRUST TAKES MORE TIME AND EFFORT BECAUSE OF THE TRAUMA.
WHAT ARE WE DOING?

We listen to the juvenile so we know what the juvenile needs to succeed.

BUT SECURING BUY IN AND PARTICIPATION TAKES MORE.
WHAT ARE WE DOING?

We look to CASAs and mentors to guide the juvenile and provide continuity.

PROVIDING A CASA/MENTOR IS CRITICAL TO SUCCESS.
We must develop a sustainable, best practices program.
Partnerships with the following are critical: Governor’s Office, McCain Institute, Mercy Care, Office of Sex Trafficking Intervention Research (STIR) at A.S.U, and others.
We must develop evidence-based metrics for identifying at risk juveniles.
We must develop a structured approach to case management, including how we identify and prioritize a juvenile’s needs.
Dr. Dominic Roe-Sepowitz’s work, shows some of the areas of need: Mental health/trauma symptoms (engagement in treatment).
Substance use addiction (if exists, how they are addressing their addiction).
Poor school success (attendance, catching up, new school pathways).
WHAT IS NEXT?

Limited social support (developing friendships, connecting at school/housing).
Limited family support/disconnection to family.
Placement stability.
Aggressive or delinquent behaviors.
WHAT IS NEXT?

CASA relationship (having meetings, engaging in relationship, activities).
WHAT IS NEXT?

Mentor relationship.
MEASURING SUCCESS

We are working with Dominique Roe-Sepowitz, MSW, Ph.D., the Director, Office of Sex Trafficking Intervention Research (STIR) at A.S.U.
MEASURING SUCCESS

We need to look beyond anecdotal evidence.

We need to identify appropriate metrics.
Our challenge

These juveniles face a lifetime overcoming the trauma they have experienced. We must give them the tools they need to succeed.
Succeed Through Resilience *

Empower New Growth Through Hope
Using Innovation to Combat Sex Trafficking

Dominique Roe-Sepowitz, MSW, Ph.D.
Arizona State University, Director Office of Sex Trafficking Intervention Research
What do we know about sex trafficking in the U.S. including Arizona

- It can happen to anyone
- We cannot arrest all of the buyers
- We cannot force victims to tell us about their traffickers (and testify)
- We don’t have enough prevention programs
- We don’t have enough housing programs
- We don’t have valid screenings in most of our systems, particularly for adults
- Society sees sex trafficking victims differently then other types of victims
- Healing from sex trafficking experiences takes time and talented support services who are aware and engaged
- Our society facilitates the selling of women/violence against women (hospitality, transportation, etc.)
- Sex trafficking is a silo outside of domestic violence and sexual violence services
Using Innovation
Find DATA

- Go directly to the source
  - Survivors (focus groups, screenings, intake data)
  - Law enforcement
  - Social services
- It will not all match together
- Create an environment that without data/evidence, new programs do not make sense.
- Use technology as a tool
- Stop doing the same thing (arresting, shaming, ‘others’)
- Work together/partner/plan/listen
Super Bowl Studies

- Look at online ads
- Place online ads
- Create a matrix to identify trafficking characteristics and possible minors
- Establish an understanding of the market
- Determine the scope of the response
- Create and use scraping tools and innovative analytics
Law Enforcement Data

- Phoenix Police Department HEaT Unit
- Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department Vice Unit
  - Data driven decision making
  - Case Study 2014
    - 247 victims/159 cases
    - 62.3% minors only/54% adults only (only 3.1% both)
    - Most traffickers have only 1 victim
    - Only in 56% of the cases did the victim identify the trafficker
    - How identified by LE (minor/adult)
    - 29 days from identification to arrest
    - 74% cases not filed
    - 40 cases filed (6 dismissed, 12 convictions, 22 plea agreements)
    - 23.9% of the victims cooperated (from arrest/law enforcement)
      - 16.3% of minors/37.7% of adults
Targeted trainings

- From survivor data
  - Child welfare
  - Juvenile probation
  - Adult probation
  - School prevention
  - Mental health/clinical providers
  - Forensic nurse examiners
  - Special education teachers/administrators

- Create train the trainers (using same presentation/good solid information) certified by task force.
PHOENIX 1ST STEP DROP-IN CENTER

Are you in the life and want help?
Saturday, November 7th // 10am – 8pm
Helen Drake Senior Center
7600 N 27th Ave
Phoenix, AZ 85051

RESOURCES
CONFIDENTIALITY
MEDICAL SERVICES
HOUSING
SHOWERS
FOOD
CLOTHES
NO POLICE/DEA APPLICATIONS

Present this flyer or say the CODE WORD: STARFISH

*This is an event for people who are or have ever been in the life and need support.
Sex Trafficking Help
connecting those who have been trafficked, and those who care for them, to resources in Arizona

If someone is in immediate danger, call 9-1-1.
If you suspect a case of human and/or sex trafficking, call:

Phoenix Vice non-emergency hotline
602-454-2771

Arizona Child Abuse hotline (if you suspect the victim is a minor)
1-888-505-CHILD or
1-888-767-2445

National Human Trafficking hotline
1-888-373-7888
STARFISH School Prevention Project
SEX TRAFFICKING AWARENESS FOR INDIVIDUAL STRENGTH AND HOPE
STIR Interventions

- **Projectstarfish.education**
  - School-based awareness/prevention website
  - Targeted for school administrators/social workers/teachers/school nurses/ and school resource officers.
  - Developed by former teachers and school social workers.
  - Online sex trafficking training certificate (15 minutes)
  - School response policy example
  - Teaching tools
  - School-wide activities
What is Phoenix Starfish Place?

A community dedicated to the healing and empowerment of human trafficking survivors

Section 8 transitional housing created to house survivors of sex and human trafficking and their families

A safe place that provides case management and therapeutic services

Our focus is safety, stability, growth, empowerment, and independence
Websites

- Sextraffickinghelp.com
- Projectstarfish.education
- ASU STIR
Thank you

Dominique.roe@asu.edu
McCain Institute for International Leadership at ASU

Photo Credit: Encarni Pindado, McCain Institute/IWMF grantee
McCain Institute’s Combatting Human Trafficking Program

The Combatting Human Trafficking program educates, raises awareness and implements action-based solutions to end modern slavery.

Through collaborative partnerships, critical research and direct engagement with innovative programs, the Institute develops and deploys strategies to combat all forms of human trafficking at local, state, national and international levels.
McCain Institute’s Combatting Human Trafficking Program

- Arizona Programs and Partnerships
- Student Alliance Against Trafficking
- Buffett-McCain Initiative
- RHY Training
- Safeguarding Children and Prevention Education
- Future Programming
Arizona Programs and Partnerships
Project STARFISH

Designed to help teachers and school administrators integrate awareness about sex trafficking into school activities and classrooms.

How It Works

1. Get Certified
2. Download Lesson Plans
3. Teach
Student Alliance Against Trafficking

The Student Alliance unites and empowers an international network of student leaders to combat human trafficking. The program partners with students across the United States and around the world to raise awareness and inspire the next generation of leaders to take action in the fight to end trafficking.

6 Arizona partnerships 2015 - 2016
14 national partnerships 2016 - 2017
26 international partnerships 2017 - 2018
40 multinational partnerships 2018 - 2019
Buffett-McCain Institute Initiative to Combat Modern Slavery

- Forced labor in agriculture
- Pilot Intervention: South and NW Texas
- 2017 – 2020

Photo Credit: Encarni Pindado, McCain Institute/IWMF grantee
Evidence (2017)

Design (2018)

Implementation (2019)

DA's office will create a Human Trafficking Unit to address labor exploitation

By TBB - Jan 11, 2019

Hidalgo County Criminal District Attorney Ricardo Rodriguez Jr., at the podium surrounded by farm labor activists and staff, announced the grant at the December 4, 2018 Commissioners Court.
National Justice Sector Assessment (sex and labor trafficking)

1. Inconsistent Coordination and Collaboration Across Community
2. Limited Dedicated and Experienced Personnel to Address the Complexity of HT
3. Few Opportunities for Advanced Training
4. Law Enforcement Requires the Support of Victim Service Providers
5. Limited View into HT Trends and Networks
Runaway and Homeless Youth Certificate Program

Strategies

Build capacity of community based-RHY agencies to:

⚠️ Recognize the signs of exploitation
📞 Know how to report trafficking
👋 Serve youth victims of human trafficking
Runaway and Homeless Youth Certificate Program

MARCH 2019 CERTIFICATE ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING TRAINING

119 RUNAWAY HOMELESS YOUTH PROVIDERS TRAINED

67 AGENCIES, DEPARTMENTS, & SCHOOLS

29 STATES REPRESENTED

“This was the first training that I’ve been to that I didn’t feel was a repeat of info and where I felt someone finally understood what trafficking in my area looks like.” - RHY Training Participant
Foster collaboration amongst government agencies and NGOs to:

- Safeguard children and implement prevention education
- Improve existing community-based prevention programs for youth
Safeguarding Children and Prevention Education

2018 Roundtable and Working Group
Thank You!

McCain Institute

Arizona State University