

July 2016

Written by: Megan Genson, Safe Harbour Project
Coordinator

2016 Program Statistics (through June 2016)

- 18 Referrals
- 13 Cases Opened
- 5 For identification ONLY; no services requested
- 1 Confirmed Case
- 10 High Risk Cases
- 3 Medium Risk Cases
- 4 Unknown Risk (at time of report)
- 3 Male
- 15 Female
- 1 Age 7-12
- 15 Age 13-17
- 2 Age Unknown (at time of report)

DID YOU KNOW?

To date, the Safe Harbour Program has presented to 23 different agencies reaching over 932 people. Topics discussed ranged from human trafficking 101 awareness sessions, discussing HR4980 requirements, the Safe Harbour referral process and more. Trainings included presentations geared toward high school students, adults and service providers within the Niagara County area.



Message from Coordinator

The Safe Harbour program is underway! As of October 2015, I started providing services to at risk youth and the referrals have been steady with the passing of HR4980: The Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act. This act mandates local Departments of Social Services and contracted Voluntary Agencies to identify, document and determine appropriate services for any child or youth who the state has reasonable cause to believe is, or is at risk of being, a victim of sex trafficking. Youth can fall into three categories of risk. I typically receive referrals for youth who fall into the Confirmed or High Risk categories. A Confirmed case simply means that the youth meets the Federal definition as a child sex trafficking victim where as a high risk case is when a child exhibits indicators that are commonly associated with sex trafficking, causing serious concern.

FREE On Site Training Available!

Human Trafficking 101

Screening process for at-risk youth

(a how-to training for staff)

Screening tools are available for your use

Trainings can range from 15 – 60+ minutes. I can come to you. Perfect for a staff meeting. Call me at (716) 285-0045 to schedule.

Resources – what we can do for you!

Several materials have been developed for use with service providers and youth. New items include Safe Harbour Project brochures, program referral form, referral policy flow chart, youth resource cards and a Rapid Indicator Tool quick reference guide. If you need any of these materials for your agency, please contact Megan for copies.

Training Opportunities

No specific human trafficking trainings exist at this time locally. However, please check out the following resources for pertinent webinars/teleconferences on related topics:

Midwest Regional Child Advocacy Center EduNet 2.0 webinar series
<http://www.mrcac.org/edunet-2-0-webinars/>

STARS Human Services Learning Center
<https://www.hslcnys.org/hslc/>

The National Child Traumatic Stress Network
<http://www.nctsnet.org/>

National Criminal Justice Training Center of Fox Valley Technical College
<https://www.ncjtc.org/Pages/ScheduledTraining.aspx>

STAY TUNED for updates about our next local service provider training – hosted by the Safe Harbour Program – December 2016.

CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEBSITE!
www.cacofniagara.org

Child Advocacy Center of Niagara
(716) 285-0045
Please note that we have a NEW address!
533 10th Street, Suite 200A
Niagara Falls, NY 14301

Do you want to play a role in combating trafficking?

***Train staff
Implement screening
Join the Taskforce***

Shown at Right: The Child Advocacy Center of Niagara is now fully relocated to the Golisano Center for Community Health located at 533 10th Street (between our old location in the Mizer Building and the NFMHC Heart Center). **Call 285-0045 if you would like to arrange a tour.**

Safe Harbour Project Taskforce

The taskforce plays a key role in coordinating the response for youth who may be trafficked, identifying resources and referrals and developing procedures. **The next meeting date is Wednesday, September 21, 2016 9:30a-11a at NFMHC HSBC Room (located above the Heart Center).** We are looking for more members to join us! Please contact Megan for more details at 285-0045.

Safe Harbour Training Subcommittee

Interested in helping to bring engaging speakers and topic areas to Niagara County through the Safe Harbour Project? Join us as we start to research topics and presenters for our 2016 year-end training. *The next subcommittee meeting is Thursday, August 11 at 12:30pm at the CAC.*

Program Needs Assessment

As part of the Safe Harbour grant, OCFS provided funding to support development of a local response; provide professional training, public awareness, and community outreach; and to support survivors and youth at risk of child trafficking. Dr. Dana Radatz from Niagara University conducted a community needs assessment to support these efforts.

Some Key Findings:

- 64 % of survey respondents had attended a human trafficking training
- 54 % reported they and/or their organization had worked with individuals who may have been survivors of human trafficking
- 61% felt “somewhat prepared” to work with a trafficking case
- 72% agencies felt their organization could play a role in addressing the human trafficking problem in Niagara County

For a copy of the Needs Assessment, email megan.genson@nfmhc.org.

