

Trauma and Mental Health Considerations in a Child Sex Trafficking Response



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Hotline: 216-570-8010

About Bellefaire JCB

Founded in 1868 as the Cleveland Jewish Orphan Asylum

150th year anniversary

Located in Shaker Heights, Ohio

One of the nation's largest child service organizations

**Adoption Services – Foster Care – Drug & Alcohol Treatment Outpatient
Counseling – Prevention & Early Innovation – Autism School
Crisis Stabilization – School-Based Counseling – Residential Treatment
Basic Center- Street Outreach- Independent Living Program**



Do you see me?



to **25%**
40%
of homeless youth
identify as **LGBTQ**



Watch through the lens of a vulnerable youth!

Take a closer look: <http://tinyurl.com/joogha7>

Pop up shop: <http://tinyurl.com/zlgsb7g>

- Within 48 hours a youth will be solicited for sex!

Do you need a ride?

Are you hungry?

Attention from a stranger on social media

Girls and Boys do not call what happened sex trafficking....

Creating safe spaces and identifying the right staff

- **Where to you meet teens?**
- **Bellefaire's model- We are a virtual shelter. We meet you where you are at.**
- **Assess for safety at all times**
- **Work in collaboration with police, community partners, families, neighbors, and the teens identified support system.**

Assessment towards engagement

- Where do you stay?
- Who do you stay with?
- No where do you live? Who are your mom and dad? These are not givens for our teens.
- How can I help?
- What do you need to succeed?
- Assess the youth's stage in the process of change?
- Always assessing for safety and immediate needs.
- Do you have a key where you stay?

What is sex trafficking?

- **Human trafficking is the business of stealing freedom for profit.**
- In some cases, traffickers trick, defraud or physically force victims into providing commercial sex.
- In others, victims are lied to, assaulted, threatened or manipulated into working under inhumane, illegal or otherwise unacceptable conditions. (Polaris Project)

Human/Sex Trafficking - Warning Signs for Minors

Appearance

- Does the youth exhibit signs of physical and/or sexual abuse?
Are there bruises on the face?
- Do you notice a new hair style, wig, or polished nails knowing that the youth does not have funds for these services?
- Is there a new tattoo on the back of the neck or wrist?

Human/Sex Trafficking - Warning Signs for Minors 2

Behavior

- Is the youth running away to unknown places and for unknown reasons?
- Do you notice a pattern in the time of day the youth goes missing?
- Is the youth away or working excessively long and/or unusual hours?
- Is the youth unpaid, paid very little, or paid in return for food, clothing, and housing?
- Has the youth been promised unrealistic opportunities like a modelling career?
- Is the youth unable or unwilling to identify the name of an employer or person picking them up from your home?
- Is the youth saying they are working but you do not see a paycheck?
- Is the youth not sure of their residence or appear confused about where they stay?

Human/Sex Trafficking - Warning Signs for Minors 3

Presentation

- Does the youth present with a heightened sense of fear and anxiety?
- Is the youth depressed, submissive, tense, nervous, and/or paranoid?
- Does the youth refuse to make eye contact?
- Does the youth feel hopeless and out of control?
- Is the youth at risk of self-harm due to increased hopelessness and/or feeling trapped?
- Does the youth have numerous inconsistencies in his/her story?
- Does the youth lack access to health care?

Mental health

- Trust- some victims, the trauma induced by someone they once trusted results in pervasive mistrust of others and their motives.
- Trauma Bond from the offender/pimp is trauma-coerced bonding or a trauma-coerced attachment. Until we find a healthy replacement such as reunited with family and decreased stressors.
- The attachment is marked by a shift in internal reality, whereby the victim begins to lose her sense of self, adopts the worldview of the abuser, and takes responsibility for the abuse
- Victims of human trafficking may suffer from anxiety, panic disorder, major depression, substance abuse, and eating disorders as well as a combination of these.
- Be aware of our mental health as well. Professionals including law enforcement are exposed to secondary trauma

Key characteristics of a skilled provider working with trauma-survivors

- Understands that certain survivor behaviors are a response to trauma;
- Is knowledgeable regarding the mental health [and substance abuse] effects of violence and in particular, sexual violence;
- Is skilled and knowledgeable regarding trauma and trauma treatment;
- Is able to provide culturally competent services and seeks supervision regarding cultural issues;
- Is responsive to emergency mental health issues of clients

Modified list from Helping Sexual Assault Survivors with Multiple Victimizations and Needs: A Guide for Agencies Serving Sexual Assault Survivors (Davies, 2007), page 40

Special Populations

- Aged out of care youth
- LGBT youth
- Mental health
- Gang members
- Juvenile justice youth
- Homeless youth
- Missing youth

National Missing and Exploited Children

- Endangered Missing
- **ASHLEY SUMMERS**

- **DOB:** Jun 16, 1993
Age Now: 19
Missing: Jul 9, 2007
Missing From:
CLEVELAND
OH
United States

Sex: Female

Race: White

Hair: Brown

Eyes: Blue

Height: 5'5" (165cm)

Weight: 130lbs (59kg) **Age Progressed**

Ashley's photo is shown age-progressed to 18 years. She was last seen on July 9, 2007. Ashley has a tattoo of "Gene" and a heart on her right arm. ANYONE HAVING INFORMATION SHOULD CONTACT

National Center for Missing & Exploited Children

1-800-843-5678 (1-800-THE-LOST)

Cleveland Police Department (Ohio) 1-216-623-5005 or Your Local FBI



Missing history: Body found in yard



MISSING CHILDREN HAVE YOU SEEN ME ?



Shayma Saoud

Missing From: Cleveland, OH
Missing Since: Sept.21, 2018
Current Age: 16
Race: Caucasian



Jannessa Wolf

Missing From: Canton, OH
Missing Since: Sept. 15, 2018
Current Age: 17
Race: African American



Taneka Brown

Missing From: Dayton, OH
Missing Since: Sept. 18, 2018
Current Age: 14
Race: African American



Alexis Sinkovic

Missing From: Toledo, OH
Missing Since: Sept. 12, 2018
Current Age: 17
Race: Caucasian



Olivia Oliver

Missing From: Youngstown, OH
Missing Since: Sept. 17, 2018
Current Age: 17
Race: African American



Markayla White

Missing From: Shaker Hts, OH
Missing Since : Sept. 11, 2018
Current Age: 17
Race:African American



Dejanae Anthony

Missing From: Cincinnati,
OH
Missing Since: Sept 17, 2018
Current Age: 13
Race: African American



Jazmine Whittenburg

Missing From: Parma, OH
Missing Since : Sept 4, 2018
Current Age: 16
Race: African American

REPORT TIPS

National Human Trafficking Hotline: 888-373-7888

Bellefaire: 216-570-8010

Sheriff Radio: 216-443-6085

Text: Be Free to 233733

LGBT Youth

- Acceptance and Safety



Missing Person Databases

Be aware of your communities missing process and procedures

- Attorney General

<http://www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov/MissingKids>

- City of Cleveland

<http://www.city.cleveland.oh.us/CityofCleveland/Home/Government/CityAgencies/PublicSafety/Police/MissingPerson>

- Sheriff's Department

<http://missingpersonscuyahoga.org/>

- National missing and exploited children

http://www.missingkids.org/supportus?gclid=EAIaIQobChMIIPKEv-jJ5QIVFIIGCh0hEQ2aEAAYASAAEgIrcfD_BwE

Recent photo!

Recognizing trauma affects individuals

- Trauma can significantly affect how an individual functions. Research shows trauma disrupts the central nervous system and overwhelms a person's ability to cope. It often results in feeling vulnerable, helpless, and afraid. It interferes with relationships and fundamental beliefs about oneself, others, and one's place in the world.
- <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/tic/index.htm>

Be a trauma-informed care champion!



Empowering. Engaging. Effective.

Wisconsin Department of Health Services

www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/tic

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Empathy

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cDDWvj_q-08

SAFETY

- Staff encourages and assists clients in creating wellness plans that protect against crisis & relapse.
- Staff creates a welcoming and inviting space for clients to relax, be comfortable, and engage in services.
- Staff is committed to the well-being and success of the clients.

TRUSTWORTHINESS

- Staff is respectful, clear, and consistent with expectations and interactions with clients.
- Staff speaks about clients with respect and acceptance.
- Staff includes clients in designing and improving services by using tools such as satisfaction surveys & consumer advisory boards.

CHOICE

- Staff works with clients to develop individualized recovery plans that promote opportunities for personal development.

COLLABORATION

- There are systematic ways for clients to give feedback to staff regarding TIC values (i.e., safety, trustworthiness, choice, collaboration and empowerment).

EMPOWERMENT

- Staff supports the time commitment necessary for clients to make changes in long-held habits and coping strategies.

<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/tic/values.pdf>

COLLABORATION

Services in Cuyahoga County

- Homeless and Missing Youth Program of Bellefaire JCB
- Street Outreach Program of Bellefaire
- Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner
- Project STAR Hotline-Cleveland Rape Crisis-
- 211- wealth of resources- United Way
- Centralized Intake Homeless Families and Women
- Collaborative to End Human Trafficking
- FBI- Task Force for violent crimes
- Law enforcement- Juvenile or Missing Person Detectives
- Regional Human Trafficking Task Force through Sheriff's Department
- Renee Jones Empowerment Center
- Collaborative to End Human Trafficking
- Harriett Thurman – transportation
- Salvation Army- Hue Jackson Foundation
- Collaborate with McKinney Vento liaison
- Collaboration with community partners, food pantries, public transportation, schools, teen identified hot spots

**Do you or someone you
know need a Safe Place?
Call our 24/7 hotline:
216-570-8010**



**Or look for
the:**



CLEVELAND PUBLIC LIBRARY
www.cpl.org


Homeless & Missing Youth Program
A Program of Bellefaire JCB Hotline 216-570-8010

 **lutheran
metropolitan
ministry**
listening. serving. empowering.

**Next Step
Youth Shelter:
216-941-0062**

**Greater Cleveland
RTA buses are a
Safe Place in addition to
Cleveland Public Library
locations. Just board an RTA
bus, let the driver know
you need a Safe Place and
you'll get help from
Bellefaire JCB or LMM's
Next Step Youth Shelter.**





**SAFE
PLACE[®]**

How can you help?



Questions?



Thank You

- Be aware of the warning signs/look beneath the surface!
- Always remember these teens are *victims* of their situation.
- Trauma informed care = Universal precaution
- If the person is in immediate danger call 911
- 211 First Call for Help
- Be aware of your local resources and develop a plan for your community!

EMPOWER GIRLS AND BOYS TO SUCCEED!