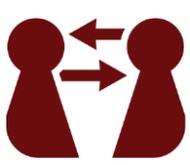


Hope House USA



Type of intervention



Individual Work



Group Work



Residential



Mentoring

Target group/s, level/s of prevention and sub-group/s:

**Children and Young
People (Victims)**

Primary prevention

Young People (12-17 Years) | Female | Individualised Work, Group Work, Residential, Mentoring | English

Target population

Adolescent girls aged 12 -17 years who have been sexually exploited through the commercial sex industry.

Delivery organisation (e.g. LFF UK, Prison Service of England and Wales)

Hope House, which is part of a Christian organisation in the USA, 'On Eagles Wings' Ministries, see www.oewm.net.

Mode and context of delivery

Hope House is a residential care programme for victims of sex trafficking, provided by a Christian charity in the USA. The programme offers home school education, a trauma- informed model of care, therapy, health care, life skills and spiritual mentoring.

Additional services provided include Fields of Hope, a job skills programme for survivors of sex-trafficking and Rehab Hope, a financial assistance programme for those exiting trafficking.

Level/Nature of staff expertise required (e.g. professional background)

All staff are qualified as residential social workers and have at least 2 years' experience. The Residential Director has a Master's Level degree plus supervisory experience in residential social work.

Intensity/extent of engagement with target group(s)

Hope House is a residential home that provides 24 hour care. Clients are encouraged to stay for a year but can stay longer if necessary.

Description of intervention

Hope House is a residential programme for adolescents aged 12 -17 years who have experienced commercial sexual exploitation/sex trafficking. 24 hour care is provided for a year, or longer if required. Its goals are to:

- offer a safe, supportive and nurturing environment
- offer a trauma-informed model of care
- provide caregivers to support the client, who are specifically trained to understand the mind set and victimisation of a sex trafficking survivor
- provide a programme that supports the client's individual goals, helps her develop her gifts and talents and encourages self-esteem

The essential elements of the Hope House intervention are:

- trauma-informed and holistic care model
- specialised care that understands the complex needs and experience of sex trafficking survivors
- empowerment and esteem building
- Trauma-focused Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (TF-CBT) and Eye Movement Desensitisation and Reprocessing (EMDR)
- weekly group therapy in small groups of no more than 4
- family involvement in treatment, where appropriate

In addition to this programme the organisation also offers:

- 'Fields of Hope'; a job skills programme for survivors of sex trafficking
- 'Rehab Hope'; a financial assistance programme for those exiting trafficking
- 'Youth Abolition'; a programme to prevent sex trafficking for teens and young adults

Evaluation

Hope House has been reviewed by the California Evidence-based Clearinghouse for Child Welfare – see www.cebc4cw.org/program/hope-house

There are no published peer-reviewed research or evaluation studies currently available.

References

Sells, H. (2012, Feb. 24) *Off the streets: Helping sex victims for the long haul*. Christian Broadcasting Network News website: <http://www.cbn.com/cbnnews/us/2012/January/Hopes-Marathon-a-Way-Out-for-Sex-Trade-Victims/>

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