



Project Proposal Application

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Love146 can only fund registered organizations or charities.*

Project Name	U.S. Survivor Care Program
Organization	Love146
Primary Contact	Erin Williamson, Survivor Care Coordinator

Type of Project	Survivor Care
Project Location	Connecticut
Project Start Date	July 1, 2014
Project Duration	One Year
Overall Budget of Project	\$250,000

1. Please provide a brief description of the proposed Project.

The U.S. Survivor Care Program will provide support services to youth who are at high-risk for or confirmed survivors of human trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation (CSE). Grounded in individual case plans, Love146 will work closely with caregivers (e.g., biological/foster families, kin-caregivers) and community providers to support program participants as they reintegrate into their communities.

2. Please provide a brief description of the intended outcome(s) of the Project.

Through individualized support services, Love146 staff will work with youth, caregivers, and community providers to decrease youth's risk for exploitation, increase their stability, and help youth progress towards their other care plan goals. Love146 will also provide training and support services to caregivers (e.g., biological/foster families, kin-caregivers) and community providers so that they are able to successfully work with and support this population.

3. Please briefly describe the motivation (and/or experience) that leads you to propose the Project.

Youth who are at high-risk for or confirmed survivors of human trafficking/CSE require specialized services to meet their individual needs and help them reintegrate into their communities. Love146 is able to provide trauma-informed support services and help ensure youth receive coordinated, holistic care.

4. Please provide the name(s) of any collaborative partner(s) involved with the Project.

Klingberg Family Centers, the Connecticut Department of Children and Families (DCF) and other local providers working with program participants

5. Please provide the name(s) of any supporting partner(s) or institutional donor(s) who have committed to, or who have been approached to provide financial or other project support.



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Klingberg Family Centers

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Following years of advocacy, there is increased recognition that human trafficking and the commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC) is not just something that occurs overseas, but also takes place within the United States. Despite this increased awareness, the government systems tasked with caring for our youth continue to lack the resources and expertise necessary to meet their complex needs and ensure their successful reintegration. While comprehensive prevention education is essential to abolishing human trafficking/CSEC, survivor care services become necessary when prevention fails – when traffickers reach children before we do.

In 2013, Love146 conducted a comprehensive environmental scan of the service needs and resources available to youth at-risk for and confirmed survivors of human trafficking/CSEC in Connecticut. In response to what we learned, Love146 implemented a Survivor Care Program, providing and connecting survivors to trauma-informed support services. Services offered through the Survivor Care Program include, but are not limited to: information, safety planning, crisis intervention, skill development, appointment accompaniment, application assistance, referral services, and transportation. Through the Survivor Care Program, Love146 also provides training and support services to caregivers (e.g., biological/foster families, kin-caregivers) and community providers so that they are able to successfully work with and support this population.

II. PROBLEM STATEMENT



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In 2005, the Trafficking Victims Protection Act was reauthorized and amended to emphasize the need to address the trafficking of U.S. citizens and legal permanent residents within the borders of the United States. Almost ten years later, few service providers possess a comprehensive understanding of this issue or how to best serve this population.

In order to alleviate this issue within child welfare systems and runaway and homeless youth programs, in 2013, the Administration for Children and Families (ACF), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services released new *Guidance to States and Services on Addressing Human Trafficking of Children and Youth in the United States*. Recognizing that no one system can combat human trafficking alone, ACF suggests that, “runaway and homeless youth service providers and child welfare staff work with law enforcement, juvenile corrections, courts, schools, medical and mental health professionals, Child Advocacy Centers, legal service providers, crime victim service providers, [and] community and faith-based organizations to understand the problem of trafficking as it relates to their community and formulate a coherent response.”

In Connecticut, the Department of Children and Families (DCF) has taken a strong lead in addressing the issue of human trafficking. In 2009, DCF assembled the Human Anti-Trafficking Response Team (HART) (formerly known as the Human Trafficking Response Team), which helped to draft the DCF Response Protocol for how human trafficking and CSEC cases would be handled during normal operating hours and after the regional DCF offices closed. Today, the DCF Response Protocol is in its final stage of revision, and HART liaisons exist in each of the regional DCF offices.

For the past two years, Love146 has partnered with DCF to ensure that DCF involved youth have access to prevention education. Recognizing that for some youth prevention education has come too late, in 2013, Love146 conducted a comprehensive environmental scan of the service needs and resources available to youth at-risk for and confirmed survivors of human trafficking/CSEC in Connecticut. This scan identified a number of areas where Love146 can lend its expertise to provide trauma-informed support services and help ensure youth receive coordinated, holistic care.

III. PROJECT OVERVIEW



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a) **IMPACT & EXECUTION : Statement of Goals / Objectives & Measurements**

Goal: Decrease youth's risk for exploitation.

- **Objective** : Increase youth's safety through the provision of information and safety planning.

Activity : Provide emergency kits with supplies and information to in-state and out-of-state youth placed in emergency shelter beds in Connecticut as a result of a human trafficking/ CSEC related event.

Measure : Number of emergency kits disseminated

Activity : Provide in-person information and safety planning to in-state youth deemed to be at high-risk for or survivors of human trafficking/CSEC.

Measure : Number of youth provided in-person information and safety planning

- **Objective** : Facilitate youth's reintegration into their communities

Activity : Provide comprehensive, individualized care to youth deemed to be in need of long-term support services.

Measures : Number of youth provided ongoing support services, and the number of units of service provided by type (e.g., safety planning, crisis intervention)

Activity : Connect youth with community providers who are able to help meet other identified service needs.

Measure : Number and type of referrals provided, and number of referrals resulting in service delivery.

- **Objective** : Increase youth's sense of well being

Activity : Help youth identify and meet their individualized care plan goals.

Measure : Number of care plan goals achieved
Increase in overall well being as reported by youth's self-assessments

Goal: Increase caregivers' (e.g., biological/foster families, kin-caregivers) ability to successfully support this population.

- **Objective** : Increase caregivers' understanding of human trafficking/CSEC

Activity : Provide information to caregivers who are caring for youth served by Love146's Survivor Care Program.

Measures : Number of units of informational services provided to caregivers

Activity : Support caregivers in safety planning, identifying and obtaining services for youth, and facilitating service engagement.

Measures : Number of related units of service provided to caregivers

- **Objective** : Help to identify and support potential foster placements

Activity : Conduct community presentations in partnership with child placing agencies working with this population.



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IV. PROJECT BUDGET

Available Upon Request.

V. CONCLUSION

Love146 is dedicated to ending child trafficking and exploitation. Love146's Survivor Care Program helps to realize this goal by journeying with and providing support services to youth who are at high-risk for or confirmed survivors of human trafficking/CSEC.

Through the Survivor Care Program, program participants and Love146 employees collaborate to develop care plans that identify program participants' strengths, concerns, and goals. Grounded in these individual care plans, Love146 employees work closely with community providers to support program participants as they work to achieve their care plan objectives. As part of the Survivor Care Program, Love146 also provides training and support services to caregivers (e.g., biological/foster families, kin-caregivers) and community providers so that they are able to successfully work with and support this population.

Love146 is working towards a world without child trafficking and exploitation. Until then, the U.S. Survivor Care Program will support youth as they journey home.