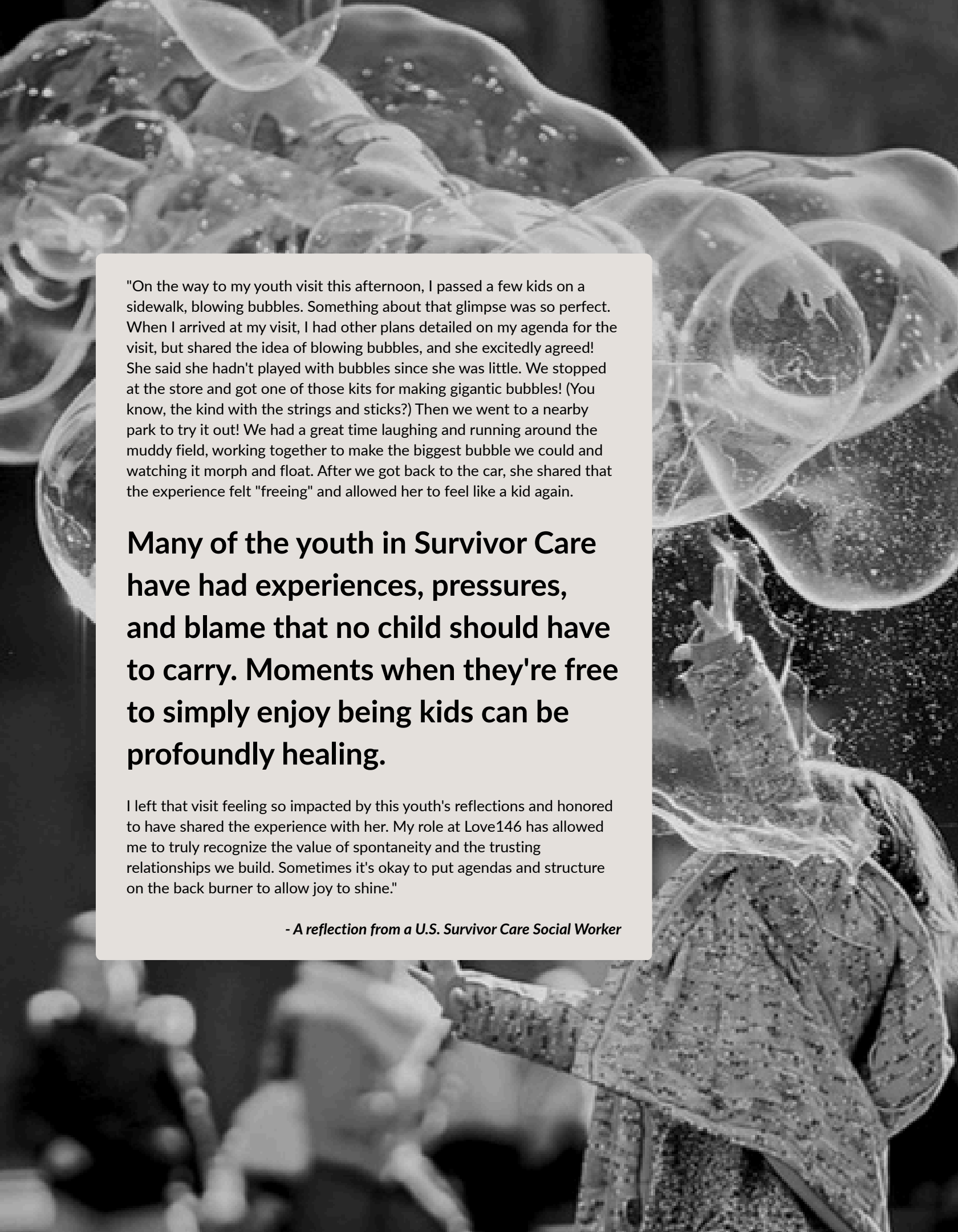


# meeting the moment

**LOVE146**

**2025 ANNUAL REPORT**



"On the way to my youth visit this afternoon, I passed a few kids on a sidewalk, blowing bubbles. Something about that glimpse was so perfect. When I arrived at my visit, I had other plans detailed on my agenda for the visit, but shared the idea of blowing bubbles, and she excitedly agreed! She said she hadn't played with bubbles since she was little. We stopped at the store and got one of those kits for making gigantic bubbles! (You know, the kind with the strings and sticks?) Then we went to a nearby park to try it out! We had a great time laughing and running around the muddy field, working together to make the biggest bubble we could and watching it morph and float. After we got back to the car, she shared that the experience felt "freeing" and allowed her to feel like a kid again.

**Many of the youth in Survivor Care have had experiences, pressures, and blame that no child should have to carry. Moments when they're free to simply enjoy being kids can be profoundly healing.**

I left that visit feeling so impacted by this youth's reflections and honored to have shared the experience with her. My role at Love146 has allowed me to truly recognize the value of spontaneity and the trusting relationships we build. Sometimes it's okay to put agendas and structure on the back burner to allow joy to shine."

*- A reflection from a U.S. Survivor Care Social Worker*

# A letter from our CEO

This year's report is titled Meeting the Moment. As I step into my first full year as CEO following Rob's transition from executive leadership, I have felt the weight and privilege of that phrase in a new way.

Love146 was built on the courage to see a child, not just an issue. That conviction remains unchanged. What has become even clearer to me this year is how quickly the moment itself evolves. Exploitation does not stand still. Housing instability, economic pressure, rapid technological change, and shifting legal landscapes are reshaping the risks young people face. And yet, across all this change, one thing remains constant: children need adults who are steady, thoughtful, and willing to adapt without losing their center.

Over this past year, I have listened deeply to staff, to survivors, to partners, to long-time supporters, and to those who challenge us to grow. I have learned that our strength is not only in what we do, but in how we do it. We do not chase headlines. We invest in rigor. We evaluate our prevention programs. We refine our Survivor Care model. We advocate carefully and collaboratively. We hold complexity without losing urgency. Meeting the moment means resisting panic and polarization, and instead choosing clarity, evidence, and long-term commitment to children.

At the same time, I have seen firsthand the importance of building organizational resilience. Government funding remains vital but restrictive and cyclical. Prevention must evolve alongside technology. Survivor Care must remain holistic even when funding streams are narrow. To truly meet this moment, and the next one, we must strengthen and diversify our partnerships, expand flexible support, and ensure our financial model protects continuity of care for the young people who rely on us.

This is why we are entering a new phase of strategic planning. Over the coming year, we will engage our board, staff, partners, and community in shaping a focused, forward-looking plan that ensures Love146 remains both responsive and sustainable. We will ask hard questions. Where must we innovate? Where must we deepen? How do we reduce risk while expanding impact? How do we ensure that the quality of our work never erodes under the pressure to scale? Strategic planning is not about reacting to trends; it is about preparing with intention so we can continue to meet the moment with integrity.

What gives me confidence is what I see every day: a social worker choosing joy with a young person when structure can wait; a youth reconnecting to school and employment; families accessing digital safety resources before harm escalates; laws shifting because survivors' experiences were heard. These are not abstract victories. They are durable, human outcomes.

We are entering our third decade with clarity about who we are and humility about what we are still learning. We remain committed to the end of child trafficking and exploitation; nothing less. And we will continue to meet each moment not with fear, but with steady perseverance, deliberate collaboration, and defiant hope.

Thank you for standing with us; not just in this moment, but for the long haul.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Glaydon de Freitas". The signature is fluid and cursive.

**GLAYDON DE FREITAS**

Love146 CEO

## OUR VISION

*The end of child trafficking and exploitation. Nothing less.*

## OUR MISSION

*Love146 journeys alongside children impacted by trafficking today and prevents the trafficking of children tomorrow.*



# The problem of child trafficking is bigger and closer to home than most people realize.

Child trafficking is often thought of as a distant or rare issue – and one that mainly involves kidnapping across state or international borders. Recent student surveys tell a different story, showing that exploitation often occurs locally, without abduction, and more frequently than many people realize. Under the U.S. Trafficking Victims Protection Act, anyone under 18 who receives something of value in exchange for sex is a victim of sex trafficking. This definition is consistent with international law under the UN Palermo Protocol. In order to get a better estimate of the prevalence of child sex trafficking, some states have begun incorporating specific questions on trafficking into their state’s Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) – a national tool used by the CDC and administered by states and cities across the country.

## 1 in 71

 **Minnesota 9th and 11th graders reported experiencing commercial sexual exploitation.**

In Minnesota, a youth survey asked: “Have you ever traded sex or sexual activity to receive money, food, drugs, alcohol, a place to stay, or anything else?” 71,007 students across Minnesota were surveyed and 1.4% had traded sex for something of value. This survey didn’t include chronically absent students, and is thus seen as an underestimate.

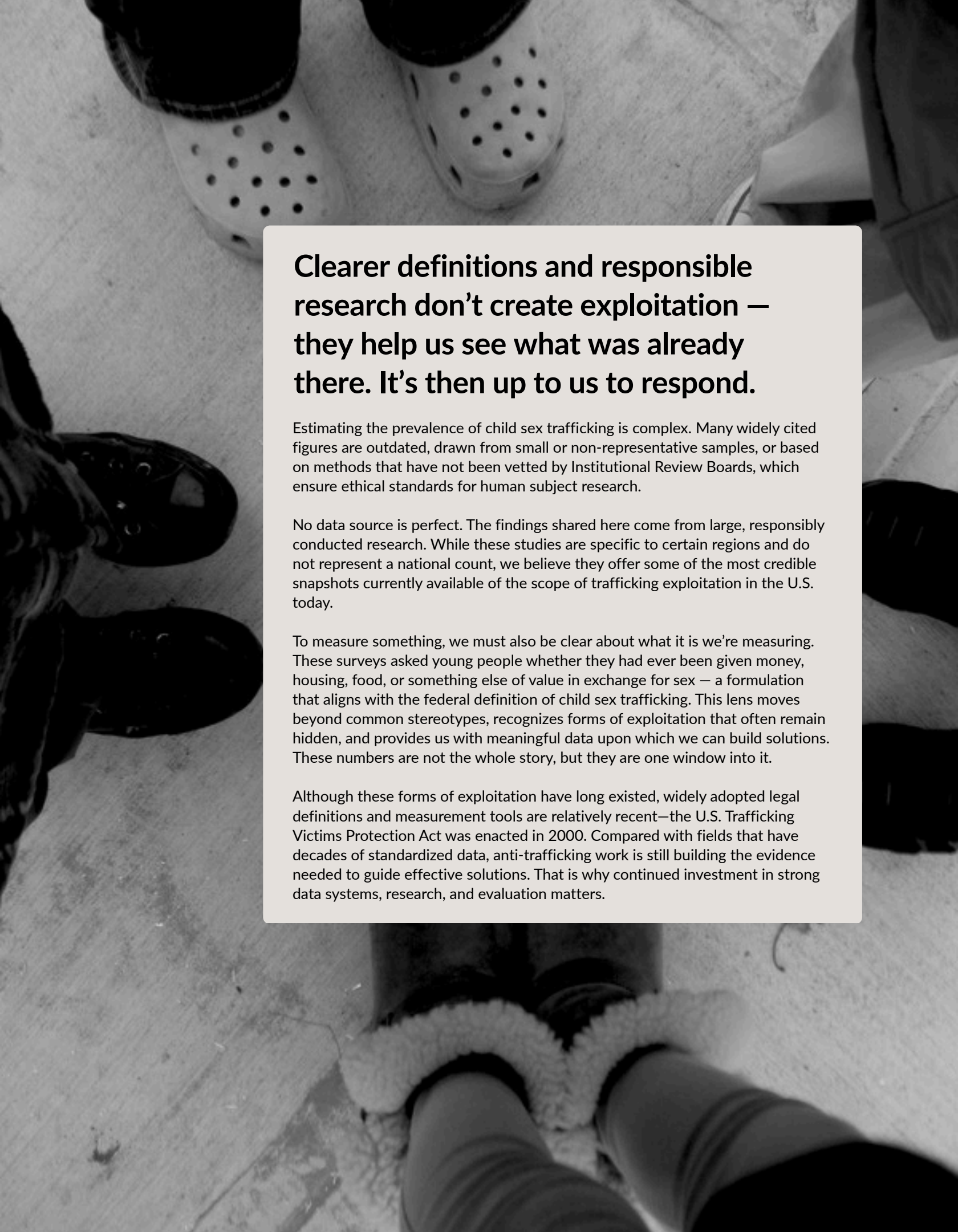
Minnesota Department of Health Safe Harbor Program. Trading Sex and Sexual Exploitation among High School Students: Data from the 2019 Minnesota Student Survey. 2020.

## 1 in 14

 **D.C. high school students reported experiencing commercial sexual exploitation.**

In D.C., a youth survey asked: “Have you ever been given money, a place to stay, food, or something else of value in exchange for sex?” 8,578 students across the District of Columbia were surveyed and 7.2% had traded sex for something of value. This survey didn’t include chronically absent students, and is thus seen as an underestimate.

Head, S.K., Eaton, D.K., Lloyd, P.C., McLaughlin, A., & Davies-Cole, J. (2021). Exchange sex among high school students—Washington, DC, 2017. *Journal of Adolescent Health*, 68(2), 350–356.




## **Clearer definitions and responsible research don't create exploitation — they help us see what was already there. It's then up to us to respond.**

Estimating the prevalence of child sex trafficking is complex. Many widely cited figures are outdated, drawn from small or non-representative samples, or based on methods that have not been vetted by Institutional Review Boards, which ensure ethical standards for human subject research.

No data source is perfect. The findings shared here come from large, responsibly conducted research. While these studies are specific to certain regions and do not represent a national count, we believe they offer some of the most credible snapshots currently available of the scope of trafficking exploitation in the U.S. today.

To measure something, we must also be clear about what it is we're measuring. These surveys asked young people whether they had ever been given money, housing, food, or something else of value in exchange for sex — a formulation that aligns with the federal definition of child sex trafficking. This lens moves beyond common stereotypes, recognizes forms of exploitation that often remain hidden, and provides us with meaningful data upon which we can build solutions. These numbers are not the whole story, but they are one window into it.

Although these forms of exploitation have long existed, widely adopted legal definitions and measurement tools are relatively recent—the U.S. Trafficking Victims Protection Act was enacted in 2000. Compared with fields that have decades of standardized data, anti-trafficking work is still building the evidence needed to guide effective solutions. That is why continued investment in strong data systems, research, and evaluation matters.



“Investing in Love146 is an investment in proven frameworks. They’ve taken a complex, heavy issue and turned it into a series of actionable, evidence-based programs that respect the agency of the youth they serve. They are a best-in-class example of how to do this work with dignity.

**We are committed because we view child exploitation not as an inevitable tragedy, but as a solvable systemic failure.**

At Help For Children, our commitment is fueled by the data: we know that when the right resources meet the right evidence-based interventions, like those at Love146, the cycle of abuse breaks. We stay the course because we are seeing a return on our investment in the form of safer communities and empowered children.

In a sector that often leans into rescue narratives for fundraising, Love146 sets itself apart through its clinical and ethical maturity. They treat survivors as whole people with a future.”

- Help for Children, [www.hfc.org](http://www.hfc.org)





Exploitation doesn't happen in a vacuum.

**Here are four trends shaping exploitation today – and how your support helps us meet this moment alongside young people and families. →**



1

# Housing and Affordability Crisis

Today, affordability is not just an economic headline. It affects child safety. When rent and other basic costs rise faster than wages, when benefits shift or families face uncertainty about supports like SNAP, or when families lose income with little warning, young people may face choices about food, shelter, and stability that no child should have to make. Traffickers target these moments of instability. As housing costs and stress about meeting basic needs increases, Love146 has shifted the support we’re providing in our effort to walk alongside and support children and their families.

## VULNERABILITY OF HOMELESSNESS

# 1 in 5

**youth experiencing homelessness had experienced trafficking.**

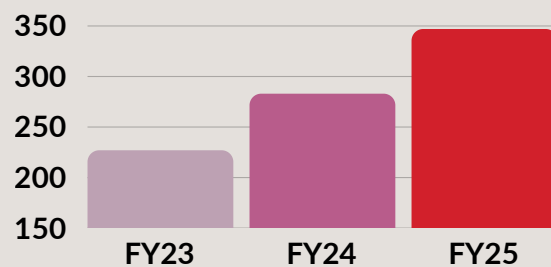
This statistic comes from a multi-city study led by the University of Pennsylvania Field Center, Covenant House, and Loyola University, that interviewed nearly 1,000 youth experiencing homelessness across 13 U.S. and Canadian cities. About 20% of interviewed youth reported that they had experienced trafficking — including 17% who had experienced sex trafficking and 6% who had experienced labor trafficking.

*Field Center for Children's Policy, Practice & Research at the University of Pennsylvania; Covenant House; Loyola University Chicago. Human Trafficking Prevalence and Child Welfare Risk Factors Among Homeless Youth. 2017.*


## CHALLENGES MEETING BASIC NEEDS

# +53%

**increase in basic needs interventions in Love146's U.S. Survivor Care.**



Last year in our U.S. Survivor Care, Love146 provided 347 basic needs interventions, including support for food and housing. With a similar number of youth served each year, basic needs interventions have increased 53% over the last two years, reflecting rising cost-of-living pressures on the young people in our care.



**“Anytime I had an  
issue, I could call  
and we’d start  
fixing it.”**



## 2 Opportunity Youth

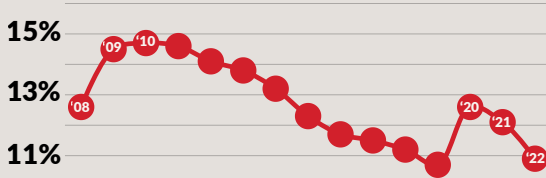
Educational engagement and workforce connection are among the clearest predictors of long-term safety and stability for young people. Youth who are disconnected from both school and work, often called “opportunity youth,” face higher risks of homelessness, poverty, and exploitation. Across the country, coordinated efforts are helping bring rates down. In Love146’s programs, reconnecting youth to school and employment is a core outcome we track and design for, because meaningful engagement reduces vulnerability and helps young people build stable, independent futures.

### TRENDS IN YOUTH DISCONNECT

# 10.9%

**U.S. youth ages 16–24 were disconnected from both school and work in 2022.**

Percentage of U.S. Youth Disconnected from Both Work & School By Year 2008-2022



Youth disconnection rose during the Great Recession, fell through the long recovery, spiked again during COVID-19, and has now returned close to pre-pandemic levels. This progress reflects broader economic recovery and coordinated efforts across education, workforce, and community systems. Staying connected, and in some cases reconnecting, to school or work is a protection against poverty, homelessness, and exploitation.

Measure of America, Youth Disconnection in America, 2024

### EDUCATIONAL GAINS

# 83%

**of youth in Love146’s U.S. Survivor Care graduated or were regularly attending school at program completion.**

This is compared to only 57% of youth who were regularly attending school at time of referral. Reconnecting youth to education is a core stability milestone — and a key protection against revictimization and long-term vulnerability.

### SECONDARY ED & EMPLOYMENT GAINS

# 93%

**of youth completing Survivor Care Transitional Services were enrolled in post-secondary education.**

In addition, 55% were employed. These outcomes reflect intentional workforce readiness, education planning, and long-term stabilization supports.

*A reflection from a young person in Love146's Survivor Care about the photograph they took, shown on this page:*

**“I am actively putting in the work, and the support I receive through Love146 reinforces my motivation to stay consistent. Knowing that others believe in me pushes me to follow through and finish what I started. Hope, for me, comes from showing up every day and moving forward.”**



### 3

# Cybercrime and Tech Advances



Cybercrime is expanding, and children are increasingly targeted. AI-generated sexual images, nudification tools, sextortion, and new grooming tactics are changing how exploitation happens. Technology is moving faster than safety standards and laws. Companies must be accountable as we continue to see profit placed ahead of children’s safety. Instead, pressure to navigate this rapidly changing technology and culpability for exploitation is put on the shoulders of parents and caregivers. Key U.S. online privacy protections were written over 25 years ago in 1998 – policy has not kept pace. These trends are shaping both the risks youth face and how Love146 is adapting our Prevention Education, Survivor Care, and Advocacy efforts.

#### ONLINE SEXUAL ABUSE EXPERIENCES

# 15.6%

**of U.S. young adults reported experiencing online sexual abuse before age 18.**

A national survey of 2,639 adults ages 18–28 asked about childhood experiences such as coercion to send sexual images, sextortion, or non-consensual sexting and image sharing. This peer-reviewed study shows how widespread exposure to exploitation has become too common in everyday digital life.

Finkelhor et al., JAMA Network Open, 2022

#### DEMAND MOVES ONLINE

# 42%

**of the survivors Love146 supported in the Philippines were exploited by online buyers before coming into care.**

At The Round Home Center, these children are supported as they engage in justice processes against perpetrators.

#### RESOURCING YOUTH AND FAMILIES

# 111,304

**views & downloads of Love146’s safety info & parent support in 2025.**

These include Love146’s youth online safety guides, PSAs on privacy settings and emerging risks like VR, and parent support that help families build trust and give their children skills to navigate risks.

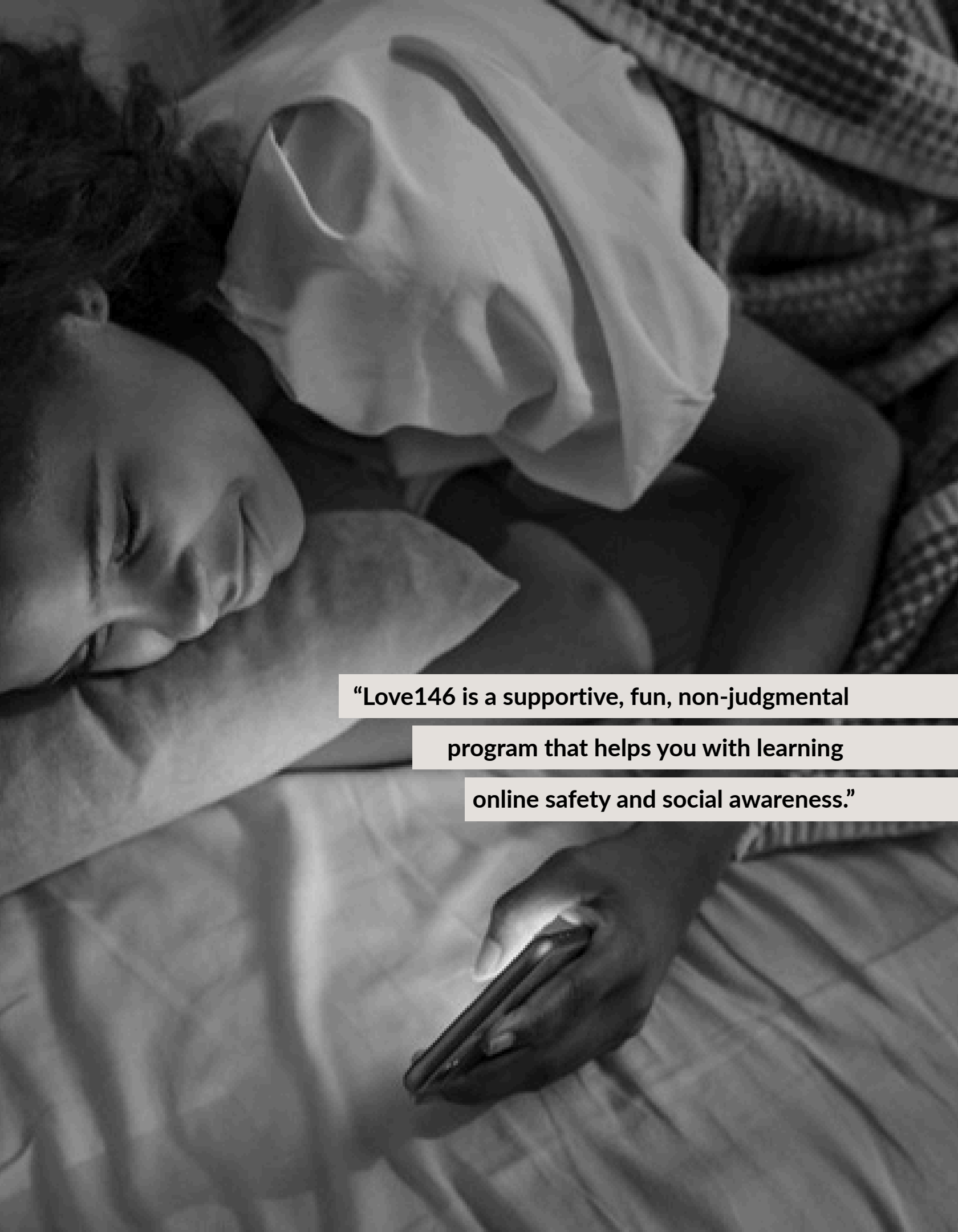
#### REPORTS OF ONLINE EXPLOITATION

# 20.5 million

**reports of suspected online child sexual exploitation were made to NCMC’s CyberTipline in 2024.**

Most reports are submitted by tech companies themselves.

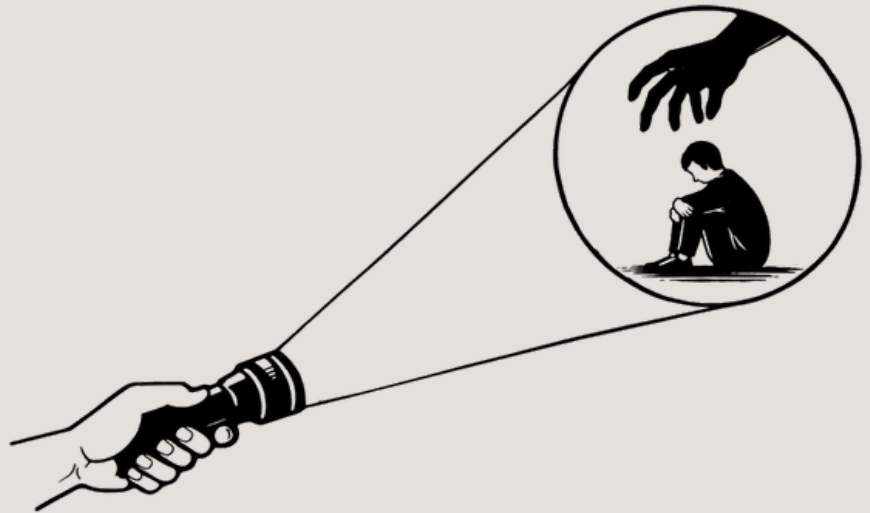
<sup>2</sup> National Center for Missing & Exploited Children, CyberTipline Data Report, 2024.



**“Love146 is a supportive, fun, non-judgmental program that helps you with learning online safety and social awareness.”**

4

# Recognizing Victimization



As a society, we’re reckoning with how we have ignored victims and minimized harm for too long. Movements like #MeToo have helped to reveal that abuse and assault is far more widespread than many imagined, and that the number of offenders — and those harmed by them — reaches further into our communities than we once acknowledged. Old tropes like “barely legal” and “just a child prostitute” are giving way to a clearer understanding of coercion, trauma, and power. As understanding improves, we’re recognizing harms that were always there but rarely “counted” — in prevalence estimates and in the way many survivors were seen and supported. This recognition is essential to prevention, justice, and healing.

## LAWS THAT SEE VICTIMIZATION

# HB 7236

**passed in Connecticut in 2025, expanding affirmative-defense protections to trafficking survivors.**

State laws across the country are being updated to better recognize trafficking victimization. An affirmative defense allows survivors to show that crimes were committed under coercion and control. Informed by our work with more than 1,000 youth in Survivor Care, many of whom were pressured into illegal activity by traffickers, Love146 helped lead advocacy for this change in Connecticut. As of early 2025, only 22 states had these protections. With passage of HB 7236, Connecticut expanded its protection of children to include affirmative defense for all misdemeanors, aligning policy with national best practices that recognize coercion, trauma, and control.

## ACKNOWLEDGING MALE VICTIMIZATION

# 99.4%

**of global sex-trafficking victims were estimated to be female in 2017. Many of us in the field saw this and knew something was missing. By 2022, updated global estimates reported that 1 in 5 victims were male.**

The International Labor Organization produces the most widely used global trafficking estimates. Before their 2022 report, male victimization was largely invisible in those global figures. Across the anti-trafficking field, recognition of male victimization is slowly expanding. U.S. prevalence surveys on commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC) show similar patterns: in Minnesota, boys and girls were found to be impacted at comparable rates, and in Washington, D.C., boys reported CSEC at more than twice the rate of girls. At Love146, boys made up about 9% of youth served across Survivor Care programs globally. Youth are most often referred through adults who notice that something is wrong. The gap between prevalence and referrals shows how under-recognized and under-supported male victims remain. We continue to have far to go in reducing stigma and building support for men and boys.

International Labour Organization. *Global Estimates of Modern Slavery*, 2017 & 2022. For Minnesota & DC prevalence surveys, see citations on page 3.



**“I thought  
things were my  
fault. Love146 helped  
me realize what really  
happened. I was a victim and  
they helped me see I deserve better.”**

# Survivor Care



When you support Survivor Care, you make sure no child faces their trauma alone. You help them find safety, rebuild trust, and move toward a future they choose, with support they can return to anytime.

## *United States*

### **RAPID RESPONSE PROGRAM**

A Rapid Response is a one-time, individualized intervention for youth who are at high risk for or suspected or confirmed survivors of trafficking. In a confidential one-on-one setting, Love146 staff provide crisis counseling, psycho-social education about grooming and exploitation, safety planning, and information and referral services tailored to each youth's risk factors and needs. It's often the first moment a young person realizes someone understands what's happening to them, that it's not their fault, and that there is a path toward safety and longer-term support.

## *United States*

### **LONG-TERM SERVICES**

Long-Term Services provide consistent, trauma-informed accompaniment built around individualized Care Plans youth help to create. Licensed social workers offer crisis counseling, mental health services, safety planning, advocacy, court and school support, skill building, and information and referral services—so youth can address their trauma and reduce risk of revictimization. Services often last 9–18 months depending on individual needs, but Love146 never truly closes a case; youth can reach out anytime afterward for support again, because healing and independence don't follow a timeline.

## *United States*

### **TRANSITIONAL SERVICES**

For youth ages 16+, Transitional Services help young people enter adulthood with stability and dignity. Through individualized case management, Love146 staff assist with employment searches, applications, resumes, interview skills, job coaching, post-secondary and vocational placement, financial aid and scholarship applications, housing and parenting supports, and connections to community resources. More than a checklist of services, this steady accompaniment helps youth build confidence, economic independence, and a future they can sustain.

## *Philippines*

### **THE ROUND HOME CENTER**

The Round Home is a physically rounded safe home intentionally designed to feel welcoming rather than institutional. In this environment, youth find safety, stability, and space to heal as they rebuild their lives. Love146 built the Round Home in 2008, and for the first time in FY25, the Philippines established itself as an independent organization from Love146 - called The Round Home Center. As was true before, it continues to be led by Dr. Gundelina Velazco with an independent local board of directors, and Love146 continues to be the primary grantor of Survivor Care taking place in the Round Home.

## YOUTH REACHED

# 3,958

young people were supported by Love146's Survivor Care efforts.

This includes 1,038 young people reached by our U.S. Survivor Care program, 201 young people reached by the Round Home in the Philippines, and 2,681 young people supported through our past Survivor Care work throughout Asia, training professionals and expanding safe homes.

## HISTORY OF YOUTH REFERRED TO SURVIVOR CARE

# 80%

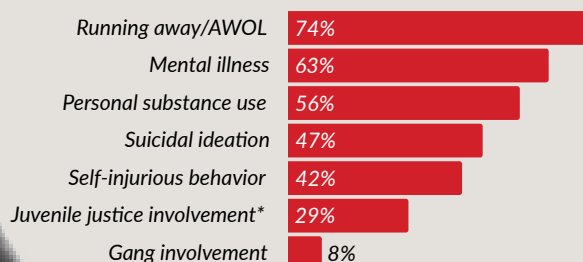
of youth referred to our U.S. Survivor Care have a prior history of involvement with child welfare.

Children who enter child welfare are often at increased vulnerability for trafficking. The same abuse or neglect that leads to removal from their family can also increase their risk of being trafficked. In addition, traffickers sometimes target youth in the care or custody of child welfare, offering them attention, affection, or stability that feels missing from their lives. Child trafficking is rarely the first thing to go wrong in a young person's life. Here is some of what youth experienced before being referred to Love146 Survivor Care:

**Prior to trafficking youth served by Love146 were exposed to these conditions:**



**In response, many of these same youth have experienced:**



\*all prior to the current incident

No identifiable children featured in Love146 communications are known to be exploited.



# Prevention Education



**When you support Prevention Education, you help young people learn how to recognize risky situations, grooming, and exploitation — and build skills to stay safer and get help.**

Since our earliest days, Love146 has worked to prevent exploitation. Love146's prevention work has taken focused form in *Not a Number*, our research-informed trafficking-prevention curriculum now implemented across more than 30 U.S. states and in several locations in Canada. Designed for youth ages 12–18 and delivered by trained facilitators in schools and community settings, *Not a Number* moves beyond awareness. Young people learn how traffickers groom and recruit youth, how coercion shows up in real relationships and online spaces, how to plan ahead to avoid risky situations, and how to seek help when something feels wrong.

The curriculum is shaped by what survivors say would have helped them when they were younger, by ongoing insights from Survivor Care, by facilitator and youth feedback, and by rigorous independent evaluations that guide and strengthen each revision. Now in its fourth edition, *Not a Number* reflects how the field is changing and what we are learning works — because if children are safer, we should be able to show it.

Trafficking is not inevitable. Prevention Education is one of the most hopeful investments we can make. We do prevention work with belief and evidence that this is not just “the way things are.” We work to prevent trafficking because our vision is the end of child trafficking and exploitation, nothing less.



## RIGOROUS EVALUATION OF PREVENTION

# 430

**Houston students took part in one of the first independent evaluations of trafficking-prevention education that included a comparison group**

In 2025, an independent evaluation of Love146's *Not a Number* curriculum was published in the *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*. This evaluation was based on a study with students in two Houston public high schools. Students who received the program, compared to those in a comparison group, were more likely to recognize exploitative recruitment tactics, reject victim-blaming beliefs, and say they would seek help if they were pressured or exploited. The evaluation was led by Lisa Jones, Ph.D., and the University of New Hampshire Crimes Against Children Research Center, in collaboration with Houston-area schools and Love146, with support from partners including The Salah Foundation. The findings show what prevention should do: help young people recognize coercion, know where to turn for support, plan safer choices ahead of time, and interrupt harm before it escalates.

University of New Hampshire Crimes Against Children Research Center; Jones et al., *Evaluation of Love146's Not a Number Curriculum*, *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, 2025.

## YOUTH REACHED

# 104,036

**youth reached cumulatively by Love146's Prevention & community education efforts globally**

These cumulative numbers reflect the long arc of Love146's prevention work, spanning multiple community programs and partnerships across our history. This total includes 22,009 young people our staff have reached directly in the U.S., 49,399 young people reached by prevention education facilitators we've trained, including those using *Not a Number*, and 32,628 young people reached by past prevention and community education programs in Asia and Africa.

## PROFESSIONALS EQUIPPED

# 2,519

**professionals have been trained and certified to implement the Not a Number Curriculum with youth. This includes staff of over 700 organizations in 39 states**

As Samantha, one facilitator shared: "I'm passionate about working with youth and keeping them safe. Not a Number is research-based and can be conducted in many different settings. [I learned] the importance of being trauma-informed while running the curriculum because it can trigger past emotions to be brought back up."



They're teachers, counselors, coaches, and youth leaders—part of a strong network of professionals certified to implement Love146's *Not a Number* curriculum. These prevention facilitators (pictured on this page) from Wisconsin and Kentucky are helping protect young people in their communities.



# Advocacy and Community Engagement

**Your support helps families, professionals, and leaders act earlier — strengthening the conditions that protect children.**

Prevention and Survivor Care support young people directly to be safer. Community Engagement is about equipping all grown ups to recognize and stop exploitation. We don't rely on shocking statistics or headlines that no one can act on. Information matters when it helps someone recognize harm, support a young person well, or change conditions that make exploitation easier. Through digital safety resources, PSAs, trainings, and practical guidance, we help parents, professionals, and other caring adults understand what exploitation really looks like, offering practical steps—not panic—to help lay the groundwork for safer kids.

We also work alongside others in the anti-trafficking field and beyond. People don't always share the same language, priorities, or assumptions, but different perspectives and values can act toward a shared goal to protect children. We bring lessons learned, push for rigorous evidence, and collaborate so the whole field gets stronger.

And when policies or wider conditions affect children's safety, we bring what we've learned from real kids into those conversations — in task forces, coalitions, and public forums — so decisions are shaped by what actually helps young people.

Because trafficking touches every part of society, this work is often pulled into polarized conversations. Love146 stays focused on children and their safety. When people understand exploitation clearly and act together, fewer children are harmed.

## PRESENTATIONS AND TRAININGS

# 20,863

professionals, parents, and community members have received presentations and training across our organizational history.

These in-person and virtual trainings equip communities with practical tools to recognize exploitation and support young people.

## DIGITAL RESOURCE ACCESS

# 360,787

views & downloads of Love146's web-based resources in FY25

This includes online safety guides, caregiver email journeys, PSAs, and learning materials. These free online resources provide practical guidance on topics like grooming, privacy settings, healthy relationships, and preventing exploitation – helping families and communities take informed action.

### Web Resource Accesses in FY25:

*The numbers reflect what audiences are seeking or sharing (including viral effects) and don't necessarily correspond to effort invested in each area.*

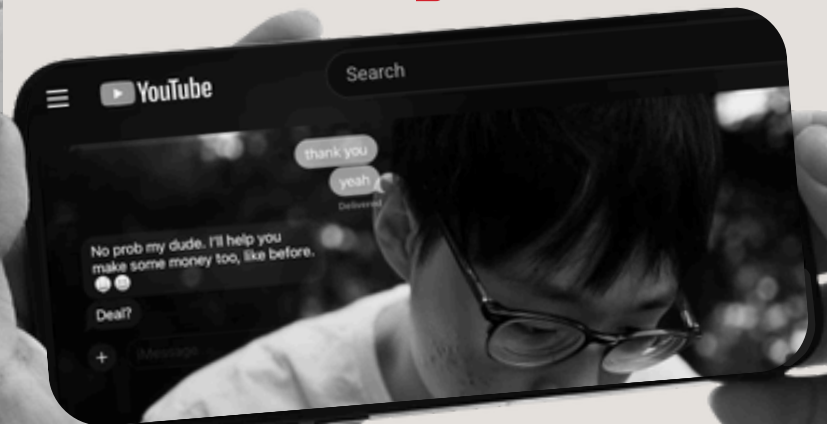
Accurate Awareness **161,113**

Parenting Support **99,519**

Best Practices in the Field **54,778**

Advocacy & Challenging Society **33,592**

Safety Info **11,785**

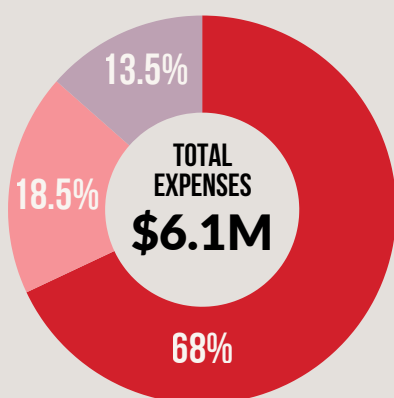


**Photos:** Love146's Managing Director of U.S. Survivor Care, Tamarra Clark, speaking to press (left), and a still frame from a Love146 PSA about the vulnerability of youth experiencing homelessness. (above)

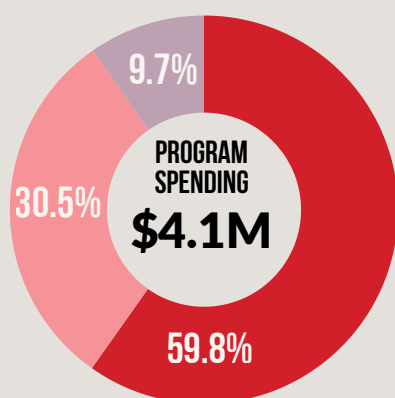
# Financials

Access more than a decade of 990s and independently audited financial statements at [love146.org/about#financials](https://love146.org/about#financials)

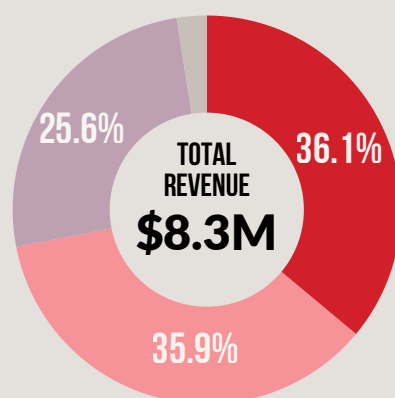
July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025



- PROGRAMS: 68%
- MANAGEMENT & GENERAL: 18.5%
- FUNDRAISING: 13.5%



- SURVIVOR CARE: 59.8%
- PREVENTION EDUCATION: 30.5%
- ADVOCACY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: 9.7%



- UNRESTRICTED DONATIONS: 36.1%
- RESTRICTED CONTRIBUTIONS: 35.9%
- GOVERNMENT GRANTS: 25.6%
- FEES AND OTHER INCOME: 2.5%

**Net assets beginning of year:**  
\$1,150,137

**Net assets end of year:**  
\$3,380,316

**Assets with restrictions:**  
\$3,044,281

## What's Behind the Net Asset Increase

During FY2025, Love146 experienced a significant increase in net assets, rising from \$1.15 million at the beginning of the year to \$3.38 million at year-end. This change was primarily driven by the generous donation of three-year grants from the Howard G. Buffett and Sherwood Foundations. The purpose of these grants is to expand our Prevention Education impact. In accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), this gift was recognized in full as revenue in the year it was awarded because it was unconditional. As a result, total revenue increased to \$8.28 million in FY2025, even though the grant funds will be expended over multiple future fiscal years.

Importantly, this accounting treatment creates a timing difference between when revenue is recorded and when expenses will occur. While the full grant amount appears as income in FY25, the related programmatic and operational expenses are being recognized over this and the next three fiscal years. Therefore, the increase in net assets reflects committed funding for future impact rather than excess operating margin. This strengthens Love146's financial sustainability and ensures resources are secured to support multi-year programming aligned with our strategic plan.



## The Importance of Flexible Funding

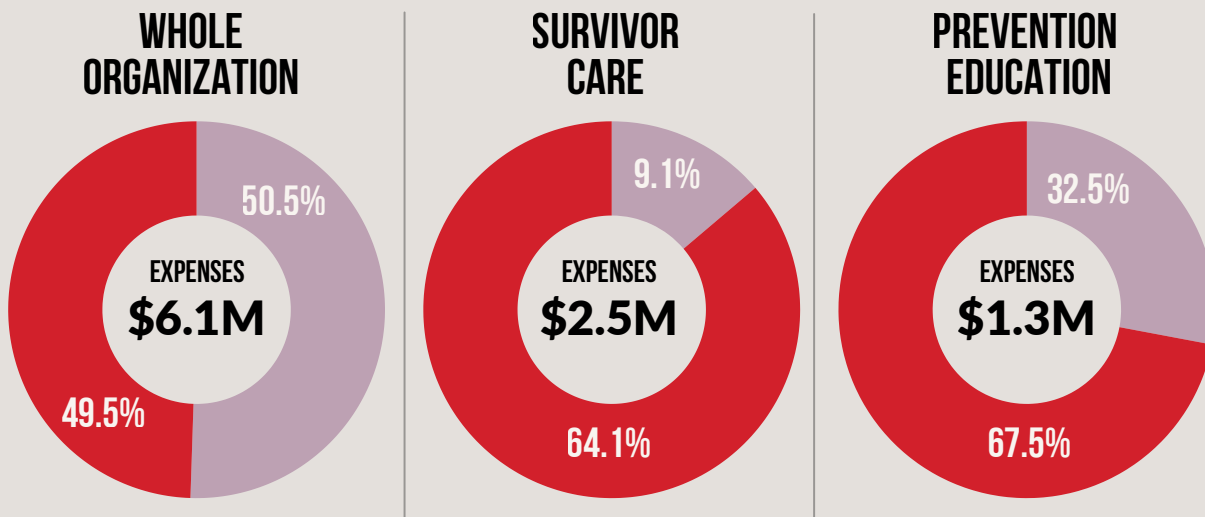
One of Love146's greatest strengths is our braided funding. Designated funding often offers multi-year support that anchors our sustainability and growth — but flexible, private funding is what lets us meet urgent needs, navigate restrictions, and say “yes” when a child needs more. Each plays a distinct role, and allows our organization to grow with agility. Our flexible funders are saying: “I trust Love146 to use these funds where they're needed.”

Designated funds, including government funding, have less flexibility as these are earmarked for very specific purposes and activities. Additionally, many public grants require contributed matching funds to cover a percentage of the programs' cost. Government grants are also time-bound and require new applications for additional funding - a limitation that can bring instability without private funding to cover potential gaps. Government funding is also not designed to respond to real-time emerging needs. Only private donors can provide the flexibility to fill these gaps.

Today, economic pressures are squeezing household budgets for grassroots donors, many of whom have less discretionary income to give. Many donors who used to contribute \$100 feel constrained to give less, increasingly worried that they may not be able to cover their own bills. At the same time, reductions in government spending are impacting nonprofits nationwide. Today, government funding is less certain than ever, especially for victim service programs. But we know children are depending on us to show up today and tomorrow. In this shifting landscape, private funders — including major gifts and corporate support — play a vital role in filling urgent gaps.

When Love146 began, 100% of our support came from private donors, and they remain central to our mission. Individual, corporate, and foundation donors don't just give — they carry the work of protecting children into their homes and neighborhoods, learning alongside us, and helping build communities where exploitation cannot take root.

### FLEXIBLE FUNDING VS DESIGNATED FUNDING



A black and white photograph of a person's hands holding a piece of light-colored, textured fabric. The fabric has the number "146" printed on it in a large, bold, black font. Below the number, the website address "www.love146.org" is printed in a smaller, black font. The person's hands are visible on either side of the fabric, and their mouth is partially visible at the top edge of the fabric. The person is wearing a dark jacket over a light-colored collared shirt.

**146**

[www.love146.org](http://www.love146.org)

# Her Number Was 146...

## The story of how we got our name, told by Love146 Co-founder, Rob Morris

One night in the fall of 2002, I witnessed the horrific crime of children being sold in a brothel.

Some friends and I wanted to learn more about the issue of child trafficking and see how we could be helpful. We connected with an organization that was actively working to combat human trafficking on a global scale. We visited one of their operating centers in Southeast Asia. They invited us undercover with investigators to a brothel where they believed children were being exploited.

We found ourselves in a room looking through a glass wall where there were young girls wearing red dresses. Each girl had a number pinned to her dress – even the dignity of a name was stripped away. On my side of the glass wall were predators. Menus were handed out with prices that listed each girl by number. I couldn't fathom the trauma the girls had already been through. The children sat motionless, watching cartoons on crackling TVs.

Only one girl wasn't watching the cartoons. She was staring at us through the glass with a piercing gaze. I'll never forget the look on her face: Was it fight? Or was it panic, the hypervigilance that so often follows trauma? Maybe it was disgust. In my heart, I hoped it was defiance.

Her number was 146.

We thought we were going to see the "issue" of human trafficking that night. Instead, we saw a person... and she saw us. That moment changed something in me. Ever since, it's challenged me to not look away. To see the one in the midst of the overwhelming "issue." The person instead of "the cause." The human in "human" trafficking.


At that time, most people had never heard the term "human trafficking," but that was changing. It had been one year since the U.S. State Department

released the first report on human trafficking, two years since it was defined as a crime by the United Nations. In the early days of anti-trafficking efforts, descriptions of the crime were both over-simplified and sensationalized: lurid stories of people kidnapped, bought and sold, forced into labor or sex. And we've seen that. But since that night, we've also learned that there's a lot more complexity. Trafficking doesn't just happen to girls. It doesn't just happen "over there." Not everyone is trapped in obvious ways, like locked doors. And often, a "rescue" isn't the only (or best) way to freedom.

Because we were invited that night to observe part of an ongoing undercover investigation of this particular brothel, we couldn't have intervened at that moment. Some time later, when enough evidence was collected, local authorities conducted a raid on this brothel. But the girl who wore #146 was no longer there. We don't know where she is now, but we hope she's one of the countless people who have found opportunities to leave exploitation and lead a vibrant life.

After that trip in 2002, we founded Love146. Since that night, it's continued to be a relentless journey of balancing the urge to take immediate action with the time it takes to be thoughtful, so that our efforts can be effective and sustainable. Today, Love146's global work preventing child trafficking and equipping survivors is informed by this approach of being listeners and learners.

The trafficking and exploitation of children is one of the most severe human rights abuses imaginable. But from children we've journeyed with, we're learning to persevere and to hope. We're learning the power of love. Love opens our eyes, love gives us the courage to pursue justice, and love continually reminds us to be more human.



**We live in very polarized times  
where common ground is  
becoming more difficult to find...**

But the fight against child trafficking is truly a cause that everyone can support. We can all do something to make the world safer for children and lay the foundation for a better world in the days ahead.

Love146 consistently ranks high in terms of fiscal stewardship. Everyone at Love146 that I have interacted with has impressed me with their level of commitment. Big issues like child trafficking require a big response from society. The best way to tackle big problems is for everyone to lend a hand and find their own way to contribute to and support the work."

*- Alan Miller, Motorcycle Enthusiast & Love146 Supporter*

# Our Values

## DEFIANT HOPE

We choose to hope as an act of defiance in the face of violence and horrific abuse. Children are our teachers. We are undeterred by despair and cynicism. Our hope is an insistence that every step is worth it.

## STEADY PERSEVERANCE

Fueled by Love, we stick around for the long haul. We know that the stories aren't just about victories, triumphs, and fairytale endings — they are about not giving up. We embrace stories that never truly end: that have complexity, struggle, beauty, and humanity.

## DELIBERATE COLLABORATION

We partner with diverse stakeholders to create effective solutions, using data and resources that work. Our investment in transformative relationships ensures that we are, in fact, stronger together.

## RELENTLESS ADVOCACY

Prioritizing the needs of children creates a daily sense of urgency. In the midst of this, we challenge assumptions, imagine, develop, tweak, evaluate, and adapt our solutions so they can truly advance towards our vision. No matter the challenge or barrier, we always center the child.

## INTENTIONAL THOUGHTFULNESS

We are forever learners — hearing, listening, thinking, and responding deliberately within this very complex issue. It is worth extra time and resources to be thoughtful so that our solutions have the greatest impact.

## UNFILTERED JOY

In solidarity with children who are overcoming, we will laugh and play, celebrate the dignity of each person, and cherish the breakthroughs and wins along the way. As poet Cleo Wade says, "Joy is a form of radical self-care." The vision of a world without child trafficking brings us joy.

# Our Board

*As of December 31st, 2025*

Sarah Jakiel, Chair

Virginia Bierne, Treasurer

Kyle Webb, Secretary

Desirea Stott-Rodgers, Co-founder

Rob Morris, Co-founder

Dr. Glynis King Harrell

Babs Rawls Ivy

Tad Rzonca

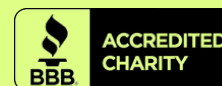
Reina Tschoe



Love146 has received  
**the highest rating of**  
four stars from  
Charity Navigator



Love146 holds the  
**Platinum Seal of**  
Transparency from  
Guidestar




[give.org](http://give.org)

Love146 meets all  
**20 Standards for**  
Accredited Charities  
from the BBB



# LOVE146

END CHILD TRAFFICKING AND EXPLOITATION

 203.772.4420

 [INFO@LOVE146.ORG](mailto:INFO@LOVE146.ORG)

 [WWW.LOVE146.ORG](http://WWW.LOVE146.ORG)

US HEADQUARTERS: P.O. BOX 8266, NEW HAVEN, CT 06530 | DONATIONS: 1800 CAMDEN RD, STE 107-273, CHARLOTTE, NC 28203

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*For privacy and protection, Love146 changes names and obscures details about our clients, and no identifiable children featured in Love146 communications are known to be exploited.*