Open Doors Statewide Service Network
Survivor Mentor

Opened in 2013, the Delores Barr Weaver Policy Center uses political science strategies that integrate and honor the lived experiences of girls. The overarching goal of the Policy Center is to make the First Coast the national model of systemic reform for girls and young women in, or at risk of entering the juvenile justice. Our advocacy platform addresses policies, processes and practices that result in disparate and harmful treatment of girls. Responding to the pervasive disparate treatment and victimization of system involved girls, the Policy Center provides four core services that include leading edge research, strategic advocacy, training/technical assistance and direct service model programming.

In 2012, the Florida Legislature passed the Safe Harbor Act, which allowed sex trafficked children to be considered dependent children in need of therapeutic services, rather than viewing them as juvenile delinquents. Implementation of the landmark legislation, however, has lacked strategic development, coordination, continuity and resources. Throughout Florida, large gaps exist within cross sector collaboration, professional training, trauma-focused crisis intervention and restorative services that meet the complex needs of sexually exploited and trafficked victims.

Open Doors was created to provide a continuity of care response to victims of sexual exploitation and will provide victims between the ages of 10 to 24 years old with consistent and reliable emergency services, provide training and education for direct service providers and other cross-sector partners and addresses gaps in services and systems.

**Purpose of the Position**

The purpose of the Survivor Mentor is to serve as the first responder and provide immediate crisis intervention and mobile direct services support once a victim is identified. Because of the shared lived experiences of the Survivor Mentor and the Victim, this first responder intervention is designed to increase the opportunity of establishing a bond with a safe, caring person who understands what the victims is experiencing. The Survivor Mentor position is designed to provide mobile care management and direct services support to the victim/survivor as needed. This individual will work closely with a clinician and the Regional Navigator.

**Responsibilities**

**Essential Duties and Responsibilities**

- On call 24/7 days a week to provide first responder immediate crisis intervention and assistance based on need
- Works in partnership with the Regional Services Advocate to provide mobile direct services based on the needs identified in the victim’s individual needs assessment
- Complete individual assessments to ensure victims receive a comprehensive, trauma-informed, culturally-competent direct services plan that meets the individual needs of the victim/survivor
- Verifies victim’s eligibility for services/benefits based on individual situations
- Accompanies victims to court hearings, and other and meetings as needed
- Assist with referrals and accompanies to appointments as needed
• Provides the day to day care management services and works with the first responder network to support ongoing needs including accompaniment to hospitals for medical examinations; emergency clothing or transportation to appointments as needed
• Work collaboratively with other members of First Responder Network to ensure that the needs of victims are met.
• Complete documentation as required by funding entities, courts, referral sources

**KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES**

**Knowledge**
The individual must have proficient knowledge in the following areas:

• Knowledge of the impact and dynamics of sexual exploitation on youth, Safe Harbor Laws and community resources
• Knowledge of navigating the juvenile justice and child welfare systems
• completing needs and risk assessment
• an understanding of crisis management

**Skills**
The individual must demonstrate the following skills:

• this is a pilot program therefore individual must be able to be flexible in responding to the individual needs of the program and target population
• emergency response skills
• analytical and problem solving skills
• demonstrate good decision making in dealing with safety issues
• conflict resolution skills
• effective verbal and listening communications skills
• computer skills
• effective written communications skills including the ability
• stress management skills
• time management skills
• be able to manage his/her own care files on an independent basis
• be able to work cooperatively as a part of a team
• Complete individual assessments to ensure victims receive a comprehensive, trauma-informed, culturally-competent direct services plan that meets the individual needs of the victim/survivor

**Education and Experience**
Survivor of sexual exploitation/trauma with 3-5 years of recovery. Social service background recommended but not required. This position is part of the First Responder Network and requires availability during evening and weekend hours. This is a pilot program and flexibility in responding will be based on the needs of the target population.

**Position Type**
Full-time Position

**To Apply**
To be considered for this position, please email your resume and a cover letter to careers@seethegirl.org and include Survivor Mentor in the subject line or fax to 904.598.0902.