

On the PATH

The official newsletter of IPATH



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Individual Spotlight: Stephanie Lloyd

A California native, Stephanie graduated from California State University Chico in 1998 with a degree in Sociology. In September of 1999, Stephanie was fortunate to find her true calling and began working as a victim advocate for the Shasta County District Attorney's Office in her hometown of Redding, California. After having moved to Indianapolis in the time since, she has had the opportunity over the past 12 years to assist hundreds of crime and human trafficking victims and looks forward to assisting hundreds more in the coming years. Stephanie currently serves as the Victim Witness Coordinator for the United States Attorney's Office and is the chair of the Law Enforcement Committee of IPATH.



Stephanie joined the IPATH taskforce to assist federal victims of human trafficking shortly after she started working for the US Attorney's Office in 2007. Since beginning her work, she has discovered how sensitive and compassionate her approach must be when working with survivors. Through serving victims of sex trafficking, she has come to understand that those exploited by human trafficking are often some of the most vulnerable individuals. For example, children who have been placed in foster care, coming from abusive backgrounds, are often the ones victimized. Others have come to the US fleeing violence and unrest in their home countries, only to be victimized and exploited once they arrive here. Heartbreaking stories like these are all too common for survivors, and these stories are why Stephanie felt it essential to get involved at IPATH.

When discussing common misconceptions of trafficking, Stephanie emphasized, “The public thinks simply rescuing a victim out of Human Trafficking is the end of the story, when in fact, it’s really just the beginning.” Certainly, a victim of sex or labor trafficking might need immediate resources and services, but they may also need years of counseling and a long-term support system. These resources and services take time, money, and multiple agencies doing the heavy lifting, and even still, the care provided often falls short of the demand of those in need.

After serving with IPATH for over 12 years, Stephanie has observed the taskforce’s growth, while understanding the need still outweighs what currently can be provided. Stephanie identifies IPATH member’s efforts towards professionalizing the task force as a major strength of the organization, while she also identifies the caseload size of DCS workers as a potential route for improvement. Should their caseload be reduced, they could take a stronger role in identifying children who are at risk of being victimized and provide pathways out of the home before they are victimized. This may sound extreme to some, but in Stephanie’s words, “until our society steps in sooner to rescue children, we will continue to have a multitude of ‘vulnerable victims’ for traffickers to choose from.”

Agency Spotlight: Community Health Network

This month’s organizational spotlight is Community Health Network. Community Health Network is committed to providing trauma informed, survivor centered, and culturally comprehensive mental healthcare to survivors of human trafficking. Community Health Network provides exceptional care, simply delivered, through a broad spectrum of mental health services, which include but are not limited to: case management, life skills, individual, family, and group therapy in addition to medication management.

Community Health Network, in partnership with Lutheran Child and Family Services (LCFS) and organizations like Ascent 121, provides culturally comprehensive residential and community-based services to youth that have been trafficked. A multidisciplinary treatment team works together to meet the unique treatment needs of survivors. Survivor-centric

intensive case management, individual and family therapy, group therapy, and life skills are provided to these youth and their families to help assuage the trauma associated with trafficking. Community Health Network is careful to assure the services they are providing are trauma-informed and survivor-driven. In keeping with these values, the services offered are typically long-term and specialized to address the unique needs of the client.

Community Health Network also offers separate adult and youth focused services. Adult services include inpatient, partial hospitalization, and outpatient treatments. Included in this setting are services for severe mental illness and addiction. Youth services include inpatient, partial hospitalization and outpatient treatments, along with wraparound, home-based and school-based services.

It is important to note that Community Health Network’s partnership with LCFS on the east side of Indianapolis is crucial to their operation. This partnership is where the home-based services, secure residential facility, emergency shelter care, and group home for teenage boys is based.

Community Health Network’s home-based, secure residential, emergency shelter care and group home treatment referrals all come from probation and the Department of Child Services. All other services provided by Community Health Network are filtered through their access line at (317)-621-5719. To support Community Health Network’s work with survivors of human trafficking individuals can volunteer at LCFS or donate at www.lutheranfamily.org/donate



IN THE LITERATURE

Comparing Narratives of Justice

To tackle any issue with multiple parties at work, clear goals need to be established in order to ensure the best possible outcomes. This is precisely why the Urban Institute's, "Comparing Narratives of Justice" write-up is so valuable to those involved in the effort to end human trafficking. By surveying and interviewing criminal justice stakeholders, service providers, and human trafficking survivors, the Urban Institute is able to meaningfully compare differences in respect to what justice looks like to different stakeholders contributing to the anti-human trafficking movement.

The Urban Institute conducted interviews with 100 criminal justice stakeholders including law enforcement officers, prosecutors, and service providers, as well as 80 survivors of sex and labor trafficking. While these stakeholders were surveyed across diverse metropolitan areas around the United States, the researchers did rely on service providers to help gain contact with these participants so the study is limited by a convenience sample rather than a true random sample. Despite this, the study provides strong insights into the disconnect between the criminal justice system's priorities as compared to what survivors actually view as a positive outcome for justice.

Significant findings found that many survivors lack trust in the ability of the criminal justice system to stop human trafficking, and many criminal justice actors agreed. Specifically, law enforcement officers cited negative previous interactions with police officers as an issue, while prosecutors tended to cite systemic barriers to justice, such as the tendency to arrest and re-traumatize survivors of human trafficking.

The largest discrepancy between these parties arises when their definitions of justice in respect to human trafficking are surveyed. Almost unanimously, criminal justice stakeholders cited successful prosecution of human traffickers as the ideal form of justice in these cases. In contrast, service providers and survivors were more likely to have congruent ideas of justice, typically prioritizing the availability of resources to victims and reintegration into society as top priorities.

The Urban Institute ends by recognizing that most everyone they interviewed had similar changes in mind when discussing how to reform the criminal justice system to better serve those affected by human trafficking. Those changes are best summarized by three proposals: adopting more compassionate, trauma informed approaches, ending the criminalization of survivors, and improved training for criminal justice actors.

Read the full article [here](#).

Human Trafficking and Exploitation: A Global Health Concern

Human trafficking is so insidious, precisely because it affects all aspects of a victim's life. Certainly then, it makes sense that health is consistently listed as one of the largest issues associated with human trafficking. In "Human Trafficking and Exploitation: A Global Health Concern," Cathy Zimmerman and Ligia Kiss in association with the Public Library of Science aim to quantify and explain the scope of the global health crisis caused by human trafficking around the world.

Over 40 million people are currently considered to be in, "modern slavery" which includes things like forced marriage, sex trafficking, and labor trafficking. 29.4 million of those 40 million are specifically considered to be in labor trafficking situations. Such individuals that find themselves in low to no wage labor face consistent work place hazards, emotional and physical abuse, as well as poor living conditions.

These environmental factors among others contribute to a total of 2.3 million work-related deaths with the lion's share of those coming from low income countries where labor trafficking goes mostly unprosecuted. The economic burden of these deaths and work place industries also cost an estimated \$2.8 trillion US dollars, qualifying it as a preventable global health crisis. Zimmerman and Kiss argue that to begin preventing human trafficking in a more meaningful way the health community needs to recognize it as a health crisis. This way, healthcare professionals in conjunction with agencies combating human trafficking can better meet the needs of survivors.

Read the full article [here](#).

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November 2019

21st: Trauma Informed Care and Building
Trauma Informed Communities

[Register](#)

JOB OPENINGS

Title: Executive Director

Organization: Homeless Coalition
of Southern Indiana, Inc. (HCSI)

[For more information, click here.](#)

Title: Home-Based Family
Centered caseworker

Organization: Family Time Inc.

[Email Janna Winsted at
jwinsted.familytime@gmail.com for
more info.](#)

Title: Multiple Positions

Organization: Beacon of Hope

[For more information, click here.](#)

VOLUNTEER

Organization: All Worthy of Love

Activity: Street Outreach

Contact Info: Liz Pitcher

Elizabeth.pitcher@gmail.com

Organization: Unconditional

Activity: Varies

[Register](#)

Organization: Purchased

Activity: Mentoring

[Register](#)

Organization: Beacon of Hope Crisis Center

Activity: Varies

[Register](#)

About IPATH:

The IPATH Taskforce is comprised of law enforcement, advocacy groups, service providers, worker organizers, and community leaders to facilitate a coordinated, multi-disciplinary state response to more effectively address human trafficking throughout Indiana. We believe this can only be successfully accomplished through a survivor-centered, trauma-informed, culturally sensitive approach.

Connect with us!

indianacesa.org/human-trafficking/

Have events, or job and volunteer opportunities for the newsletter?

Send them to:

capecommittee.ipath@gmail.com

