

“WE’RE HERE FOR A REASON. I BELIEVE A BIT OF THE REASON IS TO THROW LITTLE TORCHES OUT TO LEAD PEOPLE THROUGH THE DARK.”

Whoopi Goldberg

WHY BECOME A MENTOR

Worried that you’re not “qualified” to be a mentor?

Think again.

You have unique life experiences! Share what you’ve learned with someone who has open ears for positivity.

This experience will leave you with a more profound sense of self, an increase in your leadership capabilities, and the feeling of pride knowing you helped your community and possibly changed someone’s life for the better.

If you want to bring the best of who you are into a relationship, want to help others achieve their aspirations or get through a dark time and are a respectful, caring person ...apply today!

Please contact the program’s Mentor Development Specialist: Juliana Fodera to get started. Juliana.Fodera@eac-network.org

CONTACT INFORMATION

If you believe a youth is in immediate danger, promptly call 9-1-1.

DO NOT INTERVENE directly or confront individuals you believe to be traffickers, as this may endanger you or the victim involved.

If you are in Suffolk County and identify yourself as a youth who is being trafficked or at risk, please contact:

NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING RESOURCE
HOTLINE 1-888-373-7888

Suffolk County Child Advocacy Center at
the Pat and Mary Bagnato Place for Kids
Safe Harbour Program 84 Wheeler Road
Cenral Islip, NY, 11722 (631) 439-0480 Fax
(631) 512-4237
www.eacinc.org

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Provided By OJDPP-2019-14988



SAFE HARBOUR MENTORING PROGRAM



WHAT IS SAFE HARBOUR

Named after the NY Safe Harbour Act of 2008, Safe Harbour protects and cares for children that have been, or are at risk of being, victims of commercial sex trafficking. This act provided protection for this population of exploited youth from being criminally prosecuted for prostitution. It also says that any child under the age of 18 who is used for exploitation through sexual servitude, is considered a commercially exploited youth. The act issued a system level approach to this crisis, calling for existing systems to provide efficient responses to youth who have experienced commercial sexual exploitation or are vulnerable to it. Our Safe Harbour program right here in Suffolk County does just that as we provide victims with resources to recognize and break this cycle of exploitation.

Safe Harbour Mentoring is it's own program. The purpose of this program, is to provide additional support to youth in Suffolk County that may be involved with or at-risk of commercial sexual exploitation and human trafficking. Although this program is open to our Safe Harbour involved youth, to become a mentee one does not have to have been previously involved with Suffolk County Safe Harbour.

SAFE HARBOUR SERVICES

At Safe Harbour we offer an array of services to our survivors and at-risk youth to help them get back on their feet. We assist youth with case management, referrals, (including shelters, residential placement, therapy and more) information, group counseling and support, education and vocational advocacy, (including help with resume building, job readiness and job placement) potential police intervention and community education.

SIGNS OF SEX TRAFFICKING

- A youth has a history of running away or AWOLS, or any instances of homelessness.
- Is in a controlling relationship or has visible signs of physical abuse such as bruising or scars
- Has tattoos or markings indicating ownership or control by another person Shows signs of, or admits to substance abuse or gang involvement
- Has inexplicable cash, expensive gifts, clothing or other unexplained costly items such as a cell phone

OUR MISSION

Safe Harbour Mentoring Program is designed to provide our survivors and at-risk youth of commercial sex trafficking with an older peer who will assist them in recognizing their numerous strengths, and encourage them to reclaim their identity as strong, worthy human beings.

WHAT IT TAKES

We are looking for Mentors who...

- Can provide a one year, four-hour a month time commitment.
- Are reliable, consistent, friendly, empathetic and non-judgmental.
- Must be respectful of the youth and their needs, and supportive and persistent in the face of challenges.
- Are committed to learning about CSEC, sexual abuse, substance abuse, etc.
- Possess strong listening and communication skills.
- Are sensitive to personalities of different educational, economic, cultural, or racial backgrounds.
- Are willing to attend an orientation, and complete required training sessions, submit monthly updates, as well as any evaluations, assessments and any other necessary paperwork in a timely fashion.