

SEX TRAFFICKING FORUM: JUNE 11, 2015

Small Group Discussion Summary

During the spring forum, small groups discussed what should be done to address sex trafficking in Edmonton. The following is a summary of each group's discussion.

Group 1:

- Increase public awareness and decrease stigmas
- Educate decision makers on HT in order to hand out money to educate everyone else
- Have a 'one stop' HT resource (211) for services and training to increase public awareness
- Increase socioeconomic/education opportunities for vulnerable populations by decreasing barriers

Group 2:

- More collaboration – interagency
- Centralized services in one building
- Information sharing
- Centralized data base
- Mentorship – job shadowing
- Awareness – promotion, campaigning, social media, more visual (graphic vs. Words)
- Better access to raining opportunities
- Better awareness of available training
- FUNDING!! Moves from crisis to prevention; long-term solution
- Prevention hard to measure for funders vs crisis intervention

Group 3:

- Educational campaign
- Multifaceted approach – specialized, individualized, culturally sensitive
- Youth need to lead/ be heavily involved, especially those who have experienced the issues
- Storytelling and arts VS. Stats
- Better networking and sharing of current resources, programs and events, possibly a more robust, city-driven coordination (211 style)
- Serve and return

Group 4:

- Need assessments (other family/kin care, history, depth of trauma)
- Improved group care sector
- Better training, databases, funding
- Protective safe house
- Protocols – collaborative and involve youth

Group 5:

- Collaboration between organizations
- Some is already happening (monthly meetings)
- Beyond organization's scope
- Barriers are present that prevent streamlining
- Funding
- Sustainability
- Need long term funding

Group 6:

- An app for list of resources. 211 – potentially build a link with them
- Create a database with a list of resources
- Network and be intentional on connecting with other agencies
- What are the key sectors missing? Address gaps in services
- Due diligence around making time to network
- Reduce duplication of services and have more specialized
- Allocate all similar resources to one organization rather than each program offering all services
- Streamline services (ex. housing programs)

Group 7:

- Training/Education
- Honest and widely shared to different groups and to public
- Interpretation Services
- More & adequate services available to newcomers; to navigate through the systems
- Collaboration with organizations
- Funding
- Services and resources
- Building positive momentum already happening

Group 8:

- Need training on TRPs and knowledge of relevant organizations
- Share resources in sector (i.e. free legal resources, or reduced costs)

- Develop Recovery Centre especially for people exiting sex trade to deal with multiple issues (i.e. addictions, trauma, abuse, etc.) concurrently instead of consecutively, need for long-term, holistic support

Groups 9 & 10:

- Barrier free services (shelters)
- Training on: HT, compassion fatigue, trauma
- For: frontline, hospitality, CBSA, CoE licensing
- Self-care and healthy workers
- Reduce stigma
- Engage feds
- Criminalization; lack of ID
- Perception of criminalization – create understanding
- Lack of services – some people have to lie to get services
- Lack of 24/7 services
- Less choir
- Use internet for shorter training

Group 11:

- Experiential input into education/development of the screening tools
- Education – prevention (aimed at youth, in schools)
- Barriers to services: treatment within a reasonable amount of time; capacity, resources, protocols, adequately equipped with necessary skills, training in street outreach