



U.S. Catholic Sisters Against Human Trafficking

The *U.S. Catholic Sisters Against Human Trafficking Coalition* is building a support network of partners willing to offer job training, job mentoring, and/or employment opportunities to women who have come from situations of enslavement and exploitation. Such a survivor of human trafficking often does not have a work history or adequate references. Your partnership would help her build a résumé, gain significant references, and find work that would help her toward self-reliance.

Survivor Support Working Group

The *Survivor Support Working Group* empowers survivors by facilitating education and employment opportunities. This working group reaches out to congregations, associates, colleagues and business partners to create links to education and employment.

Survivor Support Employment Partner

- Could your organization provide resources such as paid internships or fellowships allowing a survivor to learn skills that could help her qualify for a job?
- Could there be an opportunity for long-term employment within your community-sponsored works or networks that could help individuals become contributing members of their communities?
- Please consider ways in which you could become a USCSAHT Survivor Support Partner.

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Responsibilities of Professional(s) Working with Survivors

The appropriate individual will evaluate a survivor's capacity for success in employment, using the following criteria:

- She has reached a stage of growth that indicates her ability to effectively handle the ordinary stresses and responsibilities of daily life.
- She exhibits social skills that confirm her ability to work within a group setting, take orders, show respect, speak on her own behalf, etc.
- She articulates the motivations for the work she will undertake.
- She is aware of her responsibilities within the work setting.
- She understands, reads, speaks, and writes the language needed at a level appropriate for the job.
- She has a work permit.

Responsibilities of the Employer

- Supervisors present potential worker with guidelines about work performance and employee expectations.
- Supervisors have appropriate training and probationary opportunities in place to assist potential worker until such time as she can perform duties independently and accurately.
- Supervisors establish a mentor relationship with another employee, who can provide friendship and support until the potential worker is confident on her own in the work setting.

Responsibilities of Survivors

She understands the policies and guidelines that govern the job and demonstrates the ability to perform at the appropriate level of competence, after adequate mentoring, training, and probation.

Role of U.S. Catholic Sisters Against Human Trafficking

Religious sisters, who are members of the USCSAHT Coalition network, will offer mentoring support to assure good relationships between employers and survivor candidates.

Examples of Introductory Employment Settings

One community provided housing and jobs for survivors. A sister contacted a friend who owns fast food franchises. Survivors have been interviewed and hired. The sister talked with the business owner to ascertain openness for employing people that a community recommends.

A second congregation hired a survivor as a housekeeper. From this position, she advanced to assisting their elderly members and received such affirmations from the sisters that she was stimulated to go to nursing school.

In her words: "These opportunities changed my life and my family's life. The opportunity opened doors for my future and helped to make me an independent and strong woman and motivated me to give back to my community."

Comments of Survivors

"When I finally escaped my situation, finding work was incredibly important not only because it helped me get back on my feet but because someone believed in me enough to hire me."

"After over four years in slavery, in 2000 I was rescued by U.S. Immigration. I am so thankful that I am free."

"I was overjoyed that I was introduced to a community of Catholic sisters. At the time they had a job opening for housekeeping. I worked during the day and started to go to ESL classes at night. After that I also took a certified nurse assistant course, GED, computer and driving classes."

