Empowering Women Who Have Been Sexually Exploited

Manasa Raman
Summer Service-Learning Assistantship Program

What is LIFT?
“Living In Freedom Together (LIFT) is a survivor-led organization comprised of those who have overcome commercial sexual exploitation (CSE), and professionals sensitive to the needs of this vulnerable and marginalized population. Our mission is to provide resources, advocacy, and support to empower individuals to exit and recover from the impacts of CSE, and to end prostitution.”

The Drop-In Center
When: Tuesdays 9 AM – 12 PM; Thursdays 4 PM – 8 PM

Services Provided:
- Healthcare
- Dinner
- Basic Necessities
- Community of Support
- Onsite Physical and Mental Health
- Treatment Referrals
- Neighbor’s Closet
- Personal Care Items
- Narcan, Clean Needles
- Health care
- Onsite Physical and Mental Health
- Treatment Referrals
- Neighbor’s Closet
- Personal Care Items
- Narcan, Clean Needles
- Dinner

So what can we do?
- Be empathetic, non-judgmental listeners
- Undergo training on how to interview patients in this vulnerable population
- “If you see something, say something”
- Get to know your community in a non-clinical setting
- Advocate for the “Equality Model”
  - Decriminalizes all those who are prostituted
  - Provides support services to help them exit
  - Makes buying people for sex a criminal offence

Jana’s Place…it’s finally here!
“Jana’s Place is a first-of-its-kind recovery home for women exiting prostitution and recovering from substance use disorder (SUD) with co-occurring mental health disorders. Our recovery model will focus on holistic, sustainable recovery emphasizing self-care, life skills development, and job training opportunities.”

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References
https://liftworcester.org
https://clipartion.com/free-clipart-17018/
https://www.facebook.com/LivingInFreedomTogether/photos/a.1005016349541458/2022782307764852/?type=3&theater