



Peer-to-Peer Identification Programme

Field Report

Celine¹ is a 27 year old trafficking survivor from West Africa. Celine started her journey of recovery one year ago after getting connected to social workers from The Justice Project e.V. in Karlsruhe, Germany. After receiving stabilisation counseling and successfully completing an introductory recovery programme, Celine was invited along with 3 other survivors to participate in the second round of SISA: Peer-to-Peer Victim Identification training.

In the first 4 weeks of training, the new group grew together in a positive way, gaining confidence as they supported each other in preparation for initiating victim identification in their daily lives. One evident observation was the sheer eagerness that the peers displayed in beginning victim identification conversations. The teaching materials which equipped them practically played a key role in highlighting their natural ability to connect with other women in their peer groups. This resulted in the start of victim identification conversations at a much earlier stage in the training than was anticipated. Another key factor in empowering the peers to initiate conversations was the contact flyers developed through a separate EU-funded project which guides victims in identifying their exploitation and provides contact information to social workers that can assist them further.

OUR HELP INCLUDES:


Counseling


Support in the asylum process


Safe House


Schooling

WHERE TO GO FOR HELP?

The Justice Project e.V.
im EU 70 80 202 200
info@thejusticeproject.de

YOU ARE NOT ALONE! CONTACT US!

Logo of the European Union For more information: www.thejusticeproject.de



What to do if you or someone you know is affected by
HUMAN TRAFFICKING

If any of the following refers to you or someone you know

**CONTACT US!
WE WANT TO HELP YOU.**

"I was promised a job in Europe (i.e. nanny, waitress, housekeeper)"

"I was lied to about my working conditions."

"I was forced into prostitution by a Madam or others."

"I was abused, raped, kidnapped or threatened."

"I feel isolated or constantly watched."

"I have to pay back high debts."

"I'm afraid of Juju and what will happen to me if I break the oath."

"My family and I are being threatened."

"My boyfriend pushed me into prostitution."

"I'm frightened and feel helpless and hopeless."

¹ Not her real name

Celine reflected that the lessons provided in the programme training about the support role a Person of Trust can have in the lives of vulnerable people empowered her to initiate sensitive conversations. While attending a church service, Celine initiated contact with a woman who was visiting for the first time. New to the area, Celine was able to connect with her on the basis of shared interests and the commonality of language. Celine's own ability to self-identify as a Person of Trust bolstered her confidence in reaching out as a safe person. Celine was able to present The Justice Project as a help organisation working with West African survivors of trafficking. In the conversation, the woman did not initially open up about her exploitation but asked if Celine would help her arrange a meeting with a social worker from The Justice Project. Celine took the necessary steps to connect the woman to a social worker and an in-person meeting was successfully held. The woman is now receiving direct assistance and Celine reflected on the positive impact that the situation had on her own growth and development.

We have observed the general desire and effectiveness that stabilised survivors of trafficking have in reaching out to identify victims among their peers. When equipped with tools and a healthy understanding of their role and boundaries, survivors can play a significant part in connecting those in need to the help services available.

After only 4 weeks of training, the current program participants have collectively reached out to 9 women. By building upon the pioneering groundwork of the previous 4 trainees who reached 38 people over a span of 8 months, anticipated results for the end of this cycle are projected to exceed our expectations.

'Approaching someone to offer help is so important. Even if the probability that they need help is slim. You never know their situation, so it's always good.' - Programme Participant

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