

# Customized Court Training to Support Victims/ Defendants of Sexual Exploitation

9:00 am-5:00 pm



- Thursday, April 12, 2023 - Kerrville  
American Red Cross
- Thursday, April 20, 2023 - Medina/Bandera  
781 Ave Y, Hondo, TX
- Thursday, May 11, 2023 - Boerne  
Location TBD
- Thursday, May 18, 2023 - Kerrville  
American Red Cross

## Define

### Defining Victims of Sexual Exploitation

#### Understanding Trauma

- What is Trauma
- Types of Trauma
- Dynamics of Trauma
- Effects of Trauma
- Trauma Bonds
- Polyvictimization
- Triggers of Trauma

#### Human Trafficking 101

- Human Trafficking & Smuggling
- Labor vs Sex Trafficking
- Trafficking Statistics & Demand
- Risk Factors
- Demographics
- Arrests/Convictions

#### Sex Trafficking & Exploitation

Myth vs Reality  
 Recruitment & Grooming  
 Language & Leverage  
 Revictimizing Victims  
 Hierarchy of Authority  
 Drugs and Coercion Techniques

## Recognize

### Recognizing Victims/Defendants

#### The Legal Consequences

- Sex Trafficking vs Prostitution
- Types of Court Cases
- Types of Offenses
- Legal Process from Arrests to Incarceration

#### What is a Victim/Defendant

Homelessness/Toxic Relationships  
 Visual and Behavioral Indicators  
 Lack of Legal Documents  
 Triggers  
 Barriers to Self-Identification

#### Right Questions to Ask

- What is Human Trafficking
- Identification Tools
- How to Communicate with Victims
- Interviewing Strategies
- Trauma Informed Strategies

#### Potential Barriers Success

- Identity Bias
- Overcoming Distrust
- Empathy vs Sympathy
- What are Intimidating Actions
- Secondary Trauma
- Re-exploitation of Victims

## Support

### Supporting Victims/Defendants

#### Current Laws

- Prosecution Charges
- Immigrant Laws & Deportation Exemptions
- Trafficking Victims Protection Act
- Pending Legislation
- Statute of Limitations

#### Victim/Defendant Outcomes

- Restitution
- Criminal & Civil Prosecution of Offenders
- Preventing Recidivism
- Clemency Process

#### Resources

- Preparing for Court
- Court Appointed Adult Victim Advocates
- Linking Victims/Defendants to Resources
- Building a Task Force
- Self-Care for Officials

Mercy Gate Ministries is a Kerr County nonprofit that addresses commercial sexual exploitation and provides resources, relational advocacy, and courtroom training to support victims of human trafficking, sexual exploitation and sexual trauma. We serve women ages 18 years and older who have been identified as victims and have been arrested or convicted of criminal activity, currently residing or incarcerated in Kerr, Kendall, Kimble, Gillespie, Bandera, and Medina counties.

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