



Stolen Youth
prevent. connect. empower.

THE POWER OF COMMUNITY, THE POWER OF ONE.

The Impact of Your Investment, 2020

Children, the future and hope of our world, must be provided with basic needs, opportunity for growth, and the absence of exploitation. This fact has led us to place children's interests at the top end of our priorities. Child trafficking is a particularly abhorrent crime. We are impressed with the holistic, creative, comprehensive and collaborative approach StolenYouth has developed to combat child trafficking. We are happy to have made a long-term commitment to support StolenYouth.

– Casey & Jim, StolenYouth donors



THANKS TO OUR DONORS

We Are Making a Difference

Dear Friend of StolenYouth,

Thank you for standing alongside us through 2020. We've learned this year how closely the economy is tied to our collective and individual health and well-being; how institutional racism and privilege are issues inseparable from the exploitation of our children; and, how policy and legislation must be proactive to protect those who are powerless to protect themselves. This report will briefly explore these topics and the impact of your support.

StolenYouth is entering our ninth year because of your partnership and investment in the fight against child sex trafficking. Thank you for entrusting us to find ways to keep children safe from predators; make wise investments into services for the victims of trafficking; and fund effective programs that restore hope and dreams by teaching job skills, resiliency and confidence.

If you'd like to learn more about any of these issues or become more involved, please reach out to me at m.backer@stolenyouth.org. From the bottom of our hearts, we thank you for coming alongside us.

With gratitude,



Marnie K. Backer
Executive Director

"Please, don't grow weary of doing good. These blessings are making lasting lifelong impacts on each of these survivors. So, thank YOU for all that you do."

– Jennifer, Advocate for Sexually Trafficked Youth

Based on Trafficking Cases Prosecuted in King County*

56%

of trafficked youth
are children of color.

45%

of trafficked youth
are Black.

6.2%

of King County's
population is Black.

73%

of buyers of children
for sex are white.

That's
5%

greater than the
population of
white men.

In the United States**

40%

of trafficking
victims are Black.

14%

of the population
is Black.

69%

of buyers are
white men.

2020 SHINED A LIGHT

On the Racism of Child Exploitation

Child sex trafficking is always an issue of power and privilege. Trafficked youth are disproportionately from marginalized communities and perpetrators from communities of privilege.

StolenYouth supports programs and innovations directly addressing the exploitation of youth from communities of color. We will continue to utilize funds entrusted to us to ensure that more marginalized youth will be protected, will have a safe escape from those looking to exploit them, and will have the opportunity for a brighter future.

**King County Sexual Exploitation Cases, The Data Behind the Charges. Commercially Exploited Children in Seattle/King County 2019 Update. **Free for Life Intl. United States Census Bureau. The Cause and Consequence of Human Trafficking: Human Rights Violation. Racial and Gender Disparities in the Sex Trade.*

HOW A PANDEMIC

Impacts Child Sex Trafficking

The pandemic affected child sex trafficking in ways we couldn't have imagined:



Traffickers are more desperate to maintain income and have become more violent toward those they exploit. Buyers are paying less.



School-aged children are on the Internet more. Sex predators are targeting these kids using grooming techniques or sextortion.



Some youth quarantined with abusers are choosing the streets over sheltering in place, making them vulnerable to traffickers looking to exploit them.



More trafficking survivors are at risk of returning to prostitution due to pandemic-related food insecurity, loss of legitimate employment, and housing instability.



Service providers risk closure due to virus exposure among clients and staff. They struggle to care for the increasing numbers of youth who are, or are at risk of, being trafficked.

COVID-19

Impact on StolenYouth

Washington state's first stay-at-home order in early 2020 led to the cancellation of StolenYouth's 8th annual Not On Our Watch luncheon. We wondered what would become of StolenYouth and the organizations and young people we serve.

With your help, we have weathered this year of uncertainty and built even more robust program support and grantmaking despite the challenges. To do so, we first evaluated our own operations, cutting 35% of our expenses.

Leaner operations allowed us to respond to the pandemic and the resulting economic fallout through a Covid-19 Emergency Fund.

Online recruitment is occurring at 3x the normal rate, with an increased focus on recruiting children and adolescents who are spending more time online.

COVID-19 EMERGENCY FUND CAMPAIGN

And 2020 Grantmaking for StolenYouth

Learning how the virus and economic downturn impacted trafficked youth and frontline service providers led us to implement a month-long Emergency Fund Campaign. Thanks to you, in four weeks, \$212,000 was raised and directed to organizations struggling to meet the exponentially growing needs of trafficking survivors, from the Kitsap Peninsula to Okanogan County and up and down the I-5 corridor.

Thanks to StolenYouth's emergency fund, we supported young people who have survived sex trafficking, are currently being trafficked or are at high risk of being trafficked, in navigating housing, accessing food, clothing, internet, phones, gas cards & hygiene items.

– Kelly Edwards, RoomOne

2020 EMERGENCY CAMPAIGN



- Direct Survivor Assistance
- Maintaining Essential Staff
- Shelter Supplies/Cleaning
- Technology

2020 GRANTMAKING

Made Possible Thanks to You

The Emergency campaign was a component of our total 2020 grantmaking which will exceed \$800,000 by the end of the year – a 16% increase over 2019.* This expanded support of the youth and organizations relying on StolenYouth is due to your generosity. The funding was allocated to the following areas:

2020 GRANT DISTRIBUTION BY CATEGORY



- 50% - Connecting Victims to Services
- 29% - Covid-19 Emergency Relief Fund
- 10% - Empowering Survivors
- 8% - Trafficking Prevention & Research
- 3% - Other Grants

**Includes 2020 fulfillment of a 2019 pledge of \$120,605.*

2020 EXPENDITURES



- 16% - Fundraising
- 14% - Overhead
- 70% - Grantmaking/Programs

Through October 2020.

“Through your generosity, we supported survivors as they navigated constantly shifting and urgent needs in 2020, empowering them to stay on the path to freedom and independence. Your support provided a printer and notebook computer for schoolwork, paid electric bills, covered gas and grocery cards, repaired a broken vehicle, purchased beds for children, paid legal fees, provided basic move-in items, covered driver’s license fees, and met countless other needs.”

– Rosie Garbe, Scarlet Road



GLIMPSE AHEAD

Our Focus for 2021

What will StolenYouth focus on in 2021? Though we are certain next year will bring more challenges and perhaps little relief to the struggles of 2020, we will continue to demonstrate our commitment to this work, our coalition, and bringing awareness to this issue.

1

Pandemic

We will continue work on alleviating the pandemic's stress on frontline providers serving trafficked youth and challenging the resiliency and recovery of trafficking survivors. In 2021, there will be more marginalized youth at risk of exploitation.

2

Decriminalization of Prostitution

We will strongly advocate against this. Though a trafficked child who cannot consent to being bought or sold for sex should not be criminalized, the full legalization of prostitution will increase the number of traffickers using coercion and violence to force more children and youth into prostitution. It will also increase demand, leading to sex tourism.

3

Prevention Programming

See more information on our anti-sugaring campaign, "Project SugarFree", that fights exploitation on social media. We will also feature additional educational programming such as our 2020 Town Hall that focused on preventing the online exploitation of children.

4

Advocacy

Raise your voice with us, fighting child sex trafficking and being an ally to survivors of trafficking.

"Not many women would freely choose a job where sexual violence, disease, physical and emotional abuse, and even death are risk factors. That's not a profession. It's exploitation." – Alisa, Trafficking Survivor, Organization for Prostitution Survivors

NOT ON OUR WATCH: FEBRUARY 25, 2021

Please sign up now and considering sponsoring our 2021 Not On Our Watch **virtual** event to be held February 25, 2021 at 5pm.

This fundraiser and educational forum will be one of those most unique and surprising virtual events you'll have attended. And, it will feature our special guest, American actress and a woman who helped influence the creation of StolenYouth – Gillian Anderson. For more information, email us at hope@stolenyouth.org.

REGISTER NOW

www.StolenYouth.org



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