



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
Office of the Commissioner

Margaret Ross Schultze
COMMISSIONER

October 1, 2014

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Terence R. McAuliffe
Governor of Virginia

The Honorable Walter A. Stosch
Co-Chairman, Senate Finance Committee

The Honorable Charles J. Colgan
Co-Chairman, Senate Finance Committee

The Honorable Chris S. Jones
Chairman, House Appropriations Committee

FROM: Margaret Ross Schultze

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Margaret Ross Schultze", written over the printed name.

SUBJECT: Annual Report on Youth for Tomorrow

The 2014 Appropriation Act, Item 343 (J), provides \$100,000 in State Fiscal Year 2014 to the organization Youth for Tomorrow to provide "comprehensive residential, education and counseling services to at-risk adolescents and youth." The Department of Social Services is required to report annually on outcomes supported by these funds. Please let me know if you have questions.

MRS:kc

Attachment

**A report of the
Department of Social Services
Commonwealth of Virginia**

Youth for Tomorrow

October 2014

**to the Governor, Chairman of the Senate Finance
Committee, and Chairman of the House Appropriations
Committee**

October 2014

Preface

The 2014 Appropriation Act, Item 343 (J), appropriates \$100,000 in State Fiscal Years 2013 and 2014 to the organization Youth for Tomorrow (YFT) to provide “comprehensive residential, education and counseling services to at-risk adolescents and youth.” The Department of Social Services (Department) shall include in the contract with YFT specific goods and services that will be delivered to adolescents and youth of the Commonwealth as a result of this appropriation. The Department shall report outcomes to the Chairmen of the Senate Finance and House Appropriations Committees on October 1, 2013 and each year thereafter.

This report is based on the 2014 year-end report submitted by Youth for Tomorrow.

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Report on the Youth for Tomorrow Program

State Fiscal Year 2014

Background

Youth for Tomorrow (YFT) is committed to servicing victims of Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking (DMST). DMST as defined by the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, reauthorized in 2008, is the commercial sexual exploitation of American children within U.S. borders. It is the "recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for the purpose of a commercial sex act" where the person is a U.S. citizen or lawful permanent resident under the age of 18 years. DMST occurs when minors are forced, coerced or otherwise involved in the commercial sex industry. The age of the victim is the critical issue. The law recognizes the effect of psychological manipulation by the trafficker, as well as the effect of threats of harm which traffickers/pimps use to maintain control over their young victims. DMST includes but, is not limited to, the commercial sexual exploitation of children through prostitution, pornography, and/or stripping.

YFT Services Overview

Since 2008, YFT has served 59 DMST victims. During this grant period, August 15, 2013 through June 30, 2014, YFT served six DMST victims from Virginia in its Girls on a Journey (GOAJ) Program. Two girls were placed by Fairfax County; one by Arlington County; two by Prince William County; and one by Loudoun County. The average length of stay (LOS) was 5.9 months; the longest LOS was 10 months and the shortest was three months. The average age at intake was 15 years of age; the oldest was 16 and the youngest was 13 years of age. During this period, five of the six girls made adequate progress, meeting 85% or more of their Individual Service Goals (ISP) up until discharge. One girl was discharged from the program having not made progress in the program or in her ISP goals. One of the girls was discharged from the program by a local department of social services due to issues with another resident at the facilities.

In addition to being provided services specific to the need of DMST victims, four of the girls were enrolled in YFT's standard program; one girl was enrolled in the Mommy and Me program as a pregnant teen and one girl was enrolled in the day school program. All six girls were referred to the program as DMST victims by an outside agency. In some cases, even after an agency identified the resident as a DMST victim at the time of enrollment, some girls were assessed by YFT clinical staff using the Intervene DMST assessment tool and all were assessed for trauma.

Girls Served	
SFY 2014	
Residence	# Girls
Fairfax	2
Arlington	1
Prince William	2
Loudon	1
Totals	
Girls	6

Virginia victims were referred by local law enforcement, including Detective Bill Woolf, Fairfax County Police Department; Detective Michael Croson, Herndon Police Department; and Gregg Lott, FBI Special Victims Unit.

Project Service Objectives & 2014 Outputs

Objective1: *YFT clinical staff will provide individual counseling to minor victims of sex trafficking which address their victimization and enable them to develop coping skills which relate to the mental health aspects of their victimization (i.e., trust, attachment issues, self-image, self-esteem, trauma-bond, anxiety, etc.), preventing long term mental health impacts.*

YFT clinical staff provided 107 individual counseling sessions to six girls whose average length of stay was 5.9 months. In addition, 17 family sessions were provided during this reporting period.

Objective2: *YFT clinical staff will provide group counseling related to victimization. Clinical staff will also identify other group therapy needs such as substance, chemical education, etc.*

YFT provided 70 group counseling sessions to six girls during this reporting period. Group counseling included GOAJ, chemical education, 12-Step and Anger Management groups.

Objective 3: *YFT will provide residential services to minor victims of sex trafficking, ensuring 24 hours supervision, process group related to cooperation and social skills development; life skills education and recreation.*

YFT residential staff provided 98 recreational activities (120 hours); 92 leisure activities (112 hours); and 60 life skills activities (90 hours) for five of the six girls during this reporting period. [Note: Specific licensing agencies require a report on each of these activities as it pertains to the contract deliverables for a youth.]

Objective 4: *YFT will enroll minor victim of sex trafficking into the residential school, providing special education services when required and secondary level course work in-line with Virginia Department of Education Standards.*

YFT educational staff provided 1,169 hours of educational instruction during the period of project funding.

Objective 5: *YFT will ensure that minor victims meet regularly with their family, parents or legal guardians. Victims will be allowed phone calls and visitation as well as home visits off campus. Family will participate in family counseling.*

YFT case managers coordinated 56 home visits and 31 on-campus visits.

Objective 6: *An individual service plan will be completed within 30 day of admissions, which outlines the minor victims service needs as related to her primary reason for placement (sex trafficking); clinical, education and life skills assessments; and transition plan.*

YFT case managers developed Individual Service Plans (ISP) for each of the six residents. ISP can be found in the residents files.

Objective 7: *Minor victims will participate in weekly life skills instruction based on the ARISE Life Management Skills curriculum. These skills will ensure victims are able to eventually live independently.*

YFT residential staff provided 60 life skills activities (90 hours) during this reporting period.

Objective: *YFT case management staff will identify long-term partnerships with local services providers who offer medical and mental health services to residents, when needed.*

YFT has a memorandum of agreement with Greater Prince William Community Health Center to provide medical services to clients.

Objective 8: *YFT nursing staff will provide first aid, medication management, coordinate medical service or refer residents to community agencies for medical services. Victims placed at YFT require medical services related, but not limited to, pediatrics, gynecology, dental, and eye care.*

YFT nursing staff coordinated 54 doctor's visits during this reporting period.

Project Service Outcomes

Youth for Tomorrow's GOAJ program has served 59 adolescent girls since 2008. This consists of girls who stayed in the program for a minimum of 60 days. Of those 59, the following outcomes can be attributed to the services provided:

- Nine girls are currently receiving services and are currently meeting more than 85% of their individual treatment plan goals.
- Of the 50 former residents, forty-three have maintained contact with the after-care coordinator.
- 88% or 43 of the 50, have successfully transitioned into the community (i.e., reside at home, maintained employment, and/or enrolled in school)
- 14 are currently receiving after-care funding for post-secondary education, including vocational education.

In the past two years, seventeen GOAJ residents participated in the program. The following outcomes have been achieved:

- 95% of the residents met more than 85% of their individual treatment plan goals.
- 14 of the 17 or 82% successfully completed the program.
- 12 completed or are currently enrolled in a vocational program.
- 6 graduated with a high school diploma or obtained a GED.

Conclusion

Youth for Tomorrow reports that they are the only facility in Virginia and the Mid-Atlantic region that offers safe and secure housing, along with counseling, education, and medical and dental care for victims of sexual crimes against minors. YFT is licensed to provide care to residents up to 18 years of age and up to 21 years of age who are in the custody of the local departments of social services or other public agencies.

- The grant appropriation through the Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS), \$100,000, has served 6 teenage female victims from Virginia consisting of 31 months of services since award date, August 15, 2013. YFT has matched dollar for dollar the funding provided by VDSS through the General Assembly appropriation to serve these victims. For example, the 24/7 average cost-per-child for these comprehensive services is \$9,047/ month. These professional services include:
 - State supervised residential services
 - Therapeutic services provided by licensed clinicians
 - Professional nursing care
 - Transportation for required medical/dental treatment
 - Case management services
 - Accredited secondary education services on campus (i.e. secure environment)

- The 31 months of aggregate services provided to these girls comes to \$280,457 of which the VDSS grant reimbursement is \$100,000 (35%) with YFT providing the remainder of \$180,457 (65%) under the current grant. The State funding is important in supplementing the cost of financially serving this victimized population. Additional funding ensures more victims trying to recover from this type of violence will receive the safe, secure, therapeutic, medical and case management services they require.