


**Minnesota Safe Harbor**

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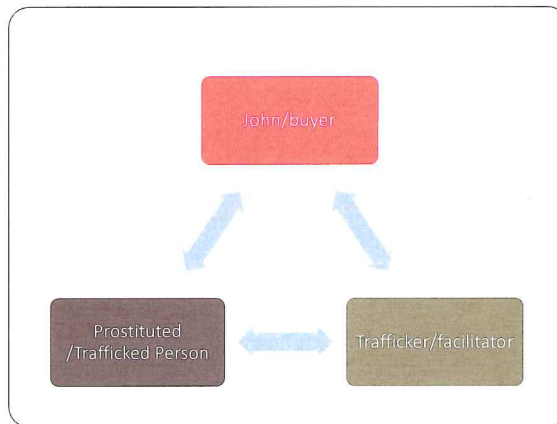


**Overview**

- Definitions
- MN Safe Harbor Law
- Implementation
- What's working well
- Outstanding Issues

**Definitions**

- Sex Trafficking
  - Federal – Recruiting, transporting, enticing [...] a person by force, fraud or coercion in a commercial sex act. (Under 18\*)
  - Minnesota – Recruiting, transferring, obtaining [...] a person by any means to aid in the prostitution of the individual



**Prostitution**

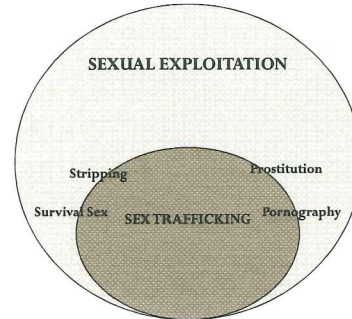
- 609.321 Subd. 9. **Prostitution.**
- "Prostitution" means hiring, offering to hire, or agreeing to hire another individual to engage in sexual penetration or sexual contact, or being hired, offering to be hired, or agreeing to be hired by another individual to engage in sexual penetration or sexual contact.



### Sexually Exploited Youth

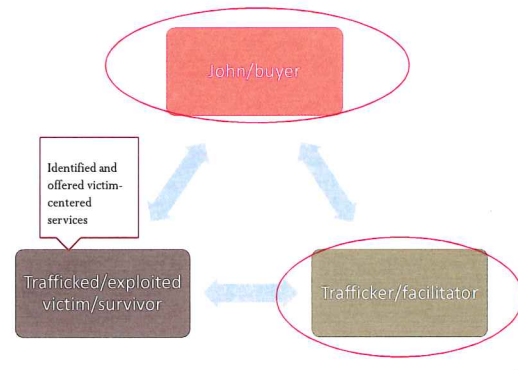
- Subd. 31. "Sexually exploited youth" means an individual who:
  - (1) is alleged to have engaged in conduct which would, if committed by an adult, violate any federal, state, or local law relating to **being hired, offering to be hired, or agreeing to be hired by another individual to engage in sexual penetration or sexual conduct** [...]
  - Includes Survival sex and trafficking

### Forms Of Sexual Exploitation



### What are safe harbor laws?

- Safe Harbor laws treat minors **engaged in prostitution** as victims who need services and generally are immune from prosecution. Cannot be guilty of an act that involves their own **sexual exploitation**.



### MN Safe Harbor



### MN Safe Harbor Legislative History



### MN Safe Harbor Legislative History

**2011**

- Safe Harbor passed
- Recommendations to local level of enforcement
- Discussion program to local police partners
- Amend MN Act 15 statute
- Discuss DHS to investigate further

Delayed effectiveness but several county attorneys pledged to no longer charge youth with engaging in prostitution (2011).


Fines collected are to be distributed:

- 40% to Law Enforcement
- 20 % County Attorney
- 40% Funds for SEY service providers

### MN Safe Harbor Legislative History

**2012**

- Safe Harbor committees meet and develop response model called No Wrong Door



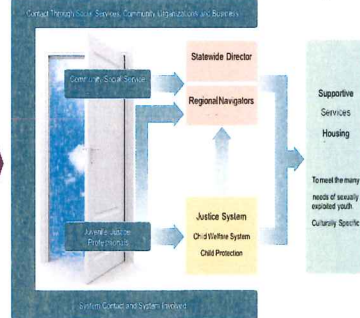
**Underlying Values and Philosophies of NWD**

1. SEY are VICTIMS of a crime
2. Professionals trained to identify SEY
3. Victims should not feel afraid, trapped or isolated
4. Trauma-informed services which are responsive to individual victims
5. Youth have a right to privacy and self-determination
6. Based in positive youth development
7. Exploitation can be prevented

### MN Safe Harbor Legislative History

**2013**

- No Wrong Door Report published and disseminated
- Local police partners begin implementation program
- Amend MN Act 15 statute
- Discuss DHS to investigate further



Central: Through Law System, Family Law, Juvenile and Adult

Statewide Director

Regional Navigators

Justice System

Child Welfare System

Child Protection

Supportive Services

Housing

To meet the many needs of sexually exploited youth. Culturally Specific

### MN Safe Harbor Legislative History

**2014**

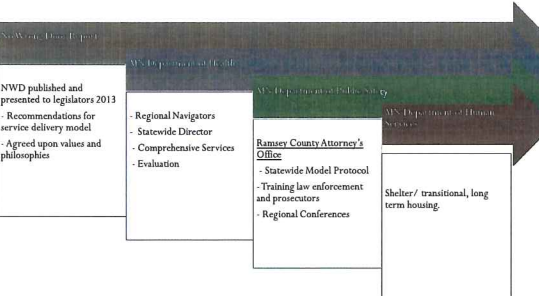
- Mandating reporting for law enforcement
- Effective 8/1/14, youth under 18 can no longer be charged with engaging in prostitution.
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\*Effective August 1, 2014 youth under 18 can no longer be charged with engaging in prostitution.

Not blanket immunity for all criminal offenses, only engaging in prostitution. Please be aware of the connection between criminal activity and exploitation in many cases.

Intent of this legislation is not to make systems professional's job easier, rather it is designed to put the victim first!

### Safe Harbor/No Wrong Door Implementation



2013: NWD published and presented to legislators 2013

- Recommendations for service delivery model
- Agreed upon values and philosophies

2014: MN Department of Health

- Regional Navigators
- Statewide Director
- Comprehensive Services
- Evaluation

2014: MN Department of Public Safety

- Ramsey County Attorney's Office
- Statewide Model Protocol
- Training law enforcement and prosecutors
- Regional Conferences

2014: MN Department of Human Services

- Shelter/ transitional, long term housing



**Director**

**Regional navigators**

**Supportive services**

**Evaluation**



- Director
- Hired October 2013.
- Oversight and coordination of Safe Harbor/ No Wrong Implementation
- Manage navigators, services, and evaluation grants

### Regional Navigators

- Navigators - central contact for youth, law enforcement, service providers or concerned citizenship to refer for services.
- Why do we need them?
  - Different regions have unique populations, services, needs and strengths. Navigators will coordinate services between organizations and build capacities within regions to ensure regions work collectively and effectively.



### Regional Navigators

- Breaking Free (Metro-East)
- The Link (Metro-West)
- Southwest Crisis Center (Southwest)
- Heartland Girls' Ranch (Central)
- PAVSA (Northeast)
- Olmsted Victim Services (Southeast)
- Support Within Reach (Northwest)
- White Earth DOVE Program (Northwest)
- Day One Hotline
  - 1-866-223-1111



### Role of Regional Navigators

Outreach/Education	Services	Capacity Building
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide information to general public about CSEY/CSEC</li> <li>• Outreach with youth</li> <li>• Distribute resources</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safety plan and assessment</li> <li>• Initial case management and development of comprehensive service plan</li> <li>• Coordinate services for exploited youth in their community</li> <li>• Help youth navigate systems and services</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community scan for resources.</li> <li>• Gatekeepers of resources in region for SEY and a resource for professionals</li> <li>• Engage community stakeholder in intervention and prevention</li> <li>• Training/technical assistance for service providers</li> <li>• Regional Conference</li> </ul>

### Comprehensive Supportive Services

- 13 Grantees across the state beginning work December 1, 2014.
- Services vary from mental health, health care services, advocacy, support groups, legal needs, etc.
- Website for listing by region



### Evaluation

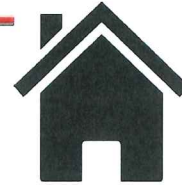
- Report back to legislators next fall on progress
- Working with Wilder Foundation and epidemiologist internally tracking and analyzing effectiveness of model.
- Data Collection



### Uniqueness of MN Safe Harbor

- Only Safe Harbor run out of Department of Health
- Intentional placement
  - Different than CJ response, focus on prevention!
  - Public Health Issue
    - Collect data to determine the scope, analyze data (risk factors, commonalities, etc) to develop effective evidence-based intervention and prevention strategies.

### Housing



### Housing

- Specialized emergency shelter, transitional living, youth supportive housing, and foster care placements.
- Appropriate security, involvement of survivors, trauma-informed services, formal collaborations with law enforcement and juvenile justice.
- 4 grantees:
  - Life House, Duluth (Shelter)
  - Breaking Free, St. Paul (Housing: Transitional Living)
  - The Link, West Metro (Shelter)
  - Heartland Girls Ranch, Benson (Housing: Supportive Housing)

### Statewide Training and Protocol Development

Ramsey County Attorney's Office



### Statewide Training (RCAO)

- Training for law enforcement and prosecutors
- Production of videos for LE and general public
- Regional Conferences
- "Piggy back" trainings

### Statewide Model Protocols

- Statewide Model Protocol- statewide efforts to develop a model multidisciplinary protocol for identifying and intervening with trafficked youth
  - RCOA, MNCASA, SVJI
  - Work groups
  - Fall 2015

### Purpose: Creation of a Statewide Model Protocol for Safe Harbor

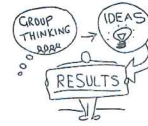
- Output:
  - Model tools, checklists, and other resources
  - **Not** a "fill-in-the-blanks" template
- Developed in parallel with individual community protocols – the two processes reinforce one another



12/4/2014

### What has been accomplished so far ...

- 15 work groups
  - Law enforcement
  - Prosecution
  - Victim/Youth Advocacy
  - Frontline Medical
  - Child Advocacy Centers
  - Public Health
  - Adolescent Health
  - Mental Health/ Chemical Health
  - Housing
  - Schools
  - Tribal
  - Juvenile Corrections
  - Child Protection/Child Welfare
  - Civil Legal/Public Defense
  - Judges



12/4/2014

### What's working well?

- Multidisciplinary approach
  - State agencies and community organizations
  - Protocols, training
  - Regionalized response
- Placement at MDH
- Delayed implementation
- Building off of existing resources

### Outstanding Issues

- Building the plane as we fly it!
- Providing services to youth once criminalized
- Housing/ Shelter
  - Locked/unlocked
- Mandated reporting
- Systems/agencies unsure/unknown where they fit in or their roles

### What can I do?

- Learn more!
- Introduce yourself to navigators, service grantees
- Inform of community resources/ processes you already have
- FEEDBACK
  - What's working well, what's not working well
    - Implementation is fluid, opportunity to change and improve

Thank you! And please keep giving us feedback.

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