



# Beauty from ashes

Beauty From Ashes Ministries, Inc. ~ Where Victims Become Over-Comers  
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# BEAUTY FROM ASHES SEX TRAFFICKING RESTORATION - FREEDOM™ PROJECT



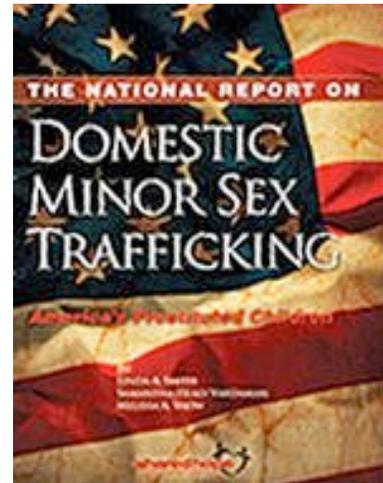
Human Trafficking is the number two crime in the world right now. Florida is considered the number two state in which this gross human injustice is taking place with Lee County, FL investigating 20% of all national cases in 2009. Eighty percent of human trafficking is sex trafficking; essentially, "Rape for Profit" and 80% of the victims are children and women. The National Report on Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking revealed that 100,000-300,000 minors a year are being forced into prostitution and the average age is 12-14 years old. There currently are less than 10 specialized restoration homes in the nation for these youth with less than 50 beds and only one with five beds in the state of Florida.

The United States of America has provided millions of dollars to assist illegal immigrants and international victims of human trafficking, with very little to no funding going to assist our own residents. We have a statewide and nation-wide crisis that demands something be done in response to the crime of "Rape for Profit". A human trafficking over-comer that has worked with victims since 2005 has developed the following project.

Julie Shematz, an Indiana University alumnus, founded Beauty From Ashes, a 501(c)3, tax exempt Florida Corporation, that has been providing assistance to victims of commercialized sexual exploitation and sex trafficking in the 14<sup>th</sup> congressional district. Because of her past and passion to reach, rescue and restore other victims, she is very adept at finding victims and helping them to live a better life. Services have included providing primarily domestic child and adult victims of sexual trafficking and their families with support, life skill development, education assistance, job placement, relocation, short term and/or residential housing and addiction rehabilitation.

Working within the community and with local and national law enforcement, Beauty From Ashes (BFA) provides awareness and prevention, intervention, liberation, restoration and empowerment to the victims and their families.

BFA has assisted approximately 50 individuals and/or families in the restoration process from sex trafficking that currently remain out of the industry. However, they are in desperate need of resources to assist others. The Renewal Forum reported that 200,000-400,000 children a year are involved in the commercial sex trade, which is considered a 'severe form of human trafficking' by the 2000 TVPA (Trafficking Victims Protection Act). Additionally, the National Report on Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking stated that 90% of runaways and throwaways within the first 48 hours will be lured into prostitution and recommended that survivors must be leaders in the development of services, shelter, and response protocols. The report also revealed that traffickers, also known as pimps, target teen shelters, group homes and foster care homes and take advantage of the concentration of vulnerable youth, systematically recruiting from these locations. Furthermore, Lieutenant Brad Hamilton of the Lee County Sheriff's Department reported at the Lee County Human Trafficking Task Force meeting on February 11th that one of the biggest issues law enforcement has faced is a huge gap in victim services: case management, mental health care and after care.



Beauty From Ashes is in need of resources for the Fort Myers area that include specialized emergency and long term safe housing for sex trafficking victims. They also need critical help for the victims that includes medical, dental, mental health care services, and rehabilitative services, as well as long-term housing (residential home(s), apartments, etc.) for stabilized survivors and their families in order for them to pursue vocational training, college educations, continued therapeutic care and medical treatment. The trauma these victims have endured requires they receive long-term assistance, not days, months or even a few years. Most children caught up in sex trafficking are runaways or "throwaways" escaping sexual exploitation typically at home and often times from foster care. Studies show that 80-90% of the adult women were victims of sexual violence or trauma as minors. Beauty From Ashes is most often the only hope they have in life.

Beauty From Ashes is in desperate need of a specialized shelter to provide one day to 3 months of dedicated care and training. The facility will provide 4-8 beds in the emergency shelter and one computer. Due to the unstable and transient nature of these victims and their need for a stable environment, a long-term safehome to provide 12 months up to 24 months of specialized care is needed for survivors and their families who are willing to commit to long-term rehabilitation. The safehome will

provide 6-12 beds for residents, including their infants and small children, which the victims commonly have, and will also have four computers. Additionally, they need a full time walk in resource center, which will have five computers for staff and resident usage. 6 full-time staff will do victim outreach, case management, re-training. The positions of 4 part-time staff members ideally will be filled by residents of the safehome, thus enabling them to acquire a part time income while pursuing higher educational endeavors. For the safety and protection of the victims, the walk in resource center, shelter and safehome should be at different locations. The project includes a 15-passenger van & mini van that will be needed for transportation.

Beauty From Ashes has set the pace nationally for doing outreaches into the heart of the sex industry, where sex trafficking flourishes. They have been going into strip clubs, porn shows, porn shops and drug and crime infested areas of the inner city where prostitution is prevalent. They have also developed training models that they have provided to other organizations to do the same nationally. Their outreach efforts have also penetrated the internet through social networking and online prostitution websites. Distributing information by means of giving away gifts & care packets, in addition to serving meals to employees, they effectively reach victims where they are. The project includes monthly outreach funding, higher educational assistance and emergency/hardship assistance through the Rahab's Hope Fund they established in 2006. The only fund like it in the nation, they implement a high standard of accountability for recipients and in order to avoid enabling them to remain in destructive lifestyles, never give the funds directly to the victims, instead paying vendors and/or providing gift cards, etc. for emergency/hardship needs. The following are items the fund has paid for:



- Relocation
- Rent & mortgage payments
- Groceries
- Baby Food & Supplies
- Utilities
- Gas & Automobile Repairs
- Car Insurance
- Storage Rental Space
- Drug & Alcohol Rehabilitation, including Detox
- Residential Center Fees
- Medical & Dental
- Healing Conferences – Travel & Conference Costs

- Counseling
- Higher Education Assistance

Using the model presented in this proposed project, it is roughly estimated that between **300 – 3000 sex trafficking victims could potentially be reached, rescued and restored yearly.** Below is a summary of the expenses:

EXPENSES

Personnel	\$310,360.00
Resource Center, General & Administrative	\$86,200.00
Emergency Shelter	\$50,254.00
Emergency Shelter Residents	\$32,400.00
Residential Safehome	\$58,254.00
Residential Safehome Residents	\$30,000.00
Transportation	\$53,600.00
Outreaches	\$6,000.00
Rahab's Hope Fund Transition Assistance	<u>\$30,000.00</u>
 TOTAL	 \$657,068.00

Attached in an Excel spreadsheet is the one year detailed budget for this project. Please note all three tabs, Summary Sheet, Estimated Budget and Technology.

Once the Sex Trafficking Restoration project is established, it is the objective of Beauty From Ashes to replicate the models of the walk in resource center, emergency shelter and safehomes in various regions of Florida and across the nation.



# THE FREEDOM™ TEAM

Current advisers for this project are:

**Arnie Coones**, Station Manager 89.5 Praise FM

**David Caton**, President of the Florida Family Association

**Roger Gannon**, Lindell & Farson, P.A.

**Dr. Laura Lederer**, Former Senior Advisor on Trafficking the United States  
Department of State

**Mary C. Lewis**, L.C.S.W., Co-Chair of Lee County Human Trafficking Task Force  
& Former Executive Director of Our Mother's Home of Southwest Florida, Inc.

**J.D. Mallory**, Senior Pastor Naples Assembly of God

**Nancy Sampson**, Sanibel Community Church & Stonecroft Ministries leader

**Julie Shematz**, CEO and Co-Founder of Beauty From Ashes™ Ministries

**Steve Shematz**, President and Co-Founder of Beauty From Ashes™ Ministries

**Steve Siler**, Music for the Soul Founder & Executive Director, Producer  
of Somebody's Daughter

**David Smythe**, J.D. Candidate 2010 University of Georgia School of Law

**Timothy Snodgrass**, D.O. General Medicine Physician

**Nola Theiss**, Coordinator of Training/Outreach, Esperanza Project, Lee  
County Human Trafficking Task Force & Executive Director of Human  
Trafficking Awareness Partnerships, Inc.

**Patrick Trueman**, Former Chief of Child Exploitation & Obscenity Section of  
the United States Department of Justice

