



pennsylvania

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

You are invited to participate in the Department of Human Services' (DHS)

STATEWIDE POSITIVE APPROACHES & PRACTICES MEETING

Jointly hosted by

**The Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (OMHSAS) and
the Office of Developmental Programs (ODP)**

The Department of Human Services' (DHS) Office of Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services (OMHSAS) and the Office of Developmental Programs (ODP) host a quarterly Statewide Positive Approaches & Practices Meeting. This meeting aims to provide the most recent research and resources for people with mental health and behavioral challenges, intellectual disabilities, autism, and other developmental disabilities to live an everyday life.

DATE: Thursday, April 6, 2023

Time: 9:30 am - 2:30 pm

TOPIC: Human Trafficking

Human trafficking is defined as the unlawful act of transporting or coercing people to benefit from their work or service, typically in the form of forced labor or sexual exploitation. Every year, millions of men, women, and children are trafficked worldwide - including right here in Pennsylvania. It can happen in any community and victims can be of any age, race, gender, or nationality. With the vulnerability of the individuals and clients served with mental health illnesses, developmental disabilities, and autism, our population is targeted for reasons such as psychological or emotional vulnerability, economic hardship, lack of a social net, and natural disaster. The trauma caused by the traffickers can be so great that many may not identify themselves as victims or ask for help.

SPEAKERS:

Natalie Proud is the Associate Program Director at Covenant House Pennsylvania for the past 6 years. Prior to this position, she was the Rights of Passage Manager, Housing Specialist and Youth Advisor at the Covenant House Pennsylvania. She graduated from Villanova University in 2006 and with her Master of Arts in 2010 from Temple University.

Hugh Organ is the Associate Executive Director at Covenant House Pennsylvania for the past 25 years. Prior to this position, he served as an on-duty supervisor for 11 years at the Presbyterian Children's Village and was a social worker with Southern Home Services. He received his bachelor's degree from Alvernia University and this master's degree in 1997 from Saint Joseph's University. In the fall, he is an avid Eagles fan.

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS:

Morning: ***Human Trafficking 101***

This training is for participants to gain a basic understanding of what human trafficking is under federal definition and law, in which PA laws are aligned. Participants will also learn how traffickers exploit their victims, identification of red flags and vulnerable populations.

Afternoon: ***Populations that are Vulnerable to Human Trafficking with an Emphasis on Intellectual Disabilities***

This training will expand on the morning training of what populations are vulnerable to being exploited by traffickers, particularly those with intellectual disabilities; the audience will be given a screening tool to use as an example and what to do if they suspect someone may be in a trafficking situation.

AGENDA

- 9:30 am – 10:00 am **Welcome and Announcements**
Jennifer Smith, Deputy Secretary, OMHSAS
Kristin Ahrens, Deputy Secretary, ODP
Gregory Cherpes, MD, Medical Director, ODP
- 10:00 am – 10:45 am ***Human Trafficking 101***
Natalie Proud, Associate Program Director, Covenant House Pennsylvania
Hugh Organ, Associate Executive Director, Covenant House Pennsylvania
- 10:45 am -11:00 am **Break**
- 11:00 am – 12:00pm ***Human Trafficking 101 (continued)***
Natalie Proud, Associate Program Director, Covenant House Pennsylvania
Hugh Organ, Associate Executive Director, Covenant House Pennsylvania
- 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm **Lunch**
- 1:00 pm – 2:20 pm ***Populations that are Vulnerable to Human Trafficking with an Emphasis on Intellectual Disabilities***
Natalie Proud, Associate Program Director, Covenant House Pennsylvania
Hugh Organ, Associate Executive Director, Covenant House Pennsylvania
- 2:20 pm - 2:30 pm **Survey and End of Day Reflection**
Next meeting: July 13, 2023, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

TO REGISTER: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2740934483664016733>

Please note that Certificates of Attendance are not issued for the Statewide Approaches and Positive Practices Meetings.