



The Salvation Army's Anti-Human Trafficking Bloom Initiative serving Greater Hartford, Connecticut works with male and female survivors of sex and/or labor trafficking ages 16 and up who reside in the following towns: Hartford, East Hartford, West Hartford, Wethersfield, Newington, Bloomfield, and Windsor. The **mission statement** of The Bloom Initiative is to work alongside survivors of human trafficking on their journey from exploitation to empowerment.

**Specialized Case Management:** To meet survivors' needs, a long-term, individualized, three-phase case management program has been developed where the survivor meets one-on-one with a Survivor Support Specialist. The three phases, **Strengthen, Heal, and Revitalize**, ensure that each survivor is setting and achieving desired goals while working towards self-sufficiency. The first phase, **Strengthen**, allows the survivor to work on stabilizing their housing and income. During the second phase, **Heal**, survivors are working on spiritual and therapeutic recovery. This incorporates traditional mental/behavioral/trauma therapy with the survivor's religious or spiritual beliefs, as applicable. In the last phase, **Revitalize**, the survivor is slowly reintegrating into the community which may include attending community events, AA/NA meetings, local sports, etc. Throughout the duration of the program, the survivor and Survivor Support Specialist are working on budgeting, achieving goals, and safety planning. In addition, they are working together to understand what healthy relationships, safe work environments, and love/affection look like for the survivor.

**Long-Term Support:** The three-phase case management program is designed to take at least one year and involves regular communication between the survivor and Survivor Support Specialist.

**Food, Clothing, Shelter and Financial Assistance** are available for survivors to ease their journey and support their path to self-sufficiency. Financial assistance can include rent, utilities, medical/dental expenses, transportation, education, job training, and other expenses vital to meeting a survivor's needs.

**Community Training and Education:** Program staff coordinate community outreach efforts which consist of developing partnerships with law enforcement, other social service agencies, and community resources, and educating the community on human trafficking and the barriers that survivors face.

**Street Outreach:** An Outreach Worker recruits and trains volunteers, and leads street outreach efforts to provide hope and information to those still in the grips of trafficking.

The Bloom Initiative was launched in Greater Hartford in 2017