



University of Maryland SAFE Center for Human Trafficking Survivors

Job Announcement: Part-Time Crisis Intervention Specialist

Rolling Deadline Until June 1, 2017-- APPLY EARLY

The University of Maryland Support, Advocacy, Freedom, and Empowerment (SAFE) Center for Human Trafficking Survivors is a university-based center that focuses on direct service provision, research, and advocacy in the field of human trafficking. Through in-house service provision and collaboration with partners, the Center provides social, legal, mental health, medical, and economic empowerment services to trafficking survivors regardless of nationality, gender, age, or type of trafficking.

The Crisis Intervention Specialist will be primarily responsible for providing immediate after-hours evening and weekend assistance to individuals who have been extracted from or who have escaped human trafficking in Prince George's County, Maryland. For example, the Crisis Intervention Specialist will assess whether the trafficking survivor has an immediate need for food, clothing, and/or shelter. The Crisis Intervention Specialist will screen for mental health crises or substance abuse, and make appropriate connections to community resources for specialized services. The Crisis Intervention Specialist will also provide the survivor with information about services, community resources, assistance with referrals and connections to community providers, and safety planning. Should the survivor choose, the Crisis Intervention Specialist will work with the survivor to make a plan for longer-term services through a SAFE Center caseworker or another appropriate agency.

The Crisis Intervention Specialist will receive training on topics such as gaining an overall understanding of human trafficking, identification of human trafficking victims, crisis response, safety, working with first responders, promising practices for providing trauma-informed services to adults and minors, and other issues.

The SAFE Center is located in College Park, Maryland. Candidates will be required to complete a background check.

Responsibilities

- Be on-call three days per week, typically including several hours on Saturdays, to respond to calls from Prince George's County law enforcement, 311, and other direct service providers for assistance with crisis victim services.
- Assist with all aspects of crisis intervention including meeting with the trafficking survivor in a secure location, responding to basic needs by providing SAFE Center acquired food and/or clothing; connecting with overnight safe shelter if needed; making a safety plan; assessing for emergency medical, mental health, or substance abuse support and making required connections; and providing supportive counseling.
- Communicate with appropriate SAFE Center staff and complete reporting for new intakes.
- Make a plan with the trafficking survivor for longer-term service provision if wanted.
- Connect the survivor to a case manager at the SAFE Center or other appropriate agency.
- Maintain accurate and updated case notes and other documentation as required.
- Ensure that all safety protocols and procedures are followed.

- Purchase needed emergency food or other basic items not provided at the SAFE Center's location.
- Assist in the creation, updating, and maintaining of victim outreach materials, crisis intervention protocols, agreements with crisis intervention partners, best practices in crisis intervention and working with first responders, etc.
- Other relevant duties as assigned.

Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree in social work, psychology, counseling, public health, education, or another relevant human development field preferred but not required.
- Experience working with survivors of trafficking, sexual assault, domestic violence, or other crimes or trauma.
- Experience working on a crisis hotline or on overnight shifts as a rape crisis advocate, EMT, or other emergency / crisis response preferred but not required.
- Empathetic and skilled in active listening.
- Be able to work independently and as part of a team.
- Ability to gather and assess information, weigh options, and exercise excellent judgment.
- Have an interest in human trafficking issues.
- Be flexible and well organized.
- Demonstrated ability to work well with culturally diverse populations.
- Must have a current, valid drivers' license and be able to drive a car.
- Have a strong work ethic and a positive attitude.
- Proficiency in Spanish is preferred but not required.

Compensation: \$18 - \$20 / hour for 24 hours per week.

To apply, please send a resume, cover letter, and the names and contact information of three references to: Heidi Alvarez, Director of Social Services, at alvarezh@umd.edu. We expect to fill the position in mid-June.