



## Quarterly Update for Cornerstone Church

Every month, 1,500 women and children are sold online for sex in the Reno/Tahoe area.<sup>1</sup> Sexual exploitation and trafficking isn't just a global problem, it's a serious local epidemic. Awaken is here to help, mission-driven to increase awareness and education surrounding the issue of sexual exploitation, and to provide shelter and restoration for its victims. Since 2011, we have helped more than **300** women and children with a wide range of services. Lives are being changed, and in some cases, even saved.

Our work wouldn't be possible without caring partners like you. Below is quarterly update for April – June 2017 letting Cornerstone Church members know what a significant impact their donations make on the children we serve.

### Who we are serving with your support

Between April and June of 2017, Cornerstone Church donated \$2,333 in support of Awaken's mission.

During this time, with your support, Awaken served a total of **21 minors under the age of 18**. We have also received an additional eight referrals that our youth intervention director, Jen Robinson is currently working on processing. We are so excited to announce that two of the girls accepted Christ, two rededicated their lives to the Lord, four are going to church with Jen, and another one has been baptized. In addition to the minors, Awaken served 34 women for a total of 51 women and girls served over the quarter.

Over the course of just the past three months, with support from caring partners like Cornerstone Church, our youth intervention director provided minor victims of trafficking with **258 units of service** (approximately 20 units of service for each girl). Services included:

- **Information and referral** about the criminal justice system, victim rights, other victim service providers, etc.
- **Personal advocacy and accompaniment** for emergency medical care, medical forensic exams, law enforcement interviews, immigration assistance, intervention with employer, creditor, landlord, or school, child care, transportation assistance, etc.

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<sup>1</sup> The Human Trafficking Initiative, Data Science Lab, Creighton University. Ads on Backpage.com April 2016 through September 2016.

- **Emotional support or safety services** including mentorship, crisis intervention, hotline/crisis counseling, individual counseling, support groups, other therapies, emergent financial assistance
- **Shelter/housing services** including emergency shelter/safe house, transitional housing, relocation assistance.
- **Criminal/civic justice** including civil legal attorney assistance in obtaining a protection or restraining order, prosecution interview advocacy/accompaniment, criminal advocacy/accompaniment, notification of criminal justice events (case status, court proceedings, etc.)

## Success made possible with your support



Over the past few months, we've seen so many successes. We've seen one of our girls work hard to get ahead in life and successfully graduate with her GED. She is now living in transitional housing for youth and is consistently attending individual counseling sessions with our clinical director. She has secured a job and is doing very well! Another client has completed math and English and only has three tests left to complete her GED.

One of the biggest successes of this season was taking four girls to summer camp at Woodleaf Camp in Challenge, California through Young Life, a faith-based youth organization. At camp they had the opportunity to grow closer to Christ. Two high school students, one junior high student, and one teen mom participated in this new and exciting experience that allowed these young girls to just be kids again. They swam, played sports, completed a high-ropes course, and so much more.

Our youth intervention director was blown away seeing the amount of joy, laughter, and normal teenager experiences that these girls simply relished. For one of the girls, the most exciting aspect of camp was that she could eat three meals a day until she was full. Two of the girls described the experience as life-changing.

**Thank you to Cornerstone Church for helping to make this success and many others possible. Together, we are making a difference!**