



## Pastoral Care

*Walk With Me*



Arizona Human  
Trafficking Council

*I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you. John 14:18*

# Pastoral Care

Walk With Me

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The Pastoral Care program at StreetLightUSA is designed to meet the spiritual needs of StreetLightUSA residents who are at risk of, suspected, or confirmed victims of childhood sexual exploitation. From its inception in 2009, StreetLightUSA's mission and heart has been to rescue and restore the lives of children who have fallen victim to sexual exploitation.

Studies show that victims of sexual abuse and exploitation describe feelings of emptiness, as well as a profound search for answers at the very core of their trauma. One dimension of working through an overwhelming trauma, such as sexual abuse, is to find a way to make sense of what has happened and possibly to find some kind of meaning in what has happened.

**Pastoral Care can be described as a Pastor's presence with people in their time of need, to promote their well-being, and strengthen their personal relationship with God.** The children at StreetLightUSA have the opportunity to learn God's plan for redemption and healing through a Christ-centered lens. Individual counseling sessions with StreetLightUSA's Director of Pastoral Care gives the child an opportunity to hear the truth about God's love, His plan for humanity, and healing for victims of sex trafficking.

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The Pastoral Care program at StreetLightUSA has a three-tiered approach to healing: **Restore, Reshape and Transform.**

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## 1. **Restore**

The five components of restoration through pastoral care are **healing, sustaining, guiding, reconciling and nurturing.**

- **Healing** – a pastoral function that aims to help a person overcome grief by restoring the heart and soul to wholeness, and by leading them to advance beyond their previous condition.
- **Sustaining** – helping a hurting person to endure and to move past circumstances in which restoration to their former condition or recovery from their trauma seems nearly impossible.
- **Guiding** – assisting hurting individuals to make confident choices between opposing courses of action when such choices are viewed to affect the present and the future.
- **Reconciling** – seeking to re-establish broken relationships between people and between man and God. Historically, reconciling has employed two modes: forgiveness and discipline.
- **Nurturing** – enables people to reach their potential, throughout the life journey with all its peaks, valleys and plateaus. Nurturing and guiding are the pastoral care functions in which education and counseling are most intertwined.

## 2. **Reshape**

The children at StreetLightUSA have the opportunity to participate in support groups centered around identity, heart restoration, redeeming love and value. We aim to re-shape the narrative that has formed in the minds and hearts of our children about who they are, their purpose on the earth and God's eternal plan for them.

## 3. **Transform**

The children at StreetLightUSA have the opportunity to participate in on-campus church services, themed bible studies, vacation bible camp, prayer meetings and volunteer activities in the community. We aim to transform children's minds, hearts, and souls as we walk with them through healing.



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