



Tuesday, September 19th

PLAZA 3

10:30am-11:30am

## THE PHOENIX PROJECT

### About the Workshop

Through the Phoenix Project, the London Abused Women's Centre in collaboration with Salvation Army Correctional Justice Services and Youth Opportunities Unlimited, all located in London, Ontario, to offer a wraparound approach to support victims of human trafficking. Together, with our unique skills and resources, we offer education, awareness, counselling, and exit strategies and support to those who have been sex trafficked.

One of the greatest challenges that survivors have expressed is accessing justice. Together, our agencies have outlined pathways on the "Journey to Justice" which may include, but is not exclusive to, crisis intervention, connecting with community supports and counselling, police and judicial involvement, victim compensation, disclosure and anonymous reporting and social justice action. Through our journey with the victim of human trafficking, together we facilitate pathways that meets the needs of the individual with the goal of creating the best possible outcomes on the path towards safety and healing.

This collaborative, client-centred and trauma informed approach allows us to meet our clients where they are at while we help them to build a safety net of supports and resources. This approach advances the likelihood that victims of sex trafficking will receive the best possible outcomes. We believe that women and girls are the experts, and we take their lead as we develop programs. We offer paid opportunities for women and girls to participate in advisory groups that inform our work, peer mentorship and advocacy. Each program offers unique resources and perspectives, and all include the engagement of individuals with lived experience who continue to inform and evolve the programs of each agency.

### About the Presenter

#### Wendy Goldsmith

Master Degree in Social Work, Advocate/Counsellor with London Abused Women's Centre

The London Abused Women's Centre offers counselling and advocacy for women and girls who have experienced intimate partner violence or who have been sexually exploited or trafficked. Wendy coordinates the centre's anti-human trafficking initiatives and is a trainer for the Provincial Anti-Human Trafficking Coordinating Office. She trains front line staff, law enforcement and judiciary on how to work with sexually exploited youth with an emphasis on the importance of including the voices of women with lived experience. Wendy is a feminist and peaceful warrior for all issues related to women and social justice.