



# DMST EXPANDED PRAYER GUIDE

Street Hope TN believes that prayer is a powerful tool in fighting Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking. This guide is meant to inform and inspire your time of prayer for all those affected: victims, buyers, pimps, law enforcement, government officials, and communities.

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## WHO ARE THE VICTIMS

- + Average age of recruitment is **13**
- + Vulnerable due to risk factors
- + Facing isolation & fear
- + Forcibly used for criminal activity
- + Facing disease and injury from violence
- + Convinced they have no worth
- + Sometimes exploited through familial pimping due to poor family life
- + Held with the help of drugs, brutality, and shame
- + Convinced God does not see or know their pain

## HOW TO PRAY FOR THE VICTIMS

- + Comfort and protection - Physically, psychologically, emotionally, spiritually; restoration of bodies, minds and hearts
- + Places of refuge for recovery and rehabilitation
- + Rebuilding of trust bonds and relational bonds with people
- + Insightful care givers, counselors and law enforcement workers
- + Academic grace and redemption
- + Physical needs for shelter, clothing, food and protection
- + Hope for their future

## WHO ARE THE PERPETRATORS

- + Those who buy children - create the demand
- + Those who sell children
- + Can be men or women
- + Can be unrelated or family members
- + Can be rich, poor, any age
- + May lurk in places like massage parlors, escort services, online, strip clubs, adult bookstores, sporting venues or locker rooms
- + Often look normal and have regular roles in the community: doctors, business professionals, truck drivers, clergy members, etc. Many were abused or exploited in their childhood. They are a part of our communities, instead of being **among us**, they are one of us.

## HOW TO PRAY FOR THE PERPETRATORS

- + Recognition. Pray that perpetrators would recognize the evil of their part in DMST and see the wide-spread destruction it causes in their own life, in victims, and in the community.
- + Sorrow. Pray that perpetrators would see DMST as God sees it, having their eyes opened and responding with hearts of confession.

- + Discovery. Pray that those who victimize children would be exposed.
- + Justice. Pray that individuals would be held accountable for their choices and the wrongs they have committed.
- + Restraint. Pray for those who have habits of exploiting children would be thwarted in their plans or schemes to use and abuse others.

## WHERE DOES DMST IMPACT OUR COMMUNITY?

- + Decreased neighborhood safety
- + Negative images and environment for all children
- + Increase in gang, drug and weapons-related crimes
- + Greater influence from organized crime organizations
- + Higher costs for law enforcement, courts, healthcare and social services
- + Weaker educational services in schools
- + Strain on social services and personnel
- + Danger to first responders
- + Long-term impact in prostitution
- + Intergenerational patterns of violence against women and children
- + Patterns of broken families and insufficient parenting

## HOW TO PRAY FOR OUR COMMUNITY

- + Community Organizations fighting DMST  
Pray for their safety, wise use of resources, perseverance in an ugly work, protection of their thoughts, and strength to confront obstacles. Pray for adequate funding to do the work of fighting DMST and bringing awareness to many. Pray for insight into investment of resources for expanding programs and for cooperative spirits in working together.
- + Lawmakers  
Pray for awareness and understanding of issues surrounding DMST. May they grasp they personal nature of this evil for those they represent, and may they have the courage to do battle through legislation. Pray for lawmakers to be compassionate towards victims and firm with perpetrators. May they work together and across party lines to put justice and children first and do what is best in speaking for the vulnerable who have no voice.
- + Law Enforcement  
Pray for their discernment of seemingly ordinary events, their insight into gathering evidence, and their physical, spiritual and emotional protection as they work in darkness. Pray for protection for their families.
- + Educators and Social Service Workers  
Pray for these front line workers to be astute in recognizing signs of trafficking, to earn the trust of victims, and to create a climate where exploitation is not welcome.
- + First Responders and Medical Personnel  
Pray for compassionate competence to provide immediate physical and emotional care to victims. Lift up their need to identify signs of trafficking and to work with other agencies in providing for children in crisis.
- + Business Professionals  
Pray for this part of the community to have high moral values and to reject exploitation of human beings. Pray for them to be more concerned in standing for people than in making a profit. Pray that they would use their resources to support the work of countertrafficking organizations.
- + Artists  
Pray for these members of our community to use their freedom of expression to stir up a desire for just, clean, respectful treatment of children. Pray for them to use their artistic gifts to make their neighborhoods a more beautiful place and to reject the allure of arousing violence.