

PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

Experienced social entrepreneur and training and technical assistance professional skilled at creating innovative victim-service, advocacy and educational programs that produce maximum results with minimal capital.

- ✓ Program Development & Implementation
- ✓ Critical Analysis & Problem Solving
- ✓ Consensus Building & Group Facilitation
- ✓ Staff Supervision & Empowerment
- ✓ Community Outreach & Public Relations
- ✓ Professional & Volunteer Relationship

AFFILIATIONS & CONSULTANCIES

Requested national expert in child sex trafficking | Informed dozens of policy changes | Advised hundreds of individuals

- National Criminal Justice Training Center / Fox Valley Technical Institute, Consultant
- National Children's Advocacy Center, Consultant
- US Office for Victims of Crime Training and Technical Assistance, Consultant
- Ark of Freedom, Board of Directors, Consultant
- Shared Hope International's Restorative Shelter Working Group
- Commercially Sexually Exploited Children's Working Group (Miami, FL), former Chair
- FL Department of Juvenile Justice Children's Cabinet
- Shared Hope Int'l / ECPAT USA National Colloquium: Shelter and Services Evaluation for Action Work Group
- Florida Statewide Human Trafficking Taskforce, Special Populations Subcommittee
- South Florida Human Trafficking Taskforce
- Department of Children and Families Child Trafficking Protocols Working Group
- Third World Congress against Sexual Exploitation of Children (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil), 1 of 12 NGO Representatives from U.S.
- U.S. and Canada Regional Consultation in Preparation for the Third World Congress against Sexual Exploitation of Children

TRAINING & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

10,000+ given interactive basic-advanced level training | Audiences up to 1,400 | Evaluation scores averaging 4.8 / 5

- Florida International University – Instructor “Sex Trafficking and Modern Day Slavery” 2015 - present
- TEDx Miami – “A Novel Solution to Sex Trafficking” (1,400 people)
- Shared Hope International's JuST Conference
- Shared Hope International's National Colloquium on Sex Trafficking
- Princess Madeline of Sweden, Senator Marco Rubio, FL Senator Flores, Governor Rick Scott, FL Rep Eric Fresen, Attorney General Pam Bondi, State Attorney Katherine Rundle and other VIPs - presentations and press conferences
- U.S. State Department Trafficking in Persons Forum in Moscow, Russia - Trainer
- 3-day train-the-trainer seminars (Tampa, Orlando, Ft. Lauderdale, Gainesville, West Palm Beach, Miami, FL and Nashville, TN)
- National Child Advocacy Center – Advanced Director's Training
- International Symposium on Child Abuse – Regular Trainer
- Regularly requested for many other conferences and training opportunities

MEDIA & PUBLICATIONS

Features: Front-page Sunday Herald | 9-page Sarasota Herald special report | MSNBC “Sex Slaves” series | Univision’s “Aqui y Ahora”

- **PRINT** | Sarasota Herald, Miami Herald, PODER 360, Boca Magazine, Sun Sentinel, CNN.com, change.org, USAtoday.com, abcnews.com, Dallas News
- **VOICE** | WLRN (local NPR), WMBM, National Clearinghouse on Families and Youth podcast
- **FILM** | VICE: Noisy Miami, NBC6, MSNBC, CBS 4, NBC, Univision, GenTV, Telemundo, AmericaTV
- **PUBLISHED** | “Children in the Sex Trade are Victims, Not Criminals” by Sandy Skelaney and Wendi Adelson. Tallahassee Democrat, March 26, 2008 (reprinted in Sun Sentinel)

ACCOLADES

7 awards for innovative vision and leadership | Dozens of positive recommendations on LinkedIn

- 2016 Humanitarian of the Year (National Association of Social Workers – Miami)
- 2014 Best Social Good Startup in Miami – Ignition Fund (Tech Cocktail)
- 2013 Woman Who Makes a Difference In Miami (Junior League)
- 2012 Advocate of the Year (Florida Children and Youth Cabinet)
- 2012 Victim Advocate Professional of the Year (Coral Gables PD and the Office of the Attorney General)
- 2010 Crime Victims' Rights: Fairness, Dignity and Respect Award (Crime Victim's Resource Center)
- 2001 Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship (Yale University)

EDUCATION

100% self-driven educational success | Full tuition scholarship to Yale | 400+ hours of ongoing professional development

Yale University

M.A. INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS (Concentration: Human Rights), May 2002
Teaching Fellow – Women and Gender Studies

City University of New York, Hunter College

B.A. with honors, POLITICAL SCIENCE AND WOMEN'S STUDIES, May 2000
Magna Cum Laude, Dean's List

Additional advanced training:

- Victim Services Professional Certification (40 hour - FL Office of the Attorney General)
- Certified Human Trafficking Professional (20 hour - St. Thomas University)
- OJJDP CSEC Community Intervention Project Advanced Training (20 hour - GEMS)
- Forensic Interviewer Training (40 hour - National Children's Advocacy Center)
- Trauma Resiliency Methodology (40 hour - Shared Hope International / Trauma Resource Institute)
- Nonviolent Crisis Intervention (20 hour - CPI)
- Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (24 hour – Kristi House)
- Motivational Interviewing (24 hour - Dr. Linda Sobell)

LEADERSHIP HISTORY

Founded 3 Ventures | Propelled Kristi House to national spotlight | Lead Florida's response to child trafficking |

Florida International University Miami, FL

PROGRAM DIRECTOR

January 2017 – Present

Initiative for Gender Violence Prevention

- Teach course on Sex Trafficking
- Launch Initiative and create database of community resources on sex trafficking, domestic violence and LGBTQI+ abuse
- Conduct and facilitate gender-based violence research and disseminate guidance to community stakeholders
- Supervise interns, mentor students and act as faculty advisor for Student Alliance Fighting Exploitation student club
- Host events and conferences

ADJUNCT PROFESSOR

August 2015 – December 2016

- Design and teach undergraduate course on Sex Trafficking
- Faculty supervisor for Global Affairs Master's Degree students' Capstone research project

Social Venture Consultant Miami, FL

July 2013 - Present

- Launched freelance consulting business
- Provide 1-2 presentations and advanced trainings per month to organizations and conferences nationwide
- Assist start up organizations in strategic planning process
- Provide program evaluation and technical assistance to organizations primarily focused on anti-trafficking initiatives
- Conduct customized research and legal analysis
- Research funding opportunities, advice on fundraising and connect organizations to potential funding sources
- Advised on protocol changes and statewide policy that affected 24 youth shelters in Florida

Ignition Fund, Inc. Miami, FL
FOUNDER & CHIEF MASTERMIND

July 2013 – January 2017

- Envisioned and launched Ignition Fund, a nonprofit organization dedicated to fast-tracking the advancement of human rights in Miami through the creation of an accelerator program for innovative initiatives and seed funding for competition winners.
- Responsible for all aspects of startup: strategic planning, Board recruitment and management, business development, incorporation and 501(c)3 application, contracts, budgeting and accounting, website creation, branding and public relations, networking and building community partnerships, grant writing and development, event planning, volunteer recruitment and management, training, curriculum development and other tasks necessary to running the organization

Kristi House Miami, FL
FOUNDER & PROGRAM MANAGER

June 2007 – July 2013

Project GOLD "Girls Owning Their Lives and Dreams"

- Launched and Directed Project GOLD, Florida's FIRST program that provides services to child victims of sex trafficking
- Supervised up to 12 Project GOLD Case Managers, Interns and Volunteers who worked with over 300 sexually trafficked girls
- Wrote protocol manuals for both the residential and non-residential program
- Advocated successfully for passage of the FL Safe Harbor Act 2012
- Managed media requests and provided dozens of interviews, developed media protocols for survivors
- Facilitated the Commercially Sexually Exploited Children's Working Group
- Networked and maintained collaborative partnerships with key community members and national experts
- Conducted presentations, trainings and consultations to 10,000+ people
- Trained and led a monthly late night street outreach team into prostitution zones in Miami
- Represented Project GOLD in community, state and federal meetings
- Provided intake, case management, mentoring and crisis intervention services for clients as needed
- Facilitated, monitored and evaluated the Youth Leadership Program
- Found and secured initial seed money to launch Project GOLD
- Participated in budget development, research and writing of grant proposals and soliciting donors with \$1.5+ million result
- Conducted program evaluation and reporting
- Created and maintained online presence and printed, promotional materials for Project GOLD
- Participated in Kristi House management, donor and select board meetings

Girls Educational and Mentoring Services New York, NY
PROGRAM COORDINATOR

March 2003 - March 2004

Congressional Briefing on Commercially Sexually Exploited Youth

- Arranged all logistics of the First Congressional Briefing on Commercially Sexually Exploited Youth
- Coached five youth survivors in development of their presentations
- Developed media and follow-up strategies
- Collaborated with Congressional staff to plan the event
- Developed briefing and preparatory day agendas, fielded media inquiries and monitored the well-being of presenters

First National Summit of Commercially Sexually Exploited Youth

- Supervised youth leaders, staff and volunteers and oversaw summit operations
- Wrote grant proposals earning \$95,000 and completed all reporting
- Coordinated logistics and participation of youth delegates, partners, facilitators and speakers
- Arranged Congressional meetings between Representatives and the youth
- Organized a national press conference
- Analyzed focus group reports to develop summit program
- Drafted final summit report

ECPAT International Bangkok, Thailand

June 2002 - January 2003

End Child Prostitution, Child Pornography and Trafficking in Children for Sexual Purposes

INTERIM REGIONAL OFFICER FOR THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

INTERN, REGIONAL OFFICER FOR THE AMERICAS AND THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

- Coordinated Middle East / North Africa research initiative
- Coordinated production, edited, proofread and formatted final version of the annual 300pp. monitoring report
- Authored situation papers for the annual report
- Analyzed and reported on NGO programs and governmental progress according to established indicators
- Participated in coordination of logistics and agenda of the International Assembly in Bangkok, Thailand