*Press Release*

**INTERNATIONAL DELEGATION VISITS MILWAUKEE TO LEARN HOW CONVERGENCE RESOURCE CENTER HELPS HUMAN TRAFFICKING SURVIVORS REBUILD THEIR LIVES**

March 30, 2019

*Fifteen-year old Milwaukee Organization Shares Success of Survivor-Informed Programs*

**March 30, 2019, Milwaukee** - Ukraine delegates visited the **Convergence Resource Center** on Saturday, March 30th to learn about some of the twenty-five client-focused, trauma informed services the Center provides to human trafficking survivors, along with education and training it conducts for service providers, schools, law enforcement, community organizations and the public. The Sheboygan Rotary Club is hosting the delegates during their week-long visit to Wisconsin as part of the Open World Program sponsored by the United States Congress that provides cultural leadership exchange programs with Eurasia countries. Human trafficking, which is present in every county in Wisconsin, is also the topic for the Sheboygan Rotary Club’s April 1st meeting.

More than fifteen countries have sent representatives to visit the Convergence Resource Center, and it will be hosting another large delegation later this year. During these visits, the Center provides advice and insights that inform human trafficking programs of other countries. Dr. Debbie Lassiter, co-founder and CEO of the Center, also is a frequent speaker at regional, national and international forums on human trafficking. Dr. Lassiter told the Ukraine delegates, “Involving survivors in creating and running our programs make’s all the difference because they have ‘lived’ experience.”

More than 800 women have received services at the Center, which focuses on stabilizing and meeting emergency needs, teaching techniques to manage trigger-induced, post-event trauma and providing opportunities to learn life and job skills required to avoid recidivism (repetitive negative behaviors) track. Man and women receive support through the Solace Support Line (Convergence’s warm line call center). And, in 2019, Convergence sent a team of five volunteers to Atlanta where, backed by its call center, the team provided rescue and other services to victims of trafficking before and during the Super Bowl. Some 1,900 touchpoints were made with victims during the ten-day period.

To learn more about the Convergence Resource Center, donate to support the Center’s services or purchase tickets for its annual fundraiser on Friday, May 3rd, visit <https://www.convergenceresource.org/>

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**About the Convergence Resource Center**

The CRC is a faith-based, community service, non-profit organization that provides ancillary support for men and women rebuilding their lives after trauma with an emphasis on justice involved women and female survivors of human trafficking.

Website: www.convergenceresource.org

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