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The average time
a staff serves
in a residential agency is

1.7 years

Dear [Name],

Quality care for survivors of exploitation/trafficking depends on having exceptionally skilled staff, but securing and training mission-minded people to serve well is more difficult that you might think. In a 2022 survey of trafficking shelters, 57% reported that finding qualified staff was a significant challenge. The average shelter program in the U.S. has 11 staff and 20 volunteers, all of whom need to be trained for this kind of work. The average tenure for a direct care staff is 1.7 years, and these shelters devote, on average, 80 hours to training each new staff. In short, this field is always recruiting, training, and re-training our staff and volunteers. But now there is a way that we can secure training for our team that is flexible, economical, and tailored to the anti-trafficking community.

The Institute for Shelter Care (instituteforsheltercare.org) has a long history in the anti-trafficking field and have made it their mission to support organizations like ours. One of their offerings is ShelterU, an online learning platform that provides specialized training for shelter staff. They have over 90 titles and curated collections—developed by shelter leaders for shelter staff—that respond to the needs of board of directors, executive directors, case managers, and direct care staff.

**We are confident this training will equip our team with standards in training, a consistent and flexible format, and to provide us with the necessary skills needed to serve well.**

Through ShelterU staff and volunteers can be trained at their own pace, on their own schedule, in topics such as mental health disorders, brain science, de-escalation, conflict management, grief, homeostasis, self-harm, survival behaviors, relational and emotional safety and so much more.  With an annual subscription, we will not only have access to all the courses in the library, but all new titles that the Institute produces throughout the year.

**As someone who is invested in the good works of [organization name] would you consider
a $[amount] gift which will provide [number of logins] staff with unlimited access for a year to the full library of training courses available within ShelterU?** You will be directly contributing to the success of our shelter program by equipping our staff and volunteers, while also reducing the time and cost we currently spend in training.

Your gift can be made directly to the Institute for Shelter Care, where you can designate
our agency as the beneficiary (instituteforsheltercare.org/donate) or you can make your gift to us and we will restrict it to this purpose.

Thank you in advance for your support