

Communiversality

Safety on the Streets

Prepared in partnership with
Women of Nations

Prepared by
Yael Gun
Research Assistant

University of Minnesota
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Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA)
University of Minnesota
330 HHH Center
301--19th Avenue South
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55455
Phone: (612) 625-1551
Fax: (612) 626-0273
E-mail: cura@umn.edu
Web site: <http://www.cura.umn.edu>

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CURA Cover Sheet and Summary of Activities

As a research assistant for Safety on the Streets, I took part in the following activities;

- Attended SOS stakeholder meetings
- Conducted interviews with stakeholders
- Reviewed Literature
- Worked closely with Lauren Martin to develop a evaluation plan
- Produced the included documents
 - SOS Evaluation Timeline
 - SOS Evaluation Plan
 - Experience of Violence Survey
 - Quality of Experience Questionnaire
 - Law Enforcement Survey

Although initially considered, no focus groups were conducted with women involved in prostitution. The stakeholder panel included women who were formerly involved in prostitution and this was able to inform our approach.

SOS Evaluation Timeline

Evaluation Plan Development

January 22 2009-June 1, 2009

Activities:

- Stakeholder interviews
- Program analysis and formative recommendations

Key individuals involved: Lauren Martin, Yael Gun, and Program Stakeholders

Preliminary Data Collection

July 1 2009-December 31, 2009

Activities:

- Determine the number of assaults that happened in the context of prostitution in the 3rd precinct in calendar year 2008.
- Gather information on the rates of violence experienced by women involved in prostitution through surveys administered by direct service providers.
- Complete quality standard checklist as informed by experts.

Key individuals involved: City Attorney Paula Kruchowski, PRIDE, Breaking Free, PJ Bensen, Quality Assessment/development work group.

Ongoing Data Collection

Ending December 31, 2010

Activities:

- Complete intakes
- Complete Quality of Experience Questionnaires
- Complete law enforcement questionnaires

Key individuals involved: Safety Center Staff/Crime Prevention Specialists, Advocates, Program Evaluator (Lauren Martin or TBD)

Data Analysis

January 1, 2011 to April 1, 2011

Activities:

- Count number of intakes
- Count number of reports made
- Analyze report against standard
- Count number of reports that led to arrest
- Count number of reports that led to conviction
- Analyze Quality of Experience Questionnaires
- Analyze Law Enforcement Questionnaires

Key individuals involved: Lauren Martin, TBD

Evaluation Report

April 1, 2011-June 1, 2011

Activities:

- Compile information
- Write Program Evaluation Report
- Develop Informational Presentation

Key individuals involved: Lauren Martin, TBD

Safety on the Streets (SOS) Evaluation Plan

SOS is a collaborative pilot project in the 3rd police precinct of Minneapolis to encourage and support women involved in prostitution to file a police report if they have been physically or sexually assaulted by a purchaser (“john,” client, trick, etc.) or a pimp.

Our framework, process and activities have been informed the following principles:

- Do no harm
- Respect and non-judgment
- Consensus building
- Fostering collaboration between stakeholders who are often on different sides of the debate.

The program evaluation for Safety on the Streets will focus on assessing program outcomes for SOS. This evaluation will measure the extent to which SOS is meeting its short term goals.

SOS short term goals

- Increase the number of assault reports made by women involved in prostitution
- Improve quality of reports
- Improve the quality of the reporting experience for women involved in prostitution
- Increase in the number of reports made by women involved in prostitution that lead to arrests and convictions
- Increase knowledge and understanding of women involved in prostitution among police officers.
- Increase awareness of service and support options available for women involved in prostitution.

The evaluation will ask the following questions:

- Was there a change in the number of reports of assaults that happened in the context of prostitution?
- Do SOS reports meet the standard of quality as predetermined?
- How do women experience participation in the program?
- What has participation in SOS been like for law enforcement officers involved?

Time Line

Data Collection of Baseline Measures

Start date: July 1, 2009.

Data will be collected on the number of assault reports in which the victim discloses that the assault happened in the context of prostitution for calendar year 2008.

District Attorney Paula Kruchowski will pull assault reports in the 3rd precinct dating from 1/1/08 to 12/31/08. These reports will be scanned for information that reveals that the assault happened in the context of prostitution. Determining a baseline could be difficult, there are many charges assaults that won't be relevant. Our search parameters will include sexual assault, serious physical assault and attempted murder. To dramatically narrow down the number of assaults, only assaults reported by women will be included in the query. In addition, we will not read between the lines: only reports in which women disclose that the assault happened in the context of prostitution, or trading sex will be counted for the baseline.

The following are key terms that are flags for a prostitution related events:

- Prostitution
- Trick
- John
- Pimp
- Trading sex
- Turning a trick

Currently we are working with stakeholders to include other words that might be identifiers to both women involved in prostitution and police officers; key terms used both by those in the lifestyle and understood by law enforcement. It is important to note that only words that overtly refer to prostitution are included. The objective is to only include reports in which the victim discloses the assault happened in the context of prostitution. Investigating officers need to understand the context of the assault in order to properly investigate the crime and identify perpetrators. The number of reports will then be counted and this number will serve as a baseline measure of quantity of reports. Baseline measures will then be divided into seasonal baselines. Thus, there will be a measure of the number of assaults that happened in the context of prostitution per season.

As informed by stakeholder interviews, the quality of the reports refers to the quality of the report itself and the quality of the reporting experience. Interviews highlighted that the

quality of a report is largely contingent on the veracity of the information included. In this case it would include all salient information that increases the likelihood of law enforcement being able to pursue the report. Clear and honest reporting on the context of the assault, the parties involved and any other relevant details are paramount for investigation. To prepare for measuring the quality of the report, a checklist that outlines necessary elements of a thorough police report is being created by key individuals including investigators and prosecutors. The items on this checklist are specific components that have been identified as increasing the quality of a report. This document is currently in progress and will be developed by law enforcement and program stakeholders. The estimated completion date is 07/01/09.

To add context to these measures and the problem at large, we will examine the level of violence that women involved in prostitution are experiencing locally. A survey (Appendix A) will be administered by service providers that work directly with prostituted women. This survey will collect information on:

- Women's experiences with physical and sexual assault in the context prostitution.
- Level of violence experienced
- Whether or not they disclosed the assault happened in the context of prostitution
- Whether or not they reported it to the police
- Experience during the report

Thus this survey will increase awareness of the numbers of assaults women in prostitution experience, while shedding some light on women's previous experiences in reporting.

Data Collection Materials

The following are materials that will be used to collect data and the information being collected

SOS Intake Form

- Number of SOS participants
- Number of SOS participants who requested an advocate
- Number of SOS participants that filed a police report

Police Reports

- Number of police reports filed
- Quality of each report- as measured by our check list
- Number of reports that led to an arrest
- Number of reports that led to convictions

Quality of the Experience Questionnaire

- Women's experience while reporting
- Likelihood of women recommending this program to somebody else

Police Experience Survey

- Experiences of police involved in SOS
- Perceptions of program and population

Time lines for Data Collection

Ongoing Data Collection-

Start date: Present End date: 12/31/10

Data collection will be ongoing. Every SOS participant will complete an intake form (Appendix B) upon program entrance. Every intake form will be included in the data set. The Quality of Experience Questionnaire (Appendix C) will be administered by an advocate two weeks after the initial report was made. An advocate will follow up with women making a report. The questionnaire will be administered verbally by one of the advocates, and includes a series of yes or no questions with space for notes included. A number of considerations were taken into account when deciding the time between the initial report and a follow-up questionnaire. This population is highly transient, thus it is necessary to contact them soon after the initial report. Yet, there must be a balance between administering the questionnaire while their memory of making the report is fresh, while taking into account the trauma experience.

Police Experience Surveys (Appendix D) will be administered between 11/1/10-12/31/10. These surveys will be completed at the end of the data collection period to capture their experience throughout their participation with SOS. This survey is comprised of open ended questions that ask law enforcement officials about their experiences and perceptions of SOS. It is the hope that all beat officers involved with SOS complete a survey.

Data Analysis

Start date: 1/1/11 End Date 3/1/11

Quantity

In order to determine if SOS impacted the number of reports made by women involved in prostitution, baseline data will be compared to data collected through the evaluation process. Using the data collected there will be seasonal baselines established. Prostitution rates can vary greatly depending on the season, Prostitution activity tends to increase when it is warmer out, in the late spring and summer. Thus it is important to compare the number of intakes for each

particular season. A calendar year of baseline measures will yield a baseline for each season. Ongoing data collection will allow the evaluation team to analyze the data of Spring and Summer 2009 and 2010. These years will be kept separate given that the data collected in spring and summer 2009 will be different due to the program still being in the formative stages of development. The number of assault reports that disclose that an assault happened in the context of prostitution from 2008 will be compared to the number of reports collected through SOS. Every report that is made through SOS will be counted. In addition, intakes will be counted to assess how many women came into the program, completed an intake but did not make a report.

Quality

The quality of the reports will be assessed by comparing each report against a standard. An evaluator will do this by reading the reports and using the checklist created to ensure that the report includes all the necessary elements. The evaluator will go through each report and rate it against the standard. Determinations will be made regarding what is there and what is missing. This information will be aggregated.

Additional measures of quality of the report will be determined by counting the number of reports that led to an arrest and the number of arrests that lead to convictions.

Quality of the Experience Questionnaire

We will analyze the quality of the experience for the women with rating measures included in the Quality of Experience Questionnaire. The survey is comprised primarily of yes and no questions with room for additional comment. These responses will be aggregated. The evaluator will look at women's responses to assess the overall quality of the experience, focusing on the level of respect and support experienced by women while participating in SOS. If there are experiences or notes included additional consideration will be given and experiences reported by women will be analyzed, themes will be analyzed and brought to light.

Police Experience Questionnaire

Evaluators will use qualitative techniques to analyze information gathered through these interviews to assess perspectives of law enforcement toward this program and the population as a whole.

Experience of Violence Survey

Have you ever been assaulted while trading sex? (Kicked, punched, slapped, etc. and/or any unwanted sexual contact) YES NO

If YES

In the last year, about how many times have you been assaulted while trading sex?

In your life, about how many times have you been assaulted while trading sex?

While trading sex, have you experienced a Physical Assault (kicked, punched, slapped, etc)?
YES or NO or explain the situations

While trading sex, have you experienced a Sexual Assault (Any unwanted sexual contact)?
YES or NO or explain the situations

Did any of these assaults involve weapons? YES NO Not Sure

Did you report any of these assaults to the police? YES NO Not Sure

if NO

why not?

If YES

Did you tell them that the assault happened when you were trading sex? YES or NO or explain situation

How was your experience during this report?

**Safety on the Streets (SOS)
Quick Intake Form**

Date: _____

Name: _____ DOB: _____ Age: _____

Address:

—

Telephone number: _____

Can we leave a message for you at this number? YES NO

Would you like to be set up with a *Twin Cities Voicemail* account? (*explain what it is*) YES NO
Twin Cities Voicemail # _____

Do you have any other ways we can contact you? Where do you usually spend your time? (*Ask about community centers, community meals, etc. Write it down*)

Can we follow-up with you later to see how you are doing? YES NO
(*Make sure that the way we contact the victim will be safe*)

If yes, how would you prefer to be contacted?

How did you hear about SOS?

STAFF NOTES

Was an advocate called? YES NO Name of advocate _____

Number of minutes waited for advocate _____

Was medical assistance needed? YES NO

Was a report made? YES NO

Number of minutes waited for an officer for arrive _____

CCN: _____ Officer badge # _____

Other Important Information: (*Notes on the overall experience as you observed it.*)

Staff name: _____ Agency Name: _____

Appendix C

Quality of Experience Questionnaire

Did you feel respected when you were first greeted for SOS? YES NO

Did you feel respected by the officer that took the report? YES NO

Did you feel supported in the overall experience? YES NO

Did anyone do or say anything that made you feel uncomfortable? YES NO
If yes, can you explain?

Are you glad you made this report? YES NO

Would you recommend this program to someone else if they were in your situation? YES NO

Notes:

Law Enforcement Survey

Appendix D

What impact did this experience have on you?
Explain

What impact did SOS have on how you think of women who are involved in prostitution?

How did SOS influence any of your interactions with women involved in prostitution?

Overall, what are your thoughts about SOS?