

Early Childhood Trauma to Child Sex Trafficking

Building Better Police Investigations on High Risk Victims

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AGENDA

Early Childhood Trauma to Child Sex Trafficking Building Better Police Investigations on High Risk Victims



Misconceptions about Sex Trafficking



Who is trafficked?



Runaway Laws



How often does it happen?



Homeless Kids



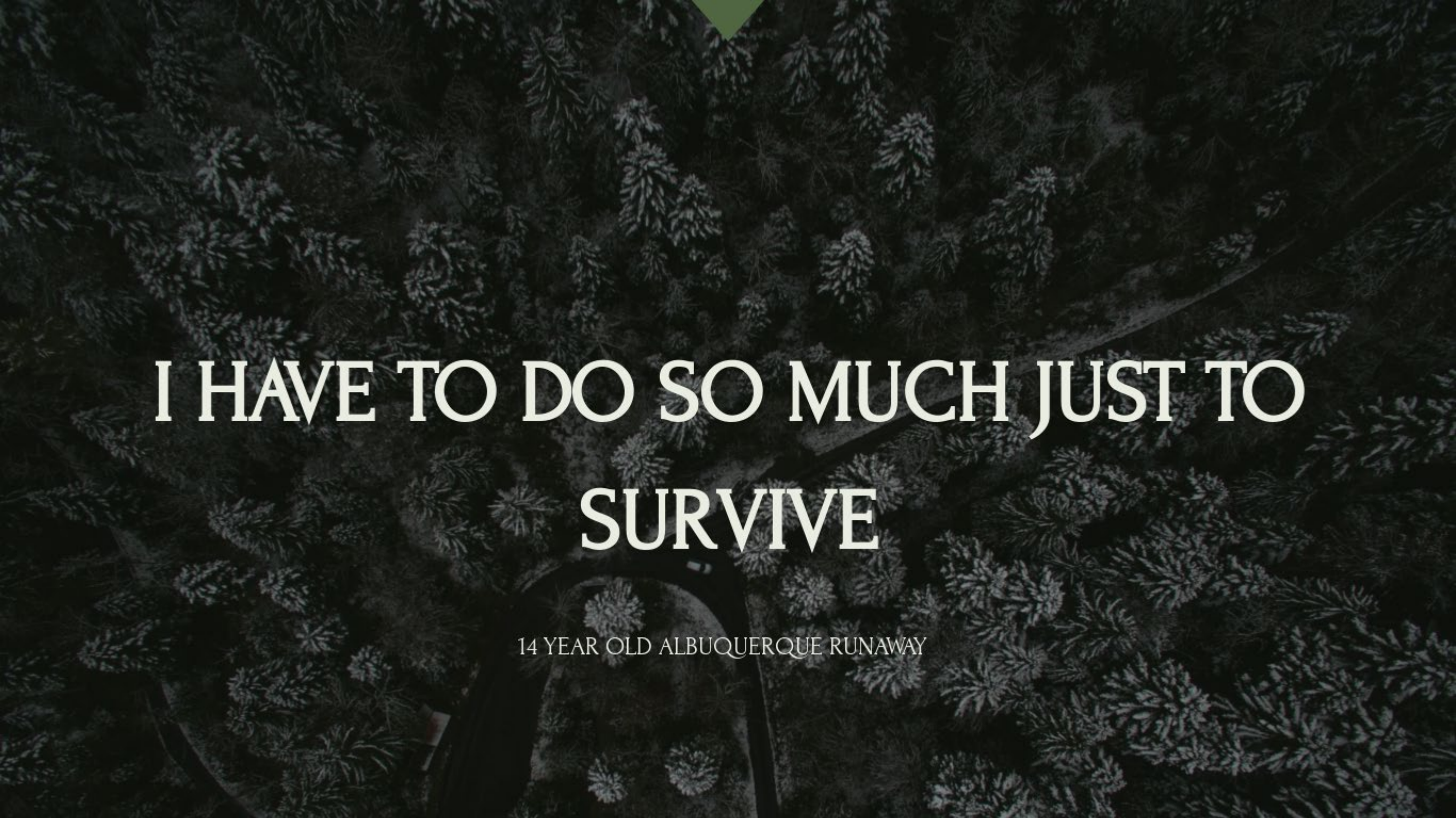
Childhood Trauma and Homeless Youth



Fight, Flight and Freeze for Victims



Victim Centered Response

An aerial photograph of a dense evergreen forest, likely a pine or spruce forest, with a road or path winding through it. The image is dark and moody, with a green triangle pointing downwards at the top center.

I HAVE TO DO SO MUCH JUST TO SURVIVE

14 YEAR OLD ALBUQUERQUE RUNAWAY

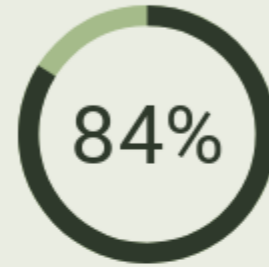
WHO IS TRAFFICKED

The Victimology is more important than the Criminology



Girls vs Boys

Girls make up majority, but boys severely underreport



Severe Childhood Neglect

Starts as a baby. Brain is underdeveloped.



Kids not Living with Primary Guardians

Who is actually responsible for the whereabouts of the child?



Violence in the Home

Witnessing violence involving guardians.



History of Sexual and Physical Abuse

Usually starts by age 4.



Drug/Alcohol Addicted Parents

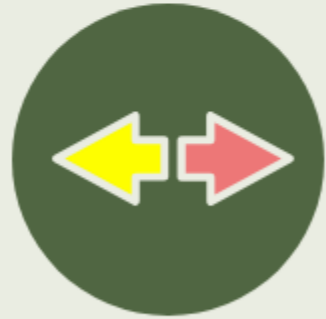
The parents attention is divided and usually brings violence and abuse with it

RUNAWAY LAWS



Children must be reported missing once their guardian realized they're missing. No required time to wait.

At age 14, juveniles can medically consent to their own treatment.



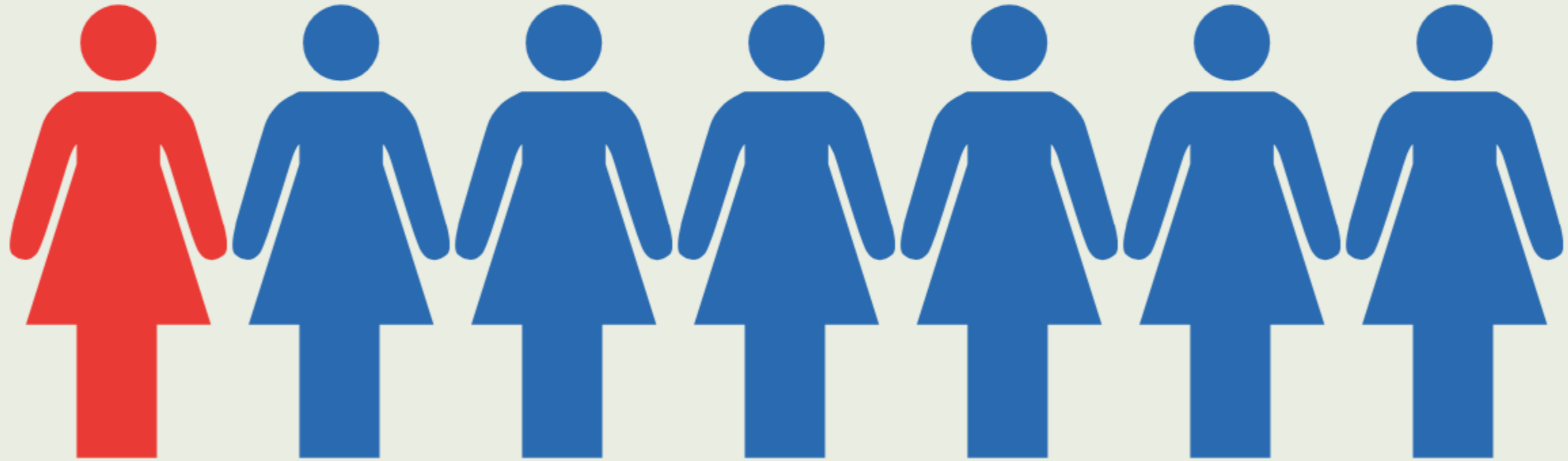
Emancipation cannot happen until they are 16.

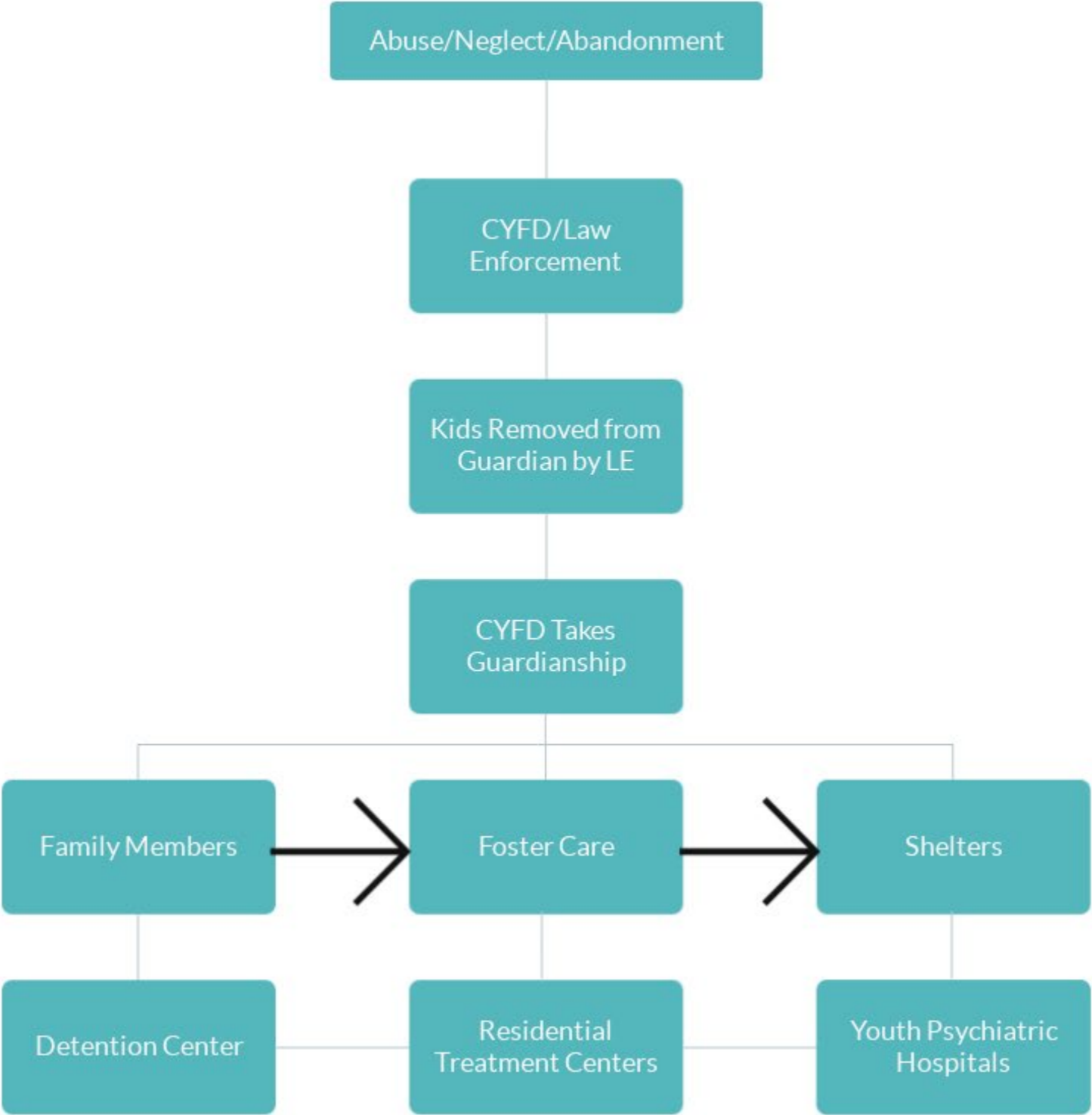
School attendance is mandatory until they are 18 or have a diploma or GED.



HOW MANY KIDS ARE TRAFFICKED

Of the nearly 25,000 reported missing kids to NCMC in 2017,
approximately 1 in 7 were likely sex trafficked.





86%

of likely sex trafficking victims were in the care of social services or foster care when they went missing.





Fight, Flight and Freeze

How early childhood trauma can break the mechanism these victims need most.



Victim Centered Response

Put victims on equal footing as a person of authority

Training police and public workers to better identify victims and offer appropriate responses and services

Conduct Trauma Informed Interviews and Techniques

Different levels of care for these victims once they are identified, like safe houses with resiliency training for staff, treatment foster care, etc.

In state long term treatment for victims