Family service rochester

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Time is Money with Time Trader

By: Kelli DeCook

TIME TRADER
Give what you want - Get what you need.

Family Service Rochester is excited to announce their newest division, Time Trader.

Time Trader, a TimeBank Program, is an organized exchange system through which members can earn Time Dollars (TD$) for time spent helping other members. One hour of service earns one TD$. With that TD$, a member can "buy" an hour of a particular service they want or need. Everyone's time and service are valued equally. Time Trader connects people and unmet needs with untapped resources by enabling individuals to use their time and skills to benefit a network of people.

Here's how it works: Trader Al fixes Trader Jane's fence, which takes 2 hours. He earns 2 TD$. With his TD$ he purchases 2 one-hour guitar lessons from Trader Brad. It's easy: give what you want, get what you need!

Anyone in the community can sign up to be a Time Trader member and become Trader [insert your name here]. Each potential member attends an orientation, completes paperwork, is screened and their background is checked. Once this process is successfully completed, the member may log on to the secure website where members post service requests and offers. If a member does not have computer or Internet access, the Time Trader Coordinator will assist in managing the account.

Along with connecting people and unmet needs with resources and increasing community interactions, Time

TIME TRADER CONT...

Trader promotes equality by recognizing all services are necessary to society and equally valued.

If you are interested in learning more about Time Trader or would like to become a Trader, please contact the Program Coordinator, Trader Kristy Norman at 287-2010 or knorman@familyservicerochester.org. You are also invited to attend the Time Trader launch party on September 18th from 4-7pm at Family Service Rochester.

Human Trafficking/Modern Day Slavery

By: Jane Buffie

In the past when I thought about Human Trafficking, 2 things came to mind. One, this is when women are moved across boarders and forced into a slavery situation and two, it can't be happening in Rochester or Minnesota.

After attending some trainings and hearing from one of our therapist, I learned these two things aren't necessarily true.

First, Human Trafficking defined is not just about being moved across borders or only happening to women. It is when a person is "forced" into a position of being a servant performing many acts and men, women and children are involved. In fact, 50% of all trafficking victims are children.

Secondly, it does happen in Rochester, there are several cases reported. Minnesota is the 13th most heavily sex and slavery trafficked state, probably because we are a border state. Victims are often involved in industries, sweatshops, hotel businesses, farm work and the sex industry. Victims have rights, even if not legally in the United States. If you would like more information you can contact "Civil Society" and their page on Minnesota Human Trafficking at **www.civilsocietyhelps.org.**