



# PARTNERS FAMILY SERVICES

## Meet the team!

### Trina Punk-Joa

-Employed at PARTNERS for 6.5 years

**-Position:** Administrative Coordinator

**-Reasons why Trina like's her job:** The connection that I have with my coworkers, we all share the same vision. The diversity of the work that I do ensures that no day is like any other.

**-Hobbies & Interests:**

Love the outdoors, camping, spending time with my children, reading, shopping, and taking online college classes.



## Updates/Reminders:

Wynyard Walk-In Counselling is twice a week, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9am – 3pm.

Humboldt Walk-In Counselling is once a week, Wednesday from 9am – 3pm.

Our office is closed on April 2nd for Good Friday, and May 24th for Victoria Day

Please follow our Facebook page at PARTNERS Family Services for more details.

## About Us

PARTNERS Family Services is a non-profit organization that was founded in 1997 and is formerly known as PARTNERS for Rural Family Support. The organization was founded after a call was received regarding a domestic violence situation, but the closest organization that could help was in Saskatoon. With some help from the Saskatoon Family Support Center, the mental health worker who received the phone call was able to start a support group in Humboldt. Within three hours it became clear that the support group and other supports were imperative. Thus, a partnership was formed with The Centre for Rural Studies and Enrichment, the University of Saskatchewan, the University of Regina, and the Central Plains District. The partnership allowed for a research project to form, titled "Domestic Violence and the Experiences of Rural women in East-Central Saskatchewan", the outcome of the research concluded that family abuse support should be more accessible for families in rural communities. In September of 2001, PARTNERS for Rural Family Support opened its doors and unified partnerships with the Departments of Justice, Health, Education, Social Services, Mental Health Services and RESOLVE Saskatchewan, as well as some local and regional agencies and the religious community. During the 10 anniversary, a conversation was opened with several stakeholders involved which resulted in a rebranding of the organization and the organization receiving funding through the Ministry of Social Services, Child and Family Services for the Child and Family Services program and by the Ministry of Justice and Attorney General for the Family Violence Outreach Program.

## Human Trafficking: Shedding Light on Darkness

This year PARTNERS Family Services is working hard on bringing more awareness to human trafficking. A topic that is often silenced and looked away from. Human trafficking is a complex crime. A crime that involves the recruitment, transportation, and harboring of people to take advantage of an individual or a group of people for profit. The main types of human trafficking are sexual exploitation (often referred to as sex trafficking) and forced labor. Other types that occur include forced marriage, forced illegal activities, and organ trafficking. In the upcoming newsletters, these will be explained in detail. Human trafficking occurs domestically and internationally.

Domestic human trafficking means the crime is occurring within the boundaries of one country's borders, meaning no international boundaries are crossed. Despite that, it is vital to understand that a victim does not need to be moved from one location to another location to be trafficked. International human trafficking means that a trafficker transports a victim from one country into another country with the sole purpose of exploiting them for profit.

Human traffickers use a variety of tactics to put victims in situations of exploitation. As a result of these tactics, which will also be explained in detail in the upcoming newsletters, victims of human trafficking often do not come forward out of fear of retaliation from the traffickers. This makes it difficult to gather statistics on the frequency of human trafficking incidents. However, according to the Canadian Human Trafficking Hotline, which received its statistics from the RCMP. Between the years 2005 and 2018, human trafficking charges were laid in 531 cases.

If you are interested in learning more about human trafficking and the complexity of the crime, the next newsletter will be released on June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021.

If you or someone you know is a victim of human trafficking, please contact 911, or provide a tip to the Canadian Human Trafficking Hotline at 1-833-900-1010. If you are looking for support and assistance in doing so, please contact PARTNERS Family Services at 306-682-4135.