

# **Sara Bratton Bradbury, MSW**

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## **SUMMARY**

Human trafficking specialist, educator, and trauma-informed practitioner with extensive experience in advocacy supporting child and adult victims across criminal justice and community settings, violence prevention, and survivor-centered program development. Certified Colorado Human Trafficking Train-the-Trainer and holder of the Trauma Research Foundation's Certificate in Traumatic Stress Studies. Experienced program leader for commercially sexually exploited youth (CSE/DMST) and child sexual abuse survivors, adjunct lecturer who designed and teaches a university course on human trafficking, and recognized conference speaker. Skilled at translating research on coercion, grooming, trauma responses, and survivor-centered care as well as interpreting evidence and victim behavior in cases involving child sexual abuse victims for judges, juries, and multidisciplinary teams.

## **EDUCATION**

Brown School of Social Work, Washington University in St. Louis — MSW, 2021

- Concentration: Violence & Injury Prevention; focus on trauma-informed care, child sexual abuse, and sex trafficking
- Phi Alpha Honor Society; Anti-Trafficking Student Association Founding Member

Colorado College — BA, History; Minor in Elementary Education, 1987

- Award of Excellence in Elementary Education

## **CERTIFICATIONS**

- Trauma Research Foundation — Certificate in Traumatic Stress Studies (2024)
- Colorado Human Trafficking Train-the-Trainer Certificate (2023)
- Polaris Human Trafficking 101 (2023)
- Trauma-Focused-CBT Training with Trainer (St. John's University, 2021)
- Trauma-Focused-CBT Web 2.0 — Medical University of South Carolina (2020)

## **EXPERIENCE**

### **Project Hope of the Gunnison Valley — Advocate, Feb 2026–Present**

- Provide trauma-informed assistance for survivors of DV/IPV, sexual assault, stalking, and trafficking.
- Develop community prevention programming and coordinate survivor resources.
- Support multidisciplinary teams by offering trauma-informed insight into cases involving direct or secondary contact with child sexual abuse victims, including safety planning considerations and developmental factors.

### **Trauma Trial Experts — Human Trafficking Expert (Contract), Jan 2026–Present**

- Serve as expert witness on trafficking dynamics, child sexual assault, coercion, trauma responses, and victim vulnerabilities.
- Provide expert analysis of trafficking dynamics and coercive control as well as cases involving interaction with child sexual abuse victims, as well as evaluation of grooming patterns, trauma, trauma responses, and victim vulnerabilities.
- Offer trauma-informed consultation to legal teams regarding the behavioral impacts of abuse exposure on minors and relevant research on disclosure, memory, and coercion.
- Prepare expert reports and consult with legal teams; scheduled with minimum lead time.

### **Western Colorado University — Adjunct Lecturer (Sociology), Jan 2025–Present**

- Teach Sociology 397: Human Trafficking and develop full curriculum grounded in trauma-informed pedagogy.
- Create assessments, lectures, and modules covering sex trafficking, labor trafficking, migration, and trauma responses.
- Integrate research on child sexual abuse dynamics into coursework, including the impact of child sexual abuse or exposure on child victims, trauma-related behavior, and implications for identification and intervention.

### **Provision of Elder Care, Aug 2020–Jan 2025**

- Managed full-time caregiving for elderly parents including ADLs, mobility, medications, transportation, and medical coordination.

- Oversaw domestic logistics and end-of-life care including communication with healthcare teams.

**Gateway Alliance Against Human Trafficking — Intern to Executive Director, Jun 2020–Jul 2021**

- Conducted research, data collection, and authored reports for organizational strategy.
- Assisted with grants, donor engagement, and outreach; created training materials and blog content.
- Supported December 2020 child trafficking conference and community education events.

**St. Louis Circuit Attorney's Office — Practicum Student, Victim Services Unit, Jan–May 2020**

- Provided advocacy, case management, and court accompaniment for victims of violent crimes and sexual assault.
- Conducted needs assessments and collaborated with multidisciplinary justice partners.

**Hope Academy of the Denver Street School — Director, Feb 2016–Feb 2019**

- Led operations for therapeutic academic program serving commercially sexually exploited youth
- Developed policies, supervised staff and volunteers, and coordinated wrap-around services.
- Conducted extensive community trainings; collaborated with law enforcement and after-care agencies.
- Oversaw grant documentation, events, discipline, and student support; Crystal Apple Award recipient.

**Hope Academy — Academic Director, Jul 2015–Feb 2016**

- Designed academic programming for new anti-trafficking education initiative.
- Supervised volunteer tutors and prepared reports for probation and casework professionals.

**Denver Street School — Board Member, Community Liaison, Volunteer Coordinator, 2010–2015**

- Led community engagement, donor relations, and volunteer programs.
- Chaired major fundraising silent auction (4 years) and contributed to accreditation efforts.

**Littleton Public Schools — Teaching & Student Support Roles, 2001–2010**

- Taught Social Studies, Language Arts, ESL; supported Special Education students.
- Served as AVID tutor for first-generation college-bound students.

**Additional Teaching Roles (1987–1994)**

- Held elementary and middle school teaching positions across IL, KS, and CO.
- Taught 1st, 6th, and 7th grade in multiple subjects and provided Special Education support.