



## Greetings!

JCAST Chicago and NCJW have several interesting programs coming up. Walk-ins are welcome tomorrow at our text study with Rabbi Bruce Elder at Curt's Cafe in Evanston. In March, NCJW welcomes Shari Eshet, Director of NCJW's Center for Gender Equality in Israel to Chicago. Don't miss it! In April, JCAST Chicago and NCJW are co-sponsoring a mental health forum in Skokie and the third installment in our popular immigration series. Details for these and other upcoming events are listed below.

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## JCAST Chicago Blog

JCAST Chicago was formed by NCJW Chicago North Shore Section in 2014 when we began to learn that sex trafficking is pervasive and a form of modern day slavery. We know that sex trafficking knows no boundaries; women (and some men) of all ethnicities and socio-economic levels are victimized and men (and some women) of all ethnicities and socio-economic levels are perpetrators (johns, pimps and traffickers). I share with you this "testimony" by a sex trafficking survivor that she shared at a conference in New York. She's a Jewish woman and was victimized in her home and in her synagogue; like virtually all victims of sex trafficking, she had been sexually abused as a child. Our hearts reach out to all victims of trafficking. Please help JCAST Chicago raise awareness of sex trafficking in the Jewish and non-Jewish communities so we can save young people from falling prey to trafficking.

. [Click here for More:](#)

### Other Survivor Testimony:

[Prostitution is Rarely a Choice](#)

[Holding Buyers Accountable](#)

[How We can Combat Modern-Day Slavery](#)

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## JCAST Chicago Upcoming Events

**The Rising Tide of Anti-Semitism: Can Europe Protect It's**

## Metropolitan Family Services

### JCAST Chicago Featured Organization

Metropolitan Family Services empowers families to learn, to earn, to heal, to thrive. Part mentor, part motivator, part advocate, since 1857 Metropolitan Family Services has been the engine of change that empowers Chicago-area families to reach their greatest potential and positively impact their communities.

Metropolitan Family Services has more than 890 full- and part-time professional staff dedicated to providing quality services to families throughout Chicago, DuPage County, Evanston/Skokie and the southwest suburbs. Metropolitan serves more than 68,000 families and individuals as diverse as the communities in which they live, with 81% being part of the working poor or lower-middle class.

Their services include: economic stability, education, emotional wellness and empowerment.

## Jews?

Tuesday, March 1 at 7pm; Private home in Northbrook  
Amy Stoken, Director of the AJC Chicago Regional Office will speak on AJC's work on regarding global anti-semitism. RSVP online at [www.ncjwcns.org/anti-semitism-europe](http://www.ncjwcns.org/anti-semitism-europe).

## Sex Trafficking: It's in Our City and Our Suburbs

Saturday, March 12th, 11:30 - 2:00pm

Wilmette Golf Club, 3900 Fairway Drive, Wilmette

In honor of Women's History Month & International Women's Day, join the League of Women Voters for a luncheon. Guest speakers include Brenda Myers-Powell Co-founder, The Dreamcatcher Foundation & Kaetha Morris Hoffer Executive Director, Chicago Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation. [Click here](#) for a flyer with registration information.

## Update on Women's Rights and Advocacy in Israel

Monday, March 21, noon, Anshe Emet Synagogue, Chicago  
Shari Eshet, Director of NCJW's Center for Gender Equality in Israel, will tell you everything you want to know about women in Israel from the right to pray at the Kotel to the rights of the Agunot to a seat on the bus. Learn about NCJW's unique history including our groundbreaking NCJW Women and Gender Studies Program at Tel Aviv University and the Israel Granting Program which addresses the critical challenges still facing women in Israel. Tickets are \$75. [Click here to RSVP](#).

## Mental Health Forum

Sunday, April 3, time TBA; Ida Crown Academy, Skokie. Join No Shame on U, Metro Hillel, JVS, JCFS, NCJW, and JCAST Chicago as JUF's Research Training Internship's teen Interns discuss their December 2015 Report Findings on Mental Health. Visit [www.ncjwcns.org](http://www.ncjwcns.org) for details as they become available.

## Immigration 301 - Getting Personal: Women Sharing Their Journeys

April 13, 6:00 pm; Oakton Community Center, Skokie.

Join us in listening to immigrant women tell us why they chose to come to the U.S. and about their journeys to get here. Learn first-hand the obstacles they faced in the immigration process and their process of assimilation into our society and how policies, programs, agencies and individuals have helped them adapt. Leave knowing what is broken in the immigration system and how to effectively advocate for comprehensive immigration reform. RSVP at [www.ncjwcns.org/immigration](http://www.ncjwcns.org/immigration).

## Other Events of Interest

### MONEY MAKE'M \$MILE

Victory Gardens Theater, 2433 N Lincoln Ave, Chicago

To learn more, visit [www.metrofamily.org](http://www.metrofamily.org).

## Steering Committee

JCAST Chicago is governed by a Steering Committee of dedicated individuals. If you would be interested in serving on the steering committee or one of our Action Teams, email [info@jcastchicago.org](mailto:info@jcastchicago.org).

### Steering Committee:

Cathy Carmody, NCJW  
Donna Fishman, NCJW  
Beth Gordon, NCJW, Hakafa  
Donna Gutman, NCJW, ICJW, CEASE Network  
Taal Hasak-Lowy, AJWS  
Sara Kalish, JWF  
Betsy Lazerow, JCFS, JCARES  
Carole Levine, NCJW  
Mara Ruff, JUF  
Susan Rifas, JUF, JWF  
Heather Ross, NCJW, Hakafa  
Stacy Saef, NCJW  
Deborah Zions, NCJW, SHALVA

Julie Newman, Staff  
Melissa Prober, Staff



## Resources

*How to Talk to Your Son About Rape: A Guide for Dads and Hockey Fans*  
Caleb Probst, Educator, CAASE, imagines a conversation between a father and son, making the assumption that the son would be an avid hockey fan with Patrick Kane as a

Performances are at 10:00 am and the show runs from April 14 - April 30, 2016. NCJW board and JCAST steering committee members are planning to attend the show on April 14. If you would like to join us at the production, [click here to order tickets](#).

MONEY MAKE'EM SMILE is the story of Girl and Boy whose lives get caught up in sex trafficking, end tragically but for a mistaken interception by Fate and Destiny. Given another chance, starting from birth, they revisit their former lives, watching themselves with family, friends, new loves and making choices that create their demise. In the end, however, it's not the characters who decide their fate but the audience.

### **More than a Survivor: More than a Story**

Loyola University Museum of Art, 820 N. Michigan Ave, Chicago

More Than A Story Campaign and Poster Series features a series of stunning portraits of 22 women from across the country who are all survivor leaders in a variety of venues from the arts to politics to science to the non-profit community and more. The More Than A Survivor photography exhibition honors their diversity, beauty, strength, accomplishments and leadership and celebrates their present and their future. The exhibit runs through March 20. [Click here for an article](#) about the exhibit.

### **Cook County State's Attorney Candidate Forum**

Hear from Anita Alvarez, Kimberly Foxx, and Donna More about how they would use this powerful office to address gender-based violence. [Click here](#) for more information.

### **JWI Webinar: Working with Teen Victims and Survivors**

Thursday, February 25, from 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. ET [Click here](#) to register. In honor of Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month (TDVAM), this webinar will focus on strategies for working effectively with teen victims and survivors. Organizational policies, safety planning, mandated reporting and youth leadership will be discussed.

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### **JCAST Chicago Updates and Announcements**

#### **Polaris 2015 National Human Trafficking Resource Center (NHTRC) Hotline Statistics Report**

In 2015, nearly 6,000 cases of human trafficking were identified through the NHTRC hotline and Polaris's BeFree Textline. [Click here for the report](#). Since December 2007, the NHTRC and Polaris's BeFree Textline have learned of and responded to more than 25,000 trafficking cases. Polaris says that "Not only have we helped thousands of people escape their traffickers

favorite players. [Click here](#) for the blog post.

*URI North America (United Religions Initiative)* has some wonderful resources on sex trafficking available. [Click here](#) to visit their website.

*youthSpark* works to end child sex trafficking through prevention, early intervention, and youth-empowered education. youthSpark has produced PSAs with tips on how to talk to youth about trafficking. [Click here](#) to view.

*8 Facts About the U.S. Sex Economy*, a study published by the URBAN Institute discusses the underground economies of sex, drugs, and guns in eight cities: Atlanta, Dallas, Denver, Kansas City, San Diego, Seattle, and Washington, D.C. [Click here](#) for the study, and [click here](#) for an article about the study in the Atlantic magazine.

*IN PLAIN SIGHT Podcast* to End Human Trafficking Each week, the IN PLAIN SIGHT Podcast features an inspiring speaker who may educate you in your work to end human trafficking around the globe. [Click here](#) for a link to the website.



and rebuild their lives, these cases now make up the largest data set on human trafficking in the United States. Data that can tell us how to eradicate this crime....More women, children, and men who are trapped in trafficking situations are able to reach out for help and get connected to life-changing services and support."

### Take Action with Polaris

#### Tell Congress to Take the Anti-trafficking Fight to the Next Level

The fight against human trafficking is at a tipping point. Since the first federal anti-trafficking law was passed 15 years ago, we can now do more than just respond to the consequences of human trafficking. If we are serious about truly eradicating modern slavery, we must go to the next level. This year, Congress has an opportunity to accomplish just that. Another reauthorization of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act is fast approaching. Join Polaris in calling on Congress to build on the progress of the last 15 years by supporting the following:

- Prosecution: Identify and disrupt entire human trafficking networks
- Protection: Help survivors of human trafficking get help AND stay safe
- Prevention: Strengthen data collection to understand the scope and systems of human trafficking
- Partnerships: Increase collaboration between survivors, federal agencies, and international organizations

Send an email to your members of Congress and tell them that it's time to take the anti-trafficking fight to the next level.

[Click here to take action with Polaris](#)

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### Dignity Bag Collection for Chicago Trafficking Victims

JCAST Chicago continues to collect toiletries and other items to help The Dreamcatcher Foundation during its outreach to youth who are trafficked and prostituted in Chicago. Each month, at least 300 bags are distributed, and they are in need of year-round supplies for street survival bags. We have established the following permanent collection sites so that you may always have the opportunity to help out with any of the following items:

<b>Encore &amp; More</b>	<b>Hadassah Resale</b>	<b>Hadassah Office</b>
1107 Central Ave Wilmette, Illinois M-S: 10am-5pm	405 Lake Cook Rd. Deerfield, Illinois M-F: 10am-5pm Sunday: noon-4pm	60 Revere Drive Suite 800 Northbrook, Illinois M-F: 8:30am-4:30pm

#### **Street Dignity Bag Packing List:**

These items are needed in small, travel sizes. One of each item will be packed in a gallon ziploc "street survival" bag. These items may be packed in ziploc or other small bag, or donated in bulk.

## Take Action!

Here are some things you can do today to take action against Sex Trafficking:

\* [Like our Facebook Page](#)

\* [Follow us on Twitter](#)

\* Sign up for Action Alerts [Visit our website](#) to keep up-to-date with the issues most relevant to you. [Sign up](#) for JCAST Chicago, NCJW or Sex Trafficking Action Alerts today!

\* Send a Letter  
Send a letter calling on local leaders and law enforcement to enforce laws and end demand. [Visit our website](#) to print out constructions and a sample letter.

\* Hang a Flyer  
Victims may visit bus stations, grocery stores, currency exchanges, and gas stations. Hang a poster featuring the hotline for the National Human Trafficking Resource Center. and help them escape to safety! [Visit our website](#) for more information and to print flyers.

\* Write a Letter to the Editor  
Write a letter to the editor when you learn publicly about arrests of perpetrators of sex trafficking. Commending the media, the police departments involved, and local authorities keeps sex trafficking in the news and encourages more enforcement. [Visit our website](#) for a sample letter to the editor.

Toothbrush	Hand Lotion	Gallon Ziploc Bags
Toothpaste	Granola/Power Bar	Tissues
Hand Sanitizer	\$5 McDonald's Gift Cards	



### **Prevention Bag Packing List:**

Please include one of each regular sized product for girls living in at-risk communities. These items may be packed in a tote bag and donated in bulk.

Shampoo	Dove Soap	Lotion/Moisturizer
Liquid Body Soap	Deodorant	Perfumed Body Spray
	Gift or tote bags	

\*Bulk items, hotel toiletries and gift cards to McDonalds (\$5), Target, Dollar Store, CVS or Walgreens (any amount) are always welcome

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### **JCAST Chicago on the Move**

JCAST Chicago has been busy giving presentations across the Chicago Metropolitan area, for Jewish and secular groups.

Please help JCAST secure speaking "gigs" at Jewish organizations. Contact Donna at [info@jcastchicago.org](mailto:info@jcastchicago.org) with names and contacts at synagogues, chavurot, and other Jewish organizations.

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### **Sex Trafficking in the News**

More and more our news feeds are filled with stories about sex trafficking - some positive and some negative. Here are a few article links that may be of interest.

- [Renew Help to Homeless Youth](#)
- [Certain Illinois Employers Now Required to Post Human Trafficking Helpline](#)
- [Federal agency, faith-based groups join to combat human trafficking in Chicago](#)
- [UK's First "Red-Light" District: Leeds' Cruel Solution to Prostitution and Violence](#)
- [Human trafficking group teams with U.S. on anti-slavery funding](#)
- [Aboriginal women exploited in Great Lakes sex trade](#)
- [198 Arrested and 12 Minors Rescued in Los Angeles County](#)
- [Homeland Security Offers Training to Combat Human Trafficking](#)
- [Illinois man charged for sex trafficking of a minor](#)
- [Adelante Chicago. \(Video\)](#)
- [Two Members of Chicago Rap Group Hit Squad Charged With Sex Trafficking](#)
- [This Moving Norwegian Video about Sexual Violence and Rape has Gone Viral](#)
- [Sex trafficking sting nets 552 arrests nationally, 13 in Lincoln](#)

### **Support JCAST Chicago**

[Click here](#) to donate to JCAST to help subsidize the cost of Dignity Bags or our other projects. Thank you for your support.



## SAVE THE DATE!

6th Annual Cook County Human  
Trafficking Task Force Conference

August 4 - 5, 2016

at

IIT Chicago-Kent College of Law  
565 West Adams Street  
Chicago, IL 60661



IIT Chicago-Kent College of Law  
ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Jewish Coalition Against Sex Trafficking (JCAST) Chicago  
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