



Greetings!

As you may know, January is Human Trafficking Awareness Month. Globally, over 4.5 million people are trapped in forced sexual exploitation, with thousands of victims in the US. The Jewish tradition reminds us that we, too, were once slaves in Egypt. It is our responsibility to speak out against modern-day slavery and demand action from our lawmakers. Tell Congress to #EndHumanTrafficking and provide survivors with the legal and social supports they deserve. [Click here](#) for information on contacting your elected officials.

In addition, [tell your lawmakers](#) to support the *Runaway and Homeless Youth and Trafficking Prevention Act of 2015 (RHYTPA)*. It is estimated that approximately 1.68 million American youth experience homelessness each year; the Federal government has funded programs that provide street outreach, temporary shelter and services, and transitional living to this population for over 40 years. RHYTPA looks to improve these programs by: expanding funding for research, data collection and collaboration; creating a National Runaway Youth Hotline; and adding nondiscrimination protections for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) youth. As it is estimated that nearly 40% of the runaway and homeless youth population identifies as LGBT, the addition of nondiscrimination language to this bill would ensure that all homeless youth are able to receive services.

JCAST Chicago Blog

As a child, when asked what I wanted to be when I grew up, I always replied in all seriousness, "I don't know, but whatever it is, I want to be famous enough to get a day off of school named for me!"

With ideas of fame and fortune well behind me and the awe inspiring work of serving my community on the forefront, I've never looked back on my decision. As the Senior Program Officer of the Jewish Women's Foundation of Metropolitan Chicago, daily I learn about innovative programing and from

UNICEF JCAST Chicago Featured Organization

When people think of UNICEF, they often think of little orange boxes carried by school children on Halloween to raise money for children around the world. But UNICEF is so much more. UNICEF is the United Nations Children's Fund, created in 1946 to help children in war-torn Europe, China and the Middle East. By 1953, UNICEF's mandate was extended to address the needs of children in the developing world. UNICEF has helped save more children's lives than any other humanitarian organization.

UNICEF's mission has a broad reach and includes child trafficking prevention and awareness. Learn more on their [website](#). In addition, educating young people is an essential part of the movement to end human trafficking. TeachUNICEF offers a collection of [resources to teach about Child Trafficking](#), including a [guide](#) on how to talk about it with kids. Parents, teachers and anyone who

communities wanting to positively impact their progeny's future. Constantly impressed by the relentless commitment to improve outcomes, change practices and policies, our grantees see the impact of their work not in terms of one completed program, but the shift that they are making on society's behaviors, definitions, engagement on an issue, and legislation. [Click here for the full blog post](#)

JCAST Chicago Upcoming Events

Cease Network Community Awareness Event

Saturday January 23, 2016; 10:00 am - 3:00 pm
Oak Park Public Library, 834 Lake Street, Oak Park

In honor of Human Trafficking Awareness Month, spend a Shabbat learning with JCAST Chicago at this amazing event sponsored by the CEASE Network Cook County. The CEASE Network (Cities Empowered Against Sexual Exploitation) is a collaboration of pioneering cities committed to reducing sex-buying by 20 percent in two years.

Featured Speakers Include:

Honorable Judge Diedre Monroe, City Courts, Gary, IN
Marian Hatcher, Human Trafficking Coordinator, Cook County Sheriff's Office
Demetrius Porter, CEASE Survivor Leader
Donna Gutman, CEASE Network Coordinator, JCAST Chicago Steering Committee

Reservations are not required. For more information email info@jcastchicago.org

Immigration 201: The Report and the Reality

Monday, January 25, 2016; 11:00 am - 1:00 pm
Heartland Alliance, 208 S. LaSalle Street, Suite 1300, Chicago

Chicago Foundation for Women sponsored a recent report for its Civic Plan development titled, "[Creating Opportunity for Women and Girls in the Chicago Region](#)." (some of the report recommendations are listed below along with a link to the report). Speakers will highlight the economic, health, and violence-related issues most pressing for immigrant women in the Chicago region, their families, and their communities. Millions of immigrants have come to our country in recent decades seeking work and a better life for themselves. Learn more about the realities of the system and be able to advocate effectively for compassionate and comprehensive immigration reform.

This program is open to the public and is \$10 per person. Refreshments and dessert will be served and participants may

works with children, can use these resources to raise awareness and help end trafficking.

By the way, you can still trick or treat for UNICEF.

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.

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 Zionts, 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

bring their own lunch. [Click here](#) to RSVP.

Report Recommendations:

- Train law enforcement on human trafficking to increase identification and help victims of human trafficking find the support they need to reclaim their lives.
- Increase investments in trauma-informed housing, emergency shelter, mental health and community-based services that meet the unique needs of immigrants who have experienced violence, trafficking, torture, domestic violence and sexual assault.
- Train human services staff, medical providers, legal service providers, and other community stakeholders on human trafficking to raise awareness of the issues, increase identification and help victims of human trafficking find the support they need.

Human Trafficking and the Faith-Based Community

Friday, January 29, 2016 from 8:30 am to 3:00 pm
Metcalf Federal Building, 77 West Jackson Blvd., Chicago

You are invited to engage in conversation about human trafficking, lessons learned on human trafficking, and barriers to helping survivors of trafficking in the faith community. Learn how to become a catalyst for broader public awareness in the faith community, providing direction for all levels of engagement in the efforts to protect vulnerable individuals, and end trafficking in our neighborhoods. The conversation will conclude with an action plan on how to improve access to victim services. This event is provided free of charge, but registration is required and space is limited. [Click here](#) to register.

Sex Trafficking: It's in your Community, Too

Sunday, January 31, 2016; 4:00 - 6:00 pm
North Shore Congregation Israel, Glencoe

Sex Trafficking: We don't like to acknowledge it, but it's all around us and we're taking a stand against it in our community. Please join us as Cook County State's Attorney Anita Alvarez speaks about the actions her office has taken to project juveniles caught in the sex trade and new legal tools to target criminals who prostitute children. Ms. Alvarez will be joined by co-panelists Chief Strategist for the Cook County Sheriff's Office, Cara Smith and sex trafficked survivor Brenda Myers-Powell. Ms. Smith and Ms. Myers Powell will speak about their work and what we can do to end this cycle of abuse. There is no fee to attend but reservations will be required due to limited seating. Please RSVP to 847-205-1900 or chicago-northshore@hadassah.org by January 22, 2016.

assumption that the son would be an avid hockey fan with Patrick Kane as a 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 a 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.

A Discussion on Sex Trafficking in Israel

Sunday, March 20, 2016; 4:00 - 5:30 pm

Location TBA

NCJW Israel Office Director Shari Eshet will be returning to the Midwest to speak with JCAST Chicago on Sex Trafficking in Israel. Registration will open in late winter.



Take Action!

JCAST Chicago Updates and Announcements

Making a difference for women and girls in Chicago

JCAST Chicago is proud and excited to announce that the Jewish Women's Foundation of Metropolitan Chicago (JWF) has renewed its generous grant supporting JCAST Chicago. JWF awarded a total of \$397,500 to 21 programs and projects that improve the lives of Jewish women and girls in Chicago and around the world. These grants will help create social change at the individual, communal and institutional levels. [Click here](#) for the full article in the JUF News.

JCAST Chicago Social Media

Have you visited our [JCAST Chicago Facebook Page](#)? Followed us on [Twitter](#)? Since January is Human Trafficking Awareness month, let's work together to increase our Facebook and Twitter followers and invite our friends to like and follow us!"like" it! Our Facebook "friends" have been steadily increasing but wouldn't it be great to reach 500 by the end of the month! [Click here](#) to "like" and then look for the "... " on the bottom right corner of the Cover Photo. From there, click "invite friends" and encourage them to like our page as well.

CLTV to Recognize Trafficking Awareness Month

Recently, JCAST Chicago was contacted by WGN to help them find guests for a segment on sex trafficking for their public affairs show, Adelante Chicago. We are excited to report that Dr. Joel Filmore, trafficked survivor and Licensed Clinical Social Worker at the Family Institute at Northwestern University and Darci Flynn, Midwest Regional Director of Heartland Alliance taped the broadcast which will be on January 16 at 5:30am and on January 17 at 9:30pm on WGN's sister cable station, CLTV. If you miss the broadcast, we will have a link to post on our [Facebook](#) page and [website](#) after the broadcast.

New Illinois Law

A new Illinois law took effect this month to help stop human trafficking in our area. As a major transportation thoroughfare, Illinois is a kind of epicenter for labor and sex trafficking. The new law requires businesses to post public notices informing the people about trafficking and how to get help. Required

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

business include emergency rooms, liquor stores, adult entertainment businesses, truck stops, rest stops and airports. Illinois has generated the fifth highest number of calls in the country to the National Human Trafficking Resource Center Hotline (1-888-373-7888). There have been 399 calls so far this year. [Click here](#) for the full article.

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:

Encore & More	Hadassah Resale	Hadassah Office
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.

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

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 with names and contacts at synagogues, chavurot, and other Jewish organizations.

Interns Wanted

NCJW is looking for interns for JCAST Chicago. A great

local authorities keeps sex trafficking in the news and encourages more enforcement. [Visit our website](#) for a sample letter to the editor.



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.

opportunity for undergraduate or graduate students. Contact Donna for more information, info@jcastchicago.org.

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.

- [How You Can Help Combat Human Trafficking in 2016](#)
- [Learning From Sex Trafficking's Past to End Its Future](#)
- [Illinois Helping Trafficking Victims](#)
- [Illinois DCFS Releases Public Service Announcement To Prevent Child Human Trafficking](#)
- [McHenry County Could Get Home for Sex Trafficking Survivors](#)
- [New Laws to Increase Awareness of Human Trafficking](#)
- ['John School,' Homeland-Security Training for Strippers, and Other State Sex-Trafficking Laws](#)
- [Accused pimp describes ways women get lured into human sex trafficking](#)
- [What being a flight attendant taught me about human trafficking](#)

Jewish Coalition Against Sex Trafficking (JCAST) Chicago
847-853-8889 * info@jcastchicago.org * www.jcastchicago.org

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