



Greetings!

With June comes the arrival of summer. But while we enjoy the great outdoors, thousands are still trapped in the modern-day slavery known as sex trafficking. Help us get the word out this summer.

Attend our upcoming events (listed below) and stop by our table at the [Greater Chicago Jewish Festival](#) and pick up some JCAST Chicago Cards to distribute. The more people who become aware that this is happening everywhere and anywhere, the more advocates we will have to pressure our elected officials into passing and enforcing laws to protect victims and punish perpetrators.

JCAST Chicago Blog

Slaves in Stilettos

Google search the term "slaves in stilettos" and you'll be greeted with a list of porn and fetish sites. JCAST Chicago Steering Committee Member Rae Luskin reflects on trafficking, victims, perpetrators and buyers in this month's blog.

[Click here for the full blog post:](#)

Part-Time Administrative Position Available

JCAST Chicago is looking to hire a part-time Administrative Coordinator to work approximately 8-10 hours per month, with a flexible schedule. Work can be done from home. [Click here](#) for the full job description and details.

JCAST Chicago Upcoming Events

TOMORROW MORNING!

From Your Street Corner and Beyond: A National Perspective on Sex Trafficking

Monday, May 23, 2016, 9:00 am
Heartland Alliance, 208 S. LaSalle #1300, Chicago
Join the Jewish Coalition Against Sex Trafficking Chicago to learn about anti-sex trafficking efforts across the country and specifically the efforts of Sanctuary for Families in New York. Walk-ins welcome. [Click here](#) for more information.

Greater Chicago Jewish Festival

Sunday, June 5, 2016, 11:00 AM - 6:00 PM
Cook County Forest Preserve, at Oakton and Lehigh
A fabulous day filled with music, art, food and community. Stop by and visit the NCJW and JCAST Chicago table. If you have time to spare, volunteer to help staff our table and answer questions. To volunteer email info@ncjwcn.org. For more information on the event



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.

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
- Donna Gutman, NCJW, ICJW, CEASE Network
- Taal Hasak-Lowy, AJWS
- Sara Kalish, JWF
- Betsy Lazerow, JCFS, JCARES
- Carole Levine, NCJW
- Rae Luskin, NCJW
- Sherry Petlin, 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



Trafficking will remain a Jewish problem as long as we commodify women

By Lori L. Cohen, Director of the Anti-Trafficking Initiative at Sanctuary for Families, Center for Battered Women's Legal Services in New York City, where she represents both immigrant and domestic victims of human trafficking and gender-based violence. She also the Chair of EXODUS: NCJW's Anti-Sex Trafficking Initiative, an NCJW Board Director, and a lifetime member of the NCYW-New York section.

Lori Cohen is tomorrow's (May 23) speaker at our morning program [From Your Street Corner and Beyond: A National Perspective on Sex Trafficking](#). Walk-ins welcome. Please attend!

The plight of women trafficked from Mexico to the United States has been the focus of much of my work this past decade at Sanctuary for Families, New York's largest provider of services to victims of domestic violence, sex trafficking and other forms of gender-based abuse. Because of Sanctuary's role in helping Mexican victims recover from their abuse, the Mexican government invited me to participate in a conference in Mexico City sponsored by their Attorney General. After sharing information with local service providers and government officials, I spent the following days visiting trafficked girls in a government-run shelter, and exploring the areas where thousands of women and children are sold, both in Mexico City and in the nearby state of Tlaxcala. I joined a Mexican nun at the daycare center she and her sisters operate to care for the children of women being sold for sex, and together, we wandered through La Merced, an infamous red light district, speaking with trafficked girls and women ranging in age from 16-68. It was illuminating, but also heartbreaking.

[Click here for the full article.](#)

JCAST Chicago Updates & Announcements

From PolarisProject.org

There are an estimated 1.7 million children without safe shelter in the United States. Of those, nearly half have been homeless for over a week. A staggering 20-40% of these children identify as LGBTQ.

[Traffickers lure people](#) into forced labor or sex trafficking by taking advantage of people's vulnerabilities. And homeless LGBTQ youth are prime targets: often, these children are alone on the streets, shunned simply for being who they are. Traffickers might provide them with a false sense of protection, family, or even love in order to compel them into the commercial sex industry.

That's why Polaris just released a [fact sheet for LGBTQ service providers](#) to accompany last year's [guide for anti-trafficking service providers](#) on how to serve LGBTQ victims of trafficking.

First, communities need to work together and support trafficked LGBTQ youth. It's hard enough for trafficking victims to reach out for help-it's even harder for victims who are afraid that they will be judged or mistreated for their gender and sexual identity. [Service providers, community members, and law enforcement need to partner](#) in order to understand how to best serve this population.

Second, Congress needs to pass legislation to better protect homeless youth. Earlier this year, a bill was introduced in the House of Representatives that would improve services for runaway and homeless youth. [Urge your member of Congress to pass this bill.](#) And tell your friends and family to take action, too!

Featured Organization

STOP-IT is a program of The Salvation Army Family and Community Services. STOP-IT works directly with suspected trafficked persons no matter their age, race, gender, or sexual orientation.

STOP-IT is funded to work with any and all victims/survivors of human trafficking.

- * Adults and Minors
- * Sex Trafficking and Labor Trafficking
- * Domestic (US Citizens and Lawful Permanent Residents) and Foreign National (documented and undocumented)
- * Male and Female

STOP-IT does not discriminate against anyone who meets the definition of Human Trafficking and desires assistance.

STOP-IT assists people in leaving their exploitative situation and helps them to move forward to rebuild their lives. We do this by working alongside people to identify their needs and provide them with access to resources. Needs include but are not limited to: clothing, toiletries, identifying documentation, sustenance, shelter/housing, transportation, legal, medical, psychological, schooling, job connection, interpreter. We do our best to help with anything a potential client identifies as a need or goal. We will always connect them to the appropriate provider if we can't provide for something ourselves. With the client's permission, STOP-IT works alongside law enforcement, prosecutors, immigration attorneys, DCFS workers, medical providers and family members.

To learn more visit www.salarmychicago.org/stopit.

The Cook County Human Trafficking Task Force (CCHTTF) is a multi-disciplinary task force that brings law enforcement and social and legal service agencies together to work on human trafficking cases. The task force is a joint project of the Cook County State's Attorney's Office and the Salvation Army STOP-IT Program, and is jointly funded by the U.S. Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Assistance and the Office for Victims of Crime. Save the date (August 4 and 5) for the 6th Annual Cook County Human Trafficking Task

Avodah 2016-2017 Jewish Service Corps

Avodah still has a few spots left across the country for their 2016-2017 Jewish Service Corps. They are looking for talented young leaders (21-26) to spend a year working for justice and building community, learning skills and making connections that will sustain them in their career for years to come.

- Work full-time at a local nonprofit on crucial issues- our final placements are focused on education, homelessness and housing, financial empowerment, and domestic violence
- Learn from veteran organizers, activists, and educators about how to create change while viewing your work through a Jewish lens.
- Live together in a communal home with your fellow corps members and build a community committed to integrating social justice and Jewish values.
- Join the AVODAH Alumni Network, a group of hundreds of leaders who will provide community and support throughout your career.

Avodah provides a monthly living stipend, subsidized housing, a travel allowance, health insurance, and the skills and network to sustain your career for years to come. Visit at www.avodah.net/apply or contact Russ Agdern at apply@avodah.net with any questions.

Action Alert: Strip Club Ordinance

Once again, anti-trafficking allies were able to stop the Strip Club Ordinance! Following a press conference held by CAASE at City Hall opposing the ordinance, Alderman Emma Mitts announced she will not call her strip club ordinance for a vote. The ordinance in question would allow strip club's to offer both full nudity as well as alcohol consumption, a practice currently outlawed in Chicago. Advocates oppose efforts to bring alcohol into Chicago's strip clubs, which is proven to cause harm to communities and women working within strip club bars. [Click here](#) for a video from CAASE's Lynne Johnson.

Human Trafficking Bill Passes Senate

Survivors of trafficking, torture, and other serious crimes desperately need a safe place to live, adequate food, and access to health care. SB 3007 passed 49-1 out of the Illinois State Senate. SB 3007 provides access to food, health care, and other resources to help stabilize the lives of people who have experienced trafficking, torture, and other serious crimes, so that they can cooperate with law enforcement, adjust their immigration status, and obtain work authorization. The bill now moves to the house.

JCAST Chicago Summer Reading

While it's certainly not light summer beach reading, *Paid for: My Journey Through Prostitution* by Rachel Moran comes highly recommended by our friends at CAASE. Rachel Moran grew up in North Dublin city. From a troubled family background, she was fourteen when she was taken into state care. She became homeless and got involved in prostitution at aged fifteen, working in Dublin and other Irish cities for the following seven years. In 1998 at the age of 22, she liberated herself from that life. At 24 she got on the path to further education, gaining a degree in journalism from Dublin City University, where she won the Hybrid Award for excellence in journalism. She speaks internationally on prostitution and sex-trafficking and volunteers to talk to young girls in residential care about the harms and dangers of prostitution. Pick up a copy at your local bookstore or library and let us know what you think.

Young men find a role in ending sexual exploitation

Does sexual violence exist in a vacuum? What part can young men play to become allies against sexual exploitation? CAASE Educator Caleb Probst writes about his experience in the classroom and the transformed attitudes he sees in his students. [Click here](#) to read Caleb's blog piece.

Force Conference. Registration will open June 1. [Click here](#) for more information.



Resources

Healthcare Workers Guide to ID'ing Trafficking Victims

- The [Polaris Project](#) has many resources, including the [National Human Trafficking Resource Center](#) hotline and text service.

Handbooks for health care workers

- International Organization for Migration has a free PDF handbook for health care providers called "[Caring for Trafficked Persons.](#)"
- Massachusetts Medical Society also has a [guide](#) on identifying and treating trafficking victims.
- The [Department of Health and Human Services](#) also has reference materials and a toolkit for health care workers.

Other resources

- The National Human Trafficking Resource Center has a [webinar](#) for health workers.
- Heal Trafficking has a compendium of [medical literature](#) and [educational programs](#).

Marketplace's three-part series on human trafficking and health care:

- * [Health care takes on the fight against trafficking](#)
- * [This is what happened when a trafficking victim finally got a chance to run](#)
- * [Identifying trafficking victims is just the start of health care's challenge](#)

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

TEDx Talk

Recently, passionate anti-trafficking advocate, Laurel Bellows, past-president of the American Bar Association, gave a provocative and informative TEDxIIT Talk. [Click here](#) to watch. Note: this is a link to an entire TEDx Talk event. Laurel Bellows is introduced at 4:15:30.

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: 10 am-5pm	405 Lake Cook Rd. Deerfield, Illinois M-F: 10 am-5pm Sunday: noon-4pm	60 Revere Drive Suite 800 Northbrook, Illinois M-F: 8:30 am-4:30pm

Chicago Collection Site:

Temple Shalom of Chicago
3480 N. Lakeshore Drive (Stratford Entrance)
M-F: 9am - 6 pm; Sa-Su: 9am - 11am; Closed on Jewish holidays

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.

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.

- [2 arrested for sex trafficking on minor in Lafayette](#)
- [Man accused of sex-trafficking in his Naperville home](#)
- [Missouri man pleads guilty of sex trafficking a minor, conspiracy](#)
- [Is the New York Times Endorsing Legalization of Prostitution?](#)

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

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.



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

- [Should Prostitution Be a Crime?](#)
- [Woman pleads guilty to sex trafficking of a minor](#)
- [Missouri couple pleads guilty to sex trafficking Illinois minor](#)
- [How you can end slavery](#)
- [During Passover, Remember That Sex Trafficking is Bondage](#)

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.



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

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