



Greetings!

Summer is officially here and JCAST Chicago is working hard to bring you amazing programs and information you can share with your communities. In August, we are offering a valuable training: *Listen. Talk. Act: Learn how to educate others and what you can do to eradicate sex trafficking.* The training is designed to give you the skills to present about sex trafficking to a Jewish or secular audience.

In September, we are pleased to announce that Rabbi Levy Lauer has been able to reschedule his visit to Chicago. Details on these events are listed below.

JCAST Chicago has a new mailing address: Contact us at:

JCAST Chicago
c/o NCJW Chicago North Shore
5 Revere Drive, Suite 200
Northbrook, IL 60062
847-853-8889
info@jcastchicago.org

JCAST Chicago Blog

Thoughts on Trafficking

As a new member of the coalition, I was shocked to learn the facts and figures of sex trafficking in the country and in particular Chicago. According to the Center for Impact Research, there are 16,000 to 25,000 Chicagoland women and girls that are "sex trafficked" each year. Amy Alvaro, a human trafficking specialist of the Cook County State Attorney's office attributes the prevalence in Chicago to the fact that it is a large convention city with a huge international airport.

In May, I attended a seminar lead by Lori Cohen, chair of NCJW Exodus Campaign and the director of Anti Trafficking Initiative at the Center for Battered Woman's Legal Services at Sanctuary for Families in New York City. Sanctuary for Families provides many services to its victims, most of whom are immigrants or a part of the LGBTQ community. Among them is an Anti-Trafficking initiative that provides services to victims of sex trafficking so they can build a life without relying on funds from exploitation.

DONATE »

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
Beth Gordon, Hakafa, NCJW
Donna Gutman, NCJW, ICJW,
CEASE Network
Taal Hasak-Lowy, AJWS
Sara Kalish, JWF
Betsy Lazerow, JCFS, JCARES
Carole Levine, NCJW
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Heather Ross, NCJW, Hakafa
Stacy Saef, NCJW
Deborah Zions, NCJW,
SHALVA

Melissa Prober, Staff
Jacqueline Doolittle, Staff

JCAST Chicago Upcoming Events

Listen. Talk. Act: Learn how to educate others & what you can do to eradicate sex trafficking

Wednesday, August 24, 2016

AM Check-In: 8:30; PM Check-in: 12:30

Congregation Solel, 1301 Clavey Road, Highland Park

The morning session, (9:00am - noon) will give you the skills to present about sex trafficking to a Jewish or secular ADULT group about sex trafficking and how audience members can become engaged in ending demand and supporting survivors. Factual and Jewish content will be presented. Public speaking and presentation skills will be included.

The afternoon session (1:00pm - 4:00pm) will provide training for professionals who work with youth (ages 12-18) about how to present information on sex trafficking, methods for changing attitudes about purchased sex and coercion, and why demand reduction and elimination is crucial. Teaching methods will be presented. *Please note: the afternoon session is only open to those with previous experience working with youth.*

An optional lunch served from 12-1 can be purchased for \$10.

Questions? Please contact Donna at 847-853-8889 or donna@jcastchicago.org with any questions.

Speakers:

AM:

Darci Flynn, MS, Regional Service Coordinator of the Freedom from Trafficking program at Heartland Alliance.

Donna Fishman, MPH, Interim Engagement and Program Director, JCAST Chicago and National Council of Jewish Women

Amy Schwartz, Educator and Advocate

PM:

Caleb Probst, Educator, Chicago Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation

Donna Fishman, MPH, Interim Engagement and Program Director, JCAST Chicago and National Council of Jewish Women

[Click here](#) to RSVP.

Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Levi Lauer

Tuesday, September 6, 2016

11:00 am - 1:00 pm

Slice of Life, 4120 West Dempster, Skokie; A Kosher dairy lunch is included in the \$25 cost.

Join JCAST Chicago at Skokie's Slice of Life for a lunch and learn with Rabbi Levi Lauer, founder of ATZUM, an Israeli organization that strives to remedy injustices in Israeli society and encourage individuals to become social activist agents of change. Rabbi Lauer is an amazing and inspirational speaker. Don't miss this chance to meet him! In 2003, ATZUM joined forces with Kabiri-Nevo-Keidar and established the Task Force on Human Trafficking (TFHT) to help Israel eradicate human trafficking within its borders. The TFHT works tirelessly to engage and educate the public and government agencies to confront and eradicate modern slavery in Israel, and lobbies for reform in the areas of prevention, border closure, protection of escaped women, and prosecution of traffickers and pimps.

Don't miss! Reserve your spot today. [Click here](#) to RSVP.

Other events of interest



Magdalene House Chicago

Featured Organization

Magdalene House Chicago (MHC) seeks to nurture transformative and sustainable change for women who have survived and are in recovery from abuse, sex trafficking, prostitution, and addiction, by providing a residential sanctuary where they can heal and access community-based services. MHC seeks an end to a culture that allows human beings to be bought and sold.

Inspired by the work of Thistle Farms in Nashville TN, MHC seeks to replicate that model here in Chicagoland. This includes a two-year residential housing program for approximately 10 women healing from sex trafficking, prostitution, and addiction. The home will be self-governed by the residents, drawing on community living principles, rather than a traditional social service model with staff as authority in the house. MHC will have staff to help connect each resident with legal, medical, financial, and other social services delivered by professionals and government agencies in the community.

Currently, MHC is in the initial fundraising phase, seeking donors and grants to help us purchase and renovate a property. We anticipate welcoming our first residents in 2018, in a home likely located in the Forest Park/Maywood area. Our start-up fundraising goal is \$2 million, to include acquisition and renovation of the house as well as operation of the program through 2021.

We are also working on developing partner relationships with a wide variety of other organizations and individuals responding to the realities of sex trafficking in Chicagoland. Groups that are directly reaching out to women and girls on the streets, in

An Introduction to the Sex Trade and Domestic Violence: Recognizing Intersections, Building a Response

Thursday, July 28, 2016; 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
CMBWN 1 East Wacker Drive, Suite 1630, Chicago
Pre-registration is required

An Introduction to the Sex Trade & Domestic Violence: Recognizing Intersections, Building a Response

JULY 28, 2016
9:00AM - 5:00PM
1 E. Wacker Drive, Suite 1630
Chicago

FEES:
\$50 - Network Members
\$60 - Non-members

CEU's Provided:
ICDVP, LCSW, & LCPC

To Register: 312-527-0730
anabel@
batteredwomensnetwork.org

6th Annual Cook County Human Trafficking Task Force Conference

Are you planning on attending but still haven't registered? Contact stop-it@usc.salvationarmy.org or contact Cook County Human Trafficking Task Force Coordinator Summar Ghias at 773-433-5735 to see if space is available.

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

Updates and Information

National Johns Suppression Initiative

Since 2011, Cook County Sheriff Tom Dart has been leading a national coalition of law enforcement agencies conducting sting operations around the country to arrest would-be sex buyers and traffickers. [Click here](#) for a press release from the Sheriff's Office. If you read the press release, you will notice that the City of Chicago is NOT a participating jurisdiction.

strip clubs, and in massage parlors will be a source of referrals to Magdalene House Chicago once we open. We will also work to develop relationships with women serving prison sentences that are related to sex trafficking to invite them to MHC upon completion of their sentence.

For more information, visit www.magdalenehousechicago.org.

**TAKE
ACTION
TODAY!**

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.

JCAST Chicago will keep its supporters updated about the National Johns Suppression Initiative and if the City of Chicago continues to not participate, we will encourage you to call the Mayor's office to ask "Why isn't the Chicago Police Department participating in the Day of Johns sweep like so many other cities and communities?"

[**A new app created in St. Louis aims to track down pimps and victims of sex trafficking**](#)

What do you get when you combine anti-trafficking passion with a computer programmer? An app that everyone can use to help end modern-day slavery. The app called TraffickCam is free to download and easy to use. When you visit a hotel, take a photo of the room and upload it to the app. Photos are then fed into a national database uses technology similar to facial-recognition technology to compare hotel room photos to database photos from escort advertisements taken in hotel rooms. Law enforcement is then able to use the data to locate trafficking victims. Photos can be uploaded from a computer or from the smartphone app. Click the heading above as well as [**this link**](#) for two articles about this amazing app and use it when you travel.

CHA Housing Plan

"The Chicago Housing Authority is launching the first program of its kind in the country to address housing issues for survivors of human trafficking. The pilot program stems from a task force President Barack Obama created to combat trafficking. Housing for people trying to escape was identified as a major barrier. Federal officials approached Chicago to pilot a housing program. Over the next three years CHA will provide 60 subsidized housing vouchers.

"There is a significant lack of housing for people who are leaving their situation. It's much analogous to victims of domestic violence when there wasn't safe housing many years ago," said Mary Howard with the Chicago Housing Authority."

[**Click here**](#) for the full story.

NCJW call on Vacating Trafficking Convictions Laws

Did you miss the NCJW Call: Vacating Trafficking Convictions Laws. On this call, we heard from NCJW leaders and partners about their experiences passing, strengthening, and implementing Vacating Trafficking Convictions Laws. Special thanks to Lori Cohen, Chair of EXODUS: NCJW's Anti-Sex Trafficking Initiative; Jessica-Wind Abolafia, Staff Attorney at Sanctuary for Families; and Maya Paley, NCJW Los Angeles Director of Community Outreach and Advocacy for sharing their expertise on this call.

[**Click here**](#) to listen to the call recording and [**Check out**](#) NCJW and partner resources on Vacating Trafficking Convictions Laws, including the PowerPoint presentation from the call.

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 1107 Central Ave Wilmette, Illinois M-S: 10am-5pm	Hadassah Resale 405 Lake Cook Rd. Deerfield, Illinois M-F: 10am-5pm Sunday: noon-4pm	Hadassah Office 60 Revere Drive Suite 800 Northbrook, Illinois M-F: 8:30am-4:30pm
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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 players. [**Click here**](#) for the blog post.

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

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.

- [Authorities: man ran multistate sex-trafficking ring](#)
- [Ohio Man Sentenced to 22 Years in Federal Prison for Bringing Minors to Chicago from Iowa to Engage in Prostitution](#)
- [I survived human trafficking. That makes me the exception to the rule](#)
- [Trucker saves victim of torture at PILOT station after recognizing the signs of sex trafficking](#)
- [Trafficking Survivor Completed Worlds Longest Triathlon To Help Other Victims](#)
- [Local Judge Speaks on Trafficking at Vatican](#)
- [Is Backpage.com a Champion of Web Freedoms or a Dystopian Hell?](#)
- ['Why human trafficking is a public health problem'](#)
- [Truckers Take The Wheel In Effort To Halt Sex Trafficking](#)
- [Milwaukee man charged with running multistate sex-trafficking ring](#)
- [Catching Johns](#)

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.

Jewish Coalition Against Sex Trafficking (JCAST) Chicago
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