



Greetings!

At JCAST Chicago, we want to make sure you are aware of all of our upcoming events and current information.

In particular, we want to make sure you put **November 15** on your calendar. NCJW is offering a private docent-led tour of the Illinois Holocaust Museum Exhibit *Women Hold Up Half the Sky*.

Women Hold Up Half the Sky identifies one of the central moral challenges of the 21st century - full equality for the world's women. It is inspired by the book *Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide*, by Pulitzer-prize winning authors, Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn. Like the bestselling book, the exhibition features ordinary women who have accomplished extraordinary things. It challenges visitors to open their eyes, minds, hearts, and most of all, to take action to improve women and girls' lives locally and worldwide. NCJW Chicago North Shore and JCAST Chicago are community partners of the exhibit. Please see below for more information on the tour.

**JCAST Chicago Blog
Lunch and Learn with Levi Lauer**

Arranging a Lunch and Learn for a group of JCAST supporters can be an interesting experience. When the topic is **SEX TRAFFICKING IN ISRAEL**, one is not quite sure what to expect. When the speaker is a rabbi, the intrigue increases...

On September 6th, thirty-eight JCAST supporters were introduced to an extraordinary presentation by Rabbi Levi Lauer highlighting the horrendous issue of the trafficking of women from the Former Soviet Union to Israel, a country most of us hold in high esteem in a world of increasingly hostile sentiment. [Click here](#) for the full blog post:

Upcoming Events

2016 Symposium for a Safer Lake County

October 14, 2016, 9:00 am - 3:30 pm
Advocate Condell Medical Center
801 South Milwaukee Avenue, Libertyville
>> This Symposium will educate and equip professionals who come into contact with victims of abuse regularly, with safe and appropriate ways to respond to and advise victims of violence. Resources and materials will also be provided. With speakers who



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:

- Ronna Ash, Hadassah
- Susan Block, Hadassah
- Cathy Carmody, NCJW
- Donna Fishman, NCJW, JCAST SC Co-Chair
- Beth Gordon, Hakafa, NCJW
- Donna Gutman, NCJW, ICJW, CEASE Network
- Taal Hasak-Lowy, AJWS
- Sara Kalish, JWF
- Betsy Lazerow, JCFS, JCARES
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- Mara Ruff, JUF
- Stacy Saef, NCJW
- Deborah Zions, NCJW, SHALVA

Melissa Prober, Staff
Jacqueline Doolittle, Staff

are trained professionals in the fields of abuse of many kinds (elder, child, domestic violence, LGBTQ, sexual assault, and sex trafficking), the Symposium seeks to provide clergy, health professionals, attorneys, and human service providers with the tools they need to stop abuse and support survivors. Sessions are targeted at the following professional fields: Clergy, Medical, Lawyers, Social Services. [Click here](#) for more information and to register.

Docent led Tour of Women Hold Up Half the Sky

November 15; 10:30 am (please arrive no later than 10:15)
Illinois Holocaust Museum, 9603 Woods Drive, Skokie
>> Join NCJW at the Illinois Holocaust Museum & Education Center (IHMEC) for a private docent-led tour of the special exhibit Women Hold Up Half the Sky running through January 22. Women Hold Up Half the Sky identifies one of the central moral challenges of the 21st century - full equality for the world's women. It is inspired by the book *Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide*, by Pulitzer-prize winning authors, Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn. Like the bestselling book, the exhibition features ordinary women who have accomplished extraordinary things. It challenges visitors to open their eyes, minds, hearts, and most of all, to take action to improve women and girls' lives locally and worldwide. NCJW Chicago North Shore and JCAST Chicago are community partners of the exhibit. Following our tour, we will head to the Bagel Restaurant for lunch and socializing. [Registration will open on October 1.](#)

Women Hold Up Half the Sky Special Programs

Women Hold Up Half the Sky identifies one of the central moral challenges of the 21st century - full equality for the world's women. It is inspired by the book *Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide*, by Pulitzer-prize winning authors, Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn. Like the bestselling book, the exhibition features ordinary women who have accomplished extraordinary things. It challenges visitors to open their eyes, minds, hearts, and most of all, to take action to improve women and girls' lives locally and worldwide.

EXHIBITION- RELATED PROGRAMS

The Illinois Holocaust Museum is offering a wide variety of programs, films, and panel discussions in conjunction with the Women Hold Up Half the Sky Exhibit. All programs, films, and panel discussions are free to the public. Museum exhibitions and Gallery Talks require Museum admission. [Click here](#) for information and see highlights below. Listed programs are at the Holocaust Museum unless otherwise noted.

Teen Program: Be-YOU-tiful Strength

October 9, 2016, 11:00 am

Film Screening: The Hunting Ground

October 20, 2016, 6:30 - 8:30 pm

The McCormick Foundation Center, Northwestern

Gallery Talk: Domestic violence

October 22, 2016, 11 am and 1 pm

Pfeffer Family Forum: Women in the Holocaust

November 2, 2016, 6:30 pm

Performance: Women of "Louder than a bomb"

November 3, 2016, 7:00 pm

Film Screening: No Mas Bebes

November 6, 2016, 2:00 pm

Maternal Health: Supporting Healthy Women

November 17, 2016, 6:30 pm

Rotary International, Evanston

Gallery Talk: Maternal health issues

November 19, 2016, 11 am and 1 pm



Selah Freedom Featured Organization

Selah Freedom is a national organization providing education and training throughout the country, as well as teen prevention, outreach, and safe housing in the Midwest and Southeast regions of the United States. Selah Freedom's national headquarters is located in Sarasota, Florida.

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Selah Freedom actively confronts the issue of sex trafficking and is being upheld as the statewide model for how to effectively bring solutions to survivors of sex trafficking & exploitation. Selah is a Hebrew word which means to pause, rest, and reflect. We give survivors a chance to do just that. Women in our programs have an opportunity to dream again; to discover who it is they were created to be.

Selah Freedom recently secured a home in Chicagoland! It is the first of a two-home model and is beautifully warm and welcoming! This will serve as the perfect place for survivors to rest and restore. Selah Freedom will welcome survivors home for the holidays. Their intake line will open November 1, 2016.

GIVE YOUR TIME - Selah Freedom will need volunteers to provide transportation, teach nutrition, cook meals, lead arts & crafts, host group studies, movie nights, game nights, teach life skills, and more. Email volunteer@selahfreedom.com to get involved!

Film Screening: A Walk to Beautiful

December 1, 2016, 6:30 pm

Gallery Talk: Local women and sexual violence

December 10, 2016, 11 am and 1 pm

Sexual Violence: Stories of Survival and Hope

December 11, 2016, 2:00 pm

Other events of interest

A21's Walk For Freedom

Saturday, October 15 2016; 11:30 am - 1:30 pm

Lincoln Park (Grove #13), Chicago

A21's Walk For Freedom is a collective effort to heighten awareness of human trafficking and raise funds to abolish modern-day slavery one step at a time. Walk For Freedom will make its way around the world on October 15, shedding light on the 27 million men, women and children who are still in bondage. We invite you to JOIN US for our 3rd annual Walk For Freedom! On October 15, we will fight together as a global community to illuminate the darkness of human trafficking, and raise funds to rescue and restore more lives than ever before. In over 250 locations around the world, we will lace up our shoes, put black tape on our mouths, and march in single-file to eradicate modern-day slavery for GOOD! for more information visit: www.a21.org. (NCJW recognizes that the Walk For Freedom is on Shabbat but we are posting the information as a courtesy to those members who might be interested).

Updates and Information

SB 3007

Last month, Governor Rauner signed SB3007: The Survivor Support and Trafficking Prevention Act. This bill will provide state-funded services (including SNAP, TANF and Medicaid) for foreign-born survivors of trafficking, torture and other crimes!

SB3007 not only will provide meaningful supports for pre-certified survivors of trafficking it will also provide access to these programs to anyone preparing to file or waiting for a decision on a T-Visa, U-Visa or asylum. The law will go into effect on January 1, 2018.

Polaris Project: Get the Facts

Although slavery is commonly thought to be a thing of the past, human traffickers generate hundreds of billions of dollars in profits by trapping millions of people in horrific situations around the world, including here in the U.S. Traffickers use violence, threats, deception, debt bondage, and other manipulative tactics to force people to engage in commercial sex or to provide labor or services against their will. Although more research is needed on the scope of human trafficking, Polaris has compiled the facts and figures. [Click here](#).

Historic Sweep Nabs Over 1,000 Sex Buyers

The National Johns Suppression Initiative, a nationwide anti-trafficking operation targeting sex buyers, is reporting record breaking numbers from its most recent sting. You might be shocked by how many sex buyers were arrested in just a few weeks, but we're pleased to announce that cities from our CEASE Network (Cities Empowered Against Sexual Exploitation) were leading the charge to hold them accountable! [Click here](#) for the full article.

New State Policy Action Kits from EXODUS: NCJW's Anti-Sex Trafficking Initiative

NCJW has launched a series of the State Policy Action Kits on their three anti-sex trafficking state-level policy priorities: National

ATTEND VOLUNTEER TRAINING

Friday September 30th, 11-12 :30p
at Christian Heritage Academy
located at 315 Waukegan Rd,
Northfield. RSVP to

volunteer@selahfreedom.com

For more information visit
www.selahfreedom.com.



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.

Trafficking Hotline Posting Laws, Safe Harbor Laws, and Vacatur Laws. These State Policy Action Kits, complete with updated fact sheets, social media guides, messaging guides, and activity guides, are designed to help you take your advocacy to the next level. [Click here](#).

Each Action Kit includes:

- * A Fact Sheet for policy details and statistics
- * A Social Media Guide for advocacy using Twitter and Facebook
- * A Messaging Guide for op-eds and letters to the editor
- * An Activities Guide for raising public awareness

Exposing Sex Trafficking in US Cantinas & Bars

Earlier this month, Polaris released a report exposing brutal exploitation young women and girls from Mexico face in U.S. cantinas and bars. Since 2007, the Polaris operated National Human Trafficking Hotline has identified more than 1,300 women and girls who have been apparent victims of sex trafficking in illicit bars that operate largely beyond the reach of law enforcement. As many as 63% of the victims were minors and some were forced to have sex as much as 50 times a day.

[Click here](#) to read the full Polaris report "More Than Drinks For Sale: Exposing Sex Trafficking in Cantinas and Bars in the U.S.," which explores past and current efforts to fight this form of trafficking, and recommends strategies for the future.

[Click here](#) for a webinar discussing how thousands of women and girls from Mexico are forced into an underground sex economy in both Mexico and the United States. Human traffickers operate out of cantinas and bars, exploiting victims for profit.

Rotary Projects Address Human Trafficking

Rotary District 5180 is working on a large global grant to create a sustainable large scale project in the Sacramento CA region to combat human trafficking. "Human trafficking is the second biggest issue in the World (only behind drug trafficking) according to the FBI," states the project's executive summary. Working with a diverse group of local agencies and non-profits, the project design includes a broad-based, holistic education program and the establishment of an Assessment Center focused on young girls who have been victims of human trafficking. Future plans include broadening the scope of the Assessment Center. For more information on the project, or for any related questions, please contact [Dr. Brian K. Gladden](#) or [Bob Deering](#).

Rotary District 5110 in partnership with Rotarians in Manila is working on a project to combat sex trafficking in the Philippines. "In January 2016, the Greater Grants Pass Rotary Club conducted the "More Than A Survivor" service project in Southern Oregon, that featured survivors of sex trafficking from the United States for their talents and achievements beyond their story of survival. The photo exhibit was educational - what is trafficking and how do we protect our communities - and a message of hope for what great triumphs are possible from even the most tragic and terrible of experiences." A series of events following the "More Than A Survivor" project have culminated in the development of this global grant, working in partnership with the RC of Manpasan (Manila) and International Justice Mission (IJM was featured at the Seoul Convention). For more information contact [Caleb LaPlante](#).

Trafficking and Marijuana

In California in 2015, legal sales of marijuana in the state were estimated at \$2.7 billion and that number could balloon to \$6.4 billion by 2020. Marijuana cultivation is a poorly kept secret but



Resources

Books:

Sex Trafficking: Inside the Business of Modern Slavery by Siddharth Kara

Girls Like Us: Fighting for a World where Girls are not for Sale by Rachel Lloyd

The Johns: Sex for Sale and the Men Who Buy it by Victor Malarek

The Natashas: Inside the Global Sex Trade by Victor Malarek

Women Hold up Half the Sky: Turing Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide by Sheryl Wudunn and Nicholas Kristof

Podcasts:

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.

Websites:

[Polaris Project](#)
[National Human Trafficking Resource Center](#)
[URI North America](#)
[Heartland Alliance](#)
[STOP-IT Initiative Against Human Trafficking](#)
[American Jewish World Service](#)
[Chicago Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation](#)
[Selah Freedom](#)
[National Domestic Workers Alliance](#)

also growing is a hidden epidemic of sexual abuse, rape and human trafficking. "Some locals liken this climate to a "Wild West" - one in which abusers are emboldened and sometimes even protected."

- Seasonal marijuana trimmers, nicknamed "trim migrants," say they were coerced into sexual acts in exchange for pay.
- A teenage trimmer was held in captivity.
- A grower was found guilty of 15 felony counts, including rape and false imprisonment.

Despite evidence of a problem, law enforcement officials have put few resources into investigations of trafficking and sexual exploitation. Instead, they tend to focus on what they view as the root cause of the problem: the drug trade. [Click here](#) for the full article.

TAKE ACTION

Toiletry and Gift Card Donations Needed Year-round!

Donation Drop off locations:

Encore & More: 1107 Central Ave, Wilmette
Hadassah Thrift Shop, 405 Lake Cook Rd, Deerfield
Hadassah Office, 60 Revere Dr #800, Northbrook
Temple Shalom, 3480 N Lake Shore Dr, Chicago

If you or your organization would consider organizing a collection drive or a packing program, please contact Beth Gordon bbgordon1@gmail.com or Donna Fishman at donna@jcastchicago.org.

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 tote bag, or donated in bulk. (You might even Ask your local businesses if they have items to donate and share this list.)

toothbrush and toothpaste (* ask your dentist!)

hand sanitizer

hand lotion

granola or power bar

pack of tissues

Gallon Ziploc Bags

\$5 McDonald's Gift Cards

Prevention Bag Packing List:

The Dreamcatcher Foundation regularly visits girls living in at-risk communities, including teen-aged single mothers. These items may be packed in a tote bag and donated in bulk.

shampoo

liquid body soap

dove soap

deodorant

lotion or moisturizer

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.

- [How to parent against rape culture \(for one thing, start young\)](#)
 - [Man allegedly set deadly fire after woman took \\$10, refused sex](#)
 - [Wisconsin veterinarian charged with sex trafficking](#)
 - [New Laws Aim To Help Human Trafficking Victims](#)
 - [Chicago Gets Another Task Force on Human Trafficking](#)
 - [Illinois state House candidate applauds bills targeting human trafficking](#)
 - [Waterloo man faces sex trafficking charges](#)
 - [Task force to help victims of sex trafficking](#)
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Jewish Coalition Against Sex Trafficking (JCAST) Chicago
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