



Unique Obstacles Put Transgender People At Risk of Trafficking

Transgender individuals face a multitude of unique obstacles in their daily lives. It is not uncommon for trans folk, especially youth, to face condemnation from family members and friends after they come out. Vital resources, like financial support and access to healthcare, can be revoked. Furthermore, transgender individuals are often subject to widespread mistreatment and violence, sometimes forcing them to fend for themselves.

Read more at:

<https://polarisproject.org/blog/2017/03/10/unique-obstacles-put-transgender-people-risk-trafficking>

JCAST Chicago March Blog

International Women's Day by Jacqueline Babb

Eva, our family's Au Pair from Czech Republic, commented to me on March 8 about the lack of care and attention paid to women in the United States on International Women's Day. Eva's experience in Europe was a day for women to be cherished for their contributions to life, motherhood, and society. It's a day when men hand out small yellow flowers on the street to women, just because.

Read more at:

<http://www.jcastchicago.org/international-womens-day/>

Upcoming Events

Selah Freedom Volunteer Connect Meeting

Wednesday, April 19th 6 PM - 7 PM

Learn more about all of the volunteer opportunities at Selah Freedom, meet our staff and other volunteers. We look forward to meeting you!

RSVP to Volunteer@selahfreedom.com to attend

Selah Freedom Volunteer Connect Meeting

Saturday, April 22nd 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM

Located at Fourth Presbyterian Church
126 E. Chestnut Street (at Michigan Avenue)
Chicago, Illinois

This meeting gives you an opportunity to learn more about all of the volunteer opportunities at Selah Freedom and meet our team. We look forward to meeting you!

RSVP to Volunteer@selahfreedom.com to attend.



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, NCJW
Betsy Lazerow, JCFS, JCARES
Carole Levine, NCJW
Rae Luskin, NCJW
Sherry Petlin, NCJW
Bonnie Ribet, NCJW
Susan Rifas, JUF, JWF, JCAST SC Co-Chair
Heather Ross, NCJW, Hakafa
Mara Ruff, JUF
Stacy Saef, NCJW
Deborah Zions, NCJW, SHALVA

Jacqueline Babb, Staff

Melissa Prober, Staff



JCAST Chicago is an initiative of the National Council of Jewish Women Chicago North Shore and is supported by the Jewish Women's Foundation of Metropolitan Chicago.



Selah Freedom Care Team Training

Wednesday, March 22 7:30 PM - 9 PM

Willow Creek North Shore (Located in 4th & 5th Grade Room)

2200 Shermer Rd. Glenview, IL 60026

Volunteer opportunities with survivors include teaching life skills, tutoring, cooking meals, leading AA or NA groups, arts/crafts activities, fitness group, game/movie nights, decorating for special birthdays and holidays and more. Application and background check must be completed prior to volunteering on the Care Team.

RSVP to Volunteer@selahfreedom.com to attend.

MONEY MAKE' M SMILE is the journey 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 would lead to their ultimate demise. However, in the end, it is not the characters who decide their fates but the audience.

April 14-30, 2017

For more information,

visit: <http://victorygardens.org/also-playing/money-make-m-smile/>

Health Care Summit on Domestic Violence, Human Trafficking & Sexual Assault

Wednesday, May 17 9:30 a.m.- 3:45 p.m.

Swedish Covenant Hospital

Anderson Pavilion Auditorium

2751 W. Winona Avenue

Chicago, IL 60625

The Health Care Summit on Domestic Violence, Human Trafficking & Sexual Assault aims to inspire community collaboration and provide an opportunity for networking as we address the healthcare sector's critical role in identification and response to survivors of violence. Specific topics to be addressed include the importance of the health care setting and response, guiding principles and practical steps, and navigating the reporting and documentation challenges within these issues.

RSVP

at <https://swedishcovenantfoundation.org/health-care-summit/>

Updates and Information

JCAST Chicago Wants to Connect with You!

Educating our community on sex trafficking takes a village. We are looking for people who want to get involved to speak to groups and groups who are seeking speakers. If you are interested in having JCAST come speak to your religious or secular group or becoming a speaker, please contact [Jacqueline Babb](#) to schedule a date.

Are you a member of a local Rotary or other group? JCAST Chicago is available to give a presentation to your group, religious or secular, about sex trafficking and how we can put an end to this modern-day form of slavery. Contact [Jacqueline Babb](#) to schedule a

Featured Organization

National Human Trafficking Hotline

Human trafficking is a form of modern slavery that occurs in every state, including Illinois. The NHTRC works closely with service providers, law enforcement, and other professionals in Illinois to serve victims and survivors of trafficking, respond to human trafficking cases, and share information and resources.

For more information, please visit

<https://humantraffickinghotline.org/state/illinois>



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.



presentation.

The Dreamcatcher Foundation fights to end human trafficking in Chicago by ending the sexual exploitation of at-risk youth and helps current prostitutes find confidence and stability beyond the limitations of their current lifestyle. The Dreamcatcher Foundation fosters confidence, courage, independence, and inner strength within young people in disadvantaged areas

Volunteer to collect toiletries for the women that the Foundation helps. Contact [Jacqueline Babb](#) for more information.

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 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

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](#)

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 Jacqueline at communications@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.

[National Strategy to Combat Human Trafficking](#)

[EDI Helps Sex Trade Survivors](#)

[Denial of Harm: Sex Trafficking, Backpage, and Free Speech Absolutism](#)

[Backpage's Sex Ads are Gone. Child Trafficking? Hardly.](#)

[State of Illinois, Polaris and Clear Channel Outdoor Americas Launch Anti-Human Trafficking Digital Billboard Campaign Across Chicago](#)

Jewish Coalition Against Sex Trafficking (JCAST) Chicago
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