

October 2018

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JCAST September Blog: White Paper-Traffick-Free Evanston

JCAST Chicago Releases new Resource to Combat Sex Trafficking

The Jewish Community Against Sex Trafficking (JCAST) Chicago is excited to release a new white paper to assist organizations and communities in combating sex trafficking. We released the document on September 26th during the holiday of Sukkot. During Sukkot, Jews build sukkot or shelters. We recognize individuals experiencing sex trafficking are often kicked out of their homes or leave home to escape violence and other abuse, and become homeless. JCAST Chicago, in an effort to provide support ("shelter") to survivors, calls on government and community leaders to work with us to combat sex trafficking and create more services, including housing, for those escaping sex trafficking.

We are focusing on the Evanston area as a pilot community to build public awareness, reach out to elected officials, and explore the outcomes of legislation used in other parts of the country. Because Evanston and Skokie areas are convenient for men living in the City and the North Shore, many traffickers set up in Evanston. Additionally, there are many Evanston resources and leaders who support these efforts. Finally, because Evanston borders Chicago, we hope our efforts can also prevent sex trafficking activities in the Northern part of Chicago.

This resource sprang from our successful forum for Evanston and Skokie nonprofit and government leaders in January of 2018. The event commemorated sex trafficking awareness month and was planned with the YWCA of Evanston/Northshore, North Shore (IL) Chapter, The Links, Incorporated, and the Chicago Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation (CAASE). The half day forum welcomed a capacity crowd of social service and government leaders to build awareness and explore how their work is connected to combating sex trafficking. Together we increased our knowledge of sex trafficking and strengthened the movement's momentum.

During the summer, the conversation continued as JCAST Chicago and Links leaders met with Illinois State Representative Robyn Gabel. During the meeting, we discussed the importance of combating sex trafficking and potential next steps. Rep. Gabel asked for a summary of legislation in Illinois and across the country. Her request led to the production of this white paper. The white paper explores efforts to combat sex trafficking by regulating businesses used to promote or further sex trafficking activities including massage parlors, hotels, and other legal businesses. It also examines improvements to safe harbor laws supporting individuals fleeing sex trafficking.

We welcome your efforts to distribute this white paper widely and opportunities to partner to further combat this form of modern day slavery.

[Click here to download a pdf of the White Paper.](#)



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 an Action Teams, email info@jcastchicago.org.

Steering Committee Co-Chairs:

Donna Fishman, NCJW
Susan Rifas, JUF, JWF

Steering Committee:

Ronna Ash, Hadassah
Susan Block, Hadassah
Cathy Carmody, NCJW
Beth Gordon,
Donna Gutman, NCJW, ICJW, CEASE Network
Sara Kalish, Fiedler Hillel at Northwestern University
Tracy Medansky, JWF
Sherry Petlin, NCJW
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Heather Ross, NCJW, Hakafa
Stacy Saef, NCJW
Joan Zahnle, NCJW CNS
Diane Zidman, Rochelle Zell High School

Gayle Nelson, Engagement and Development Director



DONATE TODAY!

Ensure there is a Chicago Jewish voice against sex trafficking and that we are able to continue our important work throughout 2018 and beyond. Make your gift on our secure website today!



Featured Organization of the Month

American Hospital Association (AHA)



On October 1st, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), with the help of the American Hospital Association (AHA), released new codes to help hospital personnel identify and treat survivors of sex and labor trafficking. Personnel use the codes in patient medical files and billing.

Health care providers are often in contact with individuals caught in sex trafficking. For example, 16% of individuals active in prostitution report being assaulted by one of their clients and many pimps use violence to control the individuals they sell. Additionally, many individuals caught in sex trafficking are treated for sexually transmitted infections and HIV. Given the potential impact, these codes are critical, but given the misperceptions surrounding human trafficking, training provided by the AHA and others is essential. Training can also assist medical personnel in providing survivors referrals and other resources to help them exit these dangerous situations.

Training includes information on signs an individual is being trafficked and actions that professionals can take to support patients they suspect may be a victim. Some of the signs include inconsistencies in the patient's story, a controlling individual with the patient, and malnutrition. Some of the CDC recommendations include: be careful with documentation since the trafficker may be able to see the record, educate professionals on the red flags, and identify the community resources that are

available to survivors. With awareness and education campaigns, utilization of these codes will assist law personnel and government leaders in identifying the amount of human trafficking activity occurring in specific communities and throughout the US.

The AHA began educating their members on human trafficking through their Initiative Against Violence in 2016 which focused on media and workplace violence. The AHA's goal is to educate its members and the health care field in general on sex trafficking. This can include creating educational tools health care professionals can use when they come in contact with a survivor. Currently, the AHA is seeking member feedback and sharing lessons learned. They are also planning monthly webinars. For more information or to participate in upcoming webinars, visit their <https://www.aha.org/news/blog/2018-10-09-aha-stat-blog-three-questions-ed-physician-using-new-icd-10-codes-help-stop>.



HerStory Theaters: Monger

On September 16, NCJW Chicago North Shore, Hadassah and JCAST Chicago co-sponsored an outing to see Monger at the Greenhouse Theater in Chicago. The powerful production was preceded by a reception with Her Story Theater Founder and Producing Artistic Director Mary Bonnett and Ink 180's Chris Baker. Following the performance, Ms Bonnett led a discussion with Mr. Baker as well as JCAST Chicago Steering Committee members Diane Zidman and Susan Block.



The Intersection Between Immigration, Sex Trafficking and Domestic Violence

On October 4, JCAST Chicago presented a powerful panel discussion on the connection between immigration, domestic violence, and sex trafficking at the Deerfield Presbyterian Church, 824 Waukegan Rd., Deerfield. The program was well attended and was co-sponsored by NCJW Chicago North Shore, the Highland Park - Highwood Legal Aid Clinic, the National Immigrant Justice Center, and the North Shore Illinois Chapter of the Links, Inc.



JCAST Chicago was excited to welcome Congressman Brad Schneider on October 4 to our event discussing the connection between domestic violence, immigration, and sex trafficking.



JCAST Chicago's Gayle Nelson shared the stage with speakers from the Highland Park-Highwood Legal Aid Clinic, National Immigrant Justice Center and the Lake County State's Attorney's Office.



TAKE ACTION

Toiletry and Gift Card Donations Needed Year-round to support young women trafficked in Chicago that are helped by the Dreamcatcher Foundation.

Donation Drop off locations:

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 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 Chicago secure speaking "gigs" at Jewish organizations. Contact Donna at info@jcastchicago.org with names and contacts at synagogues, chavurot, and other Jewish organizations.



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!



Resources

Books:

- *Sex Trafficking: Inside the Business of Modern Slavery*, Siddharth Kara
- *Girls Like Us: Fighting for a World where Girls are not for Sale*, Rachel Lloyd
- *The Johns: Sex for Sale and the Men Who Buy it*, Victor Malarek
- *The Natashas: Inside the Global Sex Trade*, Victor Malarek
- *Women Hold up Half the Sky: Turing Oppression into Opportunity for Women*

* 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 instructions and samples.

* 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.

Worldwide, Sheryl Wudunn and Nicholas Kristof

Podcasts:

IN PLAIN SIGHT Podcast to End Human Trafficking Each week, the IN PLAIN SIGHT Podcast features 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](#)



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 links that may be of interest.

- [Ending Sexual Violence by Raising Better Boys](#)
- [Normalising sex work benefits pimps and traffickers](#)
- [Deerfield man charged after attempting to meet 14-year-old for sex](#)
- [What Teenagers Think About the Allegations Against Brett Kavanaugh](#)
- [When boys humiliate girls at school](#)
- [Slavery in Suburbia: Sex trafficking of children flourishing in the Hudson Valley](#)
- [Rauner Signs Bill Removing Barriers for Human Trafficking Survivors](#)
- [Buying Sex Should Not Be Legal](#)
- [75 Sex Buyers In Cook County Arrested In Prostitution Crackdown](#)
- [7 Arrested In Lake County Prostitution Sting](#)
- [Child pornography may make comeback after court ruling guts regulations](#)

Recently, Governor Rauner signed several bills into law that will have a positive impact on the safety, well-being, and dignity of survivors of sexual harm in our state. Three in particular are:

1. Police Can No Longer Claim "Consensual" Sexual Contact with Someone in Custody: Custodial Sexual Misconduct - HB5597 is effective immediately
2. Victims of Trafficking Can Seal Court Records - a tool for moving past their abuse and exploitation - HB5494 is effective immediately
3. Survivors Will Receive Medical Treatment from Specially Trained Professionals: SASETA Amendments - HB5245 will be fully effective in 2022

[Click here](#) for more detailed information from CAASE on these three bills.

Sex, Lies & Media Volunteer Presentation

Do you know any kids or young adults who use social media? If so, this Sex, Lies & Media Volunteer Presentation is for YOU. We want you to be as educated as possible on the tactics sexual predators use so you are equipped to share this with others. Social media is the most prevalent way traffickers are connecting to our kids and this presentation will teach you how kids can stay safe online and how to identify and discuss sex trafficking and exploitation.

Date: Saturday, October 20th

Time: 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Location: Soul City Church, 1150 W. Adams St, Chicago, IL.

Please RSVP to me at Lisa.E@SelahFreedom.com and be sure to indicate which location you'd like to attend.

Jewish Coalition Against Sex Trafficking (JCAST) Chicago
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JCAST Chicago is an initiative of NCJW Chicago North Shore