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Stop Trafficking!

Anti-Human Trafficking Newsletter

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Anti-Human Trafficking Methodology:

• Prevention
• Protection
• Prosecution
• Partnership

“We’ve talked (during the Clinton Global Initiative) about development and how it has to include women and girls -- because by every benchmark, nations that educate their women and girls end up being more successful.”

“I want to discuss an issue that relates to these challenges. It ought to concern every person, because it is a debasement of our common humanity. It ought to concern every community, because it tears at our social fabric. It ought to concern every business, because it distorts markets. It ought to concern every nation, because it endangers public health and fuels violence and organized crime. I’m talking about the injustice, the outrage, of human trafficking, which must be called by its true name -- modern slavery.”

“...Our message to the millions (of victims) around the world -- we see you. We hear you. We insist on your dignity. We share your belief that if just given the chance, you will forge a life equal to your talents and worthy of your dreams.”

“Our fight against human trafficking is one of the great human rights causes of our time. The United States will continue to lead -- in partnership with you. The change we seek will not come easily, but we can draw strength from the movements of the past. For we know that every life saved, in the words of that great Proclamation, is ‘an act of justice,' worthy of 'the considerate judgment of mankind and the gracious favor of Almighty God.’”

(Pres. B. Obama, Clinton Global Initiative, 09.2012)
Business Coalition

Nine global companies (ManpowerGroup, NXP, ExxonMobil, Coca-Cola, Carlson, Delta Air Lines, Ford, LexisNexis, Travelport, and Cision) formed the Global Business Coalition Against Trafficking (http://www.gbcat.org/).

The Coalition members will focus on four key areas where global companies have the most significant impact:

- **Training and Education**: Employee, vendor and sub-contractor training programs.
- **Supply Chain**: Identifying and preventing forced labor in supply chains and operations.
- **Sex Trafficking**: Raising awareness of company policies to combat sex trafficking, particularly of children in travel and tourism.
- **Communication and Outreach**: Thought leadership and transfer of best practices among businesses and governments, international organizations, non-profits and civil society for the purpose of knowledge and idea sharing on solutions to address human trafficking. (http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/manpowergroup-helps-launch-the-global-business-coalition-against-human-trafficking-171222241.html)

*‘Creating & Organizing Human Trafficking Collaboratives’*

Kelly Heinrich and Nancy Hatamiya prepared this “Guidebook to Build and Revitalize Your Task Force, Coalition and Working Group” to assist in improving the performance of anti-trafficking coalitions. They explain in the Introduction (pgs. iii-iv), “The goal of the guidebook is to help create or revitalize an anti-trafficking task force, coalition or working group. The success ... depends on its:

- vision and mission statements;
- membership and leadership;
- organizational structure and operating rules;
- strategic plan and operating plan; &
- effectiveness of meetings.

“It is widely acknowledged worldwide that combating human trafficking requires the involvement and assistance of countless individuals and organizations” which “come together with varied purposes, such as coordinating the law enforcement response of multiple jurisdictions; developing protocols between countries on trafficking at their shared border; launching outreach efforts for prevention or identification; and creating referral networks among service providers. Their efforts can and have been neighborhoodwide, citywide, regional to include several cities, statewide, regional to include several states, nationwide, crossborder and regional to include several countries.”

Collaboratives, often large in size, can easily “stumble under the weight of:

- a lack of a vision, mission and strategies to achieve them;
- members who have no decision-making authority;
- members who are not fully committed to the mission;
- ineffective leadership;
- the absence of clear roles, lines of authority and rules; and
- lengthy meetings without a defined purpose.”

“These common problems can derail a collaborative and prevent it from achieving its goals. Additionally, the role of creating and sustaining a collaborative is thrust upon anti-trafficking professionals with tremendous expertise in their service, legal, advocacy or law enforcement role but sometimes limited experience in running a collaborative. Professionals in strategic planning and board development can be hired to come in and help, but this is typically not feasible given limited resources.”

Therefore, the guidebook “offers solutions to the most common issues faced by collaboratives. With features like checklists, feedback forms, tips, writing exercises and trafficking-specific examples, it is very practical and user-friendly.” The Guidebook can assist in creating a strong and effective organization, as well as pinpoint areas needing improvement.
Education: the NY State Anti-Trafficking Coalition

Made up of diverse service providers and advocates in New York dedicated to ending human trafficking and coordinating resources for victims, the Coalition seeks to establish dialogue and discuss service options in a range of cases and enable cross-communication regarding each agency’s work with trafficked persons. (http://www.nyc.gov/html/endht/html/home/home.shtml)

Following are a number of resources listed on the Coalition website:

Resources for Service Providers
The Human Trafficking Services Resource Directory, prepared by the Office of the Criminal Justice Coordinator, is a referral guide to be used as a tool for service providers, law enforcement agencies, attorneys, and victims. To access the directory, go to: http://www.nyc.gov/html/endht/downloads/pdf/human_trafficking_resource_directory.pdf

Resources for Hospital Workers
The Mayor’s Office Survivors of Human Exploitation Working Group has partnered with Safe Horizon to develop a free, anti-human trafficking introductory training tool specifically for medical and mental professionals, entitled, ‘Recognizing Human Trafficking: Guidelines for Health Care Providers’ (http://www.nyc.gov/html/endht/downloads/ppt/training.ppt)

Hospital workers can use training manual, ‘Caring for Trafficked Persons: A Guide for Health Providers’, from the International Organization for Migration (IOM) to help identify trafficking victims, learn how to take care of trafficking victims once they are identified, and educate their coworkers about the issue.

Resources for Teachers
The Frederick Douglass Family Foundation launched a ‘100 Days to Freedom’ curriculum, a service-learning project that encourages secondary school students both to commemorate history and advocate to end human trafficking. The curriculum is entitled, ‘A Service-Learning Project to Create a New Proclamation of Freedom’ and covers the period September 22, 2012 - January 1, 2013 (http://fdff.org/docs/100days-sl-project.pdf)

Teachers can also raise students’ awareness about human trafficking by using the ‘Dreams Die Hard’ study guide and documentary from ‘Free the Slaves’.

Resources for Businesses
Businesses can use the International Labor Organization’s (ILO) handbook for employers and businesses. This handbook helps businesses avoid employing forced labor and outlines what businesses need to include in their corporate social responsibility programs to successfully fight forced labor in their supply chains. (http://www.ilo.org/sapfl/Informationresources/ILOPublications/WCMS_101171/lang--en/index.htm)

New York Coalition of Religious Congregations Stop Trafficking of People

NY-CRC-STOP is a coalition of 27 religious congregations of women and men within the NY metropolitan area searching for ways to combat human trafficking through educating the public, working for legislation to prevent human trafficking, and providing safe houses for victims. The members collaborate with the New York State Anti-Trafficking Coalition as well. (http://lifewaynetwork.org/coalitions/nycrc-stop/)
Anti-Trafficking Research: A Global Coalition

CATW has been an effective non-governmental presence internationally and helped change the terms of the debate over prostitution and trafficking in many regions of the globe and at the United Nations.

CATW is an active worldwide network against trafficking and prostitution, able to work jointly and separately in Africa, Asia, Australia, Europe, Latin America, and North America, with national coalitions in over fifteen countries including the Philippines, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Thailand, Venezuela, Puerto Rico, Chile, the U.S., Canada, Norway, France and Greece.

CATW and its partners provide multi-level services, financial aid, psychological support, housing, and legal advocacy for victims of sex trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation.

CATW advocates for legislation on local, national, and international levels to prevent women and children from becoming victims of human trafficking. It engages in creative, principled advocacy and campaigns designed to create the social, political, and legal conditions that are inhospitable to human trafficking.

CATW publishes many in-depth studies of these complex problems, e.g., ‘A Comparative Study of Women Trafficked in the Migration Process’. The demand for women and children for commercial sex fuels sex trafficking. CATW is a leading architect of the ‘end demand’ strategy against human trafficking. CATW and its partners carry out groundbreaking programs to train youth, teachers, professionals, police, governmental authorities and the public about the harm of sexual exploitation and to prevent women and children from becoming victims.

CATW is a chief promoter of the Nordic Model, the world’s first human rights based legal approach to ending human trafficking. Originating in Sweden (1999), it is the world’s first law to recognize prostitution as violence against women and a violation of human rights. It criminalizes the purchase of commercial sex and offers the exploited an exit strategy. The law has been passed in the Republic of Korea (S. Korea, 2004), Norway (2009), and Iceland (2009).

In 2008, there was little resistance to governments seeking to legalize prostitution as a ‘legitimate’ form of work and trying to regulate and tax a ‘sex sector’ in societies. Today that attitude is changing. CATW has influenced the anti-sex industry and anti-trafficking legislation in the Philippines, Venezuela, Bangladesh, Japan, Sweden and the United States.

Strong Legislative Strategies: Washington Engage

This Washington State coalition seeks to eradicate sex and labor trafficking in the State by providing knowledge and tools that empower government, business, and grassroots leaders to take action. Long term strategic goals include:

- Enactment of comprehensive state law to combat human trafficking.
- Creation of a comprehensive human trafficking prevention strategy.

The Washington Engage website delineates the laws that have been enacted to date, by categorizing them under the 3 P’s (Prosecution, Prevention, Protection). One may download the summary of anti-trafficking legislation up through 2011 and the 12 pieces of legislation passed in 2012. Go to: http://waengage.com/wa-legislation/
Court Sides with ‘Backpage.com’

The bipartisan bill, SB 6251, which made advertising commercial sexual activity with a minor a class C felony, passed earlier this year in the WA Legislature. This was an effort to hold Backpage.com responsible for allowing users to post online ads of sexual activity with kids.

However in July 2012 a federal court agreed to Backpage.com’s motion for a preliminary injunction against that law, which would impose third party criminal liability on website providers. The constitutional issues raised include the Free Speech Clause under the First Amendment, the Dormant Commerce Clause, and the Supremacy Clause since SB 6251 will likely conflict with the Communication Decency Act (47 U.S.C. § 230(c)(1)).

On the First Amendment analysis, the court acknowledged that advertising is a form of commercial speech that warrants low priority for free speech protection. However, the law’s language has problems with vagueness and overbreadth. The ‘overbreadth doctrine’ holds that if a statute is so broadly written that it deters free expression, then it can be struck down on its face because of its chilling effect — even if it also prohibits acts that may legitimately be forbidden.

Washington Engage
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Washington State has some of the nation’s most progressive anti-trafficking laws but few jurisdictions are effectively implementing those laws, and prevention is still in its infancy. Washington Engage’s plan is to tap into the simple yet profound power of activated grassroots effort to advance the fight against human trafficking by empowering grassroots leaders under its Community Action Initiative. The Coalition is building teams of trained and concerned citizens and equipping them with a tool kit of prevention techniques to take into the community for grass-roots awareness among law enforcement, service providers, educators, etc. In this way prevention of human trafficking will be collective, sustainable, and meet the needs of each community within a replicable model. These efforts complement the actions taken by legislators and the business sector.

(http://www.waengage.com)

“Modern anti-trafficking laws must be passed and enforced and justice systems must be strengthened. Victims must be cared for. So here in the United States, Congress should renew the Trafficking Victims Protection Act. Whether you are a conservative or a liberal, Democrat or Republican, this is a no-brainer. This is something we should all agree on. We need to get that done.” (President Obama, Clinton Global Initiative, 09.2012)

“Prostitution is illegal and child prostitution is particularly despicable,” said Washington State Attorney General Rob McKenna. “Kids advertised on Backpage.com, often runaways, don’t deserve to be victimized over and over, bought and sold like inanimate objects. Backpage.com says they work to prevent kids from being sold through their website, yet more than 150 cases of kids advertised there have been reported over the last three years. Meanwhile, Village Voice Media, which owns Backpage.com, reaps millions in annual profits from prostitution advertisements.

Rather than fight the selling of children through responsible business practices, Backpage.com has chosen to fight in our courts those who battle human trafficking. While they are entitled to do that, we will do all that is within our power to see that they fail. Promoting illegal acts such as child prostitution is not protected by federal law or the United States Constitution. We strongly disagree with the court’s decision and will consult with lawmakers and county prosecutors about our options moving forward.”

Sen. Jeanne Kohl-Welches, D-Seattle, who sponsored SB 6251, said the ruling “proves it is time for Congress to reexamine the Federal Communications Decency Act and its application to websites that feature escort and adult content sections. The state of the Internet has changed dramatically since 1996, when the CDA was enacted by Congress. I disagree that the Constitution provides protections for speech advertising illegal activity. One thing remains clear — we must continue the war against sexual exploitation of children.”
Advocating for Trafficking Survivors

By providing combined social, shelter, and legal services the Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking (CAST) is a unique coalition. In order for victims to become survivors CAST believes all three dimensions are needed — a social service advocate to ensure access to benefits and services and to provide supportive counseling, validation, and normalization; a shelter or housing program to ensure basic necessities are provided; and critical legal services that assist victims in navigating complex criminal, civil, immigration, and other legal proceedings that ultimately deliver the person to full status and work authorization.

Once referred to CAST, clients are assessed for emergency needs, such as housing, clothing, food, and safety. Then they have a comprehensive assessment and legal interview that also addresses safety. Attorneys evaluate the legal needs and provide each client with the necessary education and information to make an informed choice about how to proceed with their case.

CAST's social services goal is to help clients recover from years of abuse and trauma so they become self-sufficient, thriving members of the community. Services include: access to food, shelter and job training; intensive case management (information, assistance and legal education); mental health and wellness services (counseling, art therapy, peer support); alternative non-Western healing therapies that are culturally appropriate; education and life skills training (English as a Second Language, computer and financial literacy).

The CAST shelter provides physically and psychologically safe housing and access to a multi-cultural, multi-lingual staff with extensive expertise in working with survivors of trafficking and other forms of trauma. The shelter program uses the following principles: focus on the strengths and attributes of survivors to increase their self-esteem; respect of confidentiality and safety; foster self-awareness and healing; build communities; provide residents with skills in conflict resolution, crisis prevention and management, and financial planning for personal stability; support for clients to start anew by articulating and realizing personal goals.

CAST's legal services program works collaboratively with clients, community-based organizations, public-interest attorneys, and numerous government agencies to ensure survivors of trafficking are provided linguistically appropriate, culturally sensitive, and victim-centered legal services. These services include: securing release from detention; preparation for criminal trials; representation in removal proceedings; advocacy to protect rights as victim witnesses and to obtain Continued Presence and Certification; obtaining child custody and restraining orders against traffickers; establishing eligibility for refugee benefits; filing for T-Visas created specifically for victims of trafficking. CAST coordinates networks of pro bono attorneys and founded the Trafficking Legal Clinic (TLC) to meet survivors’ legal needs.

Ima Matul
One trafficking survivor whom President Obama praised was Ima, who was helped by CAST. Obama recounted, “She grew up in Indonesia. At age 17 she was given the opportunity to work as a nanny in the U.S. But when she arrived, it turned out to be a nightmare. Cooking, cleaning -- 18-hour days, seven days a week. One beating was so bad it sent her to the emergency room. And finally, she escaped. And with the help from a group that cared, today Ima has a stable job. She’s an advocate -- she’s even testified before Congress.” (Clinton Global Initiative, 09.2012)
United Nations Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking

UN.GIFT was conceived to promote the global fight on human trafficking, on the basis of international agreements reached at the UN. Among the UN.GIFT partners are:

The Hilton Vienna Hotel became a UN.GIFT partner in 2010. The Hilton Hotel agreed to disseminate educational leaflets on human trafficking, at the Hilton Vienna Hotel for its patrons and other travelers, translated into 6 languages (German, English, Russian, Italian, French and Arabic). Personnel from the Hilton Vienna undertake regular awareness training on human trafficking and training to assist in identifying potential victims.

Second Chance Employment Services is the only employment agency in the world providing placement services for victims of human trafficking and domestic violence, thereby leading these women to true economic and physical freedom. Second Chance provides training and employment assistance to women of all nationalities and in numerous languages. Second Chance became a UN.GIFT partner in 2011 and contributed to the e-learning tool on human trafficking for the private sector.

(http://www.ungift.org/knowledgehub/business/partners.html)

Corporate Stance Against Human Trafficking and Slavery

The Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul, Provinces of the West (Los Altos, Hills, CA) and of St. Louise (St. Louis, MO), in keeping with their conviction regarding the dignity of each person, have adopted a ‘United Stand’ in support of human rights and in opposition to human trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation and forced labor, which states:

“We, the Daughters of Charity of the United States and Canada, in keeping with our conviction regarding the dignity of each person, adopt a united stand in support of human rights and oppose human trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation and forced labor.

We will amplify our opposition to this violation of human dignity by implementing the following interventions:

• Advocate for policymaking which promotes detection and rescue of victims.

• Endeavor to educate first line healthcare providers to identify signs/symptoms of the trafficked person in order to secure a safe rescue and re-entry.

• Exercise consumer practices which are consistent with our commitment to human rights and trafficking prevention measures.

• Pray for the victims of human trafficking and for those working to help victims rebuild their lives.”

The 650 Daughters of Charity of the United States and Canada serve in 28 US states, Washington, D.C., and Montreal, Quebec Canada; worldwide, 17,000 Daughters of Charity serve in 90 countries around the world.

We the Holy Union Sisters, United States Province, declare our Corporate Stance with those who are combating trafficking with women and children. We unite ourselves with other Catholic Sisters throughout the world, all law enforcement, all people of good will, all faith based efforts to put a stop to this modern day form of slavery.

Brief History

Slavery has been ongoing in the history of the world but today we have more slaves than ever existed in human history. Contributing to this form of abuse and oppression are globalization, which crosses all borders for the purpose of trade; the creation of the European Union and its accompanying relaxed border controls; the breakup of the USSR which left most of Eastern Europe in poverty and political disarray. The combination of poverty and a relaxed movement between and among countries has created conditions that criminals have been quick to exploit to the full. They have exploited it to the extent that the human trafficking of women and children for the purpose of commercial sexual exploitation is now the third largest criminal activity in the world after arms and drug dealing.

Reasons and Objectives for Taking this Corporate Stance

Human trafficking is the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of persons, through force, coercion, or fraud for the purpose of exploitation. It follows the laws of supply and demand. Men are demanding their pleasure from the exploitation of women and children. The moral danger of the criminals’ use of the Internet cannot be overstated.

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Corporate Stance cont. from pg. 7

- Our Collegial Assembly Documents call us to action.
- We hold sacred our charism of union hearing it now as an urgent call to live in solidarity, interdependence, and justice with all peoples and cultures.
- We unite our hearts and energies to intensify our passion for living the mission of Jesus Christ by being in solidarity with those whose lives are diminished through injustice, violence, and exclusion acting prophetically and in collaboration with others to change oppressive systems and structures.
- We commit to local, corporate, and practical action for systemic change. Implications and Follow-up

We, the Holy Union Sisters, United States Province, in addition to our prayers, pledge to actively seek out opportunities to collaborate with others who are engaged in the struggle of combating trafficking with women and children. We will seek out these opportunities on the local, state and national levels. (Province Assembly 2010)

United Nations: Media

Media plays an indispensable role in educating people about the many manifestations of global human trafficking, presenting the problem in human terms and in all its painful detail. Yet media coverage is weak in many parts of the world. Some news media outlets are not yet aware of the trafficking phenomenon, or confuse it with other issues such as illegal migration and alien smuggling.

We, Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange, embracing our mission of unity and reconciliation, are impelled:
- To restore right relationships in order to advance the global community of life;
- To denounce all forms of human trafficking and slavery within the United States and the international community. We commit the gift of ourselves and our Congregational resources:
  - To educate about the root causes, consequences and magnitude of human trafficking and slavery;
  - To minister to survivors freed from any form of modern day slavery;
  - To use our strength as consumers and investors to promote a just society that eliminates the incentives for human trafficking;
  - To be more aware of, identify and report potential victims to the National Hotline: 1-888-3737-888.

Informative Web Sites:
(Each contains information related to human trafficking)

- More of the many anti-trafficking coalitions:
  - Florida Coalition Against Human Trafficking
    http://www.stophumantrafficking.org/
  - Bilateral Safety Corridor Coalition
    http://www.bscccoalition.org/
  - Soroptimist International
    http://www.soroptimist.org/whoweare/program_StopTrafficking.html
  - Unanima International
    http://www.unanima-international.org/eng/what-we-do/programs/human-trafficking
  - Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking in Humans
    http://acrath.org.au/

U.N. Media cont.

The media has a large role to play in mobilizing public support and involvement to help prevent and combat trafficking. Due to its reach and ability to mold public opinion, it is a powerful tool of social change. Investigative journalism on trafficking needs to be promoted. However, media publicity should take into consideration the approach to ensure there is no violation of the rights of the victims and survivors. Hence a need to develop minimum standards for the media. There are numerous short film clips listed on the UN website that can be embedded in other websites. Go to: http://www.ungift.org/knowledgehub/en/multimedia.html

Stop Trafficking! is dedicated exclusively to fostering an exchange of information among religious congregations, their friends and collaborating organizations, working to eliminate all forms of trafficking of human beings.

Use the following web address to access back issues of Stop Trafficking! http://www.stopenslavement.org/archives.htm

To contribute information, or make requests to be on the mailing list, please contact: jeansds2010@yahoo.com

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