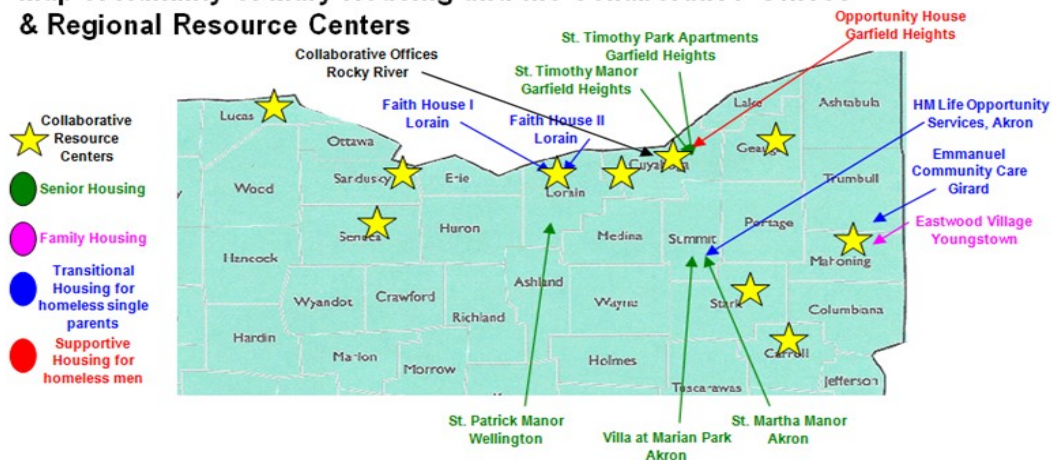


The Collaborative Initiative To End Human Trafficking

FALL 2011

Resources Near You 4



Study Findings Require Coordinated Response

The major findings of the Feasibility Study Regarding Housing and Services in Northeast Ohio for Minor Victims of Sex Trafficking conducted earlier this year by the Collaborative, Humility of Mary Housing, and the Cleveland Rape Crisis Center in conjunction with Case Western Reserve University include:

- There is a need for safe housing and supportive services for victims of sex trafficking in northeastern Ohio;
- There is a significant lack of knowledge regarding human trafficking among professionals who deal with vulnerable populations in northeast Ohio, including basic information regarding the crime, its local reality, victim identification; effective intervention, and resources available for victims;
- There is a lack of a coordinated response team among service providers and law enforcement in northeast Ohio designed to address the specific needs of sex trafficking victims;

- There is no coordinated continuum of care for victims of sex trafficking in northeast Ohio.

The Study included interviews with practitioners in the fields of social work, health care, law enforcement, mental health, legal advocacy, and the judicial system. The interviewees represented national, state and local organizations and as well as adult survivors of minor

sex trafficking.

The Study made recommendations regarding housing and services, education, coordination of a response team, continuum of care, and research.

Committees members are partnering with interested agencies and organizations to address the recommendations. First on the list are the identified needs for education, housing and services.



Graduate students and Professor Terry Hokenstad of Case Western Reserve University's Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences have been integral to the Feasibility Study. Left to right are Jessica Heilman, Professor Hokenstad, Jennifer Hartmann, and Lindsay Schwartz.

*January 11, 2012
is the
National Day
of Human
Trafficking
Awareness .
Plan now to attend
a program,
hold a vigil, and
learn more about
how you can help!*

Grant provides awareness and leadership opportunities

Because the homeless and women without means are among the most vulnerable to human trafficking, the Collaborative recently applied for and received a grant from the Diocese of Cleveland's Catholic Campaign for Human Development to collaborate with transitional housing programs in Lorain, Summit and Cuyahoga Counties to educate residents and staff about the issue.

The goal of the project is

to not only inform, but also to empower the residents to develop and practice leadership skills as they assist in presenting human trafficking programs to other audiences.

The first educational awareness session was held in early November at FAITH House in Lorain, Ohio, a transitional housing facility serving single parent homeless families. FAITH House is part of HM Housing. Additional human trafficking awareness

sessions are being scheduled for residents of HM Life Opportunity Services in Akron in 2012. The awareness sessions will be followed by leadership development classes for participants to develop skills that can be used to gain success in future endeavors.

The Collaborative is grateful to CCHD for the opportunity to extend its educational outreach and looks forward to offering leadership development skills and opportunities to additional groups.



Immokalee Workers Visit Ohio

Few of us stop to think about where our food comes from—who plants, grows, harvests, prepares and readies produce and other food items for our tables. The workers so often remain out of sight, out of mind, unacknowledged and unpaid for difficult, back-breaking work in fields and factories across our nation. Sometimes these workers are subject to labor trafficking as well.

Two representatives from the Coalition of Immokalee Workers, Santiago Perez and Marc Rodrigues, recently visited northern Ohio and other parts of the state to highlight the issue of labor trafficking in the tomato fields of Florida. The CIW is a community-based farmworker organization headquartered in Immokalee, Florida, with over 4,000 members. The CIW seeks modern working conditions for farmworkers and promotes their fair treatment in accordance with national and international human rights stan-

dards. The CIW's Campaign for Fair Food has won unprecedented support for fundamental farm labor reforms from retail food industry leaders.

Santiago and Marc captivated their audiences in Lorain, Rocky River, Cleveland and Canton with their bilingual descriptions of working conditions and treatment of those who pick tomatoes for our tables. A typical tomato worker gets paid about fifty cents for every 32-pound bucket of tomatoes, and would have to pick a bucket every 4 minutes for 10 hours a day to even come close to making \$10,000/year. Conditions are often hot and sunny with little access to shade or time for breaks, and the fields are likely to be infested with pesticides.

Santiago and Marc described the CIW's Fair Food Campaign, which is designed to urge buyers to pay one penny a pound more for the tomatoes they purchase and to sign a commitment to assure



Marc Rodrigues and Santiago Perez address groups throughout northern Ohio.



fair and just treatment of workers in the fields.

Over the past nine years, they have had success with Taco Bell, McDonald's, Subway and some other fast food restaurants as well as Whole Foods grocery stores. They are focusing efforts on other grocery chains and are asking for basic rights like rest breaks, access to shade and protection from pesticides during the course of their work day.

Follow the progress of the Coalition of Immokalee Workers at www.ciw-online.org and join their fair food campaign!



Trafficking in Person Report 2007

Attorneys General Confront Backpage.com

In Fall 2010, twenty-one state attorneys general wrote to Backpage.com requesting that it remove its adult services section. They stated that "We believe that ads for prostitution - including ads trafficking children - are rampant on the site." The attorneys general urged the action to "protect innocent women and children," despite the potential loss of revenue to backpage.com. www.scribd.com/doc/69853460/

[September-21-2010-Attorneys-General-write-to-Backpage.com](http://www.atg.wa.gov/uploadedFiles/Home/News/Press_Releases/2011/NAAG_Backpage_Signon_08-31-11_Final.pdf) Unlike Craigslist, which shut down the adult services section of its website in 2010, Backpage.com has refused to do so.

Therefore, in Fall 2011, an increased number of state attorneys general - fifty-one - again called on Backpage.com to address the issue and to provide information on how the website handles advertisements that may involve illegal activity, especially the sexual commercial exploitation of minors.

In their letter, the attorneys general state that despite Backpage's assertion that it has policies and practices to prevent illegal activity, they have tracked "more than 50 instances, in 22 states over three years, of charges filed against those trafficking or attempting to traffic minors on Backpage.com." They state that the website is a "hub" for "human trafficking, especially the trafficking of minors." "In lieu of a subpoena," they ask Backpage.com to substantiate its claims that it is working to prevent illegal

activity on its website. www.atg.wa.gov/uploadedFiles/Home/News/Press_Releases/2011/NAAG_Backpage_Signon_08-31-11_Final.pdf

In response, Backpage.com stated that it shares the goal of eliminating child trafficking and suggested a meeting with the attorneys general. It also made statements regarding its immunity as a computer service provider and First Amendment free speech concerns.

The attorneys general are currently reviewing the materials provided by Backpage.com to determine the policies and procedures it has in place to prevent ads for illegal activity on the website.

An online petition asking Backpage.com to end its facilitation of human trafficking has been posted on change.org. The petition's webpage states that "Village Voice Media has a moral responsibility to ensure that young girls aren't being abused in the commercial sex industry with help from their website, and that they aren't facilitating human trafficking." <http://www.change.org/petitions/tell-village-voice-media-to-stop-child-sex-trafficking-on-backpagecom>



With Our Gratitude

The Collaborative extends a bouquet of thanks to the Sisters of the Humility of Mary for serving so generously as our fiscal agent since 2007.

We also extend our gratitude to all of the members of the HM Finance and Development Offices who have supported the Collaborative with their expertise and time.

Thank you!

Around the regions...

Tiffin



Chained images speak loudly at a recent display organized in Tiffin.

Toledo

Sisters & Associates take a corporate stance against human trafficking

We, the Sisters and Associates of the Women Religious Communities in the Toledo Diocese, in keeping with our position of nonviolence and respecting the inherent dignity of each person, corporately stand in support of human rights, by explicitly opposing the trafficking of women and children for the purposes of sexual exploitation and forced labor.

Canton

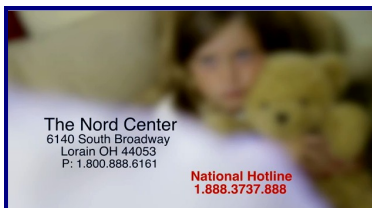
SCCAHT recognized for anti-trafficking efforts

The Stark County Coalition Against Human Trafficking (SCCAHT) was recognized by the Stark County Victim Rights Coalition which is working with the Prosecutor's Office in the county. In the name of SCCAHT, Karen Bernhardt received a certificate of appreciation and a paperweight in recognition of the group's work against human trafficking.

Sylvania

**Pastoral Responses to Human Trafficking
(from a multi-faith perspective)**
January 11, 2012
Rosary Care Center, Sylvania OH
Two sessions
9:00 A.M. – 12:00 noon
2:00 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.

Lorain



The Nord Center
6140 South Broadway
Lorain OH 44053
P: 1.800.888.6161

National Hotline
1.888.3737.888

Using the tag line "It Could be Me, the Human Trafficking Collaborative of Lorain County created a public service announcement to raise awareness of human trafficking in their local area. You can see it by clicking on this link:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IzrB5t0i_XI

Rocky River



Toby Lardie facilitates a recent training session for professionals on how to present programs on trafficking.

**If you suspect someone is a victim of human trafficking,
call the National Trafficking Resource Center Hotline:**

1-888-3737-888

COLLABORATIVE INITIATIVE TO END HUMAN TRAFFICKING

CLEVELAND, OHIO

TEL: 440-356-2254; FAX: 440-356-5714

E-MAIL: collaborative_initiative@yahoo.com

Resources near you

Borrow materials or arrange a presentation!

Canton, OH

Catholic Charities
3112 Cleveland Avenue NW
Canton, OH 44709

Karen Bernhardt, HM 419-307-0829
karenbernhardt@hotmail.com

Carrollton, OH

Sisters of Our Lady of Charity
620 Roswell Rd. NW, Carrollton, OH 44615
Frances Nevolo, OLC 330-627-7647
fmn50@hotmail.com

Chardon OH

Sisters of Notre Dame
13000 Auburn Road, Chardon, OH 44024
Barbara Daugherty, SND
440-286-7101, ext. 1240
bdaugherty@ndec.org

Cleveland West

20525 Detroit Road
Rocky River, OH 44116
Anne Victory, HM 440-356-2254
collaborative_initiative@yahoo.com

Lorain, OH

Nord Center, 6140 S. Broadway
Lorain, OH 44053
Mindi Kuebler 440-204-4225
mkuebler@nordcenter.org

Cleveland East

2600 Lander Road
Pepper Pike OH 44124
Mary Ellen Brinovec, OSU
440-449-1200
mebrinovec@ursulinesisters.org

Sandusky, OH

Holy Angels Church
428 Tiffin Ave, Sandusky, OH 44870
Joyce Bates, SND, 419-625-3698
jmbates@toledosnd.org

Tiffin, OH

Sisters of St. Francis
200 Saint Francis Ave, Tiffin OH 44883
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mkuhlman@tiffinfranciscans.org

Toledo, OH

Sisters of Notre Dame
3837 Secor Road, Toledo, OH 43623
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dpfahler@hotmail.com

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144 W Wood St
Youngstown, OH 44503-1081
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