

WHITE HOUSE  
FAITH-BASED  
AND  
COMMUNITY  
INITIATIVES

COMPASSION  
IN ACTION

ROUNDTABLE

*Faith-Based and  
Community Solutions  
to Combat  
Human Trafficking*



Program Overview

October 2007



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## INTRODUCTION

## COMPASSION IN ACTION ROUNDTABLE

In January 2007, the White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives (OFBCI) launched a series of monthly Compassion in Action Roundtable meetings to highlight organizations, programs and policies addressing critical social needs. The roundtables convene and facilitate discussion between policymakers, government officials, philanthropists, and faith-based and community service providers around targeted issues.

The events reveal the President's Initiative as a broad-based, community-centered reform agenda, showcase innovative projects and promising practices, and draw attention to government efforts to expand and support the work of faith-based and community organizations actively engaged in serving their neighbors and communities.

Today's event highlights Faith-Based and Community Solutions to Human Trafficking. Human trafficking is

a regrettably widespread form of modern-day slavery. Every day, all over the world, people are coerced into bonded labor, bought and sold in prostitution, exploited in domestic servitude, enslaved in agricultural work and in factories, and captured to serve unlawfully as child soldiers. As President Bush stated "Human trafficking is an offense against human dignity, a crime in which human beings, many of them teenagers and young children, are bought and sold and often sexually abused by violent criminals. Our nation is determined to fight and end this modern form of slavery."

President Bush's Faith-Based and Community Initiative flows from the belief that the most effective way to address our communities' most pressing needs is to draw upon the unique strengths of every willing community and faith-based partner. Both at home and abroad, efforts to combat the great injustice of human trafficking span both the public and private sectors.



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## FAITH-BASED AND COMMUNITY SOLUTIONS TO COMBAT HUMAN TRAFFICKING

COMPASSION  
IN ACTION  
ROUNDTABLE

OCTOBER 24, 2007

9:30 AM– 11:45 AM

**9:30 – 9:40 am**     **Welcome and Introduction**

Jay F. Hein, Deputy Assistant to the President and Director  
White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives

**9:40 – 10:00 am**     **Keynote Remarks**

Gary Haugen, President and CEO  
International Justice Mission

**10:00 – 11:00 am**     **Portraits of Partnership**

Ambassador Mark Lagon  
U.S. Department of State

Heidi Metcalf, Vice President  
Geneva Global

Grace Chung Becker, Deputy Assistant Secretary Attorney General  
U.S. Department of Justice

Katherine Chon, Co-Founder and Executive Director  
Polaris Project

Brent Orrell, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy and External Relations and Acting Director  
Office of Refugee Resettlement, ACF, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Anastasia Brown, Director of Refugee Programs, Migration and Refugee Services  
U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops

Anna Rodriguez, President  
Florida Coalition Against Human Trafficking

**11:00 – 11:30**     **Private Sector Strategies to Raise Awareness**

Dr. Beth Grant, FAAST curriculum project leader, and Co-Founder  
Project Rescue Eurasia

Linda Smith, Founder and President  
Shared Hope International

Zach Hunter, Teen Abolitionist and Founder  
Loose Change to Loosen Chains

**11:45**     **Exclusive Preview: *The Better Hour***

Hosted by Chuck Stetson

**12:45**     **Dismiss to Reception**

Indian Treaty Room



## FBCI SNAPSHOTS: PUBLIC/PRIVATE EFFORTS TO COMBAT SUBSTANCE ABUSE

### **Faith Alliance Against Slavery and Trafficking Inc.**

The Faith Alliance Against Slavery and Trafficking (FAAST) was formed in 2003 to eliminate slavery and trafficking throughout the world. Committed to faith-based principles valuing the physical, emotional, and spiritual dignity of the whole person, the Alliance is committed to combating modern-day slavery, one of the most degrading crimes against human beings today.

The mission of FAAST is to eliminate human trafficking through prevention, prosecution, victim protection, and sustainable restoration. Members of FAAST include Project Rescue International, The Salvation Army World Service Office, World Hope International and World Relief — faith-based, community-oriented, and non-profit organizations.

### **Florida Coalition Against Human Trafficking**

The Florida Coalition Against Human Trafficking (FCAHT) spearheads a holistic approach to combat Human Trafficking:

#### *Education and Awareness*

Paramount to the fight to eradicate Human Trafficking is the need to bring the issue to the forefront of community consciousness. FCAHT conducts numerous outreach campaigns to equip community members with the knowledge to identify Human Trafficking victims and report their suspicions to the appropriate authorities.

#### *Victim Services*

Upon identification of a Human Trafficking victim, FCAHT initiates a continuum of services for the victim. The continuum of care incorporates basic needs such as shelter, food and medical attention and spans to encompass victim advocacy, financial literacy, and job preparation.

#### *Policy Development*

FCAHT is continually involved with lawmakers in an effort to bolster existing laws and further empower Human Trafficking victims.

#### *Technical Assistance and Training*

In an effort to create a cohesive response to identifying and responding to cases of Human Trafficking, FCAHT provides ongoing training to professionals serving within the following capacity: law enforcement, prosecutors, non-governmental organizations, healthcare workers, and faith-based organizations.

#### *Research Partnerships*

FCAHT participates in research projects striving to develop promising practices in the delivery of services to victims of Human Trafficking.

In addition to work within the State of Florida, FCAHT is also extending the use of this comprehensive model to solidify partnerships with Argentina, Guatemala and Puerto Rico.

### **Geneva Global**

Geneva Global Inc. (GGI) is a for-profit professional services firm that promotes prosperity among the poor by connecting thoughtful investors to the most effective, life-changing programs in the world to programs in the areas of health, human liberty, and economic empowerment. GGI has intermediated over \$60 million, and since 2003, GGI has brokered over \$4 million to 104 community-based efforts addressing slavery and human trafficking in 30 countries. GGI's strategy in the sector is focused on restoring liberty to the enslaved and enabling change to the underlying culture that abets treating human beings as property. GGI purposefully works toward the creation of networks and coalitions of groups whose grassroots programs can be coordinated simultaneously across multiple

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villages, cities, countries and regions. By addressing slavery through networks and coalitions, GGI increases the impact of the interventions focused on prevention, rescue and rehabilitation, and strengthening protection and access to justice. It also means that no program implementer funded by our clients must divide limited resources among each of the three interventions to truly improve conditions of targeted communities.

### **Loose Change to Loosen Chains**

When Zach Hunter, then a 7th grader living in Virginia, first learned that millions of people, including children, around the world are slaves, he knew he had to do something about it. "At first I was really angry about the injustice" Zach said. "But, I knew feeling bad wasn't enough. I knew I had to do something. So I decided to start Loose Change to Loosen Chains and combine two underestimated assets — loose change and teenagers — to help free slaves."

Hunter discovered that by educating kids about the problem and encouraging them to fundraise, they could actually emancipate modern-day slaves. At the end of February, in conjunction with students learning about the efforts of people like Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. during the civil rights movement and Harriet Tubman during the abolitionist movement, Hunter launched "Loose Change to Loosen Chains" in Northern Virginia with the hope that other schools and youth groups would get involved and participate in their communities. The first effort raised almost \$9,000 for International Justice Mission, an organization working to bring freedom to slaves.

Since that initial effort, Hunter has packaged the materials he wrote including a turn key kit with Powerpoint presentations, inspiring stories, statistics and a step by step guide to launch the campaign. Students lead the effort in their local schools and churches and are en-

couraged to send the funds to one of several abolitionist organizations including IJM, Free the Slaves, and Justice for Children International. Hundreds of groups have now implemented the campaign and are raising awareness and funds to emancipate slaves. Hunter's dream is to see slavery abolished in his lifetime and he believes informing and empowering his generation is one of the ways to make this dream a reality. Kits can be obtained by emailing [loosechangetoloosen-chains@gmail.com](mailto:loosechangetoloosen-chains@gmail.com). Hunter is also forming an effort called Generation: Change to mobilize this generation to address some of the most serious issues facing the poor and oppressed in the world today.

### **Polaris Project**

Polaris Project was founded in 2002 in the spirit of a modern-day Underground Railroad to address the vital need for a community-based and comprehensive approach to combat human trafficking in the United States and abroad. Since its founding, Polaris Project has pioneered many innovative approaches in the anti-trafficking movement, including direct outreach and victim identification methodologies; leadership development; provision of direct services and shelter to victims of all forms of human trafficking, including both U.S. citizens and foreign nationals; and combining grassroots activism with policy advocacy. Polaris Project has developed a strong track record of programmatic success and has been recognized for its leadership through the Ashoka Fellowship Award for Social Entrepreneurship, the Do Something Award presented by President Bill Clinton, the 2004 Washington Area Women's Foundation Leadership Award, the Justice for Victims of Crime Award from the U.S. Department of Justice, and Selection as one of America's 10 Best Charities by Marie Claire Magazine. Polaris Project has offices in Washington, DC; Newark, NJ; Denver, CO; Los Angeles, CA; and Tokyo, Japan.

## **Project Rescue**

Project Rescue was founded in 1997 as an organization committed to rescuing and restoring women and child victims of sex trafficking worldwide. With 11 homes and a three-pronged approach of intervention, restoration and prevention, Project Rescue continues to bring freedom and a transformed future through a holistic approach in aftercare in India, Nepal and Moldova.

## **Shared Hope International**

Shared Hope International (SHI) rescues and restores women and children in crisis. For almost a decade, SHI has worked diligently across the world in partnership with local groups to prevent trafficking, and to rescue and restore the victims of sexual slavery. SHI is bringing hope to women and children everywhere.

### *Prevent*

The demand for women and children can be reduced only by increasing the public's awareness of sex trafficking and the conditions of modern-day sexual slavery. SHI's prevention efforts have included: The Defenders USA, Human Trafficking Task Forces, Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking: How to Identify Trafficked, U.S. Mid-Term Review on the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) in America, War Against Trafficking Alliance (WATA)

### *Rescue*

SHI has and always will help women and children break free from sexual bondage. Many times, simply getting the word out that there is a safe place for victims to flee is an important step. SHI works closely with local partners to reach out to those enslaved and intervene where necessary to rescue women around the world through partnerships and endeavors including The Predator Project, Medical Clinics, and U.S. Drop-in Shelters

### *Restore*

SHI is committed to building communities that heal and empower women and children through development assistance and support to local organizations with programs providing the services and shelter needed to fully restore each woman: (1) Homes of Hope — SHI partners with organizations to care for and nurture victims of sex trafficking at strategically located Homes of Hope. Homes are currently operating in Fiji, Jamaica, South Africa and India, and include residential facilities, addiction recovery, medical and mental health care, education, vocational training and economic development programs, (2) Women's Investment Network (WIN) — SHI works with local partners to develop small businesses to provide training and meaningful work for women in the Homes of Hope. In the U.S., women are trained at Shared Hope office in Vancouver Washington before participating in paid externships with local businesses where they continue to advance their skills and education.

## **The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Migration and Refugee Services**

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) is a national organization of U.S. Catholic Bishops that works to promote and carry out the public policy and pastoral care priorities of the Catholic Church in the United States. One of the Bishops' priorities, informed by Catholic Social Teaching, is a concerted response to the struggle against the dehumanizing practice of human trafficking. Migration and Refugee Services (MRS), a department of USCCB, caring for migrants since 1965, takes the lead in this effort.

USCCB/MRS concentrates its efforts through service programs, advocacy, and technical assistance to victims and the communities of people who care for

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these individuals. Through a contract with the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Refugee Resettlement, USCCB/MRS administers the Anti-Trafficking Services Per Capita Program which provides case management services to survivors of human trafficking across the country. USCCB/MRS also manages two anti-trafficking grant programs through the Department of Justice, providing outreach, train-

ing, public education and comprehensive services to victims of trafficking who have not yet been certified. This office also convenes the wide-reaching Coalition of Catholic Organizations Against Human Trafficking, which consists of 20 national and international Catholic organizations working to eliminate the scourge of human trafficking.

## U.S. GOVERNMENT LEADERSHIP: NEW INITIATIVES TO FIGHT HUMAN TRAFFICKING

### **Victim Assistance and Identification**

*Services to Human Trafficking Victims in the United States.* The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) established in April 2006 a Per-Capita Services Contract to provide "anytime, anywhere" services to human trafficking victims. As of September 2007, the contract has partnered with 115 social service agencies to provide care to victims across the country. The Department of Justice's (DOJ) Office for Victims of Crime funds grants for direct services to trafficking victims and has assisted 1900 victims through June 2007. The DOJ and Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Victim-Witness Specialists also serve a vital role in assisting trafficking victims.

*U.S. Domestic Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Notification Pilot Program.* Under the auspices of the HHS Anti Trafficking in Persons Public Awareness authority, the U.S. Domestic TIP Notification Pilot Program builds on the success of the HHS victim identification pipeline and provides a tool for better estimating the number of U.S. citizen victims identified through street outreach and public awareness efforts of non-governmental organizations and the National Human Trafficking Resource Center. The notification describes the issue of human trafficking and available services and resources.

*Return, Reintegration, and Family Reunification for TIP Victims in the U.S.* The Department of State's (DOS) Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration funds the Return, Reintegration, and Family Reunification Program. The program provides a mechanism to bring eligible family members of trafficking victims to the United States. It is also available to victims of trafficking in the U.S. who elect not to apply for the T-Visa and who are in need of assistance to return to their country of origin. As of September 2007, from the program's inception in January 2005, the program has assisted in 97 reunifications of TIP victims in the U.S. with their families, and provided six other victims who did not elect to remain

in the U.S. with return and reintegration assistance to their home countries.

*Residential Rehabilitation Pilots.* The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) is implementing pilot residential rehabilitation programs in Cambodia and Ecuador based on its study of best practices, as required by the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act (TVPRA) of 2005. The Cambodia program pairs two local shelters with two non-governmental organizations (NGOs) that will provide guidance and support in developing standards and procedures for staff. The Ecuador program establishes protocols for victim assistance, enhances shelter services, and develops transition mechanisms to increase the chances for survivors to start new, productive lives.

*HIV/AIDS and Trafficking in Persons.* To implement the "Unified Policy Paper on HIV/AIDS and Trafficking in Persons" approved by the President's Interagency Task Force in 2006, the Office of the U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator and the DOS Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons collaborated with other U.S. Departments and agencies to develop "Implementation Guidelines for Posts Regarding the Unified Policy on HIV/AIDS and TIP." The Guidelines direct posts on how to handle reports by employees of U.S. Departments and agencies, including personnel of programs funded by the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, of trafficking victims they might encounter while dealing with individuals who suffer from, are affected by, or are at risk of contracting HIV/AIDS.

### **Pursuit and Punishment of Traffickers**

*Human Trafficking Prosecution Unit.* On January 31, 2007, the Attorney General and the Assistant Attorney General for the Civil Rights Division announced the creation of the new Human Trafficking Prosecution Unit within the Criminal Section of the Civil Rights Division. This new Unit is staffed by the Criminal

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Section's most seasoned human trafficking prosecutors who work with partners in Federal and State law enforcement to investigate and prosecute the most significant human trafficking crimes, such as multi-jurisdictional trafficking cases. In FY 2007, the Civil Rights Division, working with the various United States Attorneys' Offices, initiated 184 investigations, charged 88 defendants in 31 cases and obtained 101 convictions involving human trafficking.

*Prosecutions against the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children.* DOJ's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section (CEOS) of the Criminal Division has had several significant prosecutorial successes of child trafficking that involved coordination with federal, state, and local partners through the Innocence Lost National Initiative which was implemented in 2003 as a joint venture with the FBI and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children to address the growing problem of children exploited in prostitution. In FY 2007, the Innocence Lost Initiative resulted in 308 arrests, 106 convictions, and 181 recovered children.

*Wage and Hour Division.* The Department of Labor's (DOL) Wage and Hour Division (WHD) expanded its participation in interagency efforts to combat human trafficking by increasing the number of DOJ-funded regional task forces in which it participates from 27 to 38. WHD collected over \$85,900 in back wages and liquidated damages for 61 workers in response to trafficking-related investigations in FY 2007. WHD also integrated curricula into investigator training designed to promote recognition and appropriate responses for cases of potential trafficking.

*Task Force Conference.* DOJ organized the third National Conference on Human Trafficking on September 27 and 28, 2007. The conference resulted in increased coordination among task forces and expanded capabilities to combat human trafficking. It brought together hundreds of task force members from the 42 DOJ-funded Human Trafficking Task Forces, which include

federal, state, and local prosecutors and victim service providers, and the Innocence Lost Initiative Task Forces, which are focused on combating the sexual exploitation of children.

### **Raising Awareness**

*Efforts in the U.S. Education Community.* The Department of Education recently completed its "Human Trafficking of Children in the United States: A Fact Sheet for Schools." The fact sheet gives a brief overview of human trafficking and its affect on U.S. schools, and describes how to identify, report, and help victims. It also lists resources and publications that schools can use to raise awareness about the issue. The Department of Education distributed over 3,000 fact sheets at two major conferences, and emailed the fact sheet to its grantees, to all 52 of the 21st Century Community Learning Centers, and other organizations that work with children.

*Increased Capacity.* HHS launched an In-Reach Campaign which strengthens agency-wide capacity to identify and serve human trafficking victims. The In-Reach Campaign has provided training and technical assistance to hundreds of leaders, staff, and grantees of the Health Resources and Services Administration, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, National Institutes of Health, Center for Disease Control and Prevention, and the Administration for Children and Families.

*Outreach to Airlines.* The DOS Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons and the Department of Transportation engaged the Air Transport Association of America (ATA) and the International Air Transport Association (IATA) to raise awareness of child sex tourism among airlines. Both of these major associations agreed to take measures to enhance awareness of the child sex tourism issue. ATA's Board of Directors passed a resolution deploring such human trafficking and called on its members to undertake appropriate measures against the issue.

*TIP Awareness in the U.S. Military.* The Department of Defense (DOD) has developed and fielded a general TIP awareness training module, and is in the process of developing leadership and law enforcement training modules. The Department of Defense Inspector General (DoDIG) in November 2006 completed and released publicly a department wide evaluation of DOD efforts to prevent trafficking in persons.

*Awareness at the Borders and Beyond.* DHS's Customs and Border Protection (CBP) nationally distributed human trafficking informational posters and posted them in public areas at all ports of entry. DHS/CBP also distributed informational cards, designed to raise the awareness of the general public as well as potential trafficking victims. The cards, which are currently available in English, will be available in Spanish, Russian, and Chinese. Additionally, DHS Immigration and Customs Enforcement produced a public service announcement to raise awareness of trafficking to the public at large, who will serve as a force-multiplier toward efforts to identify and rescue victims.

*MTV in Asia.* USAID partnered with the MTV Europe Foundation and MTV Networks Asia Pacific to launch an Asia-wide anti-trafficking campaign which includes television specials, public service announcements, a multilingual internet presence, and MTV events in a variety of locations. Separate films and other materials have been prepared for Southeast Asia and South Asia. The films premiered across Asia in September, 2007.

*Increased Focus on Forced Labor.* In its annual Trafficking in Persons Report, the DOS Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons increased awareness on forced labor as well as sex trafficking. Major themes of the Report included debt bondage and sponsorship laws that create conditions which make guest workers especially vulnerable to human trafficking.

*Faith-Based Efforts.* DOS Ambassador Mark P. Lagon spoke at the Global Leaders Forum, hosted by the

National Association of Evangelicals and Micah Challenge USA, which brings together top evangelical leaders from around the world to discuss and strategize on a variety of international challenges, including human trafficking. DOS and others also funded international anti-trafficking programs supporting faith-based efforts to raise awareness. For example, the DOS Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration funded anti-trafficking training modules for religious personnel (for Catholic nuns and Orthodox clergy) located in countries of origin and destination of trafficking victims.

## Research

*National Human Trafficking Reporting System.* DOJ's Bureau of Justice Statistics awarded a grant to researchers at Northeastern University in collaboration with the Urban Institute to design and implement a national Human Trafficking Reporting System. This system will provide a secure, standardized, and sustainable mechanism for collecting state and local data regarding victims and offenders involved in human trafficking, which will be critical in assessing the success of human trafficking prevention and intervention strategies.

*National Institute of Justice-Sponsored Research in the United States.* In April 2007, the DOJ National Institute for Justice (NIJ) grantee, Caliber, an ICF Company, released a report entitled "Evaluation of Comprehensive Services for Victims of Human Trafficking: Key Findings and Lessons Learned." The study outlines the considerable challenges service providers faced as well as lessons learned and promising practices that may be of value to service providers and broader audiences. NIJ has also funded a study of non-task force law enforcement and NGOs in 60 randomly chosen communities to provide a deeper understanding of how areas without task forces identify and process human trafficking cases.

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*Public Health Research.* The DOS Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons also focused on promoting research with practical applications, such as a study by Harvard School of Public Health. Demonstrating the consequences of sex trafficking in South Asia, the study showed HIV prevalence among women trafficked from Nepal and prostituted in India was 38 percent, and the rate of HIV infection exceeded 60 percent among girls prostituted prior to 15 years of age.

*Research on Forced Labor and Child Labor.* The TVPRA of 2005 directed DOL's Bureau of International Labor Affairs to publish a list of goods from countries produced by forced labor or child labor. Since the passage of the law, DOL has worked to gather information on

forced labor and child labor worldwide, and develop a methodology for the creation of this List. On October 1, DOL published a Notice of Proposed Procedural Guidelines in the Federal Register. DOL aims to publish the final Procedural Guidelines by December 31, 2007, and the final List by 2009.

*HSTC Assessments.* The Human Smuggling and Trafficking Center (HSTC) completed its classified analysis of the linkage between trafficking in persons and terrorism, including the use of profits from trafficking in persons to finance terrorism, as mandated by the Section 104 of the TVPRA of 2005. The HSTC also completed the 2006 Bi National Assessment of Trafficking in Persons dealing with the impact of TIP on U.S.-Canadian cross-border criminality.

## ADDITIONAL FEDERAL EFFORTS TO COMBAT HUMAN TRAFFICKING

### **U.S. Agency for International Development**

The U.S. Agency for International Development and Department of State both work to combat the transnational problem and global threat of modern-day slavery called human trafficking. Within the broader USG effort to combat trafficking, USAID participates in the Senior Policy Operating Group on Human Trafficking, which is chaired by the Department of State's Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons. Anti-trafficking initiatives specifically at USAID are coordinated primarily through the Office of Women in Development and the regional Missions.

In FY 2005, USAID support for anti-trafficking measures was a total of \$21.34 million. \$6.16 million came from the President's Anti-Trafficking Initiative, and \$15.18 million from USAID resources. Regionally, African countries received \$2.2 million, Asian and Near East countries received \$3.4 million, Europe and Eurasia received \$7.86 million, and Latin America and the Caribbean Countries received \$7.58 million (\$6.16 million of which was from the Presidential Anti-Trafficking Initiative). In 2006, USAID provided a total of \$27 million in 30 countries for anti-trafficking efforts.

#### Examples of USAID Programs in which FBCO Participate

##### *Albania*

The Coordinated Action Against Human Trafficking (CAAHT) project is one of two major anti-trafficking initiatives in Albania. CAAHT in Albania has funded the anti-trafficking work of 22 NGOs and is a multi year project, renewed in 2006 for a further three years. This project is funded by USAID and implemented by Creative Associates, Inc. The goal of this initiative is to improve cooperation between anti-trafficking NGOs, local government representatives and donors, as well as build capacity in the sector.

The Christian Children's Fund is one FBCO that is participating in USAID's efforts in Albania by assisting more than 136,000 children and family members. CCF actively engages local communities, local government, border police and schools in building an environment that does not tolerate trafficking.

##### *Sri Lanka*

Sri Lanka is a source country for women and children who are trafficked internally and abroad for coerced labor and sexual exploitation. Boys and girls are victims of sexual exploitation by pedophiles in the sex tourism industry. As part of its response to the South Asian tsunami, which increased the vulnerability of its survivors to trafficking, USAID/Sri Lanka supported efforts to raise awareness of the risk of trafficking in tsunami affected areas and to build the capacity of civil society, relief organizations and government employees to address trafficking in persons issues. Geneva Global provided 100 percent matching funds for a \$1.5 million Global Development Alliance grant that provided small grants to indigenous FBCOs to prevent human trafficking and to combat child sex tourism.

For more information on how faith-based and community organizations can partner on USAID programs, please visit [www.usaid.gov/our\\_work/global\\_partnerships/fbci](http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/global_partnerships/fbci).

### **U.S. Department of Health and Human Services**

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is the United States government's principal agency for protecting the health of all Americans and providing essential human services, especially for those who are least able to help themselves.

### Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) Anti-Trafficking in Persons Program

Operating within the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) at HHS, ORR's Anti-Trafficking in Persons Program (ATIP) provides services to victims of human trafficking, identifies victims, and conducts anti-trafficking public awareness through their Rescue and Restore Campaign.

#### *Service provisions to victims of human trafficking — Per-capita contract*

In April of 2006, the ATIP Program awarded a Per-Capita Victim Services contract to the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) to provide comprehensive support services to victims of human trafficking. The contract is designed to provide "any-time, anywhere" case management while maintaining a high level of care for victims of human trafficking. This contract award reflects President Bush's commitment to assist victims of human trafficking. The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops is uniquely qualified to fulfill this commitment because of its history of service, community involvement, national presence, and its capacity to manage a diverse network of over 110 Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) subcontractors.

Differing from other contract arrangements, and working in concert with HHS' ongoing Rescue and Restore public awareness campaign, USCCB's subcontractors are reimbursed for each human trafficking victim actually being served. This per-capita contract ensures provision of efficient, high-quality services to victims of human trafficking. It also streamlines support services in order to help victims of human trafficking gain timely access to shelter, legal assistance, job training and health care, enabling them to establish lives free of violence and exploitation.

#### *Victim Identification — Street outreach grants*

HHS awarded street outreach grants to 18 organizations to support identification of human trafficking

victims of among populations whom the organizations are already serving. For its street outreach awards, HHS targets groups who are engaged in current direct and/or community outreach among trafficking vulnerable populations. Populations that grantees conduct outreach among include homeless and at-risk youth, women and girls exploited through commercial sex, and migrant farm workers.

#### *Public Awareness Campaign — Rescue and Restore*

HHS leads the Rescue and Restore Victims of Human Trafficking public awareness campaign, which promotes awareness about trafficking and the protections available for trafficking victims. The goal of the campaign is to help communities gain the capacity to identify victims of trafficking, so that every individual forced, coerced, or fraudulently induced into exploitative work will have the support needed to come forward and receive the full protection and benefits offered by the Trafficking Victims Protection Act. The Rescue and Restore campaign also established Rescue and Restore coalitions in 19 cities and the states of Illinois and North Carolina. These community action groups are comprised of NGO leaders, academics, students, law enforcement agents, and other key stakeholders.

A critical component of the Rescue & Restore campaign is the National Human Trafficking Resource Center, whose 24/7 toll-free hotline is 1.888.3737.888. The Resource Center helps Good Samaritans determine whether they have encountered a victim of human trafficking, connects victims to resources, and coordinates with local social service organizations and law enforcement agents to protect and serve victims of trafficking

For more information on the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Program at HHS please visit: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/trafficking/index.html>.

## **U.S. Department of Homeland Security: Immigration and Customs Enforcement**

ICE places equal value to the identification and rescue of victims as well as the prosecution of traffickers. To that end, ICE has over 300 collateral duty Victim/Witness Coordinators that work with NGOs to assist in the provision of victim services.

ICE provides short-term immigration relief to certified victims of trafficking in the form of Continued Presence (CP). ICE agents sponsor the majority of all initial requests and extensions for Continued Presence by USG agencies.

ICE developed and introduced a web-based human trafficking training course through Virtual University on the agency intranet. The course has separate sections for investigators, Victim/Witness Coordinators, Border Patrol agents, adjudicators and asylum officers.

ICE developed and implemented human smuggling and trafficking training modules currently accessible to ICE agents in the Office of Investigations Proprietary Website. The modules contain human smuggling and trafficking overviews, victim interviews and victim/witness services.

ICE developed human trafficking training modules, which are part of the permanent curricula for the International Law Enforcement Academies (ILEAs) in Bangkok, Budapest, and Latin America. Training modules include: investigation methodologies in human trafficking cases; human trafficking indicators; global networks; victim interviews and victim services.

In FY07, ICE implemented its Trafficking in Persons Strategy that is aimed at capitalizing on the extensive depth of its investigative resources and expertise in the U.S. and abroad. It enables ICE Attaché offices to enhance partnerships with foreign law enforcement agencies to further develop major investigations in this area. The strategy places an emphasis on employing a

victim-centered approach, which places equal value to the rescue of victims and the prosecution of traffickers. During the months of April, May and June 2007, ICE had over 4000 outreach contacts concerning trafficking.

Current ICE statistics for FY07, regarding Human Trafficking investigations, include 156 criminal arrests, 100 indictments, and 88 convictions.

ICE has produced a Public Service Announcement (PSA) concerning human trafficking and how to report possible victims of trafficking to ICE. The PSA will be distributed through media outlets and other avenues in order to raise the awareness of trafficking. The PSA is also being produced in several languages in order to reach a wide audience.

## **U.S. Department of Justice**

Pursuing and prosecuting traffickers and rescuing victims of trafficking are high priorities of the Department of Justice. The Department's anti-trafficking efforts are fueled by a victim-centered approach, which seeks to restore the liberty and freedom denied to victims by the traffickers, requires the collaboration and cooperation of numerous Department components.

### *Criminal Section, Civil Rights Division*

The Criminal Section of the Civil Rights Division, in collaboration with U.S. Attorneys' Offices nationwide, has principal responsibility for prosecuting human trafficking crimes, except for cases involving sex-trafficking of children. In FY 2007, the Civil Rights Division, working with the various United States Attorneys' Offices, initiated 184 investigations, charged 88 defendants in 31 cases, and obtained 101 convictions involving human trafficking. Additionally, the Civil Rights Division conducts trainings to raise awareness about human trafficking and improve the ability of other countries, states, and localities to combat human trafficking.

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*Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section (CEOS), Criminal Division*

CEOS is responsible for prosecuting cases involving the sex-trafficking of children, including prosecutions under the Innocence Lost National Initiative, which was implemented in 2003 as a joint venture with the FBI and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) to address the growing problem of children exploited in prostitution. Under this program, 55 indictments were obtained and 106 convictions secured in FY 2007.

*Federal Bureau of Investigation*

Special agents in the Civil Rights Unit (CRU) at FBI Headquarters and in field offices around the country investigate trafficking in the United States and coordinate with agents in the Organized Crime and Crimes Against Children Units to ensure that cases initially identified as smuggling cases, Internet crimes against children, and/or sex tourism are also identified for potential human trafficking elements. In 2005, the FBI began its Human Trafficking Initiative, which involved the FBI's field offices determining, via a threat assessment, the existence and scope of the trafficking problem in their region; participating in an anti-trafficking task force; establishing and maintaining relationships with local NGOs and community organizations; conducting victim-centered investigations; and reporting significant case developments to the CRU. The FBI's Crimes Against Children Unit manages the Innocence Lost National Initiative and has established 23 Innocence Lost Task Forces to address domestic child prostitution.

*Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) and the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC)*

BJA administers grants to state, local, and territorial law enforcement agencies to partner with their local U.S. Attorney's Office and a comprehensive victim

services agency (funded by OVC) to create a victim-centered human trafficking task force. A total of 42 human trafficking task forces have been funded since the inception of the program and more than 36,000 law enforcement officers and other persons likely to come into contact with victims of human trafficking have been trained on the identification of trafficking and its victims. During 2006, the BJA Human Trafficking Task Forces identified 955 potential victims of human trafficking and continued presence was requested on behalf of 103 of these victims. Since the inception of the program, 1,513 potential victims have been identified with 256 persons having had continued presence requested on their behalf. BJA also manages congressionally mandated grants, including an award to Shared Hope International to assist several of the task forces in developing protocols that will better enable victims of trafficking who are U.S. citizens, primarily minors exploited for commercial sex, to obtain needed services.

OVC works collaboratively with BJA to fund victim service agencies to work with the human trafficking task forces, ensuring the provision of comprehensive services to victims of human trafficking throughout the United States. Comprehensive services grants enable the grantee organization to provide direct services to meet the broad range of trafficking victims' needs, including case management; legal advocacy; medical, dental, and mental health services; housing; clothing and daily sustenance; interpretation; transportation; and access to a broad range of job skills training, education, and other social services. From the inception of the program in 2003 through June 2007, OVC's grantees provided services to over 1,900 pre-certified trafficking victims. In addition, grantees have trained over 65,000 practitioners, including law enforcement officials, legal service providers, victim service providers, medical professionals, the faith-based community, and other allied professionals.

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COMPASSION  
IN ACTION  
ROUNDTABLE

*National Institute of Justice (NIJ) & Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS)*

NIJ and BJS fund research on TIP in order to increase our understanding of the issue and provide insight on how the Department can improve its anti-trafficking efforts. Recent grants include a grant by BJS to researchers at Northeastern University in collaboration with the Urban Institute to design and implement a national Human Trafficking Reporting System and a grant funded by NIJ to study non-task force law

enforcement and NGOs in 60 randomly chosen communities to provide a deeper understanding of where unidentified victims of severe forms of trafficking may occur. NIJ is also funding two other human trafficking studies: a study at Georgetown University that will review and categorize all human trafficking literature and a study by San Diego State University that is examining trafficking across the U.S./Mexican border.

For more information on these and other DOJ programs, visit [www.usdoj.gov/fbci/](http://www.usdoj.gov/fbci/).



## BIOGRAPHIES

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### ■ GRACE CHUNG BECKER

*Deputy Assistant Secretary Attorney General  
U.S. Department of Justice*

Grace Chung Becker currently serves as a Deputy Assistant Attorney General in the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice. She has supervised over 300 employees in four litigating sections. She currently oversees all criminal civil rights prosecutions, such as human trafficking, police misconduct, and bias-motivated crimes. She also supervises the enforcement of statutes protecting the civil rights of institutionalized persons in state prisons, jails, mental health hospitals, and juvenile facilities as well as enforcement of anti-discrimination laws in housing, religious land use, bank lending, and has previously supervised the Educational Opportunities Section. In addition, she oversees enforcement of civil relief provisions for members of the U.S. Armed Forces.

Ms. Becker previously served as an Associate Deputy General Counsel at the Department of Defense. She also has worked as a federal prosecutor in the Criminal Division of the Justice Department, Counsel to the Senate Judiciary Committee, Assistant General Counsel at the United States Sentencing Commission, and an associate at the law firm of Williams & Connolly. Earlier in her career, Ms. Becker clerked for Judge James L. Buckley on the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, and Judge Thomas Penfield Jackson on the United States District Court for the District of Columbia. She graduated *magna cum laude* from the Wharton School of Finance at the University of Pennsylvania, and obtained her law degree, *magna cum laude*, from the Georgetown University Law Center, where she was a member of the Order of the Coif and was an Associate Editor on *The Georgetown Law Journal*.

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### ■ ANASTASIA BROWN

*Director of Refugee Programs, Migration and Refugee Services  
U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops*

Anastasia Brown is the Director of Refugee Programs, Migration and Refugee Services, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (MRS/USCCB). She has over 15 years of experience with refugee resettlement and is familiar with both overseas and domestic resettlement issues. Her responsibilities include supervision of all services to refugees, victims of trafficking and Unaccompanied Alien Minors resettled through the Catholic network in the United States. USCCB resettles approximately 25% of all refugees that enter the United States. Ms. Brown serves as the NGO co-chair for the US Government/Refugee Council USA East Asia Pacific Regional Workgroup. Prior to joining MRS/USCCB, Ms. Brown worked for the International Catholic Migration Commission processing refugees from Vietnam under the Orderly Departure Program.

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## ■ KATHERINE CHON

*Co-Founder and Executive Director  
Polaris Project*

Ms. Chon is the Co-Founder and Executive Director of Polaris Project, an international non-profit organization combat human trafficking and modern-day slavery. Since the inception of Polaris Project in 2002, Ms. Chon has been involved in stewarding all aspects of Polaris Project's growth, operations, and programs. Ms. Chon has worked closely with survivors of labor and sex trafficking through victim identification, service provision, and case management. Ms. Chon has testified before Congress; provided training and technical assistance to law enforcement, service providers, and community organizations; and has provided consultation to dozens of foreign government delegations, businesses, and non-government organizations. Ms. Chon has been recognized for her social entrepreneurship and leadership with the Do Something Brick Award, the Lifetime Champions for Change honor, and the John Hope Award from Brown University. In 2006, she was one of 10 recipients of Redbook Magazine's Strength and Spirit Award. Ms. Chon has an Sc.B. in Psychology from Brown University.

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## ■ DR. BETH GRANT

*FAAST curriculum project leader, and Co-Founder  
Project Rescue Eurasia*

Dr. Beth Grant has an earned Ph.D. in intercultural education from Biola University School of Intercultural Studies in Los Angeles. She serves as adjunct faculty and guest lecturer in cross-cultural communication and women's issues in colleges and universities internationally. Beth is a missionary with Assemblies of God World Missions and the co-founder and co-director of Project Rescue, a ministry providing aftercare to sex trafficking survivors in India, Nepal and Moldova. She is a steering committee member of Faith Alliance Against Slavery and Trafficking (FAAST).

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## ■ GARY HAUGEN

*President and CEO  
International Justice Mission*

Gary A. Haugen serves as President of International Justice Mission. Mr. Haugen received his B.A. in Social Studies, *magna cum laude*, from Harvard University, and his J.D. from the University of Chicago, *cum laude*, where he was the Ford Foundation Scholar in International Law. Mr. Haugen also served as the Visiting Scholar in Politics at the University of Adelaide in Australia. Prior to founding IJM in 1997, Mr. Haugen has worked for the Civil Rights Police Misconduct Task Force of the U.S. Department of Justice as a Senior Trial Attorney, the United Nation's Center for Human Rights as the Officer In Charge of the UN's Rwanda genocide investigation, the Lawyer's Committee for Human Rights, and the executive committee of the National Initiative for Reconciliation in South Africa. Mr. Haugen currently serves on the Human Rights Leadership Coalition and on the Board of the Overseers of the Berkeley Journal of International Law. Over the last year, Mr. Haugen has spoken at numerous venues including: Harvard University, Yale Law School, Berkeley Law School and Stanford University. In February 2002, Mr. Haugen hosted a policy briefing on international sex trafficking with Secretary Madeline Albright in conjunction with the events of the Reebok Human Rights Award prior to the commencement of the Salt Lake City Olympics. Mr. Haugen and the work of IJM has been featured on 60 Minutes II, Dateline NBC, NBC Nightly News, Oprah, The O'Reilly Factor, Fox 5 News, and BBC World News. Mr. Haugen has authored numerous articles on foreign affairs, international law, and human rights. His new book *Terrify No More* was released in January 2005 and highlights the rescue of elementary age girls from brothels. He is also the author of *Good News about Injustice* and *Impunity: Human Rights Prosecutions in the Philippines*.

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## ■ ZACH HUNTER

*Teen Abolitionist and Founder  
Loose Change to Loosen Chains*

Zach Hunter is 15 years old and he's leading a new generation of activists who are putting their faith into action to address some of the most serious problems facing the world today. He calls himself a modern day abolitionist and is inspired by the work of great leaders from history who fought for justice such as William Wilberforce, William Pitt, Harriet Tubman, Rosa Parks and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Hunter has spoken to more than a half a million people at live events and is frequently interviewed in the media about this generations' work of compassion and justice.

His debut book is *Be the Change*, now in its fifth printing. In his book he profiles people investing in the world to make a difference. His second book *Generation Change*, will be released in March of 2008. He launched the Loose Change to Loosen Chains campaign while in 7<sup>th</sup> grade, and his school and youth group students raised awareness and funds to help end modern day slavery — a problem facing 27 million people in the world today. CNN has honored Hunter as one of their global heroes for his abolitionist work.

Hunter was the global student spokesperson for *The Amazing Change*, a social justice campaign launched by Bristol Bay Productions in conjunction with the major motion picture *Amazing Grace*, based on the life of antislavery pioneer William Wilberforce, on DVD in November 2007. Hunter is also the student spokesperson for The Better Hour competition. Hunter now resides in Atlanta, Georgia USA. He spends his summers speaking to hundreds of thousands of people about God's heart for the hurting and oppressed in the world and his dream that his generation would discover God's great love for them and be motivated to care for neighbors around the world. Hunter also appears regularly on TV and radio and contributes to magazine and newspaper articles.

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## ■ AMBASSADOR MARK LAGON

*Director, Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons*  
*U.S. Department of State*

Dr. Mark P. Lagon was nominated by President Bush in February 2007 and took the oath of office in May 2007 to serve as Ambassador-at-Large and Director of the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons (TIP) and Senior Advisor to the Secretary of State. The TIP Office coordinates U.S. Government activities in the global fight against modern-day slavery, including forced labor and sexual exploitation, which impacts approximately 800,000 women, children, and men every year across country borders.

From 2004 to 2007, Dr. Lagon served as Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for International Organization Affairs. In this capacity, he has lead responsibility for UN-related human rights and humanitarian issues, UN administration and reform, and the IO Bureau's public diplomacy and outreach programs.

Dr. Lagon previously served as a Member of the Secretary of State's Policy Planning Staff, where he focused on UN and international organizations, democracy and human rights, and public diplomacy (2002-2004). From 1999 to 2002, he was a senior staff member of the Republican staff at the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, with particular responsibility for the State Department authorization bill, international organizations, economic sanctions, human rights, and broadcasting and public diplomacy. Previous foreign affairs positions include: Council on Foreign Relations International Affairs Fellow at the Project for the New American Century, specializing in China (1998-1999); Deputy Staff Director of the House Republican Policy Committee (1997-1998) and Senior Analyst (1995-1998).

Before working on Capitol Hill, Dr. Lagon was the principal aide to the Director of Foreign Policy Studies at the American Enterprise Institute, Ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick. He has been an adjunct professor at the Institute of World Politics and Georgetown University. Dr. Lagon is the author of [The Reagan Doctrine: Sources of American Conduct in the Cold War's Last Chapter](#) (Praeger, 1994) and was associate editor of the journal *Perspectives on Political Science*.

Dr. Lagon has a Ph.D. from Georgetown University and a B.A. magna cum laude from Harvard University.

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## ■ HEIDI METCALF

*Vice President*  
*Geneva Global*

Heidi Metcalf directs Geneva Global's office in Washington, D.C., and has 14 years of experience spanning the private, public and nonprofit sectors. She previously was executive director of Partnership for the Future, a business and education partnership based in Richmond, Va. Heidi served as policy advisor to the governor of Virginia and was an account manager with Cincinnati, Ohio-based Procter & Gamble. She holds a bachelor's degree in English literature from the University of Virginia in Charlottesville, Va., and a master's in public policy from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Heidi is GG's Global Director of Public Private Partnerships, and her responsibilities include oversight of all GG's technical relationships. As the Director of the Washington office, Heidi brokers public private partnerships (PPP) for GG's private clients interested

in pursuing innovative and leveraged ways to address international development opportunities. In addition to several anti-trafficking PPP's, her portfolio includes a PEPFAR funded project through the New Partners Initiative that leveraged significant private resources to bundle indigenous community and faith based programs to provide prevention and care services to hundreds of thousands of people in Ethiopia and Ivory Coast

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## ■ BRENT ORRELL

*Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy and External Relations and Acting Director, Office of Refugee Resettlement, ACF, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services*

Brent Orrell joined the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy and External Relations in June 2005. Before joining ACF, he was the Director of the Center for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives at the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL). Prior to his service at DOL, he worked in both the United States Senate and the U.S. House of Representatives for 15 years.

In his work at DOL, Mr. Orrell focused on several key aspects of the implementation of the President's Faith-Based and Community Initiative. Working with the Employment and Training Administration, he was responsible for designing the Initiative's first mini-grants program to fund small faith-based and community organizations that provide job development services

to poor and under-served communities. He was the principle author of the *Ready4Work*, a three-year, \$32.5 million demonstration project to faith-based and community groups assisting men and women who are returning from prison. *Ready4Work* was the basis for the President's four-year, \$300 million request to Congress for a comprehensive prisoner re-entry program that was announced in the January 2004 State of the Union Address. Finally, Mr. Orrell designed and implemented *Touching Lives and Communities*, a technical assistance program encouraging state and local workforce development officials to partner with faith-based and community organizations in the delivery of formula grant-funded job development programs.

From 1987 to 2001, Mr. Orrell worked for members of the House and the Senate in a variety of policy-related positions. Most recently he served as Legislative Director to Senator Sam Brownback. From 1998 to 2000 he was Administrative Assistant to Congressman Gil Gutknecht.

From 1996 to 1998, Mr. Orrell served as Legislative Director to Senator Dan Coats. He was the lead staff person overseeing the Project for American Renewal, an omnibus legislative package designed to highlight and support the work of religious and community organizations. He also oversaw the creation of REAL Life, a separate faith-based and community package more narrowly tailored to the economic, social and educational problems of urban areas. From 1989 to 1996, Mr. Orrell served as Deputy Legislative Director to Senator Sam Nunn where he handled health care, welfare, judiciary and other domestic policy issues.

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## ■ ANNA RODRIGUEZ

*President*

*Florida Coalition Against Human Trafficking*

Anna I. Rodriguez has served as a victim advocate with the Collier County Sheriff's Office and an outreach Coordinator for the Immokalee Shelter for Abuse Women in Collier County, Florida. During her 10 years serving CCSO, first as a volunteer and then as a Victim Advocate, Anna has accumulated near 300 hours of numerous trainings and development programs offered by different law enforcement agencies. At this time Anna has accumulated a total of 1500 hours of law enforcement training especially in the field of human trafficking.

Her first experience with a Human Trafficking case was in 1999; *U.S. vs. Tecum* in 1999. It developed from a "home visitation" following up on a domestic violence incident. She notified the presence of a young female who turned out to be a victim of human trafficking. Anna identified "red flags" that made her suspicious and eventually she helped get the victim out. Today the Tecum case has become a major case study by agencies including USDOJ, FSU, Croft Institute for International and New York Times. On July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2004 in Tampa, Anna was publicly recognized by President George W. Bush during his speech at the U.S. Department of Justice national Human Trafficking Conference for her dedication to rescue human trafficking victims. She was also recognized by US Congressman Mario Diaz Balart with the American Flag from the U.S. Capitol and a Certificate of Recognition. Anna has been featured in the Florida Chief magazine for her valuable work.

Anna's work has been recognized by author David Bastone on his book *Not for Sale* as well as the documentary produced by Robert Macarrelli. Anna has

also been recognized by producer Michael Cory Davis on *Cargo: Innocence Lost*, Marynoll Production on *Lives for Sale*, the Florida Channel on *Crossroads: Slavery in Florida*, CBS Evening News and CBS Early Show, Univision, Telemundo, Wink TV News, Fox News, CNN, Atlanta Journal, Miami Times, Terra Communications, Naples Daily News and News Press. She is currently working on one human trafficking book and two documentaries.

In 2004 Anna founded the Florida Coalition Against Human Trafficking in Naples, Florida. Today the Florida Coalition Against Human Trafficking has offices in Miami, Tampa, Jacksonville, Shalimar and their headquarters are in Bonita Springs, Florida. They have also established three new Rescue and Restore Coalitions in the state of Florida as well as two human trafficking task forces, Lee and Panhandle. FCAHT has become a national model for other agencies throughout the nation.

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## ■ LINDA SMITH

Founder and President

Shared Hope International

Congresswoman Linda Smith is a champion of political and social causes. Her personal story gives testimony that the seemingly insurmountable is possible. She returned from a family vacation in September of 1994 to a 19 day, grassroots-generated, write-in campaign that sent her to the U.S. Congress. Linda began her political career in 1983 when she defeated two sitting incumbents in the Washington State Legislature. She was elected first to the Washington State House of Representatives and then the Senate in 1987. As a State Senator, Linda authored two successful initiatives: The Taxpayer Protection Act of 1993 and Campaign Finance Reform Initiative of 1992. As a U.S. Representative, Linda launched the Clean Congress Campaign, paving the way to Campaign Finance Reform. During Linda's tenure as a member of Congress, she refused to accept special interest monies, believing her integrity in Congress was more important than the guarantee of the next election. In 1996, Linda was re-elected into Congress for a second term.

In 1998, Linda was invited to visit Teen Challenge International, an organization that cares for exploited women and children in the red light district of Mumbai, India. Faced with deciding how to respond to the individual woman and children she met in the brothels of India, Linda became inspired to petition Congress to adequately fund the service and justice systems needed to fully implement the U.S. Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (TVPA).

In November of 1998, Linda founded Shared Hope International (SHI), a non-profit organization based in

Vancouver, WA. The organization's mission was conceived: to assist in the rescue and restoration of women and children in crisis. Shared Hope International has assisted in the development of homes and economic alternatives for women and children around the world, in countries including India, Nepal, Jamaica, South Africa, The Netherlands, The Dominican Republic and Fiji. In January of 2001, Linda founded the War Against Trafficking Alliance in order to continue building strategic alliances dedicated to implementing the TVPA in the United States and constructively engaging other countries in their anti-trafficking initiatives. The Alliance co-sponsored the Path Breaking Strategies Conference to Combat Sex Trafficking with the U.S. Department of State in February of 2003.

