

## ROTARY ACTION GROUP AGAINST SLAVERY

# RAGAS NEWSLETTER

<https://ragas.online/>

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Rotary

ROTARY ACTION GROUP AGAINST SLAVERY

Panel Discussions on Forced Labor, Education/Prevention and Empowering Women & Girl Survivors

22 February 2022, 9 AM Eastern on ZOOM  
Register now for the link

**9:00 AM Labor Trafficking**

**Henry Joe,**  
- RAGAS Board Member  
Moderator

**Matt Friedman**  
- RAGAS board member, CEO, *The Mekong Club*  
**Marc Stanton**  
- Slave Free Alliance  
**Heather Fischer**  
- Senior Advisor for Human Rights Crime at Thomas Reuters Specials Services

**10:25 AM Survivor Empowerment**

**Dave McCleary**  
- RAGAS Global Chair  
Moderator

**Mary Frances Bowley**  
- Founder & Executive Director, *Wellspring Living*  
**Kristi Wells**  
- CEO, *Safe House*  
**Bill Woolf**  
- Former White House Director Human Trafficking and Department of Justice  
**Jessica Munoz**  
- CEO, *Hoo Ha Na Pua*, Hawaii

**12:00 PM Education/ Prevention**

**Sally Guon,**  
- RAGAS Board Member  
Moderator

**Ashlie Bryant**  
- CEO/Founder, *3stands Global*  
**Gordon Jackson**  
**Detective Matt Jameson**  
**Charlotte Dixon**

## PANEL DISCUSSIONS ON FORCED LABOR, EDUCATION/PREVENTION, AND EMPOWERING WOMEN & GIRL SURVIVORS

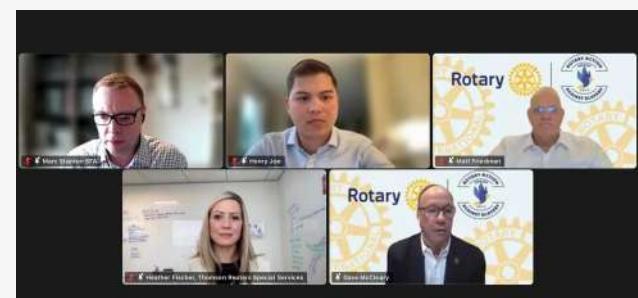
Henry Joe, RAGAS Board Member

On 22 February, RAGAS hosted a three-part webinar on several salient topics related to the global fight against slavery and human trafficking.

The panelists included world renowned thought leaders who provided updates on their respective organizations' work and who fielded many thoughtful questions from the audience.

We were honored to have been joined by over 200 registered attendees in six continents.

[Click here](#) to access a recording of the webinar in full.





## “IMAGINE ROTARY FULFILLING BIG DREAMS”

Dave McCleary, RAGAS Board Chair

What a honor to Share Rotary Action Group Against Slavery work on modern slavery at PETS training in Dallas and hear an inspirational message from an amazing survivor Dr. Katariina Rosenblatt, PhD.

It was so inspiring to hear the President-Elect of Rotary International, Jennifer Jones, talk about her theme IMAGINE Rotary, now IMAGINE a world without Slavery/Human Trafficking.

So looking forward to Jennifer's year as we imagine Rotary changing the world one community at a time.

A link to Jenner's Speech can be found [here](#).

Many thanks to PDG Kathryn Hubbard for her incredible work in Texas to combat Human Trafficking. What an inspiring weekend!





## RAGAS AT CHESAPEAKE PRESIDENT ELECT TRAINING SEMINAR

Amelia Stansell - RAGAS Coordinator

What an awesome weekend at #cpets22!! I got to meet a ton of fellow Rotary President Elects and spend time with the District Governor chain as we started planning for our succession in earnest. I love that Rotary leadership is a marathon, not a series of sprints.

We coordinate efforts year to year, continually innovating each year to be ahead of the curve as we continue to impact our communities in the best way possible!

I was thankful to have Dave McCleary, the Global Chair for Rotary Action Group Against Slavery join me and host a House of Friendship booth to share what RAGAS does to help Rotarians access their inner super hero to help end slavery in their community and activate their clubs to make it happen by accessing the RAGAS Community Awareness & Prevention Education (CAPE) plan. Not every superhero has a mask, but they all have a CAPE!

Very Inspiring message from RI President-nominee for 2023-24 Gordon R. McInally.



## REMINDER - RAGAS TOOLBOX

Malcolm Baird, RAGAS Board Member

The **RAGAS Toolbox** is now available as a resource for Rotary clubs interested in projects combatting modern slavery/human trafficking.

This toolbox lists **organizations and resources** to help clubs find ways to support on-going anti-trafficking work. The toolbox includes **information on the many types of modern slavery and also the many ways in which organizations are taking action.**



There are **links to Rotarians** who are already working to combat these unacceptable practices, **who can help provide information** to your club. See **Section E on page 19** to find the work that other Rotary clubs have already done on these issues and some contact emails.

Click [here](#) to access the toolbox.

Direct Links are also available on the RAGAS website: <https://ragas.online/>.

## MODERN SLAVERY CONFERENCE: 23 MAR. '22

Mina Chiang, RAGAS Board Member

The Rotary Club of Norwich St. Edmund is hosting a conference on modern slavery on the afternoon of 23 March at the Weston Room of the Norwich Cathedral.

The panel--which includes subject matter experts, law enforcement, and at least one survivor of modern sexual exploitation--will discuss the origins of modern slavery, where it exists, the motivations driving modern slave masters, and how victims are affected.

Anyone in the United Kingdom who wishes to attend in person can find additional information and reserve tickets [here](#).



# RAGAS STANDS WITH THE PEOPLE OF UKRAINE

Dave McCleary, RAGAS Board Chair  
Henry Joe, RAGAS Board Member

As a part of one of the world's largest humanitarian organizations, the Rotary Action Group Against Slavery has a moral obligation to stand against violence and to advocate for the peaceful resolution of differences, no matter how difficult they may be.

Our hearts are broken at the devastation and bloodshed that have befallen the people of Ukraine, and for the millions who have fled and now find themselves uncertain about what the future holds.

Forced migration from conflict often lends itself to labor exploitation and human trafficking. As such, the Rotary Action Group Against Slavery will continue to closely monitor this situation as it unfolds, and will share relevant resources and information in newsletters on an ongoing basis.



Rotarians will always be people of action, so this newsletter includes the following ways to make an immediate impact for those who need it, passed on from Mykola Stebljanko, Past District Governor of D2232 (Belarus & Ukraine).

- In response to the deepening humanitarian crisis in Ukraine, The Rotary Foundation has created an official channel for Rotary members around the world to contribute funds to support the relief efforts underway by Rotary districts and has designated its Disaster Response Fund as the main avenue for contributions. See details [here](#).
- TRF has agreed to allow Districts in Hungary (D1911), Poland (D2231), Belarus and Ukraine (D2232), Czech Republic and Slovakia (D2240), Republic of Moldova and Romania (D2241) to have Disaster Response Grants of up to 50000 USD until Jun 30 2022. The districts can donate their unallocated DDF for the DRF and then, of course, clubs and Rotarians can make their cash donations to the Fund as well. Contributions to the Disaster Relief Fund in support of Ukraine can be made [here](#). All funds need to be received into the Disaster Response Fund by 30 April 2022 in order to qualify for use in support of the Ukrainian relief efforts.
- District 2232 has formed a Coordinating Committee for the Prevention of Humanitarian Disaster, focused on helping victims of the war in Ukraine and coordinating support from RI.

The Committee is in touch with the major hospitals to determine urgent needs. If you plan to form some delivery of humanitarian help please consider the list of urgently needed medicine (see attached Governor Communiqué)

You can find in the attachment the RI directory of initiatives over the world and support projects for Ukraine (as of March 3, 2020). If you know about some project that is not already in this document, please send us its description.

Ukraine is suffering from hostilities by Russia for 8 days. Ukrainian cities are being bombed and shelled, many civilians have been killed or wounded. We also have a huge wave of refugees, who are fleeing the war. But we are holding on! Here are the Ukrainian resources to get additional information about the war in Ukraine (in English):

- [Official Facebook of Ukraine](#)
- [Official website about the war in Ukraine](#)
- [About Ukraine before the war](#)
- [Ukraine's English-language media outlet](#)
- [Ukrainian multimedia platform for broadcasting](#)



## NEW EMAIL ADDRESS FOR SOCIAL MEDIA CONTENT

Tim Sexton, Mina Chiang, & Henry Joe

RAGAS currently maintains social media channels on Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube. These have been managed and maintained by our committed volunteer network around the world. Now we're asking for your help in supporting these social channels!

We've setup a new email (below) that you can use to share newsworthy content, events, and articles related to human trafficking and our efforts to combat it. In addition, we welcome your original content, photos, and other media that you think could be valuable to the organization. This content will be reviewed, edited and available for use in RAGAS newsletters, event updates, social media, marketing, website, etc. (Please only submit media (photo/video) that you have created or is otherwise not copyrighted. Links to other articles are OK!)

The intent is to complement our current social media managers with your new efforts, ideas, voices, and media and my hope is that everyone engaged with RAGAS is able to share their perspective and voices towards our growing online audience.

Please send any content to [newsfeed@rotaryactiongroupagainstslavery.org](mailto:newsfeed@rotaryactiongroupagainstslavery.org) to be considered for the action group's social media.

# RAGAS SOCIAL MEDIA

RAGAS communication

You can receive the information by following us on social media!

- [RAGAS Facebook](#)
- [RAGAS LinkedIn](#)
- [RAGAS Twitter](#)
- [RAGAS Instagram](#)
- [RAGAS YouTube](#)

## LOOKING FOR A WAY OUT?



帮助您的方法 ¿ESTÁS BUSCANDO UNA SALIDA? ¿NECESITAS AYUDA?

NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING HOTLINE

**888-3737-888**

or Text "Help" to 233733(BeFree)

IOWA VICTIM SERVICE CALL CENTER

**800-770-1650**

IT HAPPENS HERE IN IOWA

or Text "iowahelp" to 20121



Iowa Network Against Human Trafficking & Slavery

Rotary



[www.iowanaht.org](#)

## TAKE ACTION

We are not defined by who we are, but by our actions. To contribute to ending modern slavery, you can:

- Become a RAGAS member from [here](#).
- Donate to RAGAS, or organisations working on ending modern slavery.
- [Contact your local Coordinator](#) to volunteer for RAGAS.
- Invite a RAGAS speaker to your local club meeting talking about modern slavery.
- Initiate a Global Grant project to fight against modern slavery.
- Engage with Rotary clubs that dedicates to ending modern slavery, including District 5950 [Rotary eClub to End Human Trafficking](#) and District 5710 [Rotary eClub of Community Action Against Human Trafficking](#).

