



# **BIG BEND COALITION AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING**

## **NATIONAL SLAVERY AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING PREVENTION MONTH**

### **CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES**

#### **JANUARY 2021**

**(ALL PROGRAMS LISTED ARE IN EASTERN TIME AND ARE FREE TO ATTEND)**

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#### **THE ROTARY CLUB OF TALLAHASSEE - PROTECTING YOUTH FROM HUMAN TRAFFICKING**

**Date:** Wednesday, January 6, 2021, 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

**Location:** Online via Zoom

**Description:** “Operation Innocence,” a coordinated local, state and federal sting operation, here in Tallahassee resulted in the arrest of over 170 people in a child sex trafficking network. We know that traffickers target children online and since the advent of COVID-19, these youth are even more vulnerable to being both sex and labor trafficked. What can we do to make sure that youth are protected from being trafficked, especially online? What else do we need to know and take action to collaborate to stop human trafficking? This lunch presentation will address these issues and more. Presenters: Marina Anderson, Florida Department of Children and Families Regional Human Trafficking Coordinator for NE and NW Regions and Robin Hassler Thompson, Exec. Dir., The Survive and Thrive Advocacy Center (STAC)

**Sponsor and Host:** The Rotary Club of Tallahassee

**Cost:** Free

**Contact:** Kim Koutnik, [koutnikk@yahoo.com](mailto:koutnikk@yahoo.com) to register and for link to join.

#### **“PERSPECTIVES” CALL IN RADIO SHOW ON WFSU (88.9 FM)**

**Date:** Thursday, January 7, 2021, 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

**Location:** Tune in on the radio: 88.9FM

<http://news.wfsu.org/programs/perspectives-wfsu-889-wfsu-fm>

**Description:** A panel of representatives from the community and beyond, including the Survive and Thrive Advocacy Center, the Big Bend Coalition Against Human Trafficking, Leon County Commission Chair Rick Minor and Holland & Knight attorney Barbara Martinez will provide an overview of topical human trafficking issues and local events including anti-trafficking activities for the private sector, public and private sector partnerships, community awareness, local human trafficking cases and much more.

**Cost:** Free

**Contact:** Robin Hassler Thompson, [robin@surviveandthriveadvocacy.org](mailto:robin@surviveandthriveadvocacy.org) or 850-597-2080

## **HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN THE HOSPITALITY INDUSTRY**

**Date:** Wednesday, January 13, 2021, 3 p.m. – 4 p.m.

**Location:** Online webinar

**Description:** The hospitality industry is one of places where traffickers commonly exploit victims for both labor and sex. Trafficking victims can be hidden from plain sight and not recognized as victims, unless hotel guests and staff learn the signs of a potential trafficking situation. Staff in the hospitality industry must be able to recognize the signs and be prepared to act if they observe a potential human trafficking situation in their establishment. After completing this training, participants will understand the definitions of both labor and sex trafficking and relevant state and federal laws, will be able to recognize the signs and will know how to report human trafficking. Presenter: Marina Anderson, Florida Department of Children and Families Regional Human Trafficking Coordinator for Northeast and Northwest Regions.

**Register here:** <https://tinyurl.com/y4qh5v9s>

**Cost:** Free.

**Sponsors:** STAC and the International Rescue Committee, in affiliation with the Big Bend Coalition Against Human Trafficking (BBCAHT)

**Contact:** STAC, [stac@surviveandthriveadvocacy.org](mailto:stac@surviveandthriveadvocacy.org) or 850-597-2080

## **HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND WORKING WITH OUR NEIGHBOR: GEORGIA'S ANTI-TRAFFICKING INITIATIVES**

**Date:** Friday, January 15, 2021, 11- 12:30 p.m.

**Location:** Online webinar

**Description:** The Georgia state line is less than 30 minutes from many of us in North Florida, making it of great value to learn from our neighbor to the north about how we can collaborate to prevent human trafficking, protect victims, and bring traffickers to justice. This presentation will introduce you to Georgia's anti-human trafficking work and feature presenters who are experts in state and local anti-trafficking efforts. Topics will include protective responses to child sex and labor trafficking (and Georgia's recent work with local Child Advocacy Centers and youth who are victims of child sexual exploitation and trafficking), recent findings and recommendations from a new report on labor trafficking, and how we can assist one another in our anti-trafficking advocacy and survivor support. All BBCAHT members, anti-trafficking advocates and service providers, local task forces and coalitions, child welfare agencies, law enforcement, attorneys, the faith community and many more can benefit greatly to know about Georgia's work and how we can coordinate to assist and support trafficking survivors. At the end of the formal presentation, there will be an informal discussion and time for questions. Presenters: Erica Mortonson, LCSW, Human Trafficking Unit Supervisor, and Erina Acosta, Human Trafficking Planner and Policy Development Specialist, GA Criminal Justice Coordinating Council; Victor Williams, Coordinator, GA Coalition to Combat Human Trafficking.

**Register here:** <https://tinyurl.com/yatzdmhb>

**Cost:** Free. *This is the first monthly "3<sup>rd</sup> Friday" human trafficking training program for 2021.*

**Sponsors:** STAC and the International Rescue Committee, in affiliation with the Big Bend Coalition Against Human Trafficking (BBCAHT)

**Contact:** STAC, [stac@surviveandthriveadvocacy.org](mailto:stac@surviveandthriveadvocacy.org) or 850-597-2080

## **GADSDEN COUNTY COMMUNITY HUMAN TRAFFICKING FORUM**

**Date:** Thursday, January 14, 2021, 7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

**Location:** Online via Zoom

**Description:** This is the first of a series of 2021 "Table Talks" on human trafficking and its connections to social justice issues in Gadsden County. STAC Board Member and Pastor Douglas Harris of Midway Unity Fellowship Church of Midway, FL will lead a program that will feature a short informational introduction to the topic of human trafficking and a community

member-led discussion. This program will mark the beginning of a dedicated and long-term focus on social justice and human trafficking in Gadsden County and a call to action by and for the community and survivors. All members of the public are welcome and encouraged to attend, including the faith community, businesses, schools, healthcare providers, educators and students, civic groups and leaders, law enforcement and justice system representatives, elected leaders, attorneys, retirees, public employees, artists, youth, agricultural workers, and anyone who is interested.

**Register here:** <https://www.surviveandthriveadvocacy.org/table-talks-midway-florida>

**Cost:** Free

**Sponsors:** STAC and the International Rescue Committee, in affiliation with the Big Bend Coalition Against Human Trafficking (BBCAHT)

**Contact:** STAC, [stac@surviveandthriveadvocacy.org](mailto:stac@surviveandthriveadvocacy.org) or 850-597-2080

### **HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND THE LAW: LOOKING THROUGH A WIDER LENS**

**Date:** Thursday, January 21, 2021, 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

**Location:** Online

**Description:** What is the role of the private sector in addressing and helping to end human trafficking? What roles do we play as attorneys in civil practice, business owners and leaders, and consumers? What role does government play and is there a place for public/private partnership and collaboration in addressing the eradication of both sex and labor trafficking? And what about the “supply chains” of goods and services – how can we work to make sure that enslaved people have not produced the food we eat and other goods and services we rely on? These questions and more will be the focus of this program. **Featured Speakers,** [Barbara Martinez](#), of Holland & Knight, former Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of Florida and FSU College of Law Public Interest Law Center’s Human Trafficking and Exploitation Law Project.

**CLE credit application pending**

**Register here:** <https://fsu.forms-db.com/view.php?id=1017598>

**Hosts/Sponsors:** FSU College of Law, FSU Center for the Advancement of Human Rights, the International Rescue Committee (IRC), the Survive and Thrive Advocacy Center (STAC), the Big Bend Coalition Against Human Trafficking (BBCAHT), Legal Services of North Florida, Tallahassee Women Lawyers, Florida Government Bar Association, and Advocates for Immigrant and Refugee Rights (AIRR) and Trafficking in America Task Force of the FSU College of Law.

**Cost:** Free

**Contact:** Robin Hassler Thompson, STAC, 850-597-2080 [robin@surviveandthriveadvocacy.org](mailto:robin@surviveandthriveadvocacy.org)

### **HUMAN TRAFFICKING: STORIES OF SURVIVORS**

**Date:** Tuesday, January 26, 2021, 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.

**Location:** Online via Zoom

**Description:** This event will feature a human trafficking survivor-centered discussion and highlight the challenges faced by survivors across the greater Tallahassee area. Due to its complexity and the harm caused by trafficking, survivors face a multitude of barriers as they work to rebuild their lives. Members of the community will learn about these issues and ways they can engage in solutions to prevent human trafficking and support survivors.

**Cost:** Free

**Join here:**

<https://rescue.zoom.us/j/92894349722?pwd=a2dxUkFtRlcyZjZMMWxOd3c4cklOdz09>

Meeting ID: 928 9434 9722 - Passcode: 657729

OR on Facebook Live: <https://www.facebook.com/ircinflorida/>

**Contacts:** Kristina Bailey, [Kristina.Bailey@rescue.org](mailto:Kristina.Bailey@rescue.org) or JC Torres, [Juan.torres@rescue.org](mailto:Juan.torres@rescue.org)

## **LABOR TRAFFICKING: THE STORY OF IMMIGRANT SURVIVORS**

**Date:** Wednesday, January 27, 2021, 10 a.m. – 11 a.m.

**Location:** Online via Zoom

**Description:** The IRC and STAC provide services to domestic and foreign-born survivors of human trafficking. The IRC's unique experience in working with diverse immigrant and refugee communities provides the context for this conversation to explore the many ways immigrants are victimized by human trafficking. This program will explore the specific subject of labor trafficking and its prevalence in the rural regions of the state and discuss issues surrounding supply chains and consumer support for trafficking-free goods and services.

**Join here:**

<https://rescue.zoom.us/j/93361623151?pwd=QjJ3dlFBNjF4OE10TWRPeGtKNFpnZz09>

Meeting ID: 933 6162 3151 - Passcode: 331481

OR on Facebook Live: <https://www.facebook.com/ircinflorida/>

**Cost:** Free

**Contacts:** Kristina Bailey, [Kristina.Bailey@rescue.org](mailto:Kristina.Bailey@rescue.org) or JC Torres, [Juan.torres@rescue.org](mailto:Juan.torres@rescue.org)

## **PREVENTING AND UNDERSTANDING HUMAN TRAFFICKING OF YOUTH**

**Date:** Thursday, January 28, 3 p.m. – 4 p.m.

**Location:** Online via Zoom

**Description:** This conversation will be directed to students in local universities and high schools to educate these young members of the community about human trafficking, its prevalence, and how to protect themselves and their peers. This event will be hosted in partnership with Leon County Schools and other student groups to ensure age-appropriate content.

**Join here:**

<https://rescue.zoom.us/j/97634823330?pwd=RmNMTVBWU0pKUXFKU2NuaW56NkNYUT09>

Meeting ID: 976 3482 3330 - Passcode: 775175

OR on Facebook Live: <https://www.facebook.com/ircinflorida/>

**Contacts:** Kristina Bailey, [Kristina.Bailey@rescue.org](mailto:Kristina.Bailey@rescue.org) or JC Torres, [Juan.torres@rescue.org](mailto:Juan.torres@rescue.org)

## **BIG BEND COALITION AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING (BBCAHT) CONTACT INFORMATION:**

\*\*\*NOTE: ALL BBCAHT MEMBERS WHO WISH TO ATTEND EVENTS MUST REGISTER. \*\*\*

**Facebook Page:** <https://www.facebook.com/bbcaht/>

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