



Anti-Trafficking Program Miami Office Newsletter

Happy Holidays! Periodically, the IRC in Miami will share important updates, news, resources, and discuss topics related to human trafficking in the South Florida community. Here is our second issue and we hope you enjoy it!

MEET THE PROGRAM

The IRC in Miami anti-trafficking program has been federally funded since 2003. It provides a rapid-response and comprehensive support system for trafficked persons while also creating partnerships in South Florida. These partnerships help each other better understand and respond to the needs of the survivors.

Direct Services

The IRC offers assistance to domestic and foreign-born victims of all forms of human trafficking. Victims may contact the National Human Trafficking Resource Center or the IRC's information line (866-443-0106), they may also be referred by law enforcement, services providers, or the community. During the intake, a victim is assessed to determine his or her needs, and a service plan is developed to respond to those needs and to strive to reach the victim's goals.

Services Include:

- Housing and Sustenance
- Assistance in Achieving Certification
- Literacy
- Job Training
- Life Skills and Education Assistance
- Interpreter and Translator Assistance
- Legal Assistance (including immigration)
- Transportation Assistance
- Intensive Case Management
- Medical Care
- Mental Health Treatment
- Dental Care
- Victim Advocacy.

Outreach, Training and Technical Assistance

Under the national Rescue & Restore campaign, the IRC provides essential information to four counties in South Florida- Miami-Dade, Broward, Palm Beach, and Monroe- while raising awareness on national, state, and local levels. The IRC conducts training sessions on human trafficking for law enforcement personnel, social services agencies, and the community. The training sessions focus on awareness, protocols, referrals, and networking. In addition, the IRC gives technical assistance to governmental and non-governmental organizations, providing support on victim identification, improving the quality of victim's services, and interagency collaboration.

NEWS

The 2016 President's Interagency Task Force to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons (PITF) Meeting



U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry chairs the Annual Meeting of the President's Interagency Task Force to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons (PITF) at the White House in Washington, D.C., on October 24, 2016. [State Department photo]

President Obama established the first U.S. Advisory Council on Human Trafficking, as a platform for human trafficking survivors to advise public officials on human trafficking policy. On October 24, 2016 Secretary of State John Kerry chaired the "President's Interagency Task Force to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons". This was an all-of-government approach which included various federal agencies such as, Department of State (DOS), Department of Labor (DOL), Department of Justice (DOJ) and Department of Homeland Security (DHS), among others. Mexican officials were also included because of their crucial role in anti-human trafficking efforts on the U.S.-Mexico border. During the event the Director of Homeland Security announced that **Continued Presence (CP)** status can now be renewed for up to two years (instead on one year), allowing non-citizen human trafficking victims to remain in the U.S. throughout the investigation process. Following the meeting an Advisory Council, made up of human trafficking survivors, provided policy recommendations to the agencies in attendance. These policy recommendations included changes to public awareness, labor laws, victim services, grant making and law enforcement training. The council recommended the use of social media to increase public awareness in the younger population, as well as, trauma informed public awareness and outreach campaigns. They also recommended that a more diverse representation of human trafficking survivors be represented in outreach campaigns.

NHTRC Name Change

On November 15, 2016, the "National Human Trafficking Resource Center" changed its name to the "National Human Trafficking Hotline". They have also created the National Human Trafficking Training and Technical Assistance Center (NHTTAC), which will serve as the primary source of training and technical assistance. Over the coming months they will transition the hotline's training and technical assistance programming to NHTTAC. The organization has updated its website, e-mail address and outreach materials to reflect the name change, however the number has stayed the same. Their information is listed below:



National Human Trafficking Hotline
1-888-3737-888
help@humantraffickinghotline.org
www.humantraffickinghotline.org

EVENTS

This past November 18, 2016, Journey Church in Lake Worth, FL. hosted its annual Restore Conference. The full-day event was designed to raise awareness about the topic of human trafficking described by the organizers as “one of the greatest injustices our world is currently facing”. The venue also served as the gathering place for the *South Florida Human Trafficking Task Force* which held their last meeting of the year. It was attended by law enforcement, service providers, survivors, and concerned citizens. Some of the highlights were the enforcement of using a victim-centered approach as law mandates in anti-trafficking efforts, and the launch of the task force website (www.sfhumantraffickingtaskforce.org). The site offers resources, official news and a comprehensive local calendar of events among other things.



After the meeting, other sessions included the documentary Screening of *Foster Shock* followed by a panel discussion. Throughout the event, attendees were able to experience interactive prayer stations that also brought awareness on the issue of human trafficking and what everyone can do to make a difference. In addition, there was a resource and networking area for attendees to build new partnerships and gather important information. One of the most powerful sights of the event was during the prayer station circuit in which survivors, providers, law enforcement and concerned citizens alike were silently experiencing each of the prayer stages (I Am, Bury It, Scars, Grateful, Exploitation, Gangs, The Journey, and Shine) on a personal level yet showing we are all equal and part of something bigger. Tanya Meade and Journey Church did an amazing job with this conference and truly “shining a light in the darkness” of human trafficking.

Takeaway thought from Station #8: Shine

“Never worry about numbers. Help one person at the time, and always start with the person nearest you”
–Mother Theresa-

AGENCY SPOTLIGHT



Broward Human Trafficking Coalition

The Broward Human Trafficking Coalition (BHTC) is a coalition of community members in Southeast Florida committed to working together in order to improve assistance for persons affected by the crime of human trafficking. The Coalition serves as a source of information, education and networking in order to raise awareness about human trafficking. The purpose of the BHTC is “to impact the

response to victims of human trafficking through outreach and advocacy activities, to coordinate informational, educational, and training seminars, and identify resources available.” BHTC does not require a membership fee to join, only an interest in helping achieve BHTC’s mission. For more information regarding the Broward Human Trafficking Coalition visit them at their website: <https://www.bhtc.us>

RESOURCES

National Human Trafficking Hotline 1(888) 373-7888

IRC Anti-trafficking Hotline: 1(866) 443-0106

Miami-Dade County Human Trafficking Coalition: (305) 285-5900. FelipeV@miamidade.gov

Broward County Human Trafficking Coalition: <https://www.bhtc.us>

Human Trafficking Coalition of the Palm Beaches: <http://www.htcpb.org>

South Florida Human Trafficking Task Force: Victor.B.Williams@ice.dhs.gov.
www.sfhumantraffickingtaskforce.org

CALENDAR

JANUARY 2017

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S	
1	2	3	4	5	5	7	01/12: Soroptimist's Stolen Girls, Stolen Dreams
8	9	10	11	12*	13	14	01/18: Human Trafficking Walk by FNU
15	16	17	18*	19	20	21	01/24 and 01/25: 1HTC Human Trafficking Summit
22	23	24*	25*	26*	27*	28	01/26: SAO's Annual Conference
29	30	31*					01/27: MDCHTC Human Trafficking Event
							01/31: SFHTTF event at FIU

*For additional information about our programs and events, to request a training, or for technical assistance please contact us at: Florencia.Dominguez@Rescue.org. Suggestions are welcomed!