



# Network News

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## MISSION STATEMENT

As a Catholic faith community we value the dignity and rights of all persons and we endeavor to educate, to influence public policy, and to engage our community for the purpose of eradicating human trafficking in all its forms.

We work in collaboration with other faith communities, law enforcement, and established organizations addressing the issue.



April 1, 2017

Easter is almost here. And despite the spiritual aspect, we continue to celebrate with the chocolate bunny in its full glory. Every year, ninety million chocolate bunnies are produced to meet the Easter demand, generating (along with other Easter candies) over \$2.26 billion. However, despite the ease with which these innocent bunnies bounce into our shopping carts, their origins may not be so innocent.



Over 70% of cocoa, the main ingredient in chocolate, comes from the southern shores of Western Africa, specifically Cote d'Ivoire and Ghana. Despite generating over \$110 billion a year, the industry has a century-long history of forced and child labor. According to the US Department of State, over 100,000 children in the Ivory Coast cocoa industry work under the "worst forms of child labor." Issues of trafficking and severe child labor within cocoa production sparked the US government to demand changes from leaders in the industry.

In September 2015, a class action lawsuit was filed against Hershey, Mars, and Nestle, accusing them of false advertising by failing to disclose the use of slavery on their packaging, despite their knowledge of such practices. The Fair Trade Movement has also been working with cocoa producers to ensure that they adhere to strict labor standards. Several organizations, including FairTrade International, FairTrade USA, the Fair Trade Federation, and the World Fair Trade Organization, audit producers and certifies cocoa products to inform consumers that their chocolate is produced in an ethical and slavery-free manner. When purchasing chocolate products, look for these images to make sure your chocolate is not laced with forced or child labor:



From *Human Trafficking Search* ([www.humantraffickingsearch.net](http://www.humantraffickingsearch.net))



## Catholic Network to End Human Trafficking

Future Meetings

### Strategic Planning Committee

Diocese of San Jose  
1150 N. First St.  
San Jose, CA. 95112

### Strategic Planning Committee

[Terry Jelley](#)  
Coordinator

[Marilyn Wilson](#)  
Sisters of Charity of the  
Blessed Virgin Mary

[Elizabeth Avalos](#)  
Sisters of Charity of the  
Blessed Virgin Mary

[Rosemary Everett](#)  
SNJM

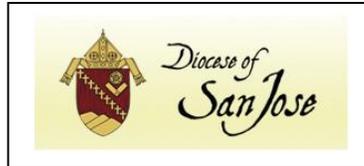
[Sister Caterina Chu](#)  
Daughters of Charity  
of St. Vincent de Paul

[Nancy Moreno](#)  
Santa Teresa Parish

[Anthony Ordon](#)  
Saint Thomas of  
Canterbury Parish

### Website

[www.dsj.org/cneht](http://www.dsj.org/cneht)



## Diocese of San Jose Update



Spring has arrived but students attending our Catholic High Schools are not taking a break from their work to address the issue of human trafficking. March was a busy month for Mikaela Fenton (pictured, right) and Caroline Chmielewski-Anders (pictured, left) from Notre Dame High School. As their senior year draws to a close they completed their Senior Service Learning Project (SSLP) giving a number of presentations including a workshop on human trafficking awareness in February 18 and their final SSLP presentation at the Young Women's Advocacy Summit at Notre Dame on March 23. Joachim Schmidt from Bellarmine Prep joined Mikaela Fenton and CNEHT's Marilyn Wilson (BVM) for a presentation to the 8<sup>th</sup> grade class at St. Clare. Mitty High School sophomores Vedyia Konda and Dasol Kim traveled to Sacramento along with other high school students to spend time discussing the human trafficking issue with legislators on March 21 during Catholic Youth Advocacy Day. At CNEHT we are very proud of the time, dedication and hard work that these students have put into helping us in the battle against modern day slavery. In this issue of Network News we present highlights from one of Mikaela and Caroline's workshop. Next month we will feature of recap of Dasol and Vedyia's trip to Sacramento.

### The Humming Bird Project: Human Trafficking Awareness Workshop

The second in a series of four presentations took place at Notre Dame High School on February 18. As part of the requirements for their SSLP, Mikaela and Caroline also held workshops for Dr. Jonathan Fung's anti-trafficking class at the Art Institute of California in Sunnyvale, a Diocesan workshop for lay people, and St. Clare school, before their final presentation before the student body at Notre Dame on March 25. The workshop consisted of clips from the their Humming Bird video interspersed with discussions on what human trafficking is and ways that people can get involved in the cause. Guest speakers included Dasol Kim and Vedyia Konda from Mitty who talked about advocacy and Imani Hopkins, Coordinator for Performing Arts at Notre Dame, who discussed art as advocacy.

Mikaela opened the workshop with an explanation of she chose human trafficking for her senior project. "I have been passionate about this issue since my freshman year at Notre Dame. I realized that there are a lot of Bay Area anti-trafficking advocates but no project to bring them

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The *Network News* is designed to provide information, articles, and updates about activities and events that are taking place within our Diocese and the surrounding communities in the greater Bay Area. Please feel free to submit comments and suggestions along with any events and articles of interest about human trafficking to Terry Jelley at [CNEHT@dsg.org](mailto:CNEHT@dsg.org)

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all together. So we decided to tape video interviews with leaders from advocacy groups around the Bay Area," Adds Caroline, "And I had the camera! So that's how I got involved."

Clips from their videos were interspersed throughout the workshop in which Bay Area anti-trafficking leaders were asked to identify one fact that everyone should know about human trafficking. Supervisor Cindy Chavez defined it while Perla Floris from Community Solutions addressed the root causes. Other leaders interviewed included Brian Wo from BAATC, Sharan Dhanoa, coordinator of SBC and members of the CNEHT leadership team.

Workshop activities included a web simulation showing the interconnections between human trafficking with other issues, departments and agencies. Vedy, playing the victim, stood in the center of the room holding a ball of bright red yarn, while participants



representing the various issues and people with whom the victim comes in to contact formed a circle around her. With each contact, the victim hands the participant a piece of the yarn. At the end the intricate web is visible and we learn that you can't really remove one factor because something else will take its place. Marilyn Wilson said, "This was the second time I participated in this activity and it was even more powerful than the first time. With all the passing back and forth between the victim and other parties I was able to see the corruption between all parties, along with the complexity of the issue and how victim feels trapped."

Once the problem of human trafficking was addressed, Caroline discussed ways people can become involved in the cause during the second part of the workshop. "Because human trafficking is so intricate there many different ways to fight it," says Caroline. "We need to practice conscious consumerism. Anytime you purchase something you are voting favorably for that company." Caroline suggested purchasing products and services that are produced responsibly using fair labor practices. She outlined the following 5 steps:

1. Research.
2. Look for the labels, (e.g. fair trade and organically sourced), and know the difference between free trade and fair trade. These terms are not interchangeable.
3. Determine your wants vs. your needs.
4. Buy quality over quantity. Buy items that last longer as well as locally sourced products
5. Hold the companies accountable. Research your favorite company. If they use sweatshop labor and you don't like it,

write to them. Good companies include Nordstrom, Lulu Lemon, Toms, and American Love Affair.

The workshop concluded with a moving discussion on art as advocacy by Notre Dame instructor Imani Hopkins (to be featured in the next issue of *Network News*.)

Marilyn Wilson (pictured in video clip) summed up the event by saying, "Our hope is in you, the MIty, Bellarmine, and Notre Dame students who are here today. I encourage you to keep working on this important issue and on building capacity in younger students to continue these efforts, because human trafficking is not going to go away. For that reason we also need you to help educate our youth. You are our great



hope. I just came from a retreat for survivors. They have gone through their own healing process and are now taking a lead in this fight. At CNEHT we will continue to support your efforts and work with you to encourage more young people to become involved."

## Catholic Social Teaching on Human Trafficking

### Catechism of the Catholic Church

The seventh commandment forbids acts or enterprises that for any reason - selfish or ideological, commercial, or totalitarian—lead to the enslavement of human beings, to their being bought, sold and exchanged like merchandise, in disregard for their personal dignity. It is a sin against the dignity of persons and their fundamental rights to reduce them by violence to their productive value or to a source of profit. St. Paul directed a Christian master to treat his Christian slave “no longer as a slave but more than a slave, as a beloved brother, . . . both in the flesh and in the Lord.”

—Paragraph no. 2414

### El Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica

El séptimo mandamiento proscribe los actos o empresas que, por una u otra razón, egoísta o ideológica, mercantil o totalitaria, conducen a “esclavizar seres humanos,” a menospreciar su dignidad personal, a comprarlos, a venderlos y a cambiarlos como mercancía. Es un pecado contra la dignidad de las personas y sus derechos fundamentales reducirlos por la

violencia a la condición de objeto de consumo o a una fuente de beneficio. San Pablo ordenaba a un amo cristiano que tratase a su esclavo cristiano “no como esclavo, sino...como un hermano/a...en el Señor” (Flm 16).

*(Vea: Artículo 7, “El Séptimo Mandamiento,” #2414)*

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## Human Trafficking Stories

### Survivor Story: Abandoned by a Traveling Sales Crew

Kevin was recruited by a crew member who came to his door selling magazines. When Kevin revealed that he was experiencing financial difficulties, the worker offered Kevin a job and a signing bonus. The crew that Kevin joined was under the control of several managers, all of whom openly boasted about their arrest warrants. These managers would frequently compel the crew members to work from eight in the morning until after midnight, would require them to reimburse the business for lodging and gas costs, and would only pay members if they met their daily quotas. Members who performed particularly well were typically paid in drugs instead of cash, and Kevin never saw the signing bonus he had been promised.

Kevin reported to the National Human Trafficking Resource Center (NHTRC) that all the workers he interacted with while on the crew said that they wanted to leave. However, they were afraid to do so because of their managers’ reputations. Workers who did try to leave were often beaten severely and in some cases were sexually assaulted by either the manager or the senior salespeople. When Kevin himself tried to leave, one of the managers threatened to kill him and confiscated his identification documents.

Eventually the managers decided that Kevin was not making enough sales, so they abandoned him without returning his identification. Kevin was able to contact the NHTRC for assistance, and NHTRC specialists were able to put Kevin in contact with an emergency service provider. The provider was able to arrange temporary housing and a local job for him.

This story is representative of the types of calls received by the NHTRC, operated by Polaris. Names have been changed and personally identifying information has been omitted to preserve the confidentiality of the people served.

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## Meetings

[Coalition to End Human Trafficking  
in Santa Cruz and Monterey Counties](#)

When: Tuesday, April 18, noon to 1:30 pm  
Where: Watsonville, CA

#### No Traffic Ahead Subcommittee Meeting

When: Thursday, April ???, 10:30  
Where: Family Resource Center, 591 North King Rd., San Jose

#### South Bay Coalition Meeting

When: Wednesday, April 19, 9 - 11 am  
Where: Family Resource Center, 591 North King Rd., San Jose

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## Activities/ Events/Training

### MISSEY Free Cone Day



**When:** Tuesday, April 4, 12 to 8 pm  
**Where:** Ben & Jerry's, 505 Embarcadero West, Oakland

**What:** MISSEY is once again partnering with Ben & Jerry's at Jack London Square for Free Cone Day. Stop by their Oakland location to donate \$1 to support MISSEY AND get a waffle cone!

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### Neighbor: Redwood City film screening

**When:** Saturday, April 8, 5 to 6 pm  
**Where:** Dragon Productions Theatre Company, 2120 Broadway, Redwood City  
**What:** You are invited to a FIRST SCREENING IN REDWOOD CITY sponsored by Redwood City Parks and Arts Foundation & Tony Gapastione. Come see a short film, interact with filmmakers and meet survivors of human trafficking in the Bay Area. (Please know that this film, although it has no OFFICIAL MPAA RATING would not be appropriate for children 12 or under because of the subject matter of human trafficking and some mild language.)

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### Freedom House Gala

**When:** Saturday, April 29, 6 to 9 pm  
**Where:** Crowne Plaza - Foster City Hotel, 1221 Chess Dr., Foster City



**What:** Tickets are available for the Freedom House 8th Annual Gala, benefiting human-trafficking survivors in the San Francisco Bay Area. Highlighting the evening will be the emotional testimony of a Monarch program graduate who will share her personal journey from exploitation to independence. Gala attendees also will enjoy the entertaining silent and live charity auctions, guest speakers and a gourmet dinner with complimentary wine.

Early-bird tickets are offered at a reduced price: \$125 per individual tickets are **\$150 per person** and tables of 10 are **\$1,500**. To make an online purchase visit [www.FreedomHouseSF.org/Events](http://www.FreedomHouseSF.org/Events). You also may buy tickets or tables by mail by sending your check made payable to Freedom House at PO Box 2065, Burlingame, CA 94011.

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### Use Your Feet For Freedom 5K



**When:** Saturday, May 6, 8 to 9 am

**Where:** Mitchell Park, 600 E Meadow Dr, Palo Alto

**What:** 5K run for children and adults benefitting Freedom House. In 2010, Freedom House opened The Monarch, the first safe home and long-term aftercare program of its kind devoted to adult female survivors of human trafficking in Northern California. The Nest, its home and aftercare program for girls ages 12 to 17, opened last year. For more information about Freedom House, please visit [www.FreedomHouseSF.org](http://www.FreedomHouseSF.org).

## Anti-Trafficking APPS of Interest

### GraceCity

Free - Available on Android 4.0 and up

Compatibility: Requires iOS 7.0 or later. Compatible with iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch.

GraceCity™ is a centralized, user-friendly mobile resource app allowing first-responders immediate access to short- and long-term services for exploited and high-risk individuals. This app provides a list of nearby emergency resources for those in need: shelters, medical help, legal assistance, and even spiritual support. With this app, you can contact shelters, identify victims with its list of warning signs, and learn about the resources in your county. This is good for any situations when you or someone near you needs any help or if you would like to find organizations to volunteer in. Applicable only in certain counties in the U.S.