

# GETTING INVOLVED

## **Awareness**

Tell everyone: family, friends, Bible study group, colleagues. Most people just don't know.

Invite a local ministry to speak to your church, school, club or organization.

Encourage your pastor to preach a sermon on human exploitation.

Invite a speaker to share in a service. Invite a survivor to give their testimony.

Host an awareness event. Get a DVD presentation, printed materials, or a representative from local ministry. Have a dessert gathering with your club or Sunday School class, dinner with friends or colleagues, parents' meetings, student organizations, sorority or fraternity meetings.

Post "warning sign" posters in your church. Use a bulletin insert.

Connect with local book clubs and offer to speak a few minutes on trafficking when they are reading a book on the subject.

## **Law Enforcement & Judicial System**

Establish a relationship with local law enforcement. Encourage them; pray for them, Find out if you can bring them refreshments. Share your concern about trafficking in your area. Ask how you can help them to protect your community's children.

Invite local law enforcement who deal with child exploitation to speak to your group.

Report suspicious behavior by calling 911 or the Human Trafficking Hotline 888 373-7888.

Get training in legal advocacy. Learn how to lobby and get laws changed.

If necessary, pressure law enforcement & local district attorney to enforce laws.

## **Volunteer**

Host a volunteer training for a local anti-trafficking ministry.

Take the volunteer training to learn how to create a safe, loving and caring environment. Residents must work through emotional abuse that may present itself as anger, mistrust, depression, withdrawal or denial. Be prepared to respond appropriately.

Use your gifts: mentoring, special education, tutoring, leading classes in art or music or dance, gardening, whatever your gifts are! Help with yard maintenance, repairs, research or write grants, help with publicity, etc.

Consider going through training to provide therapeutic foster care for children who leave the program but are not old enough to be on their own.

## **Meet Needs**

Partner with an existing ministry to provide housing, counseling and job training for victims. If there's not one, start one!

Meet a medical need. If you're a doctor, offer to see survivors at your practice. If you're not, ask your own medical professionals to get involved. Dentists, primary care physicians, gynecologists, dermatologists, etc are needed.

Sponsor a party for the children such as bowling, skating, mini-golf, trips to local tourist attractions or movies, plays or amusement parks.

Sponsor a resident: collect gift cards, school books, toiletries, etc.

Sponsor the home: paper products, food, cleaners, toiletries, gift cards for stores near the home, gas cards to help with transportation, Bibles in an easy to read translation.

## **Pray**

This is evil at its vilest. Have a group praying and covering you while you work to rescue and restore.

Pray for the children that are in therapeutic, restorative ministry programs.

Pray for the children that are invisible, that will be abused and exploited today and tonight.

Organize a prayerwalk around the "hotspots" in your community: strip clubs, adult entertainment stores, questionable massage spas, lingerie shops, hotels, some liquor stores. Contact your local law enforcement and ask where they are.