



Friday, January 10, 2014

About Human Trafficking – Newsletter #13

Opinions differ on whether the incidence of human trafficking, especially prostitution, increases at major sporting events. As the Super Bowl approaches, we will likely see more stories similar to the one recently published by The Guardian, "[Brazil's child sex trade soars as 2014 World Cup nears](#)". But the Global Alliance Against Traffic in Women, in its report titled [What's the Cost of a Rumor](#), presents a critical analysis of human trafficking and seeks to separate myths from facts.

We know that human trafficking – sexual exploitation, forced labor, and servitude – occurs daily. The anti-trafficking education, outreach, and collaborative effort of many entities in New Jersey in the weeks ahead will provide both immediate and long-term benefits. Several upcoming anti-trafficking education and outreach events include:

January 11, 10 am – A film viewing and discussion will be held on *Sex + Money: A National Search for Human Worth*, organized by the Junior League of Morristown and held at the Morristown Medical Center.

January 15, 7 pm – "New Jersey's Annual Human Trafficking Awareness Day Observance" will occur at the Bergen Performance Arts Center. This will include a performance of survivor stories written by teens, and performed by teens. More information on this event is at www.NJHumanTrafficking.org.

January 21 – January 31 - The New Jersey Office of the Attorney General is sponsoring a series of "Say Something" assemblies at local colleges for middle and high school students. These assemblies seek to educate students and encourage them to speak up about trafficking. School districts are invited to bring students to the assemblies, which will be held in the following nine counties: Atlantic, Bergen, Camden, Hudson, Mercer, Monmouth, Morris, Ocean, and Union. Information and registration is available at www.NJhumantrafficking.gov.

January 20 – January 31 – These colleges are also hosting human trafficking community awareness events the same day as the school assemblies. Appropriate for

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student, parents, school administrators and the public at large, these events, sponsored by the Office of the Attorney General, will be from 5:30 to 7:30 pm. Mercer County College – James Kerney Campus in Trenton is also hosting a community awareness event on January 20 from 1 – 3 pm.

January 24 – The New Jersey Department of Children and Families and the Office of the Attorney General will hold a human trafficking awareness day event.

DCF, the Office of the Attorney General and the CARES Institute is sponsoring a training event addressing the involvement of gangs in sexual exploitation and the role of community policing as a human trafficking prevention strategy. This training is geared for law enforcement and other invited human service professionals. However, we recognize the value of sharing information about the involvement of gangs in sexual exploitation” and will include information in future newsletters.