



Human trafficking is a \$150 billion a year industry globally. Many think this is only an issue in “other countries”. However, human trafficking is rampant locally and in our community. 313,000 Texans are currently enslaved, and 79,000 of them are minors in bondage to sex slavery.

How do we respond to an injustice that is so overwhelming, scary, and in our very own backyard?

There is strong evidence that shows when we are educated and informed to what human trafficking is, what it looks like, how to protect our loved ones, and what to do when we see it, we are more confident in our surroundings and can be part of the solution.

Educate + Equip + Empower = HOPE

The Montgomery County Coalition Against Human Trafficking is putting on an awareness event and walk on October 17th to Educate, Equip, and Empower our community. The event will give HOPE that we will see human trafficking abolished in our area, our state, our country, and worldwide.

Come and visit the many organizations that fight this dark issue. Hear from many front-line workers as they teach you about prevention in your family or how to identify brothels or victims in your school, church, or neighborhood. Engage with survivors and their parents who are now walking out their freedom. Enjoy live music from local recording artists. At the end of the morning, join us as we put our feet to the pavement in a “single file, silent” walk to bring awareness to our community and take a stand for justice and healing.

When people come together, dramatic changes can be made and victims can be saved.

Please join us on October 17th, 10:00 AM to 12:30 PM at Town Green Park, The Woodlands.



Current Human Trafficking Statistics

Globally

- Over \$150 Billion a year industry.
- Fastest growing crime in the world.
- 24 million slaves with the United Nations believing that the number is actually closer to 40 million.
- 1-2% of victims are ever rescued.
- Less than 1% of traffickers are ever prosecuted.

Texas

- 313,000 human trafficking victims in Texas.
- Of those, 79,000 are minors.
- There are 4 brothels to every Starbucks in the Houston area.
- The US is the number one consumer of sex worldwide as well as the number one provider of child pornography.

Montgomery County (just an example of cases)

- 70 human trafficking charges in 2017. 129 counts in 2018. Only increasing with Covid.
- 29 establishments under investigation – mostly illegal massage parlors. 13 of which are in The Woodlands.
- 60 online predator arrests in the first half of this year in our county – targeting children. At risk more for online solicitation and grooming as people are at home on their computer more during the pandemic. 22 arrests made in June where 18 of the men were at home on stay at home orders but operating online.



Dear Potential Donor,

The issue of human trafficking has been brought to the forefront over the last number of years with increased efforts by government, law enforcement, task force teams, and organizations to address issues of education, rescue, prosecution, and aftercare. When we look at the enormity of the fastest growing crime in the world, one could easily be discouraged and give up. The global pandemic has only brought on an increase in internet crimes as well as illegal brothels popping up in our county.

We are excited that the Montgomery County has given us their blessing to hold a live event that will educate, equip, and empower our community to bring hope in regards to the safety of our families and community. The Montgomery County Coalition Against Human Trafficking will host this event October 17th at Town Green Park in The Woodlands. Many of the organizations, law enforcement, and government organizations will be there to talk with the public. We will have live music, food trucks, an awareness walk, speakers from the stage educating the public on internet safety, brothels, social media, and much more. The event is family friendly as well.

To put on this event with excellence, we require a large amount of funding. We will need security, marketing, banners, a stage, shirts for our volunteers, and so much more. We are thinking that our budget could go up to around \$18,000 if services are not all donated. We would be ecstatic if you would be willing to financially support this amazing cause. If done in short order, we will put your

name/logo on the back of our event t-shirt, the same would go on our sponsor banner, as well as recognition from the stage or any printed or online material.

I would be happy to answer any questions that you have. I look forward to working with you to make Montgomery County the safe place for our families that it needs to be. We love our community.

Sincerely,

Bonnie Thiessen

Event Coordinator

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