



**Newsletter - March/April
2013**

www.FreedomHouseSF.org



Annual Gala Sells Out in Record Time Ticket Waiting List Created to Meet Demand

The 4th Annual Freedom House Gala on May 4 quickly sold out, with guests anticipating a festive evening with powerful speeches by Francis Chan and Founder Jaida Im, in addition to inspirational messages from a current Monarch resident as well as a Freedom House graduate. Performer Mickey Cho will entertain with his anti-trafficking-inspired music and lyrics.

Auction items include a Hawaiian vacation package, a San Francisco Giants experience with the opportunity to meet star pitcher Jeremy Affeldt, a Corum luxury timepiece, a Dinner at a Fire House, wine tastings, a Peter Max painting, one-of-a-kind antique jewelry and decorative artwork, sports memorabilia, Lake Tahoe retreats, golf outings, event tickets, interesting gadgets and more.

***To place your name on the ticket waiting list, contact
FreedomHouse2013Gala@gmail.com***

Volunteer Opportunities

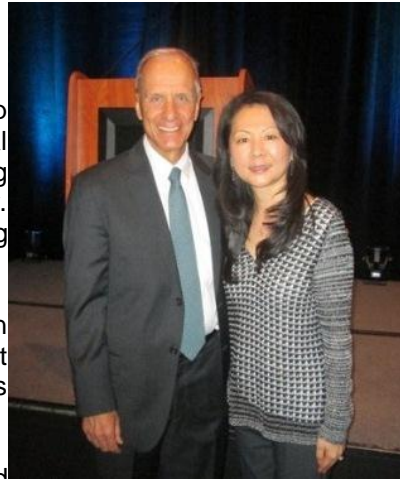
If you would like to help at the Gala, the Auction and Fund-a-Need committees are seeking a few more volunteers to assist during the evening. To sign up, email Sarah@FreedomHouseSF.org.

Spring Advocacy

Silicon Valley Prayer Breakfast organizer Skip Vaccarello invited Jaida Im to speak before its annual gathering of business leaders about human trafficking issues in the Bay Area and her personal testimony. Each year, the event features thought-provoking topics with follow-up discussion.

Freedom House advocates continue to participate in twice the number of speaking engagements than last year, addressing civic, business and church groups and college campuses.

Staff fulfilled a special request by a newly formed abolitionist club at California State University, Long Beach, to conduct an advocacy training session via Skype. These students are now actively building awareness about human trafficking while raising funds in Southern California to support Freedom House.



The Nest Co-Founders Introducing Greg & Cheryl Hock

A strong belief in God and a personal quest to stop the commercial sexual exploitation of children led Greg and Cheryl Hock on a path to open a home for girls in Santa Clara County. Along the way, their journey intersected with Freedom House, which similarly was exploring opportunities to expand its long-term aftercare program to minors.

Cheryl, who also serves as the director of partnerships for Freedom House, is a professionally trained life coach and founder of Goalpulse Coaching. She holds a master's degree in Speech and Language Pathology and a B.A. in Behavioral Science from San Jose State University.

Greg is known for being one of the most in-demand certified public accountants in the Bay Area. The Hock Company has offices in San Mateo, Palo Alto, Campbell and Morgan Hill, and serves clients based in San Francisco and throughout the region.

Together, Greg and Cheryl have six children and two unruly little dogs.



Special Donation Requests for The Monarch and The Nest

The Monarch: Amazon and Barnes & Noble gift cards to support the residents' book club; laptops, computers, and a high-volume printer.

The Nest: School, office and art supplies, children's books, crafts, games, bicycles, in addition to such office furnishings as desks, filing cabinets, computers, fax machine and high-volume printer.



Freedom House Celebrates Its Graduation Season **Monarch Residents and New Volunteers Are Honored**

Freedom House directors, advisory board members, volunteers, residents and staff joined together to pay tribute to two Monarch residents who recently graduated at the same time. While at The Monarch, these foreign-born survivors learned to speak English, received vocational training and job-referral support, legally changed their names and earned money through the sale of jewelry and crafts. They now are living independent and successful lives. We salute their many accomplishments. Freedom House also honored graduates of the largest volunteer training class in its history. We welcome 29 new advocates and 25 shelter volunteers, who now are meeting the survivors and forming new friendships.

Monarch Shelter Volunteer: **Tamara Zdvorak**

Tamara, a 2010 shelter-training graduate, is a former fitness instructor who learned that yoga was shown to be extremely successful at helping survivors manage and overcome post-traumatic stress. She pursued her certification, found stores to donate yoga mats and has driven over an hour each way to serve residents at The Monarch during these past two years. Tamara loves being a part of the Freedom House family and says the joy the women have shown her is incredible.



Advocate and Shelter Volunteer:

Leslie Peay

Leslie's empathy for human-trafficking survivors compelled her to become involved with Freedom House over a year ago and act as an instrument of God's grace and hope to those who have been affected. She serves as an advocate at speaking and tabling engagements, and assists with the Freedom House advocacy training program. Leslie also is a Monarch shelter volunteer, providing aromatherapy mind/body exercise, healing dance, and self-esteem and goal-setting support. Leslie loves to see the "butterfly" moments when sharing time with the residents and is filled with hope when hearing of their dreams.



About Freedom House:

Located in the San Francisco Bay Area, Freedom House is an independent 501(c)(3) non-profit organization with a mission to bring hope, restoration, and a new life to survivors of human trafficking by providing housing and long-term aftercare services. In August 2010, Freedom House launched The Monarch, the first safe home and aftercare program in Northern California for adult female survivors of human trafficking. The Nest, its innovative residential shelter for minors, is scheduled to open in late 2013. Through its pioneering aftercare model, Freedom House is breaking the cycle of human exploitation and creating new futures for survivors of all ages.

For more information:
Info@FreedomHouseSF.org