

Francis Chan Ignites 4th Annual Gala

More than 500 guests and 75 volunteers joined together to raise awareness and vital funds to help human-trafficking survivors during the Freedom House 4th Annual Gala on May 4 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Foster City.

Mickey Cho began the festivities with his engaging rap music and meaningful lyrics. Keynote speaker Francis Chan later electrified the audience as he passionately spoke about the issues, encouraging all to support the survivors.

Founder and Executive Director Jaida Im commended the spirit of community teamwork, as Freedom House plans to open The Nest for girls, its second residential shelter. She also presented the first annual **Guardian Award** to the San Francisco Police Department Special Victims Unit and the **Stewardship Award** to the Bay Area Anti-Trafficking Coalition.

Highlighting the Gala was the personal testimony of Monarch graduate Alexandria, who shared her journey from despair into a new life filled with hope, and a commitment to become a survivor-advocate.

A special thank you to Gala Gold Sponsors Alex and Lily Wang, Sereno Group - Palo Alto, and Silver Sponsors Laserage Technology, WestGate Church, and Sarah Lee and Vincent Chow.

Congratulations to the Gala Committee Leads who made the evening a tremendous success: Leah Cameron (auctions), Jeanna Kim (registration), Miranda Hudson (decorations), Hanna Kang (speakers/fund-a-need), Matthew Anderson (program host), Leslie Peay (advocacy), Karen Yu (resident jewelry sales), Sarah Lee (A/V), Tommy Lee (entertainment and A/V) and Sarah Cho (volunteers).



Genentech Spotlights Freedom House

Genentech's "Great Places to Work" Council kicked off its Philanthropic Program by featuring a 90-minute advocacy presentation by Freedom House. Hosted by Joey Teshima, philanthropic program lead, Jaida Im, Matthew Anderson, Leslie Peay and Monarch survivor-advocate Alexandria discussed the latest findings about human trafficking in the Bay Area. Staff members Tina Beauchamp and Sarah Cho provided additional information to attendees.



Freedom House is grateful for being a part of Genentech's Donation Matching and Volunteer Matching programs, in addition to the many gift cards and household contributions it has received from this internationally recognized leader in biotechnology.

Our Freedom House advocates regularly share pertinent human-trafficking information with businesses, community organizations, faith-based groups and college audiences. If you would like to schedule a speaker for an event, please contact Info@FreedomHouseSF.org.

Computer Drive Now in Progress Donate New or Used Equipment Today!

Shelter volunteers David Melton and Christian Cablay are leading the grassroots effort to secure computers, laptops and printers for The Monarch and The Nest. To donate equipment, please contact Tina@FreedomHouseSF.org. Financial contributions also are greatly appreciated. Please send a check to Freedom House at P.O. Box 2065, Burlingame, CA 94011 or donate online at www.FreedomHouseSF.org/donate



Monarch Shelter Volunteer: Karena Lout

Karena and her husband are youth pastors and parents of two teenagers. Before Karena became a shelter volunteer, their youth group hosted a housewarming party and began selling paintings (done by the youth), donating profits to Freedom House. Her favorite activities at The Monarch have been painting with the ladies, decorating Christmas cookies, spa night, accompanying residents to appointments, and simply being available to listen and encourage. Karena especially enjoys the laughter and sense of family cultivated during the Tuesday fellowship dinners. She feels honored to witness the growth and restoration that have taken place in the ladies' lives, and is continually inspired by their strength, courage and dreams for the future.



Advocate and Shelter Volunteer:

Marianna Warmee

As a founding member of the Freedom House Advisory Board, Marianna often works directly with survivors and shares her knowledge about human-trafficking issues with civic groups. She frequently is invited to conduct training on human trafficking, with particular focus on providing criminal investigative training to law enforcement. Marianna is a Federal Administrative Judge who has presided over hundreds of civil rights cases arising throughout the country and internationally. In 2000, Marianna became the youngest Administrative Judge in the United States. Her agency investigates and pursues civil law enforcement actions against organized labor-trafficking networks, and recently filed the largest human-trafficking suit in U.S. history, EEOC v. Global Horizons, Inc. In 2013, Marianna began a new assignment in which she is responsible for building her agency's anti-trafficking program nationwide.



Freedom House Brews Up Donations

Planning a personal party or a function at your business or church? Why not serve great-tasting coffee and let your participants take home a bag to enjoy later? Freedom House presents an opportunity for you to help raise funds by offering Freedom House Coffee at your next event. Our special blend features ground, fair-trade, organic coffee beans from East Timor. It is roasted locally in Oakland with a medium-to-bold flavor. To learn more about our Freedom House Coffee, please drop us a note at Info@FreedomHouseSF.org.



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 later this year. Through its pioneering aftercare model, Freedom House is breaking the cycle of human exploitation and creating new futures for survivors of all ages. To support our cause, please visit www.FreedomHouseSF.org.

For more information:
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