UNLOCK A BRIGHTER FUTURE FOR SURVIVORS
Education Is the Key

Families across the country are feeling the pinch of higher tuition costs as they send their children off to college. The Freedom House family is experiencing the same situation as it strives to cover the continuing education expenses for survivors enrolling in community college and vocational training courses. Due to the lengthy "T"-visa process which could take 1-2 years to complete for international survivors who are trafficked into this country, foreign-born women at The Monarch shelter are classified as nonresident students and must pay a higher tuition rate and enrollment fee. Freedom House needs your support to give "hope and a future" to all program participants through a contribution to its education fund. To help defray tuition costs, kindly mail a check made payable to Freedom House at PO Box 2065, Burlingame, CA 94011 or donate at www.FreedomHouseSF.org/Donate. To earmark your contribution for this purpose, please make a notation on the check or enter the word "education" into the online field set aside for business name. Your gift will make a major impact toward survivors achieving their educational goals.

VOLUNTEER TO SERVE AT FREEDOM HOUSE
Training Begins on September 10th

Take advantage of the opportunity to learn more about human trafficking and directly help survivors through the Freedom House volunteer program. Shelter workers often mentor or tutor survivors, while others share hobbies and interests or accompany program participants on educational or recreational activities. These important volunteers are accepted into the confidential shelter environment after completing a detailed background check and the required 40-hour training course in San Mateo County. The deadline to apply for one of the limited shelter volunteer positions is Friday, August 26. Freedom House advocate volunteers enlighten the public about human-trafficking issues as they build awareness about this heinous crime. Our advocates distribute informational literature at local community events or speak before business, civic, college and faith-based groups throughout Northern California. Advocates will receive a one-day training on Saturday, September 10. (Deadline to submit advocate applications is Friday, September 2.) For volunteer program details and to receive an application, please contact Tina@FreedomHouseSF

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT
Advocate Volunteer - Paul Yang

A software engineer at Lockheed Martin, Paul was born in Taiwan and grew up in the Bay Area. With a longstanding interest in social justice and helping the needy, Paul has been an active volunteer with a variety of agencies, including a San Diego organization that assists refugees and a drug rehabilitation center in Hong Kong, noting that he was inspired by the way Jesus changes people's lives. Returning to San Jose after a year in China, Paul learned about human trafficking while attending a conference. He says his first reaction was anger after hearing about the abuse that the women went through, but then he felt hope when he heard about how their lives were transformed after being rescued. Searching for a local organization to help survivors, he found Freedom House. Since going through the advocate training in 2015, Paul has tabled at Community Christian Church and has spoken at Westgate Church. He says he is honored to tell others about the work that God is doing through Freedom House, and adds that serving as an advocate at events helps him connect with others concerned about human trafficking.
VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT
Shelter Volunteer - Alysha Shivji
Born and raised in the Orlando, Florida area, Alysha, a research analyst at Apple, earned a bachelor's degree in human biology and a master's in sociology from Stanford University. There, she launched the Fair Trade Stanford campaign, and later worked for UNICEF in Kampala, Uganda, and for New York's End Trafficking effort. She recalls first meeting Jaida and learning about Freedom House during a class on anti-trafficking, subsequently becoming a Shelter Volunteer at the Monarch. Alysha says spending time with the survivors is magical and puts the world into perspective. She calls the women's strength truly inspiring, and feels blessed to be a part of their journey to make the better life that they deserve.

FREEDOM HOUSE IN THE COMMUNITY:
Sept. 4: Sunset Church "Coffee for a Cause," San Francisco
Sept. 24: 3Strands Global "Break Free Run," Folsom
Sept. 27: Soroptimist International, Capitola
Oct. 17: Human-Trafficking Awareness in Silicon Valley, San Jose
Oct. 26: Soroptimist International, Carmel
Nov. 3: 3Strands Global "Break Free Run," Oakland

To request a Freedom House advocate to speak before your organization, school or business, please contact Katelyn@FreedomHouseSF.org

About Freedom House:
Located in the San Francisco Bay Area, Freedom House is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization (Tax ID #27-0248325), with a mission to bring hope, restoration and a new life to survivors of human trafficking by providing housing and direct services. In August 2010, Freedom House launched the Monarch, the first "safe house" and long-term aftercare program of its kind in Northern California for adult female survivors of human trafficking. It assists U.S.-born and international survivors of unpaid labor, domestic servitude and sexual exploitation. The Nest, which opened in 2014, is one of the few residential shelters in the country dedicated to helping adolescent girls who have been sexually exploited for commercial purposes. Through its pioneering aftercare model, Freedom House is breaking the cycle of human exploitation and creating new futures for survivors. For more information about Freedom House, please visit www.FreedomHouseSF.org.

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