

GREETINGS FROM FOUNDER JAIDA IM**Dear Friends,**

Thank you for joining me in our important ministry to provide safe housing and essential services to local survivors of human trafficking. Since most of you rarely have an opportunity to directly meet a survivor due to safety and security concerns which surround victims of crime, I want to take a moment to convey a memorable evening at The Monarch, our long-term aftercare program for women who are 18 years and older..

Graduation parties always touch my heart, and the dinner in late December still brings tears to my eyes! We said a fond farewell to a beautiful survivor whom has been recognized in past newsletters for her many academic achievements, including Dean's List honors, while studying to become a nurse. Surrounded by shelter volunteers, staff and current participants, she shared her journey which led her to believe in the power of hope and to dream again. "I have come home to an inner peace that I cannot remember feeling since childhood. I do not think it's a coincidence that this gift of homecoming reflects what Freedom House is all about. It was, is, and will always be home to me."

That night I witnessed a strong bond between survivors as our latest graduate encouraged others to continue their education and accomplish their individual goals. The most recent arrival at the shelter exclaimed, "I never would have believed it a month ago, if you told me I would be sitting here right now with the coolest girlfriends!" Laughter, warm hugs, gratitude, deep understanding and tears of joy marked this life-affirming occasion.

Your financial contributions, pro-bono services, volunteer hours, advocacy and prayers have made these transformations possible. I am pleased to report that our Holiday Matching Grant Challenge generated more than \$150,000 this year for The Monarch in San Mateo County and The Nest for adolescent girls in Santa Clara County.

Please accept my sincere gratitude! I look forward to the opportunity to thank you in person during the annual Gala on Saturday, April 30. On behalf of everyone at Freedom House, we are inspired by your ongoing commitment to work together to help the human-trafficking survivors we serve.

**Blessings,
Jaida****SPECIAL ADVOCACY CLASS ON FEBRUARY 6**

In support of Human Trafficking Awareness Month and the upcoming Super Bowl at Levi's Stadium, Freedom House is offering a free, four-hour seminar on Saturday morning, February 6, in Belmont, which will review important human-trafficking issues, inform attendees on how to identify victims and discuss how Freedom House is addressing the immediate needs of local survivors of this heinous crime.



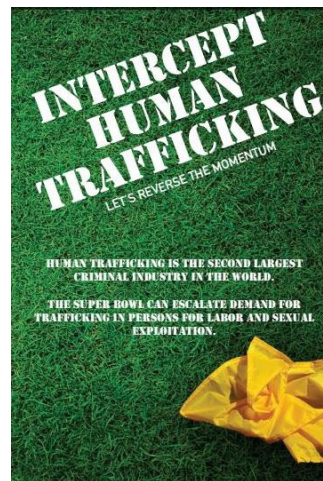
Due to heightened interest, Freedom House is presenting this condensed advocacy-training class for those who want to learn about the cause and serve as ambassadors throughout Northern California, building awareness, staffing information tables and engaging in development efforts. To receive an application to attend the advocate volunteer training session, please contact Tina Beauchamp, operations director, at Tina@FreedomHouseSF.org. If you would like to become a Freedom House shelter volunteer, please request an application from Tina regarding the 40-hour training course, which commences on May 7.



SUPER BOWL BRINGS AWARENESS

Freedom House is partnering with the United Methodist Women in its national "Intercept the Traffickers" campaign, in which citizens "open their umbrellas" to form a virtual line of defense around Levi's Stadium this Super Bowl season. To participate locally, join us on Saturday, January 30, at 9:30 a.m. at Mary Elizabeth Inn, located at 1040 Bush Street in San Francisco. Bring an umbrella to decorate, then march with your fellow abolitionists to Gum Moon Women's Residence, 940 Washington Street (10 blocks away), for lunch and to hear a panel discussion about trafficking issues.

We also collaborate with No Traffick Ahead, the largest, multi-county work group in the greater Bay Area, which is dedicated to a long-term, sustainable approach to combating human trafficking in all forms. To educate the public, a colorful awareness campaign is underway. To view the advertising materials, please visit <http://www.notraffickahead.com/campaigns>



GALA TICKETS GO ON SALE FEBRUARY 1

The Freedom House 7th Annual Gala and Charity Auction is being held on Saturday evening, April 30, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Foster City. Individual tickets, tables of 10 and sponsorship packages go on sale on Monday, February 1. Newsletter subscribers will receive the online link to EventBrite at that time. Limited early-bird pricing will be available on the first 30 individual tickets and 10 tables, which are sold (\$125 per individual ticket and \$1,250 for a table of 10). Regular pricing is \$150 per person or \$1,500 for a table of 10.

If you would like to feature your business or a favorite restaurant or travel destination, please help us obtain auction items. We also are seeking volunteers to help with marketing, ticket sales, registration, event sponsorship, decorations and Gala-night support. Contact Katelyn Do at Katelyn@FreedomHouseSF.org if you would like to assist the 2016 Gala Committee



SHELTER VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Sue Lockyer Gleeson

The mother of three, Sue Lockyer Gleeson is a teacher who started working for Freedom House as a Shelter Volunteer at the Monarch in November. Her passion for individual rights and women's issues, along with a spiritual call to help others, led her to get involved with Freedom House after hearing about the organization at a church in Pacifica. Friends and family ask if volunteering in a residential shelter is a downer. "Far from it!" says Sue, "I have been totally impressed and inspired by the resilience, strength, skills and compassion the survivors show as they work on improving their lives." A regular participant at the Tuesday Night dinners, Sue loves baking (and eating!) with the women, playing games, such as

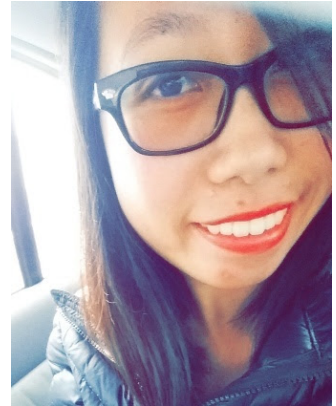
Apples to Apples, and hiking with them.



ADVOCATE VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Cheryl Leung

Cheryl Leung had been active in educating the public about human trafficking even before her involvement with Freedom House. Currently a technical support representative for veterinary diagnostics, Cheryl learned about human trafficking during her last semester at UC Berkeley and joined an awareness campaign through the Oakland-Berkeley YWCA as an intern. "I wanted to inform people about the reality of trafficking and how it can happen to anyone," Cheryl says. "Tabling for Freedom House has been a great opportunity for me to gauge public awareness about this issue and to speak out on what I am passionate about stopping." Among Cheryl's recent tabling events were the UNAFF Human Rights Film Festival and the Los Gatos United Methodist Church Christmas Faire.



Freedom House in the Community:

January 24: Palo Alto Vineyard Church

January 28: Santa Clara University Sex-Trafficking Symposium

January 30: Mary Elizabeth Inn, San Francisco, "Intercept the Traffickers"

January 31: Los Gatos United Methodist Church

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 long-term aftercare services. In August 2010, Freedom House launched the Monarch, the first safe home and aftercare program of its kind in Northern California for adult female survivors of human trafficking. The Nest, located in Santa Clara County, 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 exploitation and creating new futures for human-trafficking survivors. For more information about Freedom House, please visit www.FreedomHouseSF.org.