

## **HOLIDAY MATCHING GRANT CHALLENGE FUNDS HOUSING AND DIRECT SERVICES Double the Power of Your Donations!**

Help Freedom House raise more than \$125,000 during its annual Holiday Matching Grant Challenge, commencing today and continuing through January 17, 2016. The first \$20,000 in donations will be doubled instantly by a group of supporters who are committed to fighting modern-day slavery. Your generous contributions provide survivors of human trafficking with the vital care and services they need to become independent and self-sufficient. Food, clothing, transportation, and therapeutic counseling are provided in a nurturing home environment. Freedom House also connects survivors with legal and medical assistance, educational resources and employment opportunities. To double the impact of your gift, visit [www.FreedomHouseSF.org/Donate](http://www.FreedomHouseSF.org/Donate) or mail a check to Freedom House, PO Box 2065, Burlingame, CA 94011. Donations are 100% tax deductible. Every penny counts! Thank you for your support.



## **JOIN THE GALA PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Hopefully, you have circled the date on your calendar to attend the *Freedom House 7th Annual Gala and Charity Auction* on **Saturday evening, April 30, 2016**, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Foster City. Now, come join the fun and meet other abolitionists by serving on one of the Gala committees. Use your skills and experience by volunteering in the following areas: silent and live auctions, marketing and promotion, decorations, ticket and table sales, event sponsorship and registration. If interested, please share how you would like to help by sending an email to volunteer coordinator Katelyn Do at [Katelyn@FreedomHouseSF.org](mailto:Katelyn@FreedomHouseSF.org). Gala tickets go on sale in January.



## **FREEDOM HOUSE SHELTERS CONTINUE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

Operating at near capacity, the two Freedom House residential shelters and aftercare programs in the San Francisco Bay Area are creating new futures for local survivors. Surrounded by compassionate staff and trained shelter volunteers, survivors receive the direct services they need in their personal recovery and healing process.

Located in Santa Clara County, **The Nest** is a six-bed group home for girls, ages 12 to 17, who have endured commercial sexual exploitation. Strengthening a young survivor's reading, math and English-

language abilities, tapping into a girl's inherent gifts, providing life-skills education, fostering a desire to get a high school diploma or GED, and encouraging survivors to set and achieve goals are at the core of The Nest program.

**The Monarch** shelter in San Mateo County, where adult participants may engage in the recovery program for up to 18 months, serves international and U.S.-born women who are survivors of unpaid labor, domestic servitude and sexual exploitation. The Monarch's holistic, long-term approach is distinct from that of temporary shelters and drop-in centers that work with survivors. Freedom House strives to create long-lasting effects that pave alternate routes for success and self-worth for its participants.

Individualized case management supports each woman's career plan, with survivors thriving in coursework as diverse as computer programming, nursing and cosmetology. We ask that you partner with Freedom House in its restorative housing and aftercare programs. To make your secure, online contribution, please click on [www.FreedomHouseSF.org/Donate](http://www.FreedomHouseSF.org/Donate).



## SHELTER VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

### Emily Burns

Emily Burns is a 22 year-old sociology student at College of San Mateo who is transferring to UC Berkeley in January. She says it was the book "Girls Like Us: Fighting for a World Where Girls Are Not For Sale" that woke her up to the issue of human trafficking. After completing her 40-hour shelter volunteer training, Emily comments that meeting and talking with Monarch women opened her eyes. "It's impossible for me now to see these incredible ladies as victims," she notes. While there are many problems in the modern world, Emily says, human trafficking is one that we can deal with in our own community. "Each of us can create change with the unique tools we bring to the table," she observes. Emily has become an indispensable member of the Freedom House family.



Advocate volunteers will be participating in many upcoming events. Here's the current schedule:

#### **Freedom House in the Community:**

- \* November 19: University of San Francisco, San Francisco
- \* December 3: Crowne Plaza Holiday Party, Foster City
- \* December 6: Christmas Faire, Los Gatos United Methodist Church
- \* December 15: Lam Research, Fremont

#### **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](http://www.FreedomHouseSF.org)