

## STUDENTS BECOME ABOLITIONISTS

Members of the Freedom House support group at California State University, Long Beach traveled to the Bay Area in July to meet with staffers to share their advocacy efforts on behalf of human-trafficking survivors. Three years ago, Advisory Board member Kris Kang's niece Eunice attended the university and introduced Freedom House to her fellow students. Since then, the group expanded its outreach program and produced the "Breaking Every Chain" event that raised campus awareness and generated funds for our shelter programs. Future plans include joining with other colleges in Southern California to create an informational event about human trafficking. Top row L to R: Melinda Vongphanichith, Edith Jou, Julia Ip, Clarence Tsai. Bottom row: Jennifer Le, Jasmin Yoon, Caleb Cho. Katie Edwards, not pictured, also is a key member of the team.



## SHELTER SEEDS TAKE ROOT

Jaida Im, founder and executive director, often shares how Freedom House is planting a seed of hope and restoration within every trafficking survivor who engages in its shelter and aftercare programs. As shown, Menlo Park Presbyterian Church literally brought the promise to life as it fulfilled the wishes of the adolescent girls at The Nest who requested to have a vegetable garden planted during MPPC's Compassion Weekend last spring. The summer heat is bringing forth a bountiful crop of tomatoes as the girls learn to be stewards of the land. Shelter volunteers are suggesting recipes to capture the fresh flavor of home-grown tomatoes. At The Monarch for women, seeds of encouragement have helped a new resident turn a dream into a reality by enrolling in a vocational school to pursue her creative talents. The seeds you sow through monthly donations, one-time gifts, service projects and volunteer hours allow human-trafficking survivors to reap the benefits of your generous support. For information on how you can contribute to the success of local survivors, please visit [www.FreedomHouseSF.org/Donate](http://www.FreedomHouseSF.org/Donate)



## VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR OPENING Newly Created Staff Position at The Monarch

Freedom House is saying a fond goodbye to VISTAs Young Hsu and Crystal Moscoso, who are currently completing their one-year term of service with AmeriCorps. In order to build on the success of their work, we have created a full-time staff position for a Volunteer Coordinator, who will be based at The Monarch shelter in San Mateo County. As a vital member of the team, the Volunteer Coordinator will help expand and strengthen our community outreach



program, survivor assistance at both shelters, and the planning and execution of special events. Our coordinator will manage the advocacy event master calendar, shelter volunteer schedules, and the GiftWorks database. Proficient computer knowledge, including Microsoft Office Suite, is preferred. It's a perfect job for someone starting a career with a non-profit or an "empty-nester" who is passionate about our cause. If interested in receiving the detailed job description, please contact the operations director: [Tina@FreedomHouseSF.org](mailto:Tina@FreedomHouseSF.org).

## ADVOCATE AND ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER

### Esther Chyan

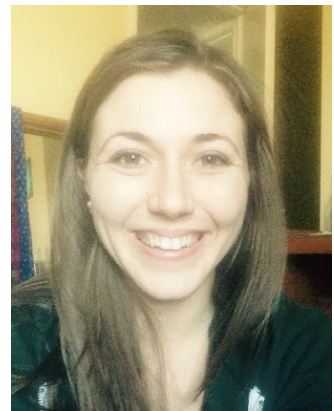
Since 2013, Esther Chyan has served as a Freedom House advocate and has hosted 40 or more friends at the annual Gala, who are known as the "Anti-Human Trafficking Champions." This year, she was appointed to our Advisory Board. Esther says that when she first heard about human trafficking through a project at Central Peninsula Church, she didn't believe it existed in this country. But upon learning more about this international crime, she knew she had to raise awareness about the plight of survivors. "The more I learn of Freedom House and its mission," Esther observes, "the more in awe I am of its commitment to bring healing and recovery to trafficking victims." Esther, who married Alvin Chyan last year, found a unique way to involve Monarch residents in her wedding and spread the word about Freedom House at the event. Collaborating with shelter volunteer Karen Yu, she arranged to have the residents make some 200 jewelry items as favors for wedding guests. Each favor bore the Freedom House logo and a few words about the resident who made the piece. The residents, by the way, were paid for their work. When the wedding reception was over, many of the guests wanted to learn more about Freedom House, as Esther had placed a brochure on each table. "I was so grateful I had the opportunity to truly live out my responsibility as an advocate volunteer," Esther says, "even on this special day in my life."



## SHELTER VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

### Abigail Smith

Abby recently began volunteering with Freedom House after completing the Spring 2015 training course. She is 20 years old and is set to receive her bachelor's degree in linguistics next year from San Jose State University. Abby says she has always been interested in the fight against human trafficking and learned about Freedom House at various advocacy events in the Bay Area as well as through friends. As a Monarch shelter volunteer, she says she especially enjoys the Tuesday night dinners with the residents. Her favorite part, Abby says, is hearing the stories the women share during Bible study after dinner and the prayers she and members of the group offer for each other.



***The next Freedom House advocate and shelter volunteer training program begins on Saturday, September 12, at a mid-Peninsula location. Advocates learn about human-trafficking issues during an 8-hour training class. Shelter volunteers complete a 40-hour program to become certified shelter volunteers who serve at both The Nest and The Monarch. To be considered for one of the limited shelter volunteer positions, candidates must submit a completed application no later than Monday, August 10th. Upon review by the selection committee, finalists will be invited for in-person interviews and to present a LiveScan background check. To receive a volunteer application, please send an email to [Tina@FreedomHouseSF.org](mailto:Tina@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