

FREEDOM HOUSE GALA TO BENEFIT HUMAN TRAFFICKING SURVIVORS

Jeremy Affeldt to Keynote the Annual Fundraiser on April 30

BURLINGAME, CALIF., March 14, 2016 – Freedom House, a leading provider of safe housing and direct services to survivors of human trafficking in the San Francisco Bay Area, announced today that Jeremy Affeldt, the recently retired relief pitcher with the San Francisco Giants, will be the guest speaker at the Freedom House 7th Annual Gala on Saturday, April 30, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Foster City. “Strike Out Human Trafficking” is this year’s Gala theme.

Affeldt, who completed a 14-year career in Major League Baseball in 2015, is an outspoken opponent of human trafficking and a committed servant against injustice. He and his wife Larisa founded Generation Alive, a Spokane-based non-profit that is developing a generation of young leaders, committed to serving others and responding to the needs in their community. In 2013, he authored *To Stir A Movement: Life, Justice and Major League Baseball*, in which he chronicled his passion to demolish the barriers that stand between everyday people and the injustice around them.

In addition, Affeldt has joined CSN Bay Area as a studio analyst for *Giants Pregame Live* and *Giants Postgame Live*. He also serves as a Community Ambassador for the San Francisco Giants.

"Jeremy Affeldt is a leading sports figure in the fight against modern-day slavery. His pitching abilities helped the San Francisco Giants capture three World Series titles, and his voice continues to bring national attention to the plight of survivors of human trafficking. We are honored to team up with Jeremy at the upcoming Freedom House Gala," said Jaida Im, Freedom House founder and executive director.

"Freedom House is a pioneer in providing long-term housing and aftercare services to local women and adolescent girls who have endured sexual exploitation, unpaid labor and domestic servitude. I applaud their achievements and look forward to supporting their annual fundraising efforts in April," commented Affeldt.

Proceeds from the Freedom House Gala will benefit The Monarch for adult female survivors, located in San Mateo County, and The Nest for girls, ages 12 to 17, in Santa Clara County. The event also will feature survivor testimonies, live and silent auctions and a gourmet dinner.

Gala tickets are \$150 per person and \$1,500 for a table of ten. Student discount tickets are available at \$75 per student. For information and to purchase tickets, visit www.FreedomHouseSF.org/Events.

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ABOUT FREEDOM HOUSE

Located in the San Francisco Bay Area, Freedom House is a 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 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. The Nest, located in Santa Clara County, is one of the few residential shelters in the country dedicated exclusively to helping adolescent girls who have been sexually exploited for commercial purposes. Through its leadership, 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.