

Highlight a Hero

Your team is covering very difficult topics, and it is normal and okay to feel difficult emotions in response! We want to remind you that there are everyday heroes in our world that are exposing trafficking for what it really is, and shining light in the darkest corners of this tragic reality. Use this document whenever your team needs a pick-me-up or a little inspiration!

Rachel Lloyd, survivor and founder of GEMS: Girls Educational and Mentoring Services, a program that helps girls escape human trafficking, and the author of Girls Like Us.

- *“Former Trafficking Victim Helps Other Survivors:”*
<http://edition.cnn.com/videos/world/2015/12/28/freedom-project-rachel-lloyd-profile-natpkq.cnn>
- <http://www.gems-girls.org>

Jennifer Kempton, survivor and founder of Survivor’s Ink, a tattoo scholarship program in which women who have lived through human trafficking, and have suffered branding or tattooing at the hands of pimps or gangs, can apply to get their tattoos covered up.

- *“I carried his name on my body for nine years’: the tattooed trafficking survivors reclaiming their past”*
<https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2014/nov/16/sp-the-tattooed-trafficking-survivors-reclaiming-their-past>
- <http://survivorsink.org/>

Holly Austin Smith, survivor and author of Walking Prey: How America’s Youth are Vulnerable to Sex Slavery. Holly is a powerful speaker and advocate.

- <http://hollyaustinsmith.com/about-holly/>
- *“Human Traffickers Prey on Vulnerable Children”*
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vTuRuHJlxkY>

Vednita Carter, founder and president of Breaking Free, a nonprofit in St. Paul fighting to end all forms of prostitution and sex trafficking. She is an influential abolitionist, author, speaker, and survivor of sexual exploitation.

- *“Sex Trafficking in Your Backyard”* TEDx Minneapolis
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LIXleNxaVzA>
- <http://www.breakingfree.net>

Braking Traffik: Cathy O’ Keefe, Executive Director & Maggie Tinsman, Founder. Braking Traffik is dedicated to eradicating sex trafficking in the Quad City area of Iowa and Illinois. Between education, legislative advocacy and community partnerships, they provide the needed guidance on sex trafficking to organizations which identify, respond to and care for survivors.

- <http://famres.org/services/braking-traffik>

Wings of Refuge, founded by Joy Fopma, in Iowa Falls, describes itself as “a Christ Centered restorative home that focuses on the restoration of the survivors of domestic sex trafficking.”

Highlight a Hero

- <http://wingsofrefuge.net>