



SEX TRAFFICKING IN HOUSTON HIDDEN IN PLAIN SIGHT

VIRTUAL CONFERENCE
OCTOBER 18-20, 2022 | 5:30-7:30 P.M.

OCTOBER 18 | DAY ONE

What Really Is Sex Trafficking?

[DAY ONE REGISTRATION LINK](#)

OCTOBER 19 | DAY TWO

Meeting the Needs of Survivors

[DAY TWO REGISTRATION LINK](#)

OCTOBER 20 | DAY THREE

Social Justice : Where Do We Go From Here?

[DAY THREE REGISTRATION LINK](#)

EXPLICIT CONTENT

WELCOME

SEX TRAFFICKING IN HOUSTON: HIDDEN IN PLAIN SIGHT alludes to the reality that for many survivors of trafficking, they are not seen. Only through education and awareness can we, as a community, identify and take action.

Ms. Rhonda Kuykendall is the first student in the history of our vitalvoices presentations to plan and host a vitalvoices event. What's more, this event marks the first time we've conducted a three day session. Rhonda is a student in UHD's College of Public Service pursuing a bachelor's degree in social work. As a survivor of sex trafficking herself, Rhonda wants attendees to understand how sex trafficking occurs and how as a community we must be aware of what it looks like in our schools, families, and neighborhoods.

Rhonda is a member of UHD's Honors College, Gator Advisor Board, Phi Alpha National Social Work Honor Society, and a member of Social Work Student Community Advocacy Network (SWS-CAN). Her first semester at UHD she was asked to participate in a webinar on the importance of voting, "Local Voting Matters." She was awarded the CPS Social Justice and Change Agent award in Spring 2022. In Fort Bend County, Rhonda was awarded the Star of the Year Award by Star Newspaper and the Book of Golden Deeds Award by the Sugar Land Exchange Club. Rhonda has been an active social justice advocate working in the Texas legislature to enact bills to help survivors of sexual assault and sex trafficking.

This past legislative session Rhonda was invited to the capital to the bill signing of nine human trafficking bills enacted this past legislative session. She is currently working with several nonprofits to formalize a legislative agenda for the upcoming 88th legislative session. To learn more, visit her Facebook group Our Voice in Texas at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ourvoiceintexas/>. This group details the work being done locally and across the state to prevent, prosecute, educate, and change laws regarding sex trafficking.



STEVEN VILLANO

*Director, Center for Public Service
and Community Research
College of Public Service*

OCTOBER 18

DAY ONE | What Really is Sex Trafficking?

- Introduction – *Rhonda Kuykendall (UHD Student and Survivor)*
- What is human trafficking? – *Christa Mayfield, Unbound Now Houston*
- Who is at-risk? – *Kathy Givens, Twelve11*
- Addressing Demand for Sex Buying – *Joe Madison, Demand Disruption*
- Providers and Caregivers self-care – *Tina Stahl, Emerging Grace*
- Q&A: Myths and Facts
- Closing – *Rhonda Kuykendall*

OCTOBER 19

DAY TWO | Meeting the Needs of Survivors

- Introduction – *Rhonda Kuykendall*
- Adult Sex Trafficking Restorative Services & Economic Empowerment – *Becca Cary, Hands of Justice*
- Addressing Child Sex Trafficking and the Foster Care System, Texas CASA – *Rhonda Kuykendall, Texas CASA*
- Service-learning designated course and introduce Kathryn Griffin – *Dr. Judith Harris*
- Addressing Vulnerable Populations– *Kathryn Griffin (Harris Co. Constable Pct. 1)*
Prosecuting Traffickers – *Craig Priesmeyer and Ashley Harkness, Fort Bend County District Attorney's Office*
- Survivors – *Catherine McAadoo (survivor), Lana Turner (survivor mother), and Nikki Bowie, Mady's Movement (survivor mother)*
- Closing – *Rhonda Kuykendall*

OCTOBER 20

DAY THREE | Social Justice : Where Do We Go From Here?

- Introduction – *Rhonda Kuykendall*
- Legislative Successes – *Rhonda Kuykendall*
- Street Grace – *Jamey Caruthers*
- Children at Risk – *Lindsey Wilkerson (Houston)*
- No Trafficking Zone – *Jacquelyn Aluotto*
- Q&A: How to Become Involved in Legislative Advocacy
- What can you do to engage in the anti-sex trafficking community – *Rhonda Kuykendall*




DAY ONE

What Really Is Sex Trafficking?



SCAN ME

TIME	SESSION	PRESENTER
5:30-5:45 PM	Introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disclaimer – Difficult topic, free to leave as needed 	 Rhonda Kuykendall
5:45-6:05 PM	What is human trafficking? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Define using AMP model Grooming Risk Factors Red Flags Where to report Call to action 	Christa Mayfield
6:05-6:25 PM	Who is at-risk? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revealing the different types of trafficking Victimology Traffickers Call to action 	Kathy Givens
6:25-6:45 PM	Addressing Demand for Sex Buying <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Escalation Model Role of pornography in sex trafficking STAR Program Illicit Massage Businesses Call to action 	Joe Madison
6:45-7:05 PM	Providers and Caregivers self-care <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishing boundaries and implementing self-care Call to action 	Tina Stahl
7:05-7:25 PM	Q&A: Myths and Facts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The audience is asked to share ideas they believe is true about sex trafficking and the panel will answer. 	Rhonda Kuykendall
7:25-7:30 PM	Closing	



DISCLAIMER – DIFFICULT TOPIC, FREE TO LEAVE AS NEEDED



RHONDA KUYKENDALL

UHD Student / Survivor

RHONDA KUYKENDALL serves Texas on the Human Trafficking Survivor Leader Council. She is the Anti-Child Trafficking Consultant for Texas CASA. She also chairs the Fort Bend County DA's Human Trafficking Community Awareness Team and serves on the Board of Directors of Child Advocates of Fort Bend where she chairs their Legislative Advocacy Team. Rhonda is a member of the Survivor Leader Advisory Board of Street Grace and a board member of Demand Disruption. Rhonda stays connected to Human Trafficking organizations by serving on Children at Risk's Human Trafficking Advocacy Work Group. In 2015 Rhonda received the U.S. Congressional Medal for her work in Austin enacting legislation to protect children from sexual assault. In 2019 she received Child Advocates of Fort Bend's Legislative Advocate of the Year and Child Advocate of the Year. Rhonda received the 2021 Star of the Year award from the Fort Bend Star newspaper.



CHRISTA MAYFIELD

Unbound Houston

CHRISTA MAYFIELD serves as the Director of Educational Programs for Unbound Houston, the local office of Unbound, an international anti-human trafficking organization which focuses on domestic minor sex trafficking with specific emphasis on prevention efforts with at-risk youth. Unbound Houston works to activate the community to fight human trafficking. They are dedicated to public awareness, demand reduction efforts, professional training, and survivor advocacy. Drawing on her public speaking skills from her background in the performing arts, Christa has empowered thousands of students to identify and avoid exploitation and equipped hundreds of professionals to recognize the signs of trafficking in their own spheres.



KATHY GIVENS

Twelve11

KATHY GIVENS is a wife, mother, author, writer, and advocate who has overcome the dark world of sex trafficking. After many years of living in silence, Kathy decided to journal what happened to her as a way of dealing with the surreal experience. That journal became a book. That book became a stage play. Partnering with several organizations, Kathy's goal is to raise awareness, fight for those who are being trafficked, and mentor those who have overcome it. She is now using her voice and expertise to inspire others to join the fight against such a horrible atrocity. She has presented to faith-based organizations, educators, students, medical professionals, law enforcement, politicians, and leaders from all sectors of society.



JOE MADISON

Demand Disruption

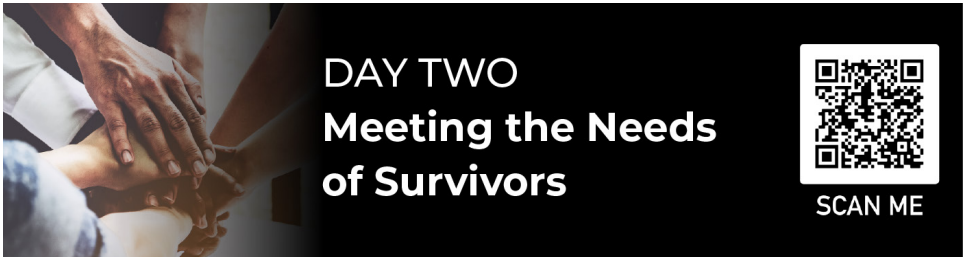
JOE MADISON is a husband of 27 years, a proud father of three, and a native Houstonian. Born in Texas City, Joe is about as Texan as it gets. In 2016, Joe left the Oil & Gas industry after a 25-year career in strategic sales to volunteer fighting human trafficking. In the time since, he's stood in the modern-day brothels, worked closely with law enforcement, transported survivors to safety, learned from the exploited, the exploiters and the buyers and came to one realization: to stop trafficking we must confront the truths about pornography and demand.



TINA STAHL

Emerging Grace

TINA STAHL is the Founder and Executive Director of Emerging Grace Ministries; a non-profit organization that is committed to the fight against adolescent sex trafficking. Tina's career in residential child care began as a caregiver for Boys & Girls Country. She has a Masters degree in Human Service Management. As a Licensed Child Care Administrator for the State of Texas since 2016. Tina has spent nearly 20 years working in the residential child care environment. Tina's experience has led her to work with adolescents ranging in age from 12 to 24 years from CPS custody and the juvenile justice system as well as those who find themselves homeless. Her passion is to offer hope to disadvantaged youth.



TIME	SESSION	PRESENTER
5:30-5:40 PM	Introduction	Rhonda Kuykendall
5:40-6:00 PM	Adult Sex Trafficking Restorative Services & Economic Empowerment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Economic Empowerment Work being done at Hands of Justice Call to action 	Becca Cary
6:00-6:20 PM	Addressing Child Sex Trafficking and the Foster Care System <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth in foster care and increased vulnerabilities CASA ACTs Call to action 	Rhonda Kuykendall
6:20-6:25 PM	Service-Learning Designated Course <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (Human Trafficking CJ 4316 Fall 2022) Introduce Kathryn Griffin 	Dr. Judith Harris
6:25-6:45 PM	Addressing Vulnerable Populations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sex trauma and increased vulnerability for future exploitation Helping Others Excel Our Roadway to Freedom Precinct 1 Call to action 	Kathryn Griffin
6:45-7:05 PM	Prosecuting Traffickers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prosecuting Perpetrators Understanding the lingo Dangerous social media Call to action 	Craig Priesmeyer Ashley Harkness
7:05-7:25 PM	Survivors	Catherine McAdoo Lana Turner Nikki Bowie
7:25-7:30 PM	Closing	Rhonda Kuykendall



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BECCA CARY
Hands of Justice

REBECCA CARY is the Founder of Hands of Justice, Consultant, Speaker, Educator, and Overcomer Leader. A recent graduate of Sam Houston State University with a major in Psychology and a minor in Human Services, Rebecca is currently enrolled in a Master's program for Victim Studies and set to graduate December 2022. She holds the Survivor position on the board of the Montgomery County Coalition Against Human Trafficking and serves on the Survivor Leader Council for the state of Texas. She was featured in a PSA, as well as a short film, for the new Goya Care initiative, appeared on NBC, and has also been an endorser for the "Can you See Me" campaign, led by A21 in various cities throughout Texas. In May of 2022, she published her first book, *When Silence Ends*, which features Overcomer stories from across the United States.



DR. JUDITH HARRIS
UHD

DR. JUDITH A. HARRIS is an Associate Professor of Criminal Justice in the Department of Criminal Justice and Social Work at the University of Houston Downtown. Dr. Harris specializes in reentry and recovery for those with and without criminal convictions. Her Senior Seminar classes are service-learning opportunities, specifically with students working with inmate populations at the Harris County Sheriff's Office jail. Students are also involved with the Harris County Constable's Office Precinct One Human Trafficking Division.



KATHRYN GRIFFIN
Harris County Precinct 1

KATHRYN GRIFFIN has served the residents of Harris County for 19 years through her work as a peer-to-peer specialist and advocate. Kathryn is a woman in lifetime recovery and has dedicated her life to rescuing and restoring those trapped in prostitution and sex trafficking. As a survivor, she understands the challenges and adversity sexual trauma causes in one's life. Kathryn started the support program, "We've Been There, Done That" in 2004 and serves as a peer to peer recovery coach specialist, concentrating on sexual trauma. She is also the founder of Our Roadway to Freedom with the Texas Department of Corrections, which she conducts inside of Plane State Prison.



CRAIG PRIESMEYER
FBCDAO

CRAIG PRIESMEYER is a Felony Prosecutor in the Child Abuse Division of the Fort Bend County District Attorney's Office and handles the prosecution of all human trafficking and HT related offenses as well as being the lead prosecutor for sex offender registration cases. Craig holds an undergraduate degree in Business Management from Texas A&M University. Craig earned his J.D. from South Texas College of Law, focusing a majority of his time in trial and appellate advocacy. Craig has been a prosecutor for 5 years and has held positions in the Misdemeanor, Intake, and Domestic Violence Divisions before being assigned to the Child Abuse Division. In the Child Abuse Division, Craig has handled a wide variety of cases involving sexual and physical abuse of children, internet crimes against children, sex offender registration, and human trafficking.



ASHLEY HARKNESS
FBCDAO

ASHLEY HARKNESS is a Felony Prosecutor in the Human Trafficking Division of the Fort Bend County District Attorney's Office and handles the prosecution of all Human Trafficking and related offenses. Ashley has been a prosecutor for 10 years and has worked in Dallas County, Harris County, and now Fort Bend County. She has spent the majority of her time as a prosecutor working in Domestic Violence, Adult Sex Crimes, and Human Trafficking. Ashley has tried cases ranging from misdemeanors up to sexual assault and murder. Ashley came to Fort Bend County in March 2021, and is now working alongside other Local, State, and Federal Law enforcement agencies to proactively investigate, combat, and prosecute individuals involved in human trafficking and trafficking related offenses.

SURVIVORS



LANA TURNER
National Advocate

LANA TURNER is a mother of 2, a grandmother, a Career Paralegal, Cancer Survivor and National Advocate for Sexual Assault and Human Trafficking Survivors. She is the author of *Back to Beautiful*, a memoir of experiences as the Parent survivor of Human Trafficking attacks within her own family. Lana serves as mentor, consultant, advisor, and public speaker for non-profit organizations and victims' rights groups. She also supports local, state, and national leaders heading human trafficking task force groups in their mission to improve policy and protect victims from re-exploitation and criminalization. She is personally driven by the desire to reduce the risk of human trafficking by raising awareness in communities both large and small; and for individuals impacted by human trafficking to know that their life has purpose, and their voices deserve to be heard!



NICHOLE BOWIE
Mady's Movement

NICHOLE BOWIE - mother of 3 who was traumatically educated by the realism of human trafficking happening right here in our area, when she lost her daughter, Mady. Since losing her, she has dedicated any time she can to help educate and support the community to see something, say something. Mady's Movement was created in Mady's honor and is an organization dedicated to help fill certain needs of our youth and hosts monthly events to bring the community together. The more we learn the stronger we get against this horrific organization, together.



CATHERINE MCADOO
*Santa Maria
Hostel's STARS*

CATHERINE MCADOO is a survivor of sex trafficking here in the greater Houston area. She graduated magna cum laude from University of Houston – Downtown. Today she is the case manager and recovery coach for Santa Maria Hostel's STARS program. STARS stands for Survivors of Trafficking Achieve Recovery and Stability. The program provides housing for labor and sex trafficking for up to two years in addition to trauma-informed counseling, substance-use recovery, medical and mental health services, job training and more.



Sex Trafficking in Houston

Wherever there are vulnerable people and communities, there will be traffickers who find a way to exploit them.



The internet is the top recruitment location for Sex Trafficking.

SOURCE: POLARIS PROJECT

In 2020

42%



of victims reported to the National HT Hotline were trafficked by a member of their own families.

9

Human trafficking bills passed in 2021 (87th Leg)



39%



were recruited through an intimate partner or marriage proposition

SOURCE: POLARIS PROJECT



Over **300,000** victims of human trafficking in Texas.



79,000 Minors and youth victims of Sex Trafficking



TIME	SESSION	PRESENTER
5:30-5:40 PM	Introduction	Rhonda Kuykendall
5:40-5:50 PM	Legislative Successes	Rhonda Kuykendall
5:50-6:10 PM	Street Grace	Jamey Caruthers
6:10-6:30 PM	Children at Risk	Lindsey Wilkerson
6:30-6:50 PM	No Trafficking Zone	Jacquelyn Aluotto
6:50-7:20 PM	Q&A: How to Become Involved in Legislative Advocacy	
7:20-7:30 PM	Closing	Rhonda Kuykendall



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JAMEY CARUTHERS

Street Grace

JAMES “JAMEY” CARUTHERS is the Director, Demand Reduction and Policy at Street Grace. A passionate and committed advocate and self- confessed policy nerd, Caruthers ensures that Street Grace’s mission of preventing trafficking, protecting the vulnerable, and pursuing and bringing both traffickers and buyers to justice is represented and reflected in federal, state, and local laws.

Caruthers’ work centers around listening to the needs of partners, service providers, government agencies and stakeholders; careful planning and analysis of the mechanics and ramifications of change, creative thinking, education and outreach, followed by relationship- driven strategic advocacy that delivers results. Prior to joining Street Grace, Caruthers served for seven years as Senior Staff Attorney at Children at Risk, a Texas-based nonprofit. In that role, Caruthers’ led a Texas-wide program to reduce the demand for commercial sex and deter buyers, drafted and helped pass nearly twenty pieces of state anti-human trafficking legislation, worked with numerous cities and towns to improve local ordinances, and created a pro bono nuisance and abatement program that led to the closure of nearly 100 illicit massage businesses in Harris County, Texas. Caruthers started his legal career working for political action committees and he has considerable civil and corporate litigation experience as well.



LINDSEY WILKERSON

Children at Risk

LINDSEY WILKERSON serves as the Associate Director of the Children’s Immigration Network and Senior Coordinator of the Texas Family Leadership Council at CHILDREN AT RISK, advocating for policies that positively impact the lives of Texas children, with a focus on immigrant children. Lindsey previously worked for the Center for Gender and Refugee Studies (CGRS) and volunteered with the Immigrant Rights Clinic at Texas A&M School of Law. Lindsey received her MIA from the Bush School of Government and Public Service at Texas A&M University concentrating in Human Rights, and Women, Peace, and Security. She graduated summa cum laude with her B.A. in International Studies from University of St. Thomas.



JACQUELYN ALUOTTO

No Trafficking Zone

JACQUELYN ALUOTTO is reputed as a hybrid human rights activist, anti-trafficking specialist, victims advocate, filmmaker, and trailblazer. She integrates unique talents with innovative excellence. Her gift for intersecting media, intelligence, technology, law enforcement, and community-based organizations, makes her valuable across many spectrums. Aluotto deploys these skills to prevent and combat commercial sexual exploitation, oppression, abuse, human trafficking, and sex crimes. She speaks and lectures regularly to educate and train advocates, public officials, victim service providers, hospitals, faith groups, law enforcement, schools, and governmental and non-governmental agencies concerning trafficking trends, policing deficiencies, and disparities in solutions to the plight of trafficking.

In January 2020 the United Nations International Council Of Women Founded by Susan B. Anthony pinned Aluotto in a special ceremony. They honored Jacquelyn’s work for the past two decades fighting for justice to prevent and combat human trafficking, and sex crimes, and ending suffrage against women and children. Also in 2020, Jacquelyn co-founded the organization No Trafficking Zone. NTZ, Inc made history when NRG Park became the first sports and entertainment No Trafficking Zone venue in the world. In 2021 the fourth-largest task force in the nation started by the Justice Department asked Aluotto to join them. She became their Community Awareness Coordinator because of her extensive human trafficking work that spans diverse communities and cultures.

HOW CAN YOU MAKE AN IMPACT?

Victims of sex trafficking are in your communities hidden in plain sight. Learn the signs, educate yourself and your community, and spread the word.

EDUCATION

Visit the Polaris Project (<https://polarisproject.org>) and National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (<https://www.missingkids.org>). To learn of all the different types of sex trafficking, read *When Silence Ends*. This is a book that shares 19 survivor stories, along with facts and statistics on different types of trafficking.



SCAN THE QR CODE TO PURCHASE

When Silence Ends: Stories and Art from Survivors of Human Trafficking
By: Rebecca Cary

AWARENESS

“See something, say something” is a phrase used for citizens to react to sex trafficking in their communities. Does a house in your neighborhood have people who do not look related coming and going? Is there activity late at night with random vehicles coming and going? If you are suspicious, report it. Be cognizant of potential victims you may meet, know what to do, and how to report.

KNOW WHERE TO REPORT ABUSE. 911 if it is an emergency or the National Human Trafficking Hotline at 888-373-7888

SUPPORT THE CAUSE

Find a nonprofit that interest you, donate, volunteer with them.

[Human Trafficking Resource Books on Amazon](#)



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Nikki Bowie,
MADY'S MOVEMENT
madysmovement.com



Kathryn Griffin,
HARRIS COUNTY
CONSTABLE, PRECINCT 1
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Joe Madison,
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Kathy Givens,
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Catherine McAdoo,
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Lindsey Wilkerson,
CHILDREN AT RISK
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Rhonda Kuykendall,
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Jamey Caruthers,
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Lana Turner
MOTHER OF SURVIVOR

Becca Cary,
HANDS OF JUSTICE
handsofjustice.org



**Ashley Harkness and
Craig Priesmeyer,**
FBCDAO
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vitalvoices

speakers, scholars, and practitioners

Our vitalvoices series serves as a forum to bring scholars and practitioners to speak to students, faculty, alumni and community partners at UHD's College of Public Service on the most pressing issues of our time. Our guests speak on how their professional experiences and knowledge impacts society as a whole. vitalvoices aims to feature people whose work is interdisciplinary and touches upon the fields of social work, criminal justice and urban education, the three majors in our College of Public Service.



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