



*Soroptimist International
of Raleigh, North Carolina
Raleigh, NC
27628-6426*

December 18, 2008

919 834-8371 **PHONE**

NEWS RELEASE: Soroptimist International of Raleigh Hosts STOP Human Trafficking Community Forum

Info@siraleigh.org **E-MAIL**

Event Date: Monday, January 12, 2009

Contact: Patricia Witt

Tel: (919) 833-2490

Email: pcwitt@siraleigh.org

Registration: ccapecod23@aol.com or fax (919) 834-8371 or phone (919) 833-2490

www.siraleigh.org **URL**

Raleigh, NC - Soroptimist International of Raleigh will hold a community forum on Human Trafficking on Monday, January 12, 2009 from 9:30am – 4:00pm at 4011 Carya Drive, Raleigh, NC 27610, Commons Building, Room 100A and B. Registration Required. Free of charge. Box lunch included. Announcement and Agenda Follows.

Founded in 1987, Soroptimist International of Raleigh is part of Soroptimist International of the Americas, an international volunteer service organization for business and professional women who work to improve the lives of women and girls, in local communities and throughout the world. Raleigh members join with almost 95,000 Soroptimists in about 120 countries and territories to contribute time and financial support to community-based projects benefiting women. The Raleigh club helps women seeking employment and who are referred by a partner agency by providing business appropriate clothing at no cost through the Professional Clothing Closet. For more information about how Soroptimist International of Raleigh improves the lives of women and girls, see www.siraleigh.org.

*Improving the lives
of women and girls,
in local communities
and throughout
the world.*

Soroptimist International of Raleigh Hosts STOP Human Trafficking Community Forum

Human trafficking is modern-day slavery and is now considered the second largest and fastest-growing criminal industry in the world.

STOP Human Trafficking

Monday, January 12, 2009, 9:30 am – 4:00 pm

Commons Building, 4011 Cary Drive, Raleigh, NC 27610 (Room 100A and B)

(For directions, call (919) 250-1000)

Forum is free of charge. To register, send name, community affiliation to ccapecod23@aol.com. Registration closes January 9th. A box lunch will be provided.

Goals of Forum: AWARENESS and ACTION

- Set common understanding with community leadership
- Solidify definition of human trafficking
- Celebrate accomplishments to date
- Identify needed actions
- Bring more complete awareness to each attendee
- Equip each attendee with options for immediate action

North Carolina has many of the characteristics that attract and promote an environment for human trafficking: tourism, agriculture, military presence and interstate highways. While major steps towards preventing human trafficking have been taken, it is imperative that all of us commit to work together to limit, and ultimately, end this plague on our society. As active participants in the life of our community, your awareness and support are important to these efforts. Together we can establish a sustainable anti-trafficking movement within our state.

- Numbers of trafficking victims in the U.S. is estimated in the hundreds of thousands. These estimates include numbers of internally trafficked individuals, such as minors in the U.S. involved in commercial sex, as well as the U.S. State Department estimate of 14,500-17,500 foreign nationals that are trafficked in to the U.S. each year.
- Victims are trafficked for a wide variety of purposes, such as commercial sex or agricultural work, house-keeping or stripping, yet they all share the loss of one of our world's most cherished rights: freedom.
- Cases of human trafficking have been reported throughout the U.S. in all 50 states and specifically in 91 cities.
- Human trafficking is a market-based economy that exists on principles of supply and demand. It also thrives due to conditions where high profits can be generated with low risk.

From the Polaris Project.

www.polarisproject.org



SOROPTIMIST
Best for Women

Soroptimist – an international volunteer organization of business and professional women working to improve the lives of women and girls in their local communities and throughout the world.

For more information:

Registration: ccapecod23@aol.com or fax (919) 834-8371 or phone (919) 833-2490

Questions: pwitt@sirealeigh.org , (919) 833-2490

Websites: www.soroptimist.org, and www.polarisproject.org

AGENDA:

9:00 Coffee and Registration

9:30 WELCOME and CHALLENGE

Wake County Commissioners, Betty Lou Ward
City of Raleigh City Council, Marion Baldwin

AWARENESS

9:45 PANEL: SOLIDIFYING DEFINITION OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Moderator: Nola Theiss, MA, MPA, Zonta International
Definition, Legal Aid of NC, Jennifer Stuart
Trends and Statistics, Louise Coggins, L.C.S.W., B.C.D.
Personal Account, Ret. Colonel E. Nance, Ph. D.

10:45 PANEL: ROLE of LAW ENFORCEMENT and THE COURTS

Moderator: Donna M. Bickford, Ph.D., Director, Carolina Women's Center
NC Secretary of State, Elaine Marshall
Wake County Sheriff, Donnie Harrison
Raleigh Police Department , Lt. Chris Carrigan
NC Center for Justice, Attracta Kelly

11:45 PANEL: ROLE of DIRECT SERVICE PROVIDERS

Moderator: Adam Hartzell, Executive Director, Interact of Wake County
Wake County Chief of Community Health Services, Gibby Harris
Wake County Child Welfare, Jacqueline Hall-Williams
NC Coalition Against Sexual Assault, Monica Johnson Hostler,
Salvation Army, Christine Shaw

12:45 LUNCH (Box lunch on site) ACTION – NEXT STEPS

1:30 pm ADDRESSING NEEDS OF VICTIMS

Rapid Response, Legal Aid of NC, Rachel Braver
Protection and Safety, FBI, Kory Williford
Legal ramifications, Salvation Army, Christine Shaw

2:15 pm LEGISLATION

NC Senator, Ellie Kinaird

2:45 pm COMMUNITY RESPONSE

Energizing Communities, Nola Theiss, MLA, MPA

3:45 pm WRAP UP

Challenge for immediate action
Schedule for follow on topic-focused community forums

4:00 ADJOURN



SOROPTIMIST
Best for Women

Soroptimist – an international volunteer organization of business and professional women working to improve the lives of women and girls in their local communities and throughout the world.