

Stop Trafficking !

Anti-Human Trafficking Newsletter



Awareness

Advocacy

Action

April 2013 Vol. 11 No. 4

This issue highlights how partnerships between the U.S. federal government and faith-based organizations, including Catholic women religious, further anti-trafficking.

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- Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange, CA
- Sisters of St. Joseph of Peace
- Sisters of St. Mary of Namur, N. / S. Amer. Prov.s
- Society of the Holy Child Jesus, Amer. Prov.
- Society of Jesus, CA Prov.
- Ursuline Sisters of the Roman Union USA

Faith - Neighborhood - Government Partnerships

Five-Year Federal Plan to Combat Human Trafficking

As part of the 150th anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation, the Obama administration put forth the Plan, 'Coordination, Collaboration, Capacity: Federal Strategic Action Plan on Services for Victims of Human Trafficking in the United States, 2013-2017'.

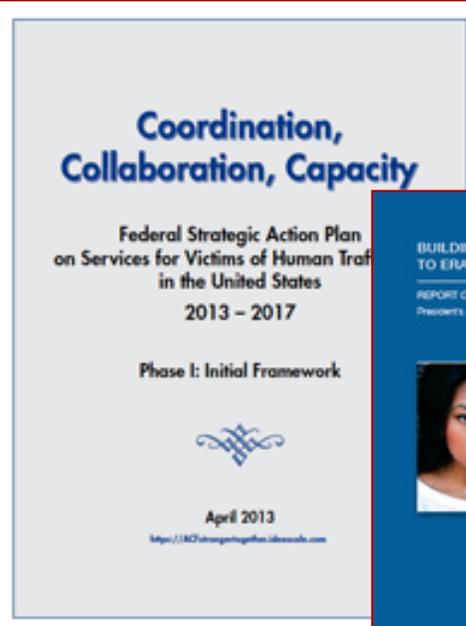
The 61-page Plan, announced by President Obama in his Sept. 25, 2012 remarks to the Clinton Global

Building Partnerships to Eradicate Modern-Day Slavery

The President's *Advisory Council on Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnerships* (FBNP) brings together 25 leaders and experts in fields related to the work of faith-based and neighborhood organizations in order to make recommendations to government on how to improve partnerships by:

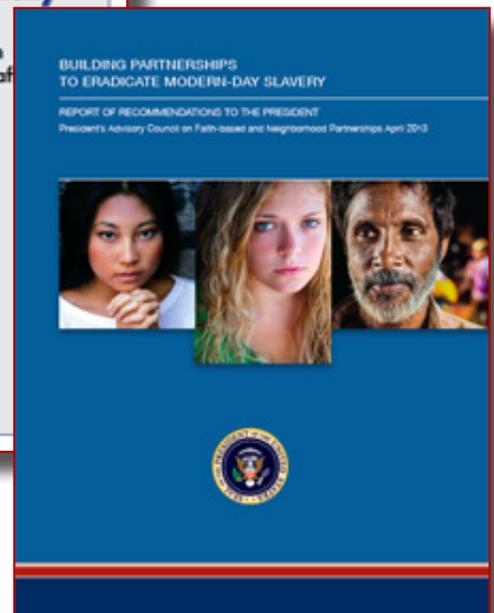
- Identifying best practices and successful modes of delivering social services;
- Evaluating the need for improvements in the implementation and coordination

Advisory Council
cont. pg. 3



Initiative, promises "increasing access to services to help survivors become self-sufficient".

Federal Plan cont. pg. 2





Awareness

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Federal Plan *cont. from pg. 1*

The Plan is a collaborative, multi-phase effort across 17 government agencies (President's *Interagency Task Force to Monitor & Combat Trafficking in Persons*) in partnership with civil society and concerned citizens.

The Plan's Vision

"Every victim of human trafficking is identified and provided access to the services they need to recover and rebuild their lives through the creation of a responsive, sustainable, comprehensive, and trauma-informed victim services network that leverages public and private partners and resources effectively."

The Plan was delineated in four phases:

- 1). *Initial Framework*, during which the co-chairs drafted goals and objectives. The *Dept. of Health & Human Services* (HHS) then convened a multidisciplinary stakeholder meeting, including survivors, law enforcement, victim service experts, nonprofit groups, and academia, to identify gaps in services for human trafficking victims in the U.S. That input strengthened the core values and guiding principles, provided concrete action steps, and identified other issues to improve services and combat human trafficking.
- 2). *Expansion*, meant to broaden the reach of the Plan. Stakeholders and experts within the anti-trafficking field and civil society at large are asked by the *Administration for Children & Families* (ACF) to review the Plan and make recommendations to strengthen it. Reviewers are to suggest additional items that can be accomplished through collaboration

with states, tribes, local communities, and partners to improve the Nation's response to victims and survivors of human trafficking. The co-chairs of this strategic planning effort (from the *U.S. Departments of Homeland Security, Justice, and HHS*) will coordinate the review of input received during the public comment period and make appropriate changes to the Plan. (See pg. 8 for how to give feedback during Phase 2 of the Plan.)

- 3). *Publication of the final plan*, targeted for fall 2013, includes stakeholder feedback and new strategies to enhance collaborative efforts at the federal, regional, state, tribal and local levels.
- 4). *Accountability*, to ensure the ongoing accountability of the Federal Government and the relevance of the Plan throughout the five-year period. (Plan, pgs. 13-15)

Guiding Principles

- The Plan should be developed collaboratively across agencies of the Federal Government and with a variety of stakeholders at the state, tribal, and local levels.
- The Plan should be realistic, action-oriented, capable of being implemented given current funding constraints, and be user-friendly.
- The Plan should demonstrate vision and goals for the long term, but include specific tasks to accomplish in 2013-2017.
- The Plan should be designed to help all partners remain accountable for commitments made and be updated to reflect progress made.
- The impact of the Plan should be lasting and scalable.
- The Plan should be driven by solutions and innovation, and it should be based on evidence and lessons learned.

Core Values

- Services should be accessible for all trafficking victims, regardless of race, color, national origin, disability, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, immigration status, or type of trafficking (sex or labor).
- Victim services should promote safety, healing, justice, and rights for victims, and should empower them to participate in efforts to bring traffickers to justice.
- Public awareness and an understanding of human trafficking at federal, state, tribal, and local levels are needed to improve victim identification and access to services.
- Victim service providers and survivors play a key role in raising understanding and awareness of human trafficking, improving service delivery, and informing policy.
- Anti-human trafficking efforts should be victim-centered and culturally relevant, holistic, comprehensive, evidence-based, and trauma-informed.
- The interchangeable use of the terms "victim/survivor" throughout the Plan acknowledges and respects both an individual's experience of victimization and capacity to move beyond victimization. (Plan, pgs. 13-14)

The Plan Outline

Goal 1 Increase Coordination and Collaboration: *At the national, state, tribal, and local levels.*

- Objective 1: Coordinate effectively through dedicated commitment at all levels of government.
- Objective 2: Build stronger partnerships with key non-governmental stakeholders.

Goal 2 Increase Awareness: *Increase understanding of human trafficking among key governmental and community leaders and the general public.*

- Objective 3: Enhance understanding of human trafficking.
- Objective 4: Improve and expand public awareness.
- Objective 5: Improve understanding of human trafficking through research.

Goal 3 Expand Access to Services: *Increase victim identification and expand the availability of services for victims throughout the U.S.*

- Objective 6: Build capacity to better identify and serve victims.

Federal Plan *cont. pg. 3*



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Federal Plan *cont. from pg. 2*

- Objective 7: Foster collaborations and partnerships to leverage resources.
- Objective 8: Improve access to victim services by removing barriers.

Goal 4 Improve Outcomes: Promote effective, culturally appropriate, trauma-informed services that improve the short- and long-term health, safety, and well-being outcomes of victims.

- Objective 9: Identify promising practices in responding to victims' needs.
- Objective 10: Support survivors in attaining health and independence.

Victim and Survivor

Throughout the Plan the terms 'victim' and 'survivor' are used interchangeably out of respect and to acknowledge an individual's experience in the aftermath of victimization. 'Victim' is "a person who has suffered direct physical, emotional, or pecuniary harm as a result of the commission of a crime." 'Survivor' is a term recognizing and honoring a person's lived experience and the strength it takes to continue on a journey toward healing in the aftermath of a traumatic experience.

Victim-Centered Approach

The victim-centered approach seeks to minimize re-traumatization during the criminal justice process by providing the support of victim advocates and service providers, empowering survivors as engaged participants in the process, and providing survivors an opportunity to play a role in bringing their traffickers to justice.

Trauma-Informed Approach

A trauma-informed approach includes an understanding of the physical, social, and emotional impact of trauma on the individual, as well as on the professionals helping them. It understands potential paths for healing; recognizes the signs and symptoms of trauma in staff, clients, and others involved with the system; and responds by fully integrating knowledge about trauma into policies, procedures, practices, and settings. (Plan, pgs. 15-16)

Advisory Council

cont. from pg. 1

of public policies relating to faith-based and neighborhood organizations; and

- Making recommendations to the President and the Administration on changes in policies, programs, and practices.

Representatives from a wide spectrum of faith traditions serve on the President's Advisory Council.

The *Council*, after a year of study of human trafficking through research and reviews, submitted their written report to the President during the April meetings.

Their goal was to help move human trafficking from being a *high profit/low risk* business to becoming a *low profit/high risk* business through legislation and growing public awareness and outrage. Advisory Council members took turns explaining each recommendation in detail.

Recommendations:

1. The Obama Administration lead the effort to elevate and bring to scale the fight against modern-day slavery at home and abroad;
2. The Obama Administration lead the effort to eliminate slave labor in the purchase and consumption of goods and services;
3. The federal government elevate anti-trafficking work at the agency level;
4. The White House convene a *National Summit* to raise awareness and inspire action to combat modern-day slavery;
5. The Obama Administration develop and announce a *National Call to Action* for civil society to increase and align efforts to eradicate modern-day slavery;
6. The Obama Administration produce a *toolkit* on how religious and community-based organizations can learn more about and take steps to join the fight against trafficking;
7. The Obama Administration work with the *Ad Council* to create a public

awareness campaign on how to spot and report signs of trafficking;

8. The Obama Administration designate the *National Human Trafficking Resource Center* (NHTRC) Hotline as the primary national human trafficking hotline promoted to the public;

9. U.S. Embassies and USAID Missions work with civil society leaders to develop comprehensive strategies to combat human trafficking; and

10. The *Corporation for National and Community Service* create a pilot partnership to place national service members in Mayors' and Governors' offices to help map and coordinate local responses to human trafficking.

A question/answer period followed the presentation of Recommendations, during which women religious present at the session also spoke out.

(See article on pg. 5)

Cecilia Munoz, Dir. of the *Domestic Policy Council* received the Advisory Council's Report for the President.

The Advisory Council stated, "We know these recommendations have just scratched the surface of what must be done to respond to an atrocity that is so complex, so hidden and yet so pervasive as modern-day slavery."

"Yet we hope that this report will be an inspiration to President Obama and his Administration, the modern-day abolitionists leading this work, the faith and community organizations we represent, and modern-day slavery survivors, to join forces and effectively scale our commitment to fight this unimaginable cruelty. We hope our efforts will contribute to a growing movement of conscience that will break forth into the collective will and action of Americans of every background."

"We are proud to stand with the President Obama and his Administration on this vital moral issue. We commit ourselves to working with our government, our houses of worship and community-based organizations, and our fellow Americans, to end slavery in our time." (Report, pg. 35)



Awareness

4 White House Forum on Anti-Human Trafficking Efforts

At the April 2013 Forum, in addition to announcing the *Strategic Action Plan for Victim Services* and receiving the Recommendations of the President's *Advisory Council on Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnerships*, other key efforts in combatting human trafficking were highlighted.

- **Using Technology to Fight Trafficking.** After meetings held by the White House *Office of Science and Technology* and the *Council on Women and Girls*, leading technology companies have partnered with advocates and survivors to develop new applications to reach trafficking victims online, on their phones, and link them with services in their community. It gave support for law enforcement to combat child sex trafficking in three major jurisdictions and use research and tools to better identify children sold online.
- **Presidential Award.** The Department of State awarded the inaugural "*Presidential Award for Extraordinary Efforts to Combat Trafficking in Persons*" to the Carlson Company, a global hospitality and travel company (<http://www.carlson.com/news-and-media/news-releases.do?article=6733463>).
- **Pro Bono Legal Services Network for Trafficking Victims.** The Department of State announced a public-private partnership with *New Perimeter, LLC*, a non-profit organization established by the law firm *DLA Piper* designed to increase the availability of *pro bono* legal services to combat human trafficking.
- **Strengthening Protections Against Trafficking Activities in the Federal Supply Chain.** In September 2012, President Obama signed Executive Order (EO) 13627,

which strengthened protections against federal contractors and subcontractors engaging in human trafficking-related activities. The *Federal Acquisition Regulatory Council* (FAR Council), which is developing implementing regulations, held a public meeting in March 2012.

The FAR Council received written comments from the public on the implementation of EO 13627, as well as on the *End Trafficking in Government Contracting Act*, which was passed as part of the *National Defense Authorization Act* of 2012.



- **Better Data and Better Allocation of Resources with Domestic Human Trafficking Assessment.** The *Human Smuggling and Trafficking Center*, an interagency clearinghouse for information related to human smuggling and trafficking, continues to collect data from more than a dozen federal agencies to develop a domestic human trafficking assessment. This first-ever, interagency human trafficking assessment will help the Federal Government allocate law enforcement and other resources by identifying existing and emerging hotspots for trafficking activity across the U.S. and revealing trends and patterns in victim recruitment and exploitation.
- **Reauthorizing the Trafficking Victims Protection Act.** In February, the President signed into law the *Trafficking Victims Protec-*

tion Reauthorization Act of 2013 (TVPRA), passed by Congress as part of the reauthorization of the *Violence Against Women Act* (VAWA). The TVPRA offers increased support to the State Department's diplomatic engagement, bolsters protections for vulnerable children and domestic workers, and enables effective partnerships to bring services to survivors and prosecute traffickers.

- **"T" Visa Regulations.** The Department of *Homeland Security* will publish an interim final rule to amend the "T" non-immigrant visa regulations, which allow victims to remain in the U.S. and aid the prosecution of their traffickers. The amendments will streamline the application process and reflect statutory amendments made by the reauthorizations of the TVPRA.
- **Counter-Trafficking in Persons Field Guide for Strengthened Programming.** Released by the *U.S. Agency for International Development* (USAID), the Guide provides practical guidance to develop, administer and evaluate investments that implement the Agency's 2012 C-TIP Policy. The Guide helps educate USAID Mission personnel and partners about trafficking and includes recommendations for integrating counter-trafficking activities into larger development programs, tools for designing stand-alone counter-trafficking activities, and evaluation techniques. It also provides USAID personnel with instruction on how to report suspected trafficking violations committed by employees, contractors, and grant recipients to the Agency's Office of the Inspector



Awareness

5 Catholic Nuns Strategize to Strengthen Anti-Human Trafficking Effort

The Leadership Conference of Women Religious (LCWR) invited representative sisters, actively engaged in the fight against human trafficking, to an April 2013 meeting in Washington, D.C. They represented 13 Congregations, most working in partnership with broad-based anti-trafficking coalitions. Representatives of *UN-ANIMA International* and the *Bakhita Initiative* attended as well. The sisters were updated on topics covered in the *White House Forum* and met the members of the *President's Advisory Council for Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnerships*. S. Marlene Weisenbeck FSPA, former President of LCWR, currently serves on the President's Advisory Council.

Over the three days there was opportunity for the sisters to strengthen networks, converse with governmental and non-governmental leaders, with other faith- and non-profit leaders in the anti-trafficking movement.

The women religious received updates from a wide range of government officials and non-governmental partners. Explaining initiatives of the Obama Administration were key members of the *Office of Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships* (OFBNP) within the U.S. Dept. of *Health and Human Services* (HHS); members of the President's Advisory Council of FBNP; the U.S. *Agency for International Development* (USAID); and Amb. Luis CdeBaca, of the *Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons* (TIP). George Sheldon, Asst. Sec. for HHS *Administration for Children and Families* (ACF), stressed that lack of access to healthcare and education keep people vulnerable.

"Faith communities are the moral compass of the nation. Imagine what the impact would be if every pulpit in every church, synagogue and mosque sent a out a cry against human trafficking." Sheldon remarked.

In the first ten years of anti-human trafficking efforts, many contributors used an *'all-heart'* approach. In 2013, in order to be fully effective, there is a new realization – countering human trafficking must be a balanced *'head and heart'* effort – through intentional coordination, collaboration and capacity. Since women religious are seen as having a strong collective voice, government officials challenged them to develop innovative practices and continue networking to help educate and mobilize citizens for the cause.



The women religious affirmed the Adv. Council Recommendations, stressing the potential of a *National Summit* and a *National Call to Action* (Adv. Council Rec.s 4 & 5) to galvanize the nation in awareness and action. They also affirmed two new anti-trafficking programs from the *Office of Migrant and Refugee Services* (MRS) of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB). (See pg. 6)

After exploring current best practices and gaps in the anti-trafficking movement, the sisters focused on potential strategies to better assist survivors, further educate the public, influence public policy, and strategize for improved collaboration in order to com-

bat human trafficking. Among unmet needs for survivors of human trafficking are education and employment mentoring. With so many congregations in the US, who have educational, health, and other facilities hiring many employees, the possibility of scholarships or targeted employment was raised. If each large congregation were able to offer *one* college scholarship, *one* mentored employment position, or *one* fulltime job, closing such gaps would become a reality. Collaborating with Catholic corporations, a variety of institutions sponsored by religious congregations, or other creative connections to the marketplace would enable survivors to move into the mainstream of U.S. life and prevent their being re-trafficked.

The sisters decided to utilize online discussion forums to connect among themselves, and with colleagues active in fighting trafficking, so as to share resources, best practices and thereby enhance their efforts. It could be likened to a *'Virtual Underground Railroad'*. Further development of the Bakhita Initiative website and articles in the *'Stop Trafficking'* e-newsletter will aid in dissemination of resources.

*(Submitted by attendee
S. Kathleen Bryant RSC)*

Forum *cont. from pg. 4*

General for investigation and action.
• ***The President's Interfaith & Community Service Campus Challenge: Advancing Interfaith Cooperation & Community Service in Higher Education.*** American colleges and universities have often been at the forefront of solving our nation's greatest challenges. In response to the first year of the President's Challenge, over 250 institutions of higher education made the vision for interfaith cooperation and community service a reality on campuses across the country.

For updates on this program, visit the Dept. of Education's initiative page: <http://www.ed.gov/EdPartners> (<http://www.whitehouse.gov/administration/eop/ofbnp/interfaithservice>)



Advocacy

'Humanity United'

Catherine Chen, of the *Humanity United Foundation*, explained the three pillars the *Foundation* uses in fighting human trafficking: engage markets and businesses in responsible investments; give voice and will to the anti-trafficking fight; and develop good governance and law.



Pam Omidyar founded the *Humanity United Foundation* in 2005. Her husband is eBay founder, Pierre Omidyar.

Some of the *Foundation's* current efforts include: freeing child slaves and families in the brick-making industry in Nepal; funding a UK project with the *Guardian Media Group* to expose rare stories of trafficking through film and journalism; and helping avert labor trafficking related to the 2022 World Cup in Qatar. Qatar plans to bring in one million workers to build the stadium. Qatari employers may legally hold the passports of employees, thus preventing employees from seeking escape from abusive situations.



The *Alliance to End Slavery & Trafficking (ATEST)*, part of *Humanity United*, offers webinars and advocacy letters about state/federal legislation and public policy to support trafficked victims. (www.endslaveryandtrafficking.org/)

The White House, the Dept. of Justice, and *Humanity United*, along with *Goldman Sachs 10,000 Women Initiative* launched the '*Partnership for Freedom Initiative*', an award of US \$6 million challenging local communities to develop collaborative solutions to human trafficking survivor care that can be expanded nationally through federal policies and programs. The initial awards will support innovations in three areas: sustainable housing for survivors; comprehensive care and case management for minors; and law enforcement engagement with survivors. (<http://partnershipforfreedom.org/announcement.pdf>)

Office of Migration & Refugee Services: New Programs for Victims/Survivors

The Office of Migration & Refugee Services (MRS) of the U.S. Conf. of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) recently launched two new programs: **Amistad Movement** (<http://www.usccb.org/about/anti-trafficking-program/upload/amistad-flyer.pdf>), an educational program that targets at-risk urban and rural communities, where traffickers blend their victims into immigrant populations. The first phase of the program will train community leaders to identify victims, help rescue them, and muster resources to assist them. "*Immigrant communities are excited about serving as resources for people from their own communities,*" commented Hilary Chester, Assoc. Dir. of the MRS Anti-Trafficking Program. "*By expanding the number of volunteers, who share the same language and culture of the victims, so many more vulnerable people will be helped to navigate the systems in place for them.*"



Dignity of Work (<http://www.usccb.org/about/anti-trafficking-program/upload/dignity-of-work-flyer.pdf>). MRS research shows 70% of victims are trafficked into the U.S. for labor, while 30% are trafficked for sexual exploitation. Some 8% of victims fall into both categories. The MRS will provide three employment services to individuals, who are waiting on certification or received certification when they were not yet ready for employment:

- Job Readiness and Placement Assistance to find work;
- Post-Placement Assistance to retain work in good working conditions;
- Job Upgrades/Professional Recertification to enable clients to upgrade to higher positions, increase compensation and/or benefits, and find more fulfilling employment. For more information or to make a referral, contact the Anti-Trafficking Program at: MRSDignityofWork@usccb.org or 202-541-3357.

'Project STAMP'

The *Department of Homeland Security* launched '*Project STAMP: Smuggler and Trafficker Assets, Monies and Proceeds*' in order to shut down human smuggling/trafficking organizations by identifying and seizing assets, monies and proceeds derived or used in support of criminal activity.



Legislative Authorities

Penalties for violating the money laundering statutes (Title 18, U.S.C. §§ 1956, 1957) are significant and include fines of up to \$500,000 and/or imprisonment up to 20 years. Furthermore, any property, real or personal (or traceable to such property), involved in a transaction or attempted transaction is subject to forfeiture.

Federal laws permit law enforcement to charge individuals involved in smuggling, peonage, slavery and human trafficking with money laundering violations. These enhanced penalties are an important determining factor for an assistant U.S. attorney when deciding whether or not to federally prosecute human trafficking/smuggling violators.

STAMP cont. pg. 7



Action

STAMP *cont. from pg. 6* Partnerships with the Financial Sector

The *Bank Secrecy Act* (BSA) requires financial institutions in the U.S. to assist federal government agencies in the detection and prevention of money laundering. Financial institutions must report suspicious activity that might signify money laundering or other criminal activities. Doing so assists *Immigration and Customs Enforcement* (ICE) in initiating new criminal investigations and identifying people, bank accounts and assets associated with criminal organizations.

Indicators of suspicious activity include:

- Numerous BSA filings by multiple financial institutions.
- Large cash deposits inconsistent with business type.
- Large payments to foreign companies that are inconsistent with the amount of product received from these companies.
- Unusual withdrawal, deposit or wire activity inconsistent with normal business practices, or dramatic and unexplained change in account activity.
- Sudden change in customer's normal business practices, i.e., dramatic increase in deposits, withdrawals or wealth.
- Structuring financial transactions at money service businesses (MSBs) (multiple financial transactions structured under the \$3,000 MSB's reporting limit on the same day).
- Numerous incoming wire transfers or personal checks deposited into business accounts with no apparent legitimate purpose.

How you can help? See pg. 8.

Children Migrating All Alone

- Climbing atop a fast-moving train.
- Crossing the desert without water.
- Covering from traffickers and gang members.

These are just a few of the dangers that unaccompanied immigrant children face as they flee domestic abuse, gang violence, and extreme poverty. Making their way to the U.S.-Mexico border these migrant children do not have a parent or guardian protecting them from trains, traffickers, or hunger. Instead, they make the journey alone – in search of safety, family, and hope for the future.

Apprehended by the US Border Patrol and placed in federal detention, many of these children are ultimately deported without basic legal representation, back to the same conditions they fled.

The *U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants* (USCRI) is coordinating *pro bono* legal and social services for these vulnerable children in the U.S. and conducting migration awareness workshops in Latin America.

What YOU can do to protect unaccompanied immigrant children:

- Donate to support the USCRI hotline, where desperate children call to get bilingual assistance for the legal and social problems they face.
- Fund the training of a volunteer attorney to help a child stay with his or her family.
- Help sponsor a migration awareness workshop in Central America.
- Become a *pro bono* attorney.

For more information:

<http://www.refugees.org/our-work/child-migrants/>

'Which Way Home'

As the United States continues to build a wall between itself and Mexico, the 2009 documentary film, *'Which Way Home,'* shows the personal side of immigration through the eyes of children, who face harrowing dangers with enormous courage and resourcefulness as they endeavor to make it to the U.S.

Director Rebecca Cammisa follows several unaccompanied child migrants as they journey through Mexico en route to the U.S. on a freight train they call *'The Beast.'* There are Olga and Freddy, nine-year-old Hondurans who are desperately trying to reach their families in Minnesota, and Jose, a ten-year-old El Salvadoran, who has been abandoned by smugglers and ends up alone in a Mexican detention center. Kevin is a streetwise 14-year-old Honduran, whose mother hopes that he will reach New York City and send money back so she can leave an abusive relationship. *'Which Way Home'* also features the families of two young migrants, who did not survive their journey. Their deaths underscore the extremely dangerous journey undertaken by these often-invisible children, who make adult decisions to change their lives.

The documentary film won the UNICEF Prize in the Havana International Film Festival; the Special Jury Prize for Human Rights in the Traverse City Film Festival; and was a Best Documentary Nominee in the Independent Spirit Awards.

(<http://www.whichwayhome.net>)

The 83-minute DVD, in Spanish with English subtitles, costs \$29.95.

Contact: info@whichwayhome.net





Action

Don't Let This Opportunity Pass! Government Calls for Public Comment

Part of Phase Two of Obama's Federal Strategic Action Plan

Criteria for Helpful Input

- Comments should be aligned with the stated vision and goals of the Plan (Refer back to pgs. 2-3).
- Comments should be aligned with the stated values and principles of the Plan (Refer back to pg. 2).
- Recommendations should be specific and actionable within the 5-year time period of the Plan
- Recommendations should be measurable and identify which federal, state, tribal or local government departments and agencies would implement these.

General Guiding Questions

- What actions should be prioritized?
- What areas, gaps, or needs are not sufficiently addressed by the Plan?
- What are promising practices that can be continued or emphasized?
- What additional partnerships or collaborative efforts are needed?

**NOTE: The public comment period will close on
May 24, 2013 at 11:00 p.m. EDT.**

Submit comments by any of the following methods:

- Via web at: *ACF Stronger Together*

<https://strongertogether.ideascale.com/a/pages/sap-public-comment-notice>

- Via email to: acf-comments@acf.hhs.gov
- Via mail postmarked no later than May 24, 2013 to:
Administration for Children and Families
U.S. Dept. of Health & Human Services

ATTN: Karen Fears
901 D Street SW, 6th Floor West
Washington, DC 20447

Informative Web Sites: (Each contains information related to human trafficking)

The 2013-17 Federal Strategic Action Plan

<http://ideascale.com//userimages/ac-counts/91/912839/Victim-Services-SAP-2013-04-09-Public-Comment-B.pdf>

White House Office of Faith-based & Neighborhood Partnerships

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/administration/eop/ofbnp/about>

Advisory Council Report

http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/docs/advisory_council_humantrafficking_report.pdf

Bakhita Initiative

<http://bakhitainitiative.com/>
Contact: Margaret Nacke CSJ at:
esjdev@nckcn.com

Toll-Free 24/7 Hotline National Human Trafficking Resource Center

1.888.3737.888

or text **HELP** or **INFO** to
BeFree (233733).

Stop Trafficking! is dedicated exclusively to fostering an exchange of information among religious congregations, their friends and collaborating organizations, working to eliminate all forms of trafficking of human beings.

Use the following web address to access back issues of *Stop Trafficking!* <http://www.stopenslavement.org/archives.htm>

To contribute information, or make requests to be on the mailing list, please contact: srjeanschafer@aol.com

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How Can You Help 'Project STAMP'?

Protecting America is more than just a responsibility for government agencies. It is a shared mission for all Americans. The importance of private sector partnership in this shared mission cannot be overstated. There are several ways individuals and businesses can help:

- **Partner** - Become a private sector partner with ICE *Homeland Security Investigations* (HSI) by contacting your local ICE HSI Special Agent in Charge office and arranging a *Cornerstone* presentation for your business or organization. *Cornerstone* detects and closes down weaknesses within U.S. financial, trade and transportation sectors that can be exploited by criminal networks. Law enforcement entities share criminal typologies and methods with businesses and industries that manage the very systems that terrorists and criminal organizations seek to exploit.
- **Report** - Report suspicious financial, commercial or trade activity by contacting your local ICE HSI Special Agent in Charge office, or by calling 1-866-DHS-2-ICE; and
- **Subscribe** - Sign up for ICE HSI's quarterly newsletter, *The Cornerstone Report*, for new developments in financial and trade fraud crimes. (<http://www.ice.gov/stamp/>)