

News Release



Immediate Release

Date

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Junior League of New Orleans' to Host Human Trafficking Awareness Sessions

*In Partnership with Covenant House, Eden House,
the Greater New Orleans Human Trafficking Task Force and Truckers Against Trafficking*

NEW ORLEANS, LA - In collaboration with expert partners, the Junior League of New Orleans (JLNO) ABOLISH Human Trafficking Committee is hosting two free virtual events to raise awareness for the issue of human trafficking. Registration is open to the public for a virtual screening and panel discussion of film, "Stopping Traffic," taking place on Wednesday, Dec. 15, as well as a panel discussion featuring survivor stories on Tuesday, Jan. 25.

JLNO is proud to support the ABOLISH project for the third year, with continued sponsorship from the United Way of Southeast Louisiana and partnership with Covenant House, the Greater New Orleans Human Trafficking Task Force and Truckers Against Trafficking.

"Human trafficking is one of the worst human rights violations of our time," says Susan Dold, Systems Administrator for Truckers Against Trafficking. "The traffickers are counting on our ignorance and our apathy to victimize our children. We can no longer be silent. We need good men and women who are willing to stand up and make a difference for someone who is trapped in a life of sex slavery."

"In 2017, there was an estimate of more than 900 trafficked people in the Greater New Orleans Area," says Jennifer Ray, Coordinator of the Greater New Orleans Human Trafficking Task Force. "The Junior League of New Orleans' ABOLISH Human Trafficking Committee is highlighting the important role that the community can play in bringing awareness to human trafficking. Public awareness has been effective at increasing support and resources needed for helping victims of trafficking, many of who are minors and women."

JLNO and partners look forward to continue engaging our membership and the general public on this critical community issue through the following virtual events:

- **"Stopping Traffic" Community Discussion
Wednesday, Dec. 15, 6 - 7 p.m.**

The community is invited to join Junior League of New Orleans in watching and discussing, "[Stopping Traffic](#)," an inspiring documentary featuring heroes of the anti-sex-trafficking movement and bringing light to their efforts to raise awareness and provide solutions. Registrants should watch the film for free through Pluto TV or another online streaming service prior to the panel discussion on Dec. 15. Panelists include:

- **Sadhvi Siddhali Shree, Director of "Stopping Traffic"**
- **Kara Van de Carr, Founder and Executive Director of Eden House**

- **Susan Dold, Systems Administrator for Truckers Against Trafficking**
- **Survivor Stories Panel Discussion**
Tuesday, Jan. 25, 6 - 7 p.m.
Held in conjunction with Human Trafficking Awareness Month, Junior League of New Orleans will host the virtual event, "Survivor Stories," on Tuesday, January 25 at 6 p.m. This online event will feature stories of human trafficking victims and will be moderated by Jennifer Ray, Coordinator for the Greater New Orleans Human Trafficking Task Force. Learn about the realities of trafficking, resources available to victims, and ways the community can support anti-trafficking efforts. Panelists to be announced.

Additional event information, including speaker bios and registration can be found at www.jlno.org/abolish. Advanced registration is required for both events which are free and open to the public. For media interview opportunities, please contact news@jlno.org.

ABOUT THE ABOLISH MOVEMENT

Junior League of New Orleans (JLNO) joined the Association of Junior Leagues International's initiative, the [ABOLISH Movement](#), in 2019 and is committed to uplifting the anti-trafficking efforts of experts in the field through free educational programming for the public and JLNO members.

The ABOLISH Movement was founded in 2014 by the [Junior League of Tampa](#) to unite Tampa organizations and agencies in drawing attention to the problem of child sex slavery in the Tampa Bay area. In 2017, the Association of Junior Leagues International adopted ABOLISH as an association-wide initiative. The ABOLISH Movement has since expanded to educate the public about all forms of human trafficking.

ABOUT THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF NEW ORLEANS

The Junior League of New Orleans is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. More information on the organization can be found at www.jlno.org.