

THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER

THE POWER OF THE TEAM



About 10 years ago I sat down to brainstorm some fundraising ideas for the middle school PTO with Vicki, my Co-President, and she suggested helicopter rides. At this point a good part of my brain simply froze with the many legal and logistical limitations that flew in for my attention at once. Of course during brainstorming sessions one just takes notes and keeps going, so that is exactly what we did, then sleep outs on the school's roof as well as Guinness Book of World Record ideas got added to the list. This is where I mention that Vicki and I made the perfect team. She and I had complementary skill sets and mutual respect. Neither of us would have been as successful alone. I would never have had her grand ideas and her ideas would never have come into being without me to make them happen.

So what makes a good team? I believe a corner-stone is mutual respect. Not just for the skills that everyone brings to the table, but for the people themselves. A well balanced team will include a mix of abilities with strengths overlapping weaknesses in such a way that everything is covered. To ensure that a variety of voices and ideas are represented a good team will be made up of diverse members to include differences in age, gender, race, income level, family structure, political affiliation, education, years of experience in the role and level of experience with the topic.

The best solutions come from differences in opinion, so it would be a catastrophic disaster if everyone were to agree at all times. It really helps to have at least one person in the room who thinks quite differently from the rest of the group. This is, in my opinion, one of the most valuable members of the team. It is a hard role to fill as their whole job is to bring in the "out of left field" ideas. They will be seen as disruptive, so the respect piece is critical. They take the good ideas and knock them around in ways the group might not have foreseen and make them better. A leadership team that always feels comfortable is missing out on true opportunities!

As we move forward as a club we will be pulling together teams to plan, organize and implement projects. We will need a variety of skill sets and experience levels to accomplish our goals, so there will be a place for everyone to contribute. How do you want to participate? What role will you take on the team?

**Moving intention into Action,
Michelle Seets**

Rotary Club to End Human Trafficking President, 2022-2023

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AN ENDORSEMENT MADE BY RCEHT

With a vision of a world free from Human trafficking, 3Strands mobilize communities to combat human trafficking through prevention education and reintegration programs. The organization has three programs, Education, Employment and Engagement.

Education

We empower people of all ages to recognize, respond to, and report all forms of violence and teach them about the available resources to support them through their journey.

Through a trauma-informed approach, participants are trained to identify physical signs and behaviors that could indicate a student is being victimized. They are also equipped with the resources needed to report cases of human trafficking and connect victims with the proper professionals

Employ+ Empower

Individuals that have gone through the employ + empower program have generated more than \$600k in earned wages.

Engagement

3Strands Global Foundation mobilizes communities to combat human trafficking through the Break Free Run and other hosted events. The Break Free Run raises awareness and engages individuals in the fight against human trafficking; this is our largest event of the year. We host Break Free Runs in Folsom, California once a year. The Virtual Runner option allows anyone, anywhere to be a part of the Race to End Human Trafficking



what you can do to help

It is only together, as a community, that we can create a world free from human trafficking. It is through the support of individuals, such as yourself, that we are able to change lives and protect children from exploitation. To further sustain our programs and the global effort to END human trafficking, 3stands Global, partner with organizations around the world that produce ethical products and provide employment and empowerment opportunities for survivors, those at-risk, and marginalized peoples.

Help 3strands Global foundation sustain the impact by getting involved. There are many ways that you can join 3strands Global Foundation!

[Start a Fundraising project.](#)

[Give Monthly](#)

[Volunteer](#)



NEW MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Audrey Moore

Audrey is our newest **Associate member**. She has dedicated her life to shedding light on human trafficking and the injustices taking place in our world — especially in conflict zones. She attended the University of Delaware where she received a Bachelor of Science in Education.



After graduation she moved to Belgium to work with international students and refugees throughout Western and Eastern Europe. While living in Europe, she learned of the horrors of human trafficking firsthand when a children's home she had been volunteering at was exposed as a front for prostitution. At the time she was a charter board member for the organization which helped to close down the home. In an effort to rescue vulnerable children before experiencing the trauma of trafficking, Audrey has worked since 2005 to support the foundation and expansion of the only indigenously directed anti-trafficking network that today spans Sudan and South Sudan. In 2018, Audrey became CEO of Lift Up the Vulnerable and leads the mission of preventing trafficking and empowering changemakers in war-torn communities.

Lift Up the Vulnerable (LUV) is an ecumenical Christian mission organization that prevents the trafficking and oppression of vulnerable children and women in warzones. In conflict zones such as Sudan and South Sudan, which are marked by violence and extreme poverty, the most vulnerable are kidnapped as child soldiers, sold as sex slaves, and trapped in forced labor. Our solution is a holistic model that prevents trafficking and empowers children and women to thrive as change agents in their own lives and communities. Since 2005, our leaders have a proven track record of effectively navigating and building partnerships in warzones and lawless lands. Through the only indigenously directed anti-human trafficking network spanning Sudan and South Sudan, LUV provides protection, education, and economic development to eliminate the exploitation of vulnerabilities, provide freedom, and restore hope. We envision a world where vulnerable children and women are empowered and, through them, war-torn nations are transformed.



COMMITTEE SPOTLIGHT

SPEAKER'S COMMITTEE REPORT



The speaker's committee currently consists of 3 members including **Matt Friedman, Helen Sworn and Shirley Hsia.**

The committee meets monthly to brainstorm ideas in finding good speakers based on the club's purpose and strategic plan. Once the speaker is selected, the committee will communicate with the speaker to schedule, send a reminder before the talk and follow-up with a thank-you note after the presentation.

In order to ensure the choice of future speakers is in-line with club members preference, a survey questionnaire has been provided by the speaker's committee under president Michelle's guidance.

Kindly fill out this form

WE WANT YOUR PROJECT IDEAS!

Our club would like to come together to implement a project. Please share your ideas for a project our club could organize and roll out. As a reminder, our club is focused on the prevention side of ending human trafficking.

Here is the survey.



SUCCESS CORNER

PROJECT UMBRA

Member **Rosie Cataldo**, an employee at The Knoble, shared this success story about collaboration in identifying possible online sexual exploitation sites for investigation.

The Knoble is a nonprofit financial network delivering industry-leading initiatives and peer solution-generating roundtables to empower financial institutions and law enforcement to fight Human Crime — scams, human trafficking, child exploitation, and elder abuse.


The Knoble's mission:

To Awaken, Equip and Deploy financial crime fighters to protect vulnerable populations.

Project Umbra has been an important collaboration of subject matter experts leveraging their tools and knowledge to address one of the most heinous crimes against society's most innocent and vulnerable victims. Through shared learnings across jurisdictions, scalable solutions are being identified and driving real impact.


In the wake of the global pandemic, the US has emerged as the leading host of online child sexual exploitation material. The Internet Watch Foundation recently reported that the US hosts 69% of online child sexual exploitation material—more than any other country—a 228% increase from 2021.

In its first year, Project Umbra increased law enforcement referrals from participating financial institutions by nearly sixfold over the previous year using a methodology collaboratively developed for more effective detection and investigation of OCSE(Office of Child Support Enforcement).



Prove

Prove Partners with The Knoble
to Fight Human Trafficking
and Other Human Crimes



"The Knoble" is excited to welcome Prove to its growing roster of financial services and experts. Prove's expertise in digital identity verification drives immense value to our organization's mission, further fueling our strategic initiatives and helping us put an end to these human crimes occurring daily. We look forward to collaborating on future initiatives and working together to generate awareness and bring forth action to end trafficking and abuse."

Ian Mitchell
Founder and Board Chair
The Knoble

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IDEAS FOR YOUR ROTARY CLUB

by Robin Singer, Vice President
Rotary Club of Falmouth, Cape Cod

The key question for members of RCEHT is "How can a Rotary Club be effective in the fight against human trafficking?" The purpose of this article is to provide one model for clubs who wish to provide effective help to at-risk people and prevent survivors of trafficking from being re-trafficked.

Sadly, there is no lack of opportunity to enter the fray because there are so many types of trafficking and so many parts of the world where it is occurring. Whether the fight is against sex trafficking, bonded labor, forced begging, child marriage, unpaid or exploitative factory labor, organ harvesting, forced recruitment of child soldiers, or forced marriage, the need to combat human trafficking is ubiquitous and in every continent.

The best way to stay optimistic that things can improve is to focus on all the organizations that are working to help. Many of these organizations are listed in a RAGAS (Rotary Action Group Against Slavery) document that I cite at the end of this article.

A year ago, the Rotary Club of Falmouth, Cape Cod (RCFCC) formed a subcommittee of their international committee, which exclusively focuses on human trafficking; this article will detail the committee accomplishments of the year. The Falmouth Cape Cod club partnered with a very impactful NGO called Her Future Coalition which helps women and children who are either at high risk of being trafficked or are survivors of brothel slavery and need skills and education to remain free from the degrading work in the brothels.

Together they accomplished the following:

- The club implemented a district grant to provide furniture and computers for HFC's new Kolkata Learning Center in the Sonagachi slums.
- A new dormitory for at-risk girls is currently being built on the site of the school. RCFCC has contributed substantial sums for construction and for furnishings for the dormitory.
- RCFCC has provided laptops to start teaching spreadsheet use and keyboarding to Nepali girls from the hostel, who have no access to computers
- The club developed a remote teaching program (English and Math) for at-risk girls in a rural part of Nepal. Rotarians and other volunteers currently teach five days per week with classes for young children, teens, and teachers at the newly founded school there.
- RCFCC has joined with the Providence RI Rotary club to apply for a district grant to provide solar power and battery backup at the dormitory / hostel. This will make the communications with the school / hostel remote teaching program more robust, since power unreliability frequently interrupts the learning, for the at-risk children.
- The club provided several hundred books and educational toys for the library at the school in the Nuwakot district of Nepal. The books needed to be hand delivered, due to the lack of a secure package delivery system in Nepal. The club found travelers to Kathmandu who agreed to bring over the suitcases and deliver them to the school and attached hostel.
- RCFCC has given talks throughout our district about the issue of human trafficking and the programs that can be partnered with to combat trafficking. We also have spoken at international venues (RAGAS and at RCEHT). Many of the district clubs who heard the talks have contributed to the accomplishments listed here.
- RCFCC has helped sell jewelry made by survivors of brothels who have been trained as jewelry-makers by HFC, to keep them from being re-trafficked due to lack of skills. HFC buys the jewelry at retail prices and resells it on their web site and at fairs (and through helpers like the Falmouth, Cape Cod Rotary club) to help the survivors, find buyers for their products and make a living outside of brothels.

The focus of RCFCC efforts has been in Nepal and India, which are epicenters of trafficking, in particular sex trafficking and bonded labor. The villages in which the Nepal programs are educating children, teens, and teachers, have a culture in which trafficking to the brothels of India are a way of surviving, along with grueling agricultural labor; other means of earning a living have not previously been available. The new generation, with their math and English skills, will be able to make a living and provide new sources of income and new ideas to their communities.

The programs in India are in slum areas / red light districts of major cities, particularly Kolkata; the children and young girls there are at tremendously high risk of being trafficked. The girls who are educated or given skills training, are not only saving themselves and their families from lives in the brothels, but also becoming advocates for other girls and women in their communities.

There are so many simple ways to become involved without huge investments of time and money.

A club can do one of the following:

1. Have a jewelry party or a raffle to sell HFC jewelry made by survivors (go to HFC website -see citations below)
2. Raise money to outfit one room of an HFC dormitory, to house at-risk girls (approximately \$1500)
3. Apply for a district grant after contacting HFC (or the NGO of your choice) to ask what they might need.
4. Raise funds to send an at-risk girl to school in India through the HFC Sponsorship program (\$300 per year)
5. Contact **msrobinsinger@gmail.com** to see if you can partner with the Falmouth Cape Cod club on a project.

Many of you are already working on impactful programs to end trafficking. Please share your work in this newsletter so other clubs can find ways to help. Spread the word and provide detailed information about how to help!

Citations:

[Her Future Coalition](#) See the “**Take Action**” tab

RAGAS Community Awareness & Prevention Education Toolbox, Part C/ Human Trafficking/Modern Slavery Prevention Education Curriculum Sources, NGO’s & Curriculum Sources

NEWSLETTER FEEDBACK

Please complete **[this form](#)** to submit relevant information or news you would like to share with the club in the next month's release. The more we collaborate and connect with each other, the stronger our club is in creating effective change to achieve our Rotary mission.



NOVEMBER CALENDAR

As a global organization Rotary is fighting human trafficking all around the world. This month the Rotary Club to End Human Trafficking wants to highlight some upcoming events in November.

Standing Meeting:

The **General Meeting** will be on a Thurs. (Dec 08) at 7am US Central.

Speaker:

Shirley Hu

Topic:

Forced Organ Harvesting

Ashlie Bryant Scheduled to Present at
11/12 December 2022 TRAGAST Meeting

Ashlie is the co-founder and CEO of 3Strands Global.

Please attend and share the link with all you know who are genuinely interested in participating in the fight against human trafficking.

Please celebrate a milestone with Matt Friedman: his new Penguin book, **WHERE WERE YOU?: A PROFILE OF MODERN SLAVERY**, has been published and is available worldwide. In this memoir, He explore the early days of meeting modern slavery survivors and recount true stories of enslavement in Asia. He recalls painful moments that literally changed his life, reflecting on the different approaches to fighting human trafficking over the last 35 years and give an account of the early beginnings of the fight against modern slavery before the phrase "human trafficking" was adopted. As he reflects on the deeply personal lessons learned, his first and foremost goal for this book is to motivate more people to join him in helping to fight this global crime.

Here is a **short fireside chat** (9 minutes) describing why he wrote the book.

