

ROTARY ACTION GROUP AGAINST SLAVERY

RAGAS NEWSLETTER

<https://ragas.online/>

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AMAZING ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION IN MELBOURNE AUSTRALIA



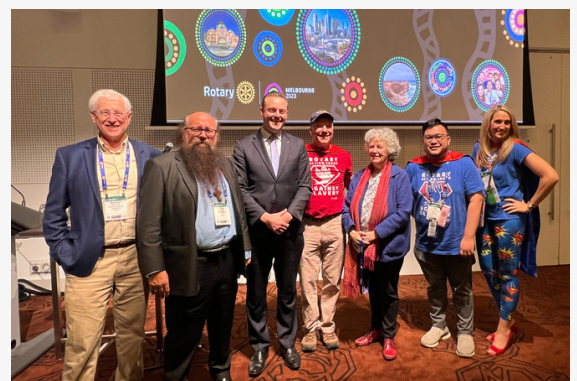
THE CONVENTION WAS A HUGE SUCCESS

Jones Day International Law Firm hosted with RAGAS a beautiful reception at their office in Melbourne. Dave McCleary helped plan the event and was part of a panel discussion with, Chris Crewther, MP, Tim L'Estrange, Jones Day Partner, Holly Woodcroft, Minderoo Foundation and IJM on modern slavery where we showcased the Global Compendium of laws <https://ragas.online/human-trafficking-laws/>. It was great to have the RAGAS team there, Bob, Amelia, Troy, Malcolm and Tony. Signing the Canada Net zero pledge to end human trafficking. Great panel Discussion on Sat. 27th with Board member Malcolm Baird, Mr. Chris Crewther, MP - 'Chris instigated and led Parliament's Modern Slavery Inquiry, bringing about Australia's Modern Slavery Act.', Mr. Fuzz Kitto - The joint Co Director with his wife Carolyn, NGO - Be Slavery Free. A major Modern Slavery and influential NGO operation in Australia, Ms Christine Carolyn - National Executive Officer at ACRATH - Australian Catholic Religions Against Trafficking in Humans

We also managed to have a great Dinner for the amazing RAGAS team attending the convention in Melbourne. On Wednesday, May 31st, RAGAS unleashed it's "Super Power" on a Rotary International Convention breakout session of approximately 300 Rotarians and friends. Past Chairman Dave McCleary and directors Amelia Stansell and Bob Deering provided a lively program that many in the audience said was the best breakout they have gone to which included ideas how their districts and clubs could develop projects to combat modern slavery. The breakout explained how this problem cannot be solved alone but we need to leverage the partnerships we have developed not only with NGOs, but with corporations, especially in the Lodging / Hospitality, Airlines, Fast Foods, and Trucking industries. We also need to be mindful of working with local governments as well. RAGAS has developed a strategy of prevention through partnerships which can be viewed through the Community Awareness and Prevention Education Strategy (CAPE) through the CAPE Awareness Toolbox which can be seen in our website at <https://ragas.online/get-involved/#resources>.

Projects can be developed for teachers, students, and parents on a small scale or through The Rotary Foundation Grant process. All three on the panel outlined their local projects and their experiences and a willingness to share and introduce connections. The \$1,000 US RAGAS CAPE Project Grant was mentioned as a fabulous opportunity for Clubs and Districts to start a project. The breakout included a Group of "Super Heroes" on stage activating and combining their Super Powers. There was Superman, Wonder Women, Flash, Captain Marvel, Batman and Green Lantern all combining and standing tall as a beacon of hope and inspiration for all those fighting against Modern Slavery/Human Trafficking. It reminded us all that unity, determination and the power of team work can overcome the most challenging of problems. Join Rotarians, RAGAS and be of part of the team. <https://ragas.online/join-us/>

“UNLEASH YOUR SUPER POWER TO END SLAVERY”



PLEASE JOIN US AT THE RAGAS ANNUAL MEETING

RAGAS will hold their annual meeting on Wednesday, June 28, 2023 on Zoom at 9:00 a.m. EDT. Please plan to attend and find out what happened in the last year and more importantly, what we will be doing going forward. Here is the Zoom link for the one hour meeting

Topic: RAGAS - Annual Meeting 06-28-2023
Time: Jun 28, 2023 09:00 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85310796324pwd=ejJpc3VKZThZa0tiOG1heU5UbXNJdz09>

Meeting ID: 853 1079 6324
Passcode: 404409

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,85310796324#,,,,*404409# US (Washington DC)
+13052241968,,85310796324#,,,,*404409# US

Dial by your location

- +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)
- +1 305 224 1968 US
- +1 309 205 3325 US
- +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
- +1 646 876 9923 US (New York)
- +1 646 931 3860 US
- +1 253 205 0468 US
- +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)
- +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)
- +1 360 209 5623 US
- +1 386 347 5053 US
- +1 408 638 0968 US (San Jose)
- +1 507 473 4847 US
- +1 564 217 2000 US
- +1 669 444 9171 US
- +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
- +1 689 278 1000 US
- +1 719 359 4580 US

Meeting ID: 853 1079 6324
Passcode: 404409

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kdya5XD1XV>

DONT FORGET TO APPLY FOR THE COMMUNITY AWARENESS AND PREVENTION EDUCATION GRANTS

RAGAS is proud to announce its release of a request for proposals to solicit Community Awareness & Prevention Education (CAPE) grant applications. 2023 marks the second year that RAGAS has launched the CAPE grant opportunity. This Request for Proposals for prevention education projects is also posted on our website: <https://ragas.online/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/RFP-CAPE-2023-1.pdf>

Applicants can be either individual Rotary Clubs or entire Rotary Districts. The deadline for grant submission is June 30th, 2023. The top 10 scoring applications will receive up to a \$1,000 RAGAS grant to assist clubs or districts in funding a community prevention education project. In addition to funding, all grantees will receive:

1. Free 1-year trial RAGAS memberships for all Rotarians in each participating Rotary Club or District.
2. Access to an updated Prevention/Education Toolbox and CAPE Global Strategy to help to create and execute a CAPE project.
3. Mentoring by a designated RAGAS coordinator, ambassador, or Board member to consult on their project and provide support on how to collaborate with partner stakeholders, including local schools, local government, NGO's and other community members.
4. All grantee clubs or Districts will be asked to adopt a pledge committing to take a public stand against human trafficking/modern slavery. <https://ragas.online/districtpledge/>
5. All participating Clubs or Districts will be asked to appoint a human trafficking primary contact at the District or Club level who will help coordinate efforts throughout the grant period - and ideally beyond.

THE GLOBAL SLAVERY INDEX 2023



THE GLOBAL SLAVERY INDEX 2023

In London in late May we saw the release of the Global Slavery Index 2023. Recommendation 4 aligns with the RAGAS Community Awareness and Prevention Education Strategy. Well worth a read to see the Global scale of this humanitarian issue that Rotarians can assist to expose and curtail.

This edition of the Index highlights how fragile hard-won human rights still are throughout the world, and how in times of crisis – be it the COVID-19 pandemic, the growing climate crisis, or ongoing armed conflict – it is the world's most vulnerable people who are hit hardest and fastest.

The global Slavery Index 2023 reports there has been an increase in modern slavery over the last five years. On any given day there are 50 million people are living in modern slavery and the world's wealthiest economies are importing almost US\$468 billion worth of products at risk of being made with forced labor. The worsening situation has been brought about by factors such as armed conflicts, environmental degradation and the economic and social impacts of Covid-19. While countries such as Australia, Canada, Germany and Norway have introduced anti-slavery legislation during the last five year, on the whole government action has stagnated.

The report outlines 5 recommendations for government action to address modern slavery:

1. Implement stronger measures to combat forced labor in public and private supply chains by introducing legislation to stop governments and businesses from sourcing goods or services linked to modern slavery.
2. Embed anti-slavery measures in humanitarian and crisis responses and ensure that human rights are embedded in efforts to build a green economy.
3. Prioritize human rights when engaging with repressive regimes, by conducting due diligence to ensure that any trade, business, or investment is not contributing to or benefitting from state-imposed forced labor, including where it occurs in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region of China.
4. Focus on prevention and protection for vulnerable populations by providing primary and secondary education for all children, including girls.
5. Ensure effective civil and criminal protections in legislation to tackle forced and child marriage, including raising the age of marriage to 18 for all people, with no exceptions.

Download a copy of the 2023 Global Slavery Index

<https://www.walkfree.org/global-slavery-index/downloads/>

Submitted by Malcolm Barid

PRESIDENT BIDEN FINALLY APPOINTS AND SENATE CONFIRM US. AMBASSADOR-AT-LARGE TO COMBAT TRAFFICKING

Cindy Dyer now serves as the new United States Ambassador-at-Large to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons and leads the Department's Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons. The Senate unanimously confirmed her, and President Biden appointed her, to lead the United States' global engagement to combat human trafficking and support the coordination of anti-trafficking efforts across the U.S. government.

Ambassador Dyer is a human rights advocate and lawyer with three decades of experience working at the local, national, and international levels to prevent and respond to human trafficking, sexual assault, and domestic violence. In 2021, she was appointed to serve on the Independent Review Commission on Sexual Assault in the Military (IRC) which was ordered by Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin, at the direction of President Biden, to take bold action to address sexual assault and harassment in the military. Her appointment was extended to assist the Department of Defense with the implementation and oversight of the IRC recommendations. For more background on the Ambassador, tap [here](#). (create link)

For 12 years, she was the Vice President for Human Rights at Vital Voices Global Partnership, an international NGO advancing women's leadership. While at Vital Voices, she worked with local governmental and civil society leaders in more than 25 countries throughout Asia, Africa, Latin America, the Middle East, and Europe to develop and deliver multi-disciplinary trainings and to assess, improve, and implement laws and policies related to human trafficking and gender-based violence.



Prior to joining Vital Voices, she served as the Director of the Office on Violence Against Women within the U.S. Department of Justice where she served as the liaison between the Department of Justice and federal, state, tribal, and international governments on matters involving violence against women. She was responsible for developing the Department's legal and policy positions regarding the implementation of the Violence Against Women Act and overseeing an annual budget of almost \$400 million. Ambassador Dyer began her career at the local level serving as a specialized domestic and sexual violence prosecutor in Dallas, Texas for more than 13 years where she prosecuted high profile, complex cases including capital murder, murder, aggravated assault, sexual assault, retaliation, and stalking. She assisted in creating Dallas County's specialized Family Violence Courts in 1995 and the county's specialized Protective Order Court in 1999, which were the first of their kind in the state of Texas. She also served as a weekly hotline volunteer for nine years at a local women's shelter.

Submitted by George Belitsos



RAGAS SOCIAL MEDIA

RAGAS communication

You can receive the information by following us on social media!

- [RAGAS Facebook](#)
- [RAGAS LinkedIn](#)
- [RAGAS Twitter](#)
- [RAGAS Instagram](#)
- [RAGAS YouTube](#)

LOOKING FOR A WAY OUT?
帮助您找方法 ¿ESTÁS BUSCANDO UNA SALIDA? ¿NECESITAS AYUDA?
STOP HUMAN TRAFFICKING
NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING HOTLINE
888-3737-888
or Text "Help" to 233733 (BeFree)
IOWA VICTIM SERVICE CALL CENTER
800-770-1650
IT HAPPENS HERE IN IOWA or Text "iowaahelp" to 20121
Iowa Network Against Human Trafficking & Slavery
www.iowanah.org Rotary

TAKE ACTION

We are not defined by who we are, but by our actions. To contribute to ending modern slavery, you can:

- Become a RAGAS member from [here](#).
- Donate to RAGAS, or organisations working on ending modern slavery.
- [Contact your local Coordinator](#) to volunteer for RAGAS.
- Invite a RAGAS speaker to your local club meeting to talk about modern slavery.
- Initiate a Global Grant project to fight against modern slavery.

Engage with Rotary clubs that dedicates to ending modern slavery, including:

- District 5950 [Rotary eClub to End Human Trafficking](#),
- District 5710 [Rotary eClub of Community Action Against Human Trafficking](#),
- District 5280 [Rotarians Fighting Human Trafficking](#).
- District 5810 [Rotary Satellite Club of Greenville to End Human Trafficking](#)
- District 1260 [Ware Rotary Satellite Club Rotary for Slave Free Communities](#)
- District 5030 [The Pacific Northwest Ending Sex Trafficking](#)
- District 5840 [To Combat Human Trafficking](#).