



SISTERS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD
NATIONAL ADVOCACY CENTER
Rise Up AND Act for Justice

For Immediate Release: April 30, 2018

Conference on Human Trafficking – May 15 *Share with your readers and break the chains*

Hear from experts in the field, government officials, Members of Congress and self-advocates who have survived being trafficked. The National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd is hosting a conference on human trafficking on Tuesday, May 15 at the United States Capitol.

*Shine the Light on the perpetrators of human trafficking: Get educated.
Shine the Light on the survivors: Get hope.
Shine the Light on ourselves: What we can do.*

This one day conference, co-hosted with the DC Baptist Convention, is free of charge. Pre-registration is required and space is limited. A government-approved identification is mandatory.

Tuesday, May 15 from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm
10:00 am – 1:30 pm Panels and Discussion
1:30 – 4:00 pm Pre-arranged Congressional Visits
U.S. Capitol Visitor Center, Room HVC-200
<http://bit.ly/traffickingconf>

Congressional co-sponsors are Republican Ann Wagner of Missouri and Democrat Jamie Raskin of Maryland. There will be two panel presentations, one focusing on labor trafficking and the other on sex trafficking. Some of our speakers are:

- **Angela Aufdemberge** - President and CEO of Vista Maria, a Good Shepherd residential treatment facility for youth
- **Hilary Chester, PhD** - Associate Director, Anti-Trafficking Program, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops
- **Sr. Winifred Doherty, RGS** - United Nations Representative for the Good Shepherd Congregation
- **Marcia Eugenio** - Director, Office of Child Labor, Forced Labor and Human Trafficking in the Bureau of International Labor Affairs, U.S. Department of Labor
- **Survivors of Trafficking**
- **Vernell Wilks** - Mentor/Aftercare Coordinator at Youth For Tomorrow, a program that provides intensive care for children and families

"The horror of human trafficking, both labor trafficking and sex trafficking, is increasing in our ever-shrinking world thanks to the internet, instant communication and the largest migration of humans in recorded history," said Lawrence E. Couch, Director of the National Advocacy Center.

There are nearly 21 million victims/survivors of human trafficking world-wide, with 32% of them being trafficked for sex. Over five million are children. Here in the United States, 17,000 children are being trafficked each year (approximately 46 children every day).

[The National Advocacy Center](#) educates and advocates on social justice issues for the transformation of society to the benefit of all people reflecting the spirituality, history and mission of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd. NAC advocates at the Federal level for people living in poverty, immigrants, victims of human trafficking, victims of domestic abuse, and other vulnerable populations.

The Sisters of the Good Shepherd was founded in France in 1835 and are in over 70 countries on 5 continents and have had a presence in the United States for over 175 years. With a presence in 22 states and 1 U. S. Territory, the Sisters and their Lay Mission Partners have dedicated themselves to serving girls, women and families who experience poverty, exploitation, vulnerability and marginalization.

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