

Rescue and Restore Unity Coalition of So. California
Los Angeles County Unity Coalition
www.rescueandrestore.org www.lahumantrafficking.org

Anti-Trafficking Coalition Hosts

HUMANITY IS NOT FOR SALE

Free Concert and Public Education, [June 28](#) at Mercado La Paloma
3655 South Grand Avenue, Downtown L.A.

County-wide network of agencies will hold interactive workshops, distribute information and provide basic training about human trafficking in Los Angeles County

The Rescue and Restore Unity Coalition of Southern California-Los Angeles County, representing over 60 community-based organizations in Los Angeles County is hosting a free concert and public education event on Saturday, June 28th at the Mercado La Paloma – Downtown L.A. to raise awareness about human trafficking. Sponsored by Hollywood-based **iRecords** music label and leading podcast hosting network **Wizzard TV** which hit record-breaking 1 billion downloads in 2007, the concert will star Restaneo sisters, singers Jewel & Blaire of Broadway’s “Annie” and “Annie Get Your Gun” fame, The Believers and The Xue bands, with actress Angela Daun (“Ugly Betty”, “Déjà Vue”, “Agnes of God”) as MC. The event will offer international food, silent auction and colorful medley of artisans and fair trade vendors. Organizers of the event are the Salvation Army and Los Angeles County Unity Coalition.

Free bi-lingual workshops will feature experts in the field of human trafficking including, among others, radio and TV personality and columnist Dr. Ana Nogales, clinical director of the Casa de la Familia, Sandra Hunnicutt, chair of the Coalition and executive director of Captive Daughters, Marisa Ugarte, executive director of the Bilateral Safety Corridor Coalition, and Rohida Khan, Salvation Army’s NETS Director (Network of Emergency Trafficking Services).

When: [Saturday, June 28, 2008 from 12pm – 3 pm;](#)

Where: Mercado La Paloma/Downtown Los Angeles
3655 South Grand Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90007; (213) 748-1963
Corner of 37th St., just off 110 Harbor Fwy; parking in the adjacent lot.

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What: 1) Free family friendly event with art workshop for kids led by artist Maria Reyna;
2) Free information about human trafficking and agencies working to eradicate it;
3) Free workshops and basic training on how to recognize the problem, what to do and who to call, and how to keep alert about trafficking;
4) Call to action to end labor and sex slavery: sign-up for volunteers, internships and community outreach work; ideas on how to mobilize local communities and unite against trafficking in men, women and children.

Who: LA County Unity Coalition – **Media Inquiries Only: (323) 876-7874.**

The LA County Unity Coalition is a group of prominent civic, faith-based leaders working together to combat modern day slavery in So. California. The many So. California Unity Coalition members include: Downtown Women’s Center, National Council of Jewish Women/Los Angeles, Bilateral Safety Corridor Coalition, The Southern California Division of the Salvation Army, NightLightUSA, Captive Daughters, Mary Magdalene Project and Oasis USA, etc.

Facts about Human Trafficking

What is Human Trafficking? Human Trafficking occurs when vulnerable men, women and children are subjected to force, fraud or coercion for the purpose of commercial sex or forced labor. Human trafficking victims can be illegal immigrants; legal migrants; US citizens, runaways and others. Victims can be found in housekeeping, restaurants, sweatshops, construction, escort services, massage parlors and agriculture. The Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 made human trafficking a federal crime.

Scope of the problem: While many believe that slavery ended two centuries ago, the hard reality is that slavery still exists today. Human trafficking is a form of modern-day slavery—and it is the fastest growing criminal industry in the world. According to the U.S. Department of State , approximately 600,000 to 800,000 victims are trafficked across international borders worldwide each year. An alarming 14,500 to 17,500 of those victims are being trafficked annually into the United States.

Call to Action: *The LA County Unity Coalition* and its collaborative partners are committed to ending modern day slavery. The public awareness events represent a formal “call to action” for all who wish to work to end the exploitation of vulnerable persons. Individuals can get involved by learning more about the issue; or volunteer. To find out what you can do or for more information call Cindy Norman 213-814-9221 or email her at LACountyUnity@gmail.com

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