NAME: Nick*
AGE: 35
NATIONALITY: British
HOW EXPLOITED: Nick was sleeping rough having lost his job in the economic downturn. When some men approached him, offering work and a place to sleep, it seemed like a good opportunity. He was forced to work from 7am to 9pm, six days a week, providing manual labour for new patios and driveways. Poorly fed and paid a pittance, Nick was too scared to escape having seen someone else beaten up for trying.
REFERRED TO THE SALVATION ARMY: Following a police raid, Nick was freed and The Salvation Army provided him with emergency accommodation at a safe house, medical assistance and counselling.
WHERE NOW: Living independently and doing voluntary work, Nick says: “I am still nervous about being outside but I am really happy.”

NAME: Joy *
AGE: 23
NATIONALITY: Nigerian
HOW EXPLOITED: Joy was promised work as a hairdresser in the UK. The woman who met her at the airport took her to a brothel and forced her into prostitution to pay off the debts her family incurred in sending her. Her traffickers threatened that harm would come to Joy and her family if she tried to escape.
REFERRED TO THE SALVATION ARMY: Her ordeal ended when police raided the brothel and she was referred to a Salvation Army safehouse where she says: “The staff helped me gain the skills and confidence I needed to build a new life.”
WHERE NOW: Joy is now in full time employment after being granted the right to stay in the UK.

NAME: Tomas*
AGE: 60
NATIONALITY: Czech
HOW EXPLOITED: After his wife died, Tomas’ life fell apart and he lost contact with family and friends. He gladly accepted the offer of a good job in the UK as a chance to turn things around. In reality he was forced to work long hours in factories and farms with most of his wages taken by his trafficker to ‘pay for his travel and accommodation’. When Tomas became too ill to work he was evicted and became homeless.
REFERRED TO THE SALVATION ARMY: A homeless centre referred him for specialist support which helped him recover and decide what he wanted to do next.
WHERE NOW: The Salvation Army’s team helped Tomas to realise his dream of returning home to the Czech Republic where he now has a pension and a secure home. Tomas says: “The staff helped me feel some hope again.”

*Names and details changed to protect identities but based on real stories
THE SALVATION ARMY IS COMMITTED TO SUPPORTING VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

The Salvation Army’s anti-human trafficking work takes place on an international scale, and it has been protecting and caring for vulnerable victims of human trafficking since The Salvation Army’s early beginnings in the 1880s.

- Trafficking is a global issue that affects us all. Worldwide more than 800,000 men, women and children are trafficked every year*
- 27 million people are living in slavery around the world today

BUT

Human Trafficking is not just a problem in other countries. Modern day slavery exists in our own, comfortable, local communities here in the UK.

The Salvation Army has practical direct experience of supporting victims of human trafficking. Through a Government contract it provides secure accommodation when needed and care and support to address the needs of this very vulnerable group of people in England and Wales.

In just less than two years more than 1200 victims of human trafficking have been supported by The Salvation Army and its partners.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Be alert for the signs that someone you come across living nearby or working perhaps in a shop, on a farm or a building site, is not there of their own free will; looks underfed, perhaps unwell or injured; frightened; not communicating; living in overcrowded housing.

Please call our 24-hour confidential Referral Helpline on 0300 3038151 available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, if you consider yourself

- to be a victim of trafficking and are in need of assistance
- a nominated first responder or simply concerned about someone you suspect may be a victim of trafficking and in need of assistance

For more information go to www.salvationarmy.org.uk/uki/Trafficking

*Source: UNODC/Home Office