

January is National Human Trafficking Awareness month in the United States. We encourage you to spend this month educating yourself and others about this tragedy. FAAST has a variety of materials to help you with this.

You can find our toolkits for the church, community, schools, and international settings here. Almost all of our resources are free and provide a great way for you to engage those around you.



Lenten Study Guide

We invite you to participate in Lent this year using our Lenten Study Guide. One of the main purposes of Lent is to restore our relationship with Jesus Christ. Part of doing that is examining one's actions to see where there is sin, asking for forgiveness, and correcting those actions. Starting with Ash Wednesday, there will be a daily Bible verse to read, a meditation on that verse, and a short prayer. On Sundays, as we are taking the approach of those before us that each Sunday is a celebration of the Lord's resurrection, we will do a short introduction to the next week's theme and connect it to Lent and human trafficking. The themes for the guide are: temptation, darkness, brokenness, sin, repentance, faithfulness, and the cross. We pray that you will find this guide useful, drawing you closer to God and offering you a better understanding of how our actions can contribute to human trafficking and how we can counter those actions. The guide is currently in its final edits but will be published on our social media and website when ready.

Hands that Heal Trainings

Educating our community is a vital way to fight human trafficking. One way you can educate your community is by hosting a Hands that Heal training. The Hands that Heal curriculum provides a comprehensive approach to victims of trafficking and educating caregivers so that they may appropriately and effectively provide care and support. The training inspires people to engage in the battle against human trafficking and trains individuals how to provide transformational care to survivors of human trafficking. We currently have one training being planned for February 13-17, 2023 in Indonesia. To learn more about this training or how to host a training, email FAAST at faast@faastinternational.org.

HANDS THAT HEAL

Learning Calls

Our learning calls for FAAST Members and Affiliate
Partners have returned. The next learning call will be on
February 21, 2023 where we will learn about Online
Sexual Exploitation of Children from World Hope
International. If you would like more information on
how you can become an Affiliate Partner or Member, in
order to participate in the learning calls, please email
FAAST at faast@faastinternational.org





Spotlight on a Member

Compassion First (CF) is a Christian relief and development organization that provides end-to-end, personalized care to those rescued from or at risk of sex trafficking and exploitation in Indonesia. CF does this in four ways through:

- Personalized, Trauma-Informed Care. CF provides
 personalized care for child survivors of sex trafficking,
 building resilience to overcome trauma through education,
 medical care, counseling, & life-skills training.
- Legal Advocacy. When girls are in CF care and are asked to testify against their trafficker, CF provides a legal team and staff to advocate for her in a safe court environment.
- Strategic Collaboration with Law Enforcement. CF
 collaborates with local law enforcement by providing
 funding for legal rescues and case management for police,
 families, and rescued girls.
- Prevention: Community Development. Through educational sponsorships, entrepreneurial opportunities, and community classes, CF prevents vulnerable children from being trafficked..

Here are some of CF's Highlights from 2022:

Aftercare - In Aftercare, Sarah's House in North Sulawesi housed 19 girls in residential aftercare, 4 girls in community-based aftercare and saw 2 girls graduate from the aftercare program! Sarah's House was honored to receive a personal visit from Bintang Puspayoga, the Minister of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection (MoWECP) of Indonesia. CF believes this will open doors for increased partnerships on a national level and is hopeful that this visit also signals that the central government of Indonesia sees anti-trafficking in Indonesia as a national priority.

Community Development - CF had the opportunity to serve 88 children in a variety of ways, including educational scholarships and after-school tutoring. Over 20 teenagers grew in life skills through private classes, including Internet safety, public speaking, singing, and more. Around 16 women in the communities regularly attended literacy, cooking, and parenting classes, learning how to read and write and to make nutritional food on a minimal budget as well as healthy parenting techniques for managing technology with children and educating with love. These positive spaces are full of enthusiasm, encouragement, and laughter!

The Yellow Flower Collection (YFC) is back to full production

after recovering from the impact of Covid. Teenagers from the community are making handmade journals and improving skills such as communication, self-value, and time and money management.

It's a Compassion First tradition for the cemetery communities to gather for a Thanksgiving celebration. This year's Thanksgiving celebration was extra-special: it was the first Thanksgiving since Covid began, and it also included the Rose Cemetery for the first time! Over 250 people came, and a feast was followed by talented performances from the children.

Collaboration with Law Enforcement - Compassion First Indonesia (YKYU) signed a MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) extension with the Polda (Provincial Police) of North Sulawesi. While CF has had a working relationship for more than ten years, the signing of a new MOU represents an ability to maintain partnership through changing leadership and changing dynamics in the anti-trafficking world.

Special Highlights - The CF National Office moved to Indonesia's capital of Jakarta in West Java to provide opportunities for connections with the central government and other organizations. And our biggest update of this year...we are opening a brand-new aftercare home for sexually-trafficked girls on the island of West Java!