

Developing Innovative Solutions to the Problem of Trafficking in Persons from a Human Rights Perspective: The Response of the Private Donor Community

Friday, April 11, 2008

9:00-2:00 pm

International Center for Tolerance Education

25 Washington Street, 4th floor

Brooklyn, NY 12201

Human trafficking, a contemporary manifestation of slavery, is a global problem affecting virtually every country in the world, including the United States. Human trafficking is a complex human rights issue that intersects across a number of other social issues and sectors including gender equity, education, children and youth, poverty, immigrant rights, migration, worker rights/labor, and health. Studies have documented that victims of human trafficking have been subjected to physical, sexual and psychological abuse, infected with sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS, are denied access to medical care, legal assistance, and have had their basic freedoms taken from them.

The predominant global strategy to combat human trafficking is largely driven and funded by the US government and its policies, which are primarily concerned with eradicating prostitution. This myopic approach disregards the complex nature of modern day slavery which involves several human rights and social justice issues, including gender equality, children and youth, migration and globalization, immigration reform, labor, and health. As a result, there has been a lack of innovative, creative, and effective solutions to address this complex, difficult and dangerous problem. The aim of this event is to provide the donor community with the opportunity to:

- Receive updated information about the definitions, identification strategies, research, and avenues for protection for survivors of trafficking by participating in a renowned training on human trafficking developed by leading global experts on the issue of human trafficking.
- Learn more about the current strategies employed in the US and abroad to combat modern day slavery, with emphasis on the strengths and weaknesses of the prevailing responses.
- Meet donors that are committed to eliminating human trafficking and discuss with colleagues innovative strategies and partnerships to ending this human rights abuse.