

CULTURE IS NO EXCUSE FOR ABUSE
HONOR DIARIES

We will be hosting a screening of the documentary film "Honor Diaries"- featuring nine courageous women's rights advocates with connections to Muslim-majority societies who are engaged in a dialogue about gender inequality.

More than a movie, Honor Diaries is a movement meant to inspire viewers to learn more about issues facing women in Muslim-majority societies, and to act for change.

If you would like to get involved please contact us or email jenny@worldimpactnetwork.org



Seattle Girls First

WIN will be launching a new mission locally to inspire, educate and equip young girls with the *right* knowledge at the *right* time in their life to help them reach their full potential. Partnering with Microsoft and other volunteers, we will be reaching out to disadvantaged young women and teaching them science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) skills as well as offering life coaching and mentoring. More details to follow! If you would like to get involved please contact us or email jenny@worldimpactnetwork.org



WORLD IMPACT NETWORK

SPRING 2015

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ABOUT US

World Impact Network (WIN) is an international Christian humanitarian organization working strategically to bring about 'positive change' in the lives of leaders both locally and in emerging nations.

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Friends and Supporters,

In this issue, we are highlighting our work and that of some of our partners so that you may get a glimpse of the extensive impact of help, hope and education that your contributions are providing for people world-wide. As a result, communities, cities and nations are benefiting. Our goal is to raise up Christ-centered leaders— a result of our vision for education and training. World Impact Network is all about developing emerging leaders.

We genuinely appreciate your continued support and are excited for our ongoing growth!

*Many thanks,
Gabriella Van Breda
Executive Director*

Human Trafficking & Super Bowl 2015

By Nita Belles, Managing Director, *In Our Backyard* & WIN Board Member



HUMAN TRAFFICKING
IN OUR BACKYARD

Over the past 18 months I have made many trips and had many meetings with the organizations and individuals from the Arizona Governor's Council on Human Trafficking, the Mayor's Human trafficking Task Force and top law enforcement. In the six years I have worked in anti-trafficking efforts surrounding Super Bowl, others in this venue have certainly worked as hard as any to raise awareness, change laws, come down on the traffickers and provide services to victim/survivors. Still there was so much to do and so many people to inform once we arrived to work in anti-human trafficking efforts at this year's Super Bowl in Phoenix.

First, I would like to address a couple of myths that seem to be dominating headlines. The first myth says that Super Bowl is the largest human trafficking event in the United States; the second myth says that there is no significant increase in human trafficking during Super Bowl and other large events. The truth lies somewhere in between. It should be noted that **trafficking happens 365 days a year in every nook and cranny in this country.** Each of us can do something to stop it year round '*In Our Backyard*'!

We hope this summary gives you a feel for the success of *In Our Backyard's* outreach operation. Over the eleven days we spent in Arizona, we spent thousands of hours doing anti-trafficking work. We distributed literature and made presentations raising awareness, looked for missing children and did online and street surveillance.

Our previous coordination with locals resulted in the participation of nearly 150 local volunteers. They joined us for a Human Trafficking 101 training class and were dispatched in groups of 2-4 to raise awareness about human trafficking at every gas station/convenience store in the greater Phoenix area.

Over 800 gas stations and convenience stores were reached. During that time we received two solid leads on missing children, which were given to the appropriate law enforcement agency working to find each child. One of those children was recovered safely.

A side note...why gas stations/convenience stores? Traditionally the hotels have been blanketed with human trafficking/missing children literature. This year we wanted to go to blanket other places where victims of human trafficking are often taken. I (Nita) was advised by one top law enforcement officer that convenience stores are often used as drop offs/exchange points and meeting points. Sex trafficking victims who provide services in back alleys or cars often use convenience store restrooms to clean themselves up. It proved to be a home run, not just for raising awareness but for our street surveillance teams.

As you can see, over the course of eleven days, thousands in the greater Phoenix area were given appropriate information about human trafficking, what it looks like and how to call the hotline if they see it by the *In Our Backyard* team. We believe we accomplished our goal of leaving the place better than we found it.

"We are incredibly grateful for the multitude of people who prayed, supported us financially and joined in our efforts. You made a difference!"
-Nita Belles

Between January 24th and February 1st:

- Out of the 47 missing children for whom we distributed pictures and other information, 15 were recovered!
- Online surveillance resulted in our team sending 24 leads of mostly children (probably ranging from ages 12-17) to law enforcement.
- 15 people were trained in street/online surveillance
- 800+ visits to convenience stores/gas stations with literature
- 2500 Missing Kids booklets were distributed
- 3000 Informational brochures were distributed
- 1000 flyers from ASU explaining how to identify a victim of trafficking and local services available were distributed
- Numerous young women, men and girls were found in difficult situations ranging from human trafficking, to domestic violence to family fights, and other crisis and were offered comfort, help and services if they wished.
- We encountered sex trafficking victims and pimps as well as witnessing fights, and other unfortunate situations.



"Defend the cause of the weak and fatherless, maintain the rights of the poor and oppressed. Rescue the weak and needy, deliver them from the hand of the wicked."

Psalm 82:3-4



Sri Lanka Ministry Update - Spotlight: Missions of Hope founder Fred Breedlove

In January 2015, Fred once again traveled to Sri Lanka to teach computer training as well as teach First Aid/CPR and Snake Bite First Aid for the Ampara YMCA staff. He was able to present the YMCA (who are caring for the disabled children) with a computer, paid for by WIN.

The Disabled Persons Project is an on-going expression of love and compassion for some of the most needy, yet ignored people in eastern Sri Lanka. This project began in February 2005 when Missions of Hope purchased a wheelchair for one of the Tsunami victims in Kalmunai. This project started with providing milk rations to disabled children from families living in extreme poverty. As additional funds become available, we will continue the support by providing school supplies and clothing to these and other families. There are many disabled children in the Ampara District where (Missions of Hope and the Ampara YMCA partnered with World Impact Network) to actively provide some basic needs for the disabled children of families among the poorest of the poor. The help that we provide will ease some of their suffering and give them hope for better days ahead. The computer will help them keep a database of the children and parents as a way to track the delivery of fortified milk powder on a regular basis.

Back in April 2007, Fred opened a Sewing Center (partnering with World Impact Network) for tsunami widows in the Kalmunai YMCA. He also worked with the Ampara YMCA in the jungle village of Mangalagama by building toilets, drinking water wells, and other humanitarian projects. In February 2011, Fred went to Ampara to help the YMCA assist flood victims affected by a severe monsoon season, by providing First Aid/CPR training for approximately 300 people.