



ECPAT-UNITED
A Campaign for Faith Based Communities



ECPAT-USA

Who is ECPAT-USA?

Founded in 1991, ECPAT-USA is a leading anti-trafficking policy organization in the United States. ECPAT-USA belongs to an international network of organizations in 75 countries, all working to end the commercial sexual exploitation of children. ECPAT-USA strives to ensure the freedom of children through its policy and legislative advocacy, private sector engagement, research and training, and educational initiatives.

- On a federal and state level ECPAT-USA works to prevent child exploitation and ensure those subject to sexual slavery and trafficking will not be prosecuted in the courts for prostitution. The federal government passed the Trafficking Victims Protection Act in 2000 and states that anyone under 18 years old who is induced to perform a commercial sexual act is a victim of trafficking and not a perpetrator of prostitution.
- Through a strong focus on travel and tourism, ECPAT-USA promotes social responsibility among private companies. ECPAT-USA works with corporations in the travel and tourism industry, such as hotels, to train and educate their staff to be able to identify when someone may be a victim of trafficking.
- ECPAT's Youth Against Child Trafficking Toolkit is designed to involve our primary stakeholders, America's children, in advocating against sexual exploitation and trafficking by training them to be the foremost advocates in their communities. The program is designed for schools and focuses on prevention and how to recognize risk factors, along with assisting each school in developing a protocol and resources to be able to assist students who may be victims.

What is the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children?

The Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (commonly referred to as “CSEC”) includes the prostitution of children, child pornography, child sex tourism, and the sex trafficking of children. A child cannot consent to being bought and sold, and in all cases these abusers are exploiting the vulnerabilities of children for their own gratification and/or for financial gain. CSEC is a violation of human rights, the rights of children, international law and many countries’ domestic legislation. **Under US federal law anyone under 18 who is in prostitution is a victim of sex trafficking.**

Where Does it Happen?

All across America and throughout the world children are being commercially sexually exploited. Millions of children around the world are at risk each year.

Why Does it Happen?

Traffickers are actively seeking out girls and boys to feed the sex industry’s demand for more and more young and attractive ‘objects’ to sell. Children are easier to coerce and control than adults, and although children from all socio-economic backgrounds can become targets, many factors in a child’s youth can make her or him vulnerable to trafficking. For example, children in foster care often don’t have a caring adult to protect them from predators, and traffickers and pimps are using social media more frequently to recruit vulnerable children into prostitution. Runaway and homeless youth are vulnerable to an adult offering an exchange of sex for a place to sleep tonight, a meal, or cash. Sexually abused children are particularly vulnerable as well.

Statistics (<http://www.ecpatusa.org/statistics>)

There are no good estimates of the number of children in the U.S. who are sexually exploited. These are some of the local statistics that provide a picture of the extent of the problem.

During the last six months of 2014, the San Francisco Mayor's Task Force on Anti-Human Trafficking identified 104 victims of child sex trafficking in that city.

Source: "Mayor's Task Force on Anti-Human Trafficking Human Trafficking Report in San Francisco," August 2015

In Ohio, it was estimated that more than 1,000 Ohio children are sex trafficked each year. In addition, 3,000 Ohio children are at risk of becoming victims.

Source: "Ohio Trafficking in Persons Study Commission Research and Analysis Sub-Committee Report on the Prevalence of Human Trafficking in Ohio to Attorney General Richard Cordray," 2010

Almost 4,000 children in New York City were found to be sexually exploited, 50% were boys.

Source: Ric Curtis, et al., "The Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in New York City," The Center for Court Innovation, New York City, 2008

There are fewer than 250 shelter beds for commercially sexually exploited children in the U.S.

Source: ECPAT-USA, Shared Hope International and the Protection Project of Johns Hopkins University, "Colloquium Report: An Inventory and Evaluation of the Current Shelter and Services Response to Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking," 2012

Most states' laws allow children to be arrested for prostitution, even children below the age of consent.

Source: Institute of Medicine and National Research Council, "Confronting Commercial Sexual Exploitation And Sex Trafficking Of Minors in the United States," 2013

45% of child commercial sexual exploitation victims in New York City were exploited in hotels.

Source: Ric Curtis, et al., "The Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in New York City", The Center for Court Innovation, New York City, 2008

Over the last 15 years, there were more than 1.9 million reports involving suspected child abuse imagery (child pornography) made to the National Center on Missing and Exploited Children.

Source: U.S. Department of Justice, "The National Strategy for Child Exploitation Prevention and Interdiction. A Report to Congress," August 2010



Campaign Introduction

a brief summary of faith-based community engagement

What is ECPAT-UNITED?

It's ECPAT-USA's ongoing effort to partner together with faith-based communities. We know that these trusted and respected community organizations are the leaders of advocacy work and community engagement.

Why a Campaign for Faith-based Communities?

ECPAT-USA, the oldest child focused anti-trafficking organization in the United States has been partners with various faith-based communities for years. Faith-based communities, by nature, have been looking for more ways to get involved and wish to see ECPAT-USA as an outreach partner rather than beneficiary. Through our campaign, faith-based communities will be able to gather within a network to develop ministries that are tailored to the needs and resources of the local community, aligned with and supported by ECPAT-USA.

How does ECPAT-UNITED work with Faith-based communities?

ECPAT-UNITED focuses on four areas (1) *awareness*, (2) *advocacy*, (3) *corporate responsibility*, and (4) *Education*, to equip faith communities by:

- **Expediting** Information: to raise awareness in your community
- **Engaging** Communities: to partner in our work to stop CSEC
- **Empowering** Faith-based communities: to network with supporting communities and beyond.

For more information about ECPAT-UNITED, please email us at: info@ecpatusa.org



Expediting Information

Raising Community Awareness

*National Human Trafficking Month (January)

AREA(S) OF FOCUS: AWARENESS

→→ Host a screening at your faith-based community or with a small group of the documentary “What I’ve Been Through is Not Who I Am” available for free viewing on: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BmmRTjoL3R0>

*END IT Movement (January – February)

AREA(S) OF FOCUS: AWARENESS, ADVOCACY

→→ Join in on the annual massive internet campaign by sharing a “Red X” photo or posting to raise awareness about slavery to the local and global community.
→→ Build a movement to raise awareness and funds for coalition partners who fight modern day slavery by creating your own team of freedom fighters at: <https://www.enditmovement.com>



Engaging **Communities**

ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

****Business Supply Chain Transparency on Trafficking and Slavery Act of 2015***

AREA(S) OF FOCUS: **AWARENESS, ADVOCACY**

→→ Learn and raise awareness of the importance of the Business Supply Chain Transparency on Trafficking and Slavery Act of 2015 (or other priority legislation). Information is available on our website at: <http://www.ecpatusa.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/Federal-Supply-Chains-bill-campaign-and-letter-of-support-2.pdf>

→→ Help to pass the Business Supply Chain Transparency on Trafficking and Slavery Act of 2015. Find your Representative by using the following link: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/members/>

→→ Start a letter writing campaign. Follow the link below for a sample letter: <http://www.ecpatusa.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/Federal-Supply-Chains-bill-campaign-and-letter-of-support-2.pdf>



Engaging Communities

ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

***Altruvistas Journeys** (year-round)

AREA(S) OF FOCUS: **AWARENESS, CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY**

→→ Travel to End Trafficking. Experience first hand how the travel industry combats human trafficking through socially responsible tourism. Join us on an international journey!

→→ Meet NGOs, learn about their work, and become an advocate for your community. Join us this year in Columbia: <http://altruvistas.com/upcoming-journeys/colombia/> or Thailand: <http://altruvistas.com/upcoming-journeys/thailand-2/>

***The Code** (year-round)

AREA(S) OF FOCUS: **ADVOCACY, CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY**

→→ Reach out to hotels, asking them to sign [The Code](#) and to train their staff to identify potential victims and follow proper protocol in notifying the authorities so they can respond. ECPAT-USA has resources such as postcards and letters to give to the hotel general manager, requesting they join The Code: <http://www.ecpatusa.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/join-the-code-letter.pdf>

→→ Advocate for the faith-based community to travel individually or in groups with responsible companies. Some faith-based communities have a national policy to only use Code signatories for group travel.



Engaging Communities

Partnering in CSEC work

ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

***ECPAT Youth (Year-round)**

AREA(S) OF FOCUS: **AWARENESS, EDUCATION**

- Empower youth to take the lead in anti-human trafficking efforts in their schools or within the faith-based community by contacting our Youth Outreach Manager: <http://www.ecpatusa.org/youth-groups>.
- Train youth pastors, teachers, and leaders to identify at-risk or exploited youth with the ECPAT Educator's Toolkit.
- Work with area schools on anti-bullying, self-esteem and girls' empowerment programs to reduce the number of cases of vulnerable and endangered children.
- Partner with area schools (i.e. by meeting the superintendent, principal, teacher) and hold awareness events for youth and training events for school staff with our Toolkits.



Engaging Communities

Partnering in CSEC work

FUNDRAISING IDEAS

*GIFT-GIVING

→→ For your birthday or on any special day, invite your loved ones to give to our work.

*DONATE YOUR TALENTS

→→ Take your talents (instrument, sports, cooking, etc.) and offer classes to the faith-based community and broader community. Have the proceeds donated directly to our [donation page](#).

*AWARENESS ACTIVITIES

→→ Challenge your faith-based community to go into major streets in cities and create awareness stations.

→→ Create and bring posters, show video clips, hold interviews, and spend a day sharing about the issue of human trafficking and CSEC.

*BRAINSTORM FUNDRAISERS FOR ANTI-TRAFFICKING DATES

→→ Meet in your faith-based community groups for brainstorming sessions on fundraising ideas based on the noteworthy anti-trafficking dates available below. This can be a unifying and innovational time for any group and age.

Anti-Trafficking Dates (<http://nyatn.org/noteworthy-dates>)

- **January:** National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month
- January 11: National Human Trafficking Awareness Day
- February 1: National Freedom Day
- February 20: World Day of Social Justice
- **March:** Women's History Month
- March 8: International Women's Day
- March 25: International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade
- **April:** National Child Abuse Prevention Month
- **April:** Sexual Assault Awareness Month
- April 16: Emancipation Day (Washington, DC)
- April: National Crime Victims' Rights Week
- June 4: International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression
- June 12: World Day Against Child Labor
- July 30: World Day Against Trafficking in Persons
- August 23: International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition
- September 22, 1862: President Abraham Lincoln's announcement of the Emancipation Proclamation
- **October:** Domestic Violence Awareness Month
- October 15: International Day of Rural Women
- October 18: Anti-Trafficking Day (European Union) and Anti-Slavery Day (United Kingdom)
- November 25: International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women
- December 2: International Day for the Abolition of Slavery
- December 6: The United States adopted the 13th Amendment, outlawing slavery and involuntary servitude except as punishment for a crime, on December 6, 1865
- December 10: International Human Rights Day
- December 17: International Day to End Violence Against Sex Workers



Empowering Faith-based communities

Network with our supporting faith-based communities and beyond

The Need for a Network

Creating a network of faith-based communities that mobilizes its members has the potential to make a greater impact with the increase in the pool of *talent, interest, time, synergy, and key figures* representing various sectors in schools, government, law enforcement, travel industry, etc.

What Roles Can the Faith-based communities Play?

ECPAT UNITED is a *coalition* that can help create lasting partnerships and sustaining engagements. Faith-based community leaders are the experts to contextualize joint engagement opportunities and community events. Their roles can be significant in every sector where children can be protected and served. A **Research Team** can be formed to gather articles, data, and news about CSEC in order to keep the faith-based communities informed about trends and further discuss ways to stay engaged. An **Education/Awareness Team** can utilize the library of resources and can also help prepare ECPAT UNITED members to educate youth in schools and faith-based communities. As the **Events Team**, communities can hold centralized fundraising events, screenings, panel discussions and awareness events.

Thank You

We want to thank you for reading through the packet and invite you to partner with the faith-based communities as the leaders of our communities to mobilize and fight CSEC by raising awareness and engagement. If you are interested in serving and partnering with ECPAT-UNITED, please email us at: info@ecpatusa.org