



Stockton to Host 'Say Something' Presentation on Human Trafficking

Jan. 29 State Event Aims to Raise Awareness in Students, Public

For immediate release: Public and media invited to 5:30-7:30 session

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Galloway Township, NJ- The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey will host the state's "Say Something" presentation to raise awareness of human trafficking on **Wednesday, Jan. 29, 2014** from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the Campus Center Event Room.

Human trafficking is a growing threat to the freedom and welfare of students, said Lowell Hochhalter, one of the directors of FREE International, the faith-based non-profit that developed the program. It takes many forms including uncompensated labor, forced child labor, involuntary domestic servitude, bonded labor and sex trafficking, he said.

The New Jersey Office of the Attorney General, the Division of Criminal Justice and the New Jersey Human Trafficking Task Force have been sponsoring "Say Something" assemblies for students in grades 6-12 throughout the state during January. The 3D, multi-media, interactive presentation in the Campus Center Event Room is designed to engage students and other viewers.

Members of the public and the Stockton community are invited to the presentation.

"Sex trafficking of underage girls is especially insidious because it targets girls in the US who are particularly vulnerable to the techniques used by traffickers in our communities," Hochhalter explained.

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The FBI and US State Department estimate that 250,000-500,000 girls are used in prostitution rings. The majority of these girls are not foreigners, but U.S. residents who are coerced through manipulation and threats, FREE International stated.

“We cannot pretend that this is not happening in our schools,” Hochhalter said. “As ‘Say Something’ presenters converse with students and educators, we have found that this is an issue affecting a majority of schools.”

Two survivors of human trafficking will tell their stories as part of the event.

The program is designed to empower viewers to “Say Something” if they witness human trafficking firsthand or see the signs that others are being exploited.

For more information on FREE International, [click](#)

To report a tip or request help about Human Trafficking issues, call the state’s hotline: 855-363-6548.

For more information, go to: njhumantrafficking.gov

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NOT FOR PUBLICATION:

The media is welcome to cover this event and may photograph or videotape portions of the presentation, but must agree NOT to show the faces of survivors.

For coverage planning purposes, the schedule is as follows:

5:30-7:30 p.m. - Community event open to public and college students.

Members of the media may contact Stockton’s News and Media Relations Director for assistance prior to and during the event at: 609-335-3859.