

VOLUME 1, EDITION 5 April 2018

The **HEART** Initiative

Fighting Human Trafficking in Montana and Beyond
A Student Organization at MSU
Bozeman, MT



What is *Human Trafficking*?

Human trafficking is **slavery**. According to the <u>Department of Homeland Security</u> (DHS), men, women, and children are exploited for labor, sex, organs, and more through **force**, **fraud**, or **coercion**. Human trafficking has been identified in every country, **all 50 states**, and in **Bozeman**. Watch <u>this</u> video by the DHS' Blue Campaign to learn more.



Our 2017/ 2018 Goals

- Establish a Human Trafficking Community Task Force in Bozeman
- Raise awareness through trainings and events
- Hold letter-writing campaigns

CONTACT US theheartinitiative406@gmail.com Facebook.com/msuheartinitiative Instagram: msuheartinitiative

GET INVOLVED

We meet in **Wilson Hall**, room **1-117** on **Tuesdays** at **7 pm**. All are welcome.

The News

- * On February 27, the U.S. Senate passed H.R. 1865, which provides **justice for sex trafficking survivors** who were promoted **online**. This grants federal, state, and local prosecutors the tools they need to hold **websites like Backpage.com** accountable for **facilitating** sex trafficking.
- * Human trafficking and **Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women** (MMIW) are closely related issues. This article highlights the importance of not only raising awareness, but acting to **end violence**. See below in Upcoming Events how you can get involved in **Take Back the Night this Thursday**.

OUR MISSION is to foster conscientious awareness of human trafficking occuring in Montana and globally, aid those working towards eliminating trafficking, and promote a community of compassion and respect.

IN THIS ISSUE

The News

Upcoming Events

- * The Abolitionists
- * Join Us: Community Task Force
- * Take Back the Night and MMIW
- * Service Saturday
- * ASMSU Elections
- * Sustainabilabash

Organization Spotlight
* ArtWorks for Freedom

Past Events

- * This is Congo
- * Sack Lunch Seminar
- * AIC Pow Wow

Connect: Human Trafficking + **Agriculture**

RESOURCES

National Human Trafficking Resource Center 1-888-373-7888

Human Resources Development Council (HRDC) **406-587-4486**

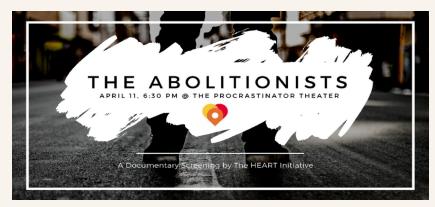
MSU Diversity Awareness Office **406-994-5801**



UPCOMING EVENTS

The Abolitionists Documentary Screening

Join The HEART Initiative in the **Procrastinator Theater** at **6:30 pm on April 11** for *The Abolitionists*. After the film we will host a discussion about the **controversy** of creating new demand through rescue missions highlighted in the documentary. Also, female children are not the only survivors – people of **all genders** and **ages** are trafficked – and sex trafficking is just **one of many forms** of trafficking.



Take Back the Night and MMIW

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month. This year's **Week of Action** is in collaboration with Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women (MMIW) to **raise awareness** and **raise our voices against all violence** in our community. Visit the Take Back the Night 2018 <u>Facebook</u> page for more information. This is the schedule for **Thursday**, **April 5**:

- > 9:00 am 5 pm: Art Display & FACES Project Gallery Opening in SUB Ballroom B
- > 5:30 pm: Survivor SpeakOut in MSU's SUB Ballroom B
- > 7:00 pm: Rally for MMIW in front of Montana Hall at MSU
- > 7:30pm: Take Back the Night March will depart from Montana Hall, heading North on 8th Street, ending at the Baxter Hotel
- > 8:00pm: Celebration at the Baxter Ballroom with DJ

Sustainabilabash

On **Friday**, **April 21 from 11 am to 2 pm**, Sustainabilabash is happening on the mall to **celebrate Earth Day**. You will have the opportunity to learn about different organizations that participate in sustainability, outdoor recreation, and organizations that are environmental advocates. **The HEART**

Join Us: Community Task Force

We are **collaborating** with **organizations** and **individuals** to form a Gallatin County Anti-Trafficking Task Force. Your skill and passion can help end trafficking in our community and beyond. **Email us** for more information and **to get involved**.

Service Saturday

April 7th marks the next Service Saturday for MSU. Service Saturdays are designed to foster relationships between students and the community while working to enhance Bozeman. A few of April's projects include working with BridgerCare, the food bank, and Habitat for Humanity. Join us in volunteering!

ASMSU Elections

The General Election for **Presidential** and **Senate candidates** opens April 10th and closes April 11th. Vote here! Learn about candidates and ASMSU.

Organization Spotlight

ArtWorks for Freedom: This organization applies the power of art to raising awareness and combating human trafficking. Through partnerships and community-based projects, they help launch powerful campaigns, like this photography exhibit in Washington, D.C. What will you do to creatively combat inequality and exploitation?





Initiative will be at Sustainabilabash! Stop by for information about sustainably and ethically sourced goods and more about how human trafficking relates to sustainability.

PAST EVENTS This is Congo

The <u>Bozeman Doc Series</u> screened <u>This is Congo</u> on



Sack Lunch Seminar

On Wednesday, March 7, a member of The HEART Initiative discussed **trafficking** in **India** and **women's rights** in a **global context**. Watch this <u>video</u> by KTVH News to learn more.



American Indian Council (AIC) Pow Wow

The AIC hosted the annual Pow Wow on March 30-31. The Pow Wow followed the two-day Indie-Genous Film Festival that featured documentaries about Indian

mascots, Standing Rock, MMWI, and more. As Martin Luther King Jr. once said, "**Unity** has **never** meant **uniformity**." We value diversity, respect, and enjoying life.



Thank you to our sponsors for the crucial services they provide in our community and their continued insight and support to strengthen the fight against human trafficking.

Interested in becoming a sponsor or hosting a training? Email us at theheartinitiative406@gmail.com to start the conversation.



Connect:

Human Trafficking + The College of Agriculture

By Tessa Sawyer

A **common myth** associated with human trafficking is that it involves only sexual exploitation. Trafficking is much more pervasive than that, however. **Public awareness** has been growing in recent years about how many areas of our **daily lives** are connected to **slavery**.

Forced laboring in agriculture is gaining national attention. Within the last few years, industries such as Malaysia's palm oil **industry** have been exposed for their use of forced labor. Foreign nations are not the only ones who harbor slavery within their borders. Organizations dedicated to eradicating slavery have uncovered **forced labor** in **agricultural** industries in the U.S.

For decades, farms and fisheries were the least regulated industries in the nation and were even excluded from regarding laws minimum Consumers are becoming more aware of the supply chains responsible for agricultural products they use and insisting on new legislation in the agricultural industry. With further citizen advocacy, real changes can be wrought in this system to end exploitation. For further reading. check out this piece by NPR.

Contributors to this edition:
Allison Reinhardt at
allison.reinhardt@gmail.com
Tessa Sawyer at tlsawyer17@outlook.com

Newsletter Editor: Emma Folkerts folkerts.emma@gmail.com



