



VOLUME 1, EDITION 4
March 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 [Department of Homeland Security](#) (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 [this](#) 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

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GET INVOLVED

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

OUR MISSION is to **educate; support** anti-trafficking efforts and survivors; and use **collaborative** and **interdisciplinary** approaches to fight human trafficking.

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The News

* Read [this](#) powerful article about **law enforcement's** preparation for an **increase** in **sex trafficking** during the **Super Bowl** in Minneapolis.

* **Corporations** are increasingly making an effort to combat trafficking. As recently seen in success stories with [American Airlines](#) and [Marriott](#), **collaboration** and **trainings** can help combat slavery.

* In early **February**, a man in [Billings](#) was **convicted** of trafficking women and minors. Learn about the role of **social media** in this case.



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

Join Us: Community Task Force

We are **collaborating** with **organizations and individuals** to form a Human Trafficking Community Task Force in Gallatin County. Your skill and passion can help end trafficking in our community and beyond.

Email us for more information and **to get involved**.

This is Congo

The [Bozeman Doc Series](#) is showing *This is Congo* on Sunday, **March 4** at the **Emerson Center**. Learn more about **Africa's longest ongoing conflict** and the **resilience** of the Congolese people as well as the **exploitation** they have faced (and continue to face) from other countries. Doors open at **6:30 pm** and tickets are available at the door.



PAST EVENTS

Black History Month

The HEART Initiative affirms that **celebrating** black history and **acknowledging** the resounding impacts of inequality and slavery are key to creating change.

There is **power** in **diversity** and **collaboration**.

Sack Lunch Seminar

On Wednesday, March 7, a member of The HEART Initiative is discussing trafficking in **India** and **women's rights** in a global context.

Be there from **12-1pm** in the **SUB, room 168**.

American Indian Council Pow Wow

Join the American Indian Council **March 30-31** in the Brick Breeden Fieldhouse. Interested in volunteering? Sign up [here](#). Visit their [site](#) for more information.

SACK LUNCH SEMINARS



SPONSORED BY THE MSU
WOMEN'S CENTER
WEDNESDAYS @ NOON - 1 PM

An Examination of Reproductive Health Dynamics in Greenland

JANUARY 24 - SUB 168

Join Dr. Elizabeth Sink, MSW, Professor in B&HD, and Project Leader with The Center for American Indian and Rural Health Equity for this discussion about unprecedented challenges to Indigenous ways of life as a result of the rapid changes in economics and the environment.

Women Serving in the Peace Corps: Bridge Builders and Cultural Ambassadors

FEBRUARY 7 - SUB 168

A panel of women who have served in the Peace Corps will share their stories that will surely inspire you to make a difference while immersing yourself in a new culture, and perhaps learning a new language! Come hear their stories about the challenges, the rewards, and the endless inspirational moments they experienced in the Peace Corps.

The Big C: Compassion Capsules

FEBRUARY 21 - SUB 168

A panel of WRIT 101 students will share their experiences working with Bozeman community women who are traveling down the road named "cancer." Instructor Jill Davis' students and community women are working together to create lifetime legacy videos for patient/survivor's families and loved ones.

Mindful Eating and Body Acceptance: Well-being Over Weight

FEBRUARY 28 - SUB 168

In honor of National Eating Disorders Awareness Week, join Julie Goyette, MS, RD and MSU's Student Health Nutritionist, for a look at the unintended negative consequences of dieting for weight loss, the science of mindfulness, and how mindful eating can play a role in making peace with your plate and your body.

Women's Rights in a Global Context: A Summer in India

MARCH 7 - SUB 168

Human trafficking is modern day slavery and has been identified in all 50 states and every country. Globally, women face discrimination, intergenerational violence, maternal mortality and inadequate access to healthcare. Join MSU student, Emma Folkerts, and hear about her internship experience in Maharashtra, India, and her work with the HEART Initiative here in Bozeman.

The Comfort Women: Sexual Slavery in World War II

MARCH 28 - SUB 168

MSU student Naomi Bottomley will present her research about the history of the many women who were kidnapped and detained by the Japanese Imperial Army during WWII to serve as "comfort stations" where they were forced into sexual servitude. Naomi will discuss the ongoing controversy about the accusations that these women were prostitutes and the fact that the Japanese Government has not made reparations for these victims.

Being Female in the Field: Experiences of Two Solo Female Researchers

APRIL 18 - SUB 168

The female field experience is not often a topic of discussion within the academic community or scientific circles. Two MSU PhD candidates in Earth Sciences, Katie Bill Winkler, and Rytiva Niivoich, will discuss their experiences conducting fieldwork as solo female researchers.

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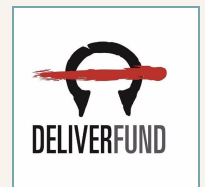
406.994.3836

Black Panther: Do you love Marvel's new *Black Panther* movie? We do! The villain, **Erik Killmonger**, made a statement before he died that resonates with us: "Bury me in the ocean with my **ancestors** who jumped from ships, 'cause they knew **death** was **better than bondage**."

Join us to help end slavery.

Organization Spotlight

Deliver Fund: By combining **technologies and data analysis to help law enforcement** identify and prosecute trafficking cases, this non profit recognizes that new tools and increased **collaboration** are necessary to combat the abuses of slavery.



PAST EVENTS (CONT.)

Volunteer Kickoff

The HEART Initiative is working to be a more involved force for change in our community through volunteering.

Members from The HEART Initiative flew signs at the [Warming Center's](#) fundraiser and **raised over \$800!** Approximately \$5,000 was raised in total.

The **Warming Center**, a shelter for people experiencing homelessness, opened an overflow location at Christ the King Lutheran Church on January 1st for the **increasing number of families and women** using the main location. We support the mission that **everyone deserves a warm, safe place to sleep.**



Survivor Fund Fundraiser at Sweet Peaks

There was a great turn out for the Scoops for Survivors Fundraiser at Sweet Peaks! Thank you for supporting this **crucial resource** in our community.



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.

[WEBSITE COMING SOON!](#)

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Connect:

Human Trafficking + Gender Inequality

How does human trafficking connect to **gender inequality**? While all people regardless their gender identity are impacted by trafficking, **women** are **disproportionately** exploited due to factors like **gender inequality**. This results in phenomenons like the [feminization of poverty](#) and [feminization of migration](#).



An engaging [report](#) by the International Labor Organization finds **over half** of survivors of **all forms of trafficking** are women.

[This](#) TED Talk by former President Jimmy Carter notes violations of human rights - and **women's rights are human rights**. March is [Women's History Month](#). It is important to recognize the consequences of gender inequality. "**Poverty elimination** can only be achieved by addressing the **disproportionate** burden of **poverty**, lack of access to **education** and **health** services, and lack of productive opportunities **borne by women**," explains an informative [toolkit](#) by [Interactions for Gender Justice](#), a great resource for connecting the dots on the implications of gender inequality.

Notably, [black women](#) and people who identify as [LGBTQ](#) are trafficked at higher rates. In previous editions of *Connect*, we saw how **poverty** and **race** connect to trafficking. Now we see even more how aspects of **identity** shape people's experiences. **Combating gender inequality is imperative** to reduce vulnerability and effectively fight trafficking.