



VOLUME 2, EDITION 1  
September 2018

# The HEART Initiative

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



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

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## 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 2018/ 2019 Goals

- ❖ Chair the Prevention Committee of the Gallatin County Anti-Human Trafficking Community Task Force
- ❖ Raise awareness and educate via trainings and events
- ❖ Host discussion panel and [CLIFF Convention](#) in March 2019

## CONTACT US

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## GET INVOLVED

We meet every **Wednesday** from **7-8pm** in **Wilson Hall room 1-117**. All are welcome!

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## The News

\* **Human trafficking is happening in Gallatin County, Montana**. On August 30th of this year, **7 people were arrested** in a human trafficking sting in **Bozeman**. [This](#) article outlines the story.

\* As **Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women** (MMIW) continues to be a prevalent issue in the United States and Canada, its ties to **human trafficking, domestic violence, and rape** need to be addressed and acted on. Read about several new propositions lawmakers are posing to help Native women [here](#).

## RESOURCES

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

The Bozeman Help Center  
**406-586-3333**

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



# UPCOMING EVENTS

## Join Us: Gallatin County Anti-Human Trafficking Task Force Prevention Committee

The Prevention Committee next meets on **Tuesday, October 16** at the **Bozeman Public Library** from **4-5 pm**. This committee raises awareness and educates on human trafficking in Gallatin County and we want your voice at the table. **Email us** for more information or **to get involved**.

## Sovereignty of the Soul: Confronting Sexual Violence in Native America

On **Monday, October 8** from **7-8:30pm** in **SUB Ballroom A**, [Sarah Deer](#) will discuss interpersonal and sexual violence impacting Native Americans. In addition to **national recognition** for her work to combat violence against women, Deer is a **MacArthur Fellow** and professor at the University of Kansas.

October is **Domestic Violence Awareness Month** and October 8 is **Indigenous People's Day**, underling the relevance of this anticipated event.



## Discussion Panel: Human Trafficking in Our Daily Lives

Join members of The HEART Initiative from **12-1pm** on **Wednesday, October 24** in **SUB 168** to

learn about [human trafficking in our daily lives](#). From shoes and coffee to **electronic devices** and jewelry, our daily lives are impacted by human trafficking due to its **presence in the production** of the **products** we consume. You'll also get information about **local anti-trafficking efforts** and what trafficking looks like in **Montana**.

# PAST EVENTS

## The True Cost Documentary Screening

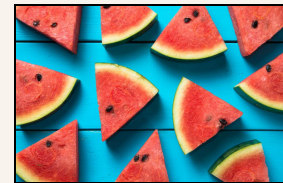
Thank you to all who joined The HEART Initiative, Bashin Fashion, and the Task Force on September 19 to learn more about the **fashion industry's toll** on **humans** and the



# Spotlight

This summer, The HEART Initiative team was at work building a [website](#). We are excited to have this new platform available for people to **learn** more about **human trafficking** as well as **our organization's efforts** to combat this violation of human rights.

We hope you had a lovely summer, too!



## Connect:

### Human Trafficking + Halloween

In 2017, US Americans spent **9.1 billion dollars on Halloween candy**, according to [Forbes](#).

Human trafficking expert Kevin Bales notes the estimated cost of sustainable freedom for the 27 million people in slavery in 2010 ([there are estimated to be 40 million people in slavery in 2017](#)) is around **10.8 billion dollars**. We spend almost as much money on candy in a single month--9.1 billion dollars--as it would cost to **liberate millions** of people.

However, **liberation is not just the end of trafficking**; a **long process** of rehabilitation and recovery follows. Freeing enslaved peoples means helping them build **sustainable lives** of dignity, stability, economic autonomy, and citizenship. The cost of freedom varies place to place. In the United States, legal and medical costs are among the most expensive, yet the **majority of people in**



**environment.** For those of you are interested in watching it again or for the first time, [The True Cost](#) is available on **Netflix**. Let us know what you think!

### ASPEN Lunch and Learn

The HEART Initiative traveled to **Livingston** on September 26 to present on human trafficking. With 32 people in attendance, we discussed definitions, what human trafficking looks like in **Montana**, common **methods of control**, and the importance of trauma-informed and **survivor-centered** approaches. You can find the presentation [here](#).

A **big thank you** to ASPEN for their work serving survivors of domestic violence. We appreciate the opportunity to raise awareness and educate about human trafficking.



**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](mailto:theheartinitiative406@gmail.com) to start the conversation or visit [theheartinitiative.wordpress.com](http://theheartinitiative.wordpress.com) to learn more.

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**slavery are in areas where the costs are the lowest.** The estimation of **freeing the world's enslaved population** comes out to be about the same number as Intel's quarter earnings: **10.8 billion**. This [TED Talk](#) highlights these calculations and many more comparisons.

On a global scale, this is a drop in the bucket. And, "there is a **freedom dividend**."



When people are out of slavery to work for themselves, they become **consumers and producers** and local economies benefit.

So what if we spend a little less on our halloween candy and a little more on freedom? The HEART Initiative encourages you to not only make **conscious decisions** in the products you support and purchase daily, but also to **donate to a cause you care about this year** instead of (or in addition to) your candy spending.

