



**ALLIANCE TO END  
HUMAN TRAFFICKING**

Founded and Supported by U.S. Catholic Sisters

# **STRENGTHENING HOPE THROUGH PREVENTION**

Annual Report 2025

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# Alliance to End Human Trafficking



Alliance to End Human Trafficking works to end human trafficking through providing educational resources, giving presentations, raising awareness, and engaging in advocacy at the state and federal level. We support survivors of human trafficking in healing and thriving through providing resources for direct services such as shelter, counseling, spiritual support, job placement, and educational scholarships.

# Message from the Executive Director

Dear friends, partners, colleagues, and supporters,

Last year has reminded us that even in the face of challenges, hope is powerful. Across the Alliance, our members, partners, and supporters have continued to prove that prevention begins with awareness, compassion, and the courage to act.

In 2025, the Alliance to End Human Trafficking worked to turn that hope into tangible progress. Our Pathways to Prevention Conference brought together advocates, faith communities, and survivor leaders to share strategies to protect vulnerable populations and strengthen pathways to freedom. We reached new audiences through exhibition booths at national conventions and expanded our outreach by hosting several events, using every opportunity to spark meaningful conversations about trafficking prevention.

Our Advocacy Day in Washington, D.C. was another important moment. We stood alongside our members to meet with legislators and emphasize the urgent need for policies that uphold human dignity, protect survivors, and prevent exploitation before it begins. These efforts reflect the heart of our mission: to unite people of faith and goodwill in education, advocacy, and action.

Prevention is not a single act; it's a continuous journey. Every conversation we start, every young person we educate, and every survivor we support moves us closer to a world free from trafficking. As we look ahead, we carry with us the same spirit that has guided our work from the beginning: a belief in the power of hope to change lives and transform systems.

Thank you for being part of this mission. Together, as people of faith and goodwill, we build not only awareness but a future rooted in compassion, justice, and care for every person.



With gratitude,  
Katie Boller Gosewisch  
Executive Director  
Alliance to End Human Trafficking

# Message from the Board Chair

Dear Friends in Mission,

As we enter a new year, our work to end human trafficking remains rooted in the conviction that every person bears God-given dignity. Catholic Social Teaching calls us to prioritize those most at risk, including children, migrants, workers, and families navigating systems that too often fail to protect them. Where safeguards weaken, exploitation follows; where communities strengthen safety and opportunity, trafficking is reduced. This year, the Alliance to End Human Trafficking expanded its national reach and impact. Our education and outreach programs equipped thousands with practical tools to recognize and prevent exploitation, while our webinars and resources provided timely, accessible guidance for ministries and service providers.

We also strengthened our public policy engagement by elevating the experiences of migrant and refugee communities, supporting legislation that enhances child protection, and advancing safe, legal pathways that reduce vulnerability to trafficking. Through partnerships with local organizations, networks, and national coalitions, we responded more effectively to emerging concerns and extended meaningful support to those in need.

This work is grounded in faith. Scripture consistently centers God's concern on those most at risk and calls us to respond with justice and care. As we move into 2026, we continue this mission with focus and resolve, recognizing that collective, values-driven action remains essential to confronting exploitation.

Looking ahead, the Alliance will continue to invest in prevention-focused education, expand survivor-informed programming, and strengthen collaboration with faith communities and partners nationwide. We remain committed to practical, policy-informed solutions that reflect the lived realities of those most affected.

I am grateful to our members, partners, survivor leaders, staff, supporters, and the Board of Directors and board committee members whose commitment sustains this work and extends its reach. Together, we enter the year ahead with clarity of purpose and shared responsibility.



With gratitude,  
Sally Duffy, Sister of Charity of Cincinnati  
Board Chair  
Alliance to End Human Trafficking

# Our Mission, Vision, and Values

## About us

The Alliance to End Human Trafficking works to end human trafficking through providing educational resources, giving presentations, raising awareness, and engaging in advocacy at the federal and corporate levels. We support survivors of human trafficking in healing and thriving through providing resources and funding for direct services such as shelter, counseling, spiritual support, job placement, and educational scholarships.

## Mission

The Alliance to End Human Trafficking is a collaborative, faith-based national network that offers education, supports access to survivor services, and engages in advocacy to end human trafficking.

Our members include 250+ congregations of Catholic Sisters, organizations, and coalitions working against human trafficking and individuals who share our mission.

Ending human trafficking is everyone's work!

## Vision

The Alliance to End Human Trafficking envisions a world without human trafficking, with a network of services and resources to inform the public, prevent the crime, and assist survivors in achieving a fulfilling life.

## Our Core Values

Our anti-trafficking efforts reflect the core values of our faith:

- **Belief** in the inherent dignity of every human person
- **Commitment** to those who are poor and vulnerable
- **Establishment** of right relationships to promote the common good
- **Defense** of the basic rights of workers
- **Solidarity** with one another and the willingness to enter into another's joys and sorrows





# 2025 Year in Review

## Key Highlights and Milestones

During the year, the Alliance to End Human Trafficking expanded its national reach through education, outreach, and advocacy, engaging thousands of individuals across the United States. The Alliance provided direct financial support and survivor scholarships, strengthening survivor services and educational opportunities delivered through member organizations and partners. Advocacy efforts included a successful Capitol Hill Advocacy Day with approximately 35 advocates, a fully attended Congressional briefing, and sustained engagement with policymakers on key trafficking-related priorities. The 2025 Annual Conference convened 135 registered participants, fostering collaboration and shared learning. In September 2025, the Board of Directors approved the Alliance's 2026–2028 Strategic Plan, establishing a clear framework for continued growth, survivor-centered impact, and organizational sustainability.

## Education & Awareness

In 2025, the Alliance to End Human Trafficking expanded its national reach through presentations, webinars, outreach events, and youth engagement initiatives. These efforts focused on increasing public understanding of human trafficking, strengthening prevention strategies, and equipping communities with practical tools to recognize and respond to exploitation. Across all platforms, the Alliance engaged thousands of individuals through education and awareness efforts:

- 1,752 people participated in AEHT presentations delivered to schools, parishes, universities, and community groups.
- 608 viewers accessed our educational content and webinars through YouTube, extending the reach of our training beyond live sessions.
- 1,379 individuals were engaged through outreach activities, including community events, tabling, exhibitions, and awareness campaigns.

**Webinars, Exhibitions, and Outreach:** Our webinars continued to be one of the Alliance's most effective platforms for engagement. Webinars continued to serve as a national learning space for timely discussions led by subject-matter experts. Through virtual sessions, the Alliance reached advocates, educators, students, parish communities, and service providers nationwide, combining current research, practical prevention strategies, and Catholic Social Teaching. Topics included online grooming, sextortion, recruitment tactics, trauma-informed care, and community-based prevention, with many sessions strengthened by survivor leaders and partner organizations.

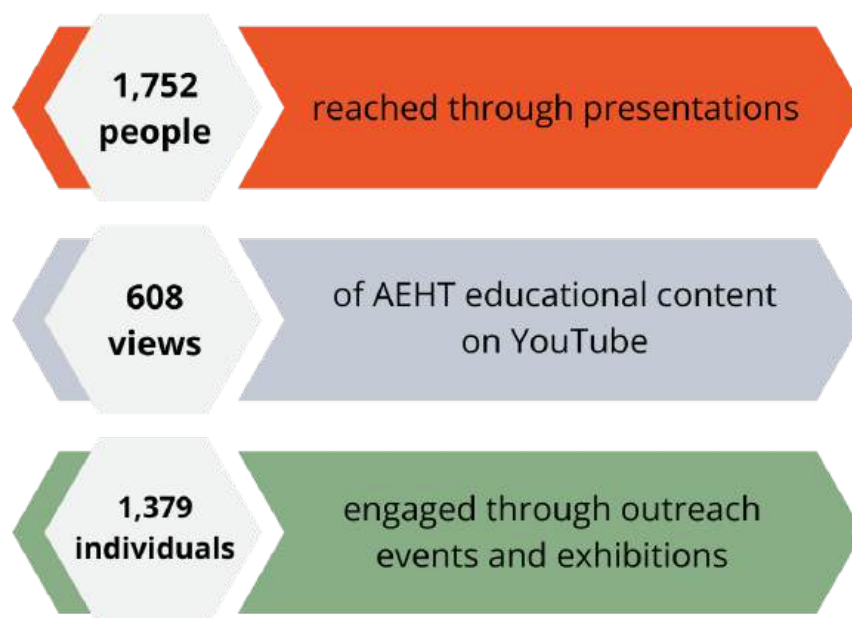
In-person outreach through exhibitions, conferences, faith gatherings, and community events brought the Alliance's mission into public spaces, connecting thousands with prevention resources and opportunities for involvement.

These efforts, along with expanded partnerships with schools, parishes, and local organizations, supported survivor services and advanced prevention through engagement rooted in clarity and purpose.

**Youth Prevention: High School Video**

**Contest:** The High School Video Contest invited young people to create short videos illustrating real-world trafficking scenarios and prevention strategies. The contest continues to build youth leadership, expand peer-to-peer education, and increase awareness of online and interpersonal exploitation.

**Speakers Bureau:** Through the Alliance's national Speakers Bureau, presenters delivered educational sessions tailored to parishes, schools, conferences, and civic groups. This initiative strengthens community-level prevention while promoting consistent, survivor-vetted messaging nationwide.





## Advocacy & Policy

The Alliance advanced a focused advocacy agenda addressing key federal policy priorities related to human trafficking prevention and survivor protection. During the year, the Alliance issued targeted action alerts and engaged advocates on the following issues:

- Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) Reauthorization
- Online child safety
- Criminal record relief
- Protections for unaccompanied minors
- The Big Beautiful Bill
- Child sexual abuse material (CSAM)
- The Take It Down Act
- Child labor
- Forced organ harvesting
- Human trafficking and large gatherings, including sporting events

The Alliance hosted a successful Advocacy Day on Capitol Hill, where approximately 35 advocates met with members of Congress to elevate survivor-centered priorities. A Congressional briefing organized by the Alliance reached full capacity, demonstrating strong engagement and interest from congressional staff.

Advocacy efforts extended beyond Washington, including travel to Green Bay, Wisconsin, during the NFL Draft, where the Alliance led an awareness march and hosted two educational symposiums focused on trafficking risks associated with major sporting events. Throughout the year, the Alliance also strengthened relationships with congressional offices and the Administration to advance policies that support survivors and strengthen prevention nationwide.



# Survivor Support & Empowerment

## Partner Feature: Dawn's Place

*Creating Safe Spaces for Healing and Hope in Philadelphia*

For women seeking to rebuild their lives after surviving commercial sexual exploitation or sex trafficking, Dawn's Place offers more than a shelter; it offers dignity, safety, and the chance to begin again.

Dawn's Place provides a long-term residential program designed to help survivors of trafficking find a place to heal, to grow, and to reclaim their lives. The program includes individualized case management, therapy, life-skills development, and transitional housing options, allowing residents to remain in care for up to two years as they rebuild their lives.



### A Mission Rooted in Compassion

As a Sister of St. Joseph of Philadelphia, Sister Meaghan Patterson leads with unwavering compassion and understanding. At Dawn's Place, that principle takes tangible form in the organization's commitment to walk alongside women who have been stigmatized or feel forgotten.

"There's so much judgment surrounding prostitution," she explains. "Our work is about seeing beyond that, recognizing each woman's humanity, and offering her a path to healing."

**“When a woman receives her own room key for the first time, the joy on her face says it all,” says Sister Meaghan Patterson, Executive Director of Dawn's Place. “Many have never had something that truly belongs to them. That moment represents freedom and hope.”**

”

## Meeting Complex Needs with Care

The main residence accommodates up to eight women, with space for four more in a transitional home. Residents participate in structured programming focused on trauma recovery, education, and employment readiness. They also receive six months of aftercare support upon graduation, ensuring continuity as they transition into independent living.

Dawn's Place employs a holistic model that integrates counseling, recovery support, and expressive therapies such as music and art. Survivors also serve in leadership roles—on staff and the board—bringing invaluable lived experience to the organization's mission.

"We're proud that several of our graduates now work on staff," Sister Meaghan Patterson shares. "They remind everyone here that healing and transformation are possible."

## Partnership and Progress

The work of Dawn's Place is sustained through collaboration with local and national partners, including the Alliance to End Human Trafficking.

**"We couldn't do what we do every day without the Alliance's support," says Sister Meaghan Patterson. "Beyond funding, the member house meetings remind us we're not in this alone—there's a community across the country working toward the same goal."**

## Hope for the Future

Despite recent challenges, including a temporary program closure following a small kitchen fire, the team remains focused on reopening stronger than before and rebuilding both the physical space and the program. Their vision is clear: a world where safe homes like Dawn's Place are no longer needed.

"My greatest hope is that someday we won't have to exist because trafficking will be eradicated," Sister Meaghan Patterson reflects. "Until then, we'll continue creating spaces where women can heal, reclaim their dignity, and rediscover their worth."



## Counseling, Job Training, and Scholarships

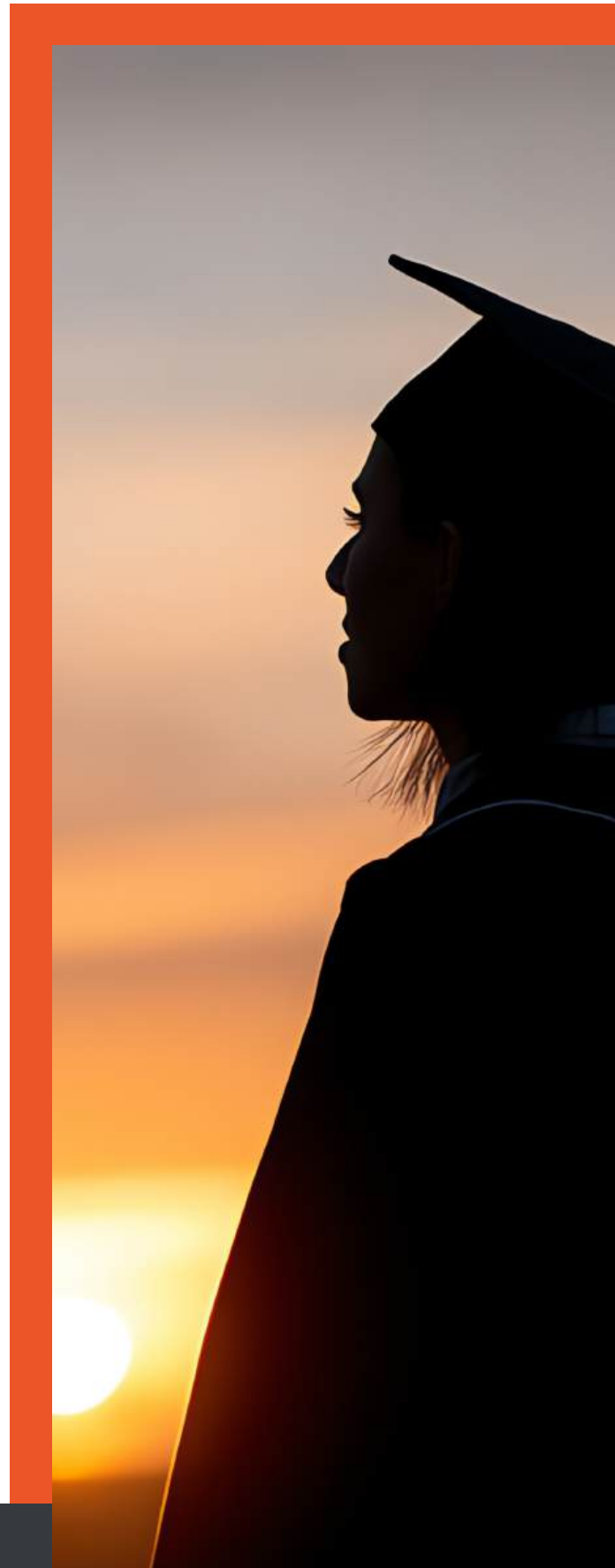
Through the Alliance's survivor scholarship program, individuals who have experienced human trafficking are able to access education and job training that support long-term stability and independence. In 2025, one recent recipient, Lily\*, received a scholarship to pursue higher education, removing a significant financial barrier to continuing their studies. She used this support to continue trauma-informed counseling while enrolling in a workforce training program aligned with their career goals.

With consistent counseling and new vocational training, Lily reported increased her confidence, improved well-being, and a clearer path toward sustainable employment.

This support also strengthened connections to community-based services, reinforcing a network of care beyond the classroom or training setting.

This story reflects the purpose of the Alliance's scholarship program: to remove barriers, support survivor-led goals, and invest in pathways that promote dignity and long-term recovery. By pairing financial assistance with job training, the Alliance helps survivors build the tools and stability needed to move forward on their own terms.

*\*Names and identifying details have been changed to protect privacy*



# Financial Overview

## Financial Summary

From September 30, 2024, through September 30, 2025, the Alliance to End Human Trafficking stewarded its financial resources to support survivor services, education, advocacy, and organizational sustainability.

During this 12-month period:

- Total revenue: \$2,711,307.48
- Total expenses: \$1,136,990.50
- Net income: \$1,574,316.98

Revenue was generated through a combination of grants, individual donations, memberships, sponsorships, and investment income, including:

- Grant revenue: \$2,015,236.00
- Unrestricted donations: \$603,158.24
- Restricted donations: \$47,188.24
- Membership dues: \$37,525.00
- Newsletter sponsorships: \$8,200.00

A significant portion of direct programmatic funding supported survivor-centered financial assistance:

- Subgrants distributed: \$160,000.00
- Survivor scholarships awarded: \$56,384.00

These investments reflect the Alliance's commitment to supporting survivor services and educational opportunities delivered through member organizations and partners.

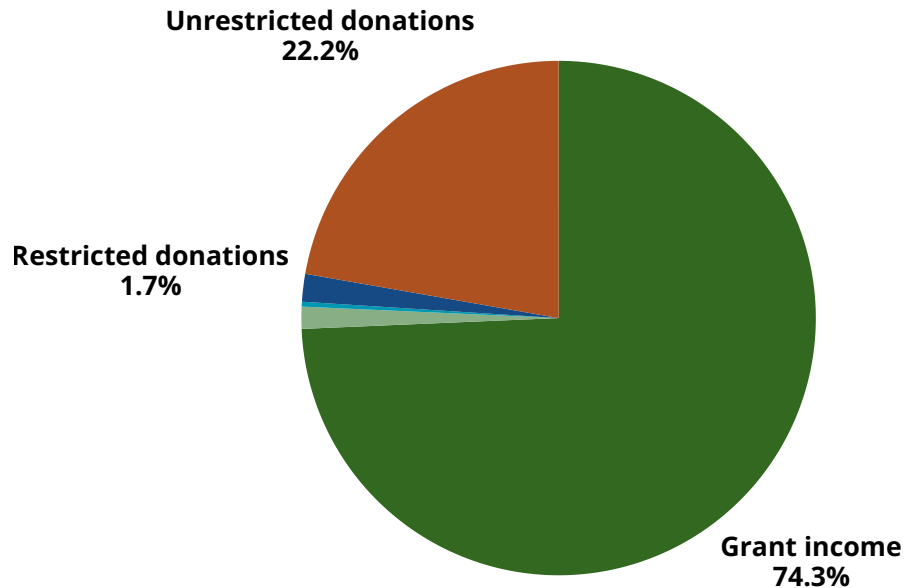
*\*Financial information reflects activity from September 30, 2024 through September 30, 2025.*



## Infographics

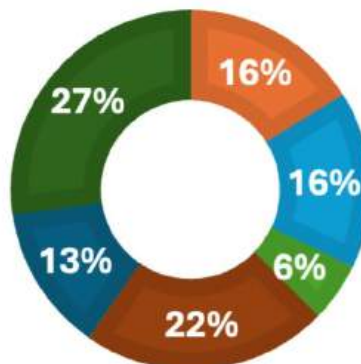
### Alliance to End Human Trafficking Income

September 30, 2024 -  
September 30, 2025



### ALLIANCE TO END HUMAN TRAFFICKING EXPENSES BY CATEGORY

- Administration
- Advocacy
- Mission Advancement
- Education: Conference
- Education: General
- Survivor Services





# Looking Ahead: 2026 and Beyond

## Strategic Priorities for Growth

In September 2025, the Alliance to End Human Trafficking's Board of Directors approved a comprehensive 2026–2028 Strategic Plan to guide the organization's growth, impact, and sustainability. The plan reflects the Alliance's commitment to prevention, survivor-centered work, Catholic Social Teaching, and effective collaboration across sectors.

### Memberships

The Alliance will continue building and mobilizing a strong, diverse membership network. Priorities include deepening relationships with members, expanding and diversifying membership, strengthening peer-to-peer collaboration, and engaging external networks to broaden reach and impact.

### Education and Programs

Education remains central to prevention. The Alliance will produce accessible, well-researched educational materials and events rooted in faith-based values, while offering tailored educational services to members and partners and ensuring Catholic Social Teaching is reflected across all programs.

### Advocacy

The Alliance will lead robust, survivor-centered advocacy efforts to advance policy and legislative outcomes that address root causes of trafficking, support survivors, and foster cooperation. Member engagement in advocacy will continue to expand, alongside support for members' own advocacy initiatives.

### Survivor Services

The Alliance will strengthen its role in supporting survivor services by refining its scholarship program, increasing connections between members providing and supporting services, and communicating survivor-centered work across platforms.

### Governance

To sustain impact, the Alliance will invest in formation, governance, communications, staffing, financial stability, survivor-informed practices, and monitoring and evaluation. These efforts ensure accountability, transparency, and the organizational capacity needed to meet long-term goals.

# “United in Prevention” 2026 Conference



Looking ahead, the Alliance to End Human Trafficking will continue strengthening a national movement rooted in prevention, collaboration, and survivor-centered practice. A key milestone in this work is the 2026 national conference, United in Prevention: Current Trends and Prevention Strategies, which will take place April 15–17, 2026, in Boston.

The conference is designed to advance the field by bringing together advocates, practitioners, faith leaders, and partner organizations for three days of shared learning. The conference will offer a broad range of sessions, including workshops, panel discussions, and case-based learning, focused on current trafficking trends, community prevention models, legal and policy developments, and strategies to strengthen cross-sector responses.

Participants will hear from leading experts, among them Fr. Greg Boyle, SJ, whose keynote will invite attendees to examine prevention through the lens of dignity, relationship, and community-based resilience.

Networking remains an essential component of the event, bringing together individuals and organizations working across education, advocacy, survivor support, law enforcement, social services, and faith communities.

# Honoring St. Josephine Bakhita

St. Josephine Bakhita was born in southern Sudan in 1869. As a young girl, she was kidnapped and sold into slavery. She was treated brutally by her captors as she was sold and resold. She did not remember her name; Bakhita, which means “fortunate one,” was the name given to her by her kidnappers. Eventually freed, she chose the consecrated life of a Canossian sister.



*See page for author, Public domain,  
via Wikimedia Commons*

## Daily Prayer

God of hope and peace, touch our hearts and energize our ongoing efforts in abolishing this heinous crime against humanity so that every victim is freed and every survivor’s life renewed.

You blessed St. Josephine Bakhita of Sudan with compassion for others. May her prayers comfort and strengthen the women, men and children who are in search of freedom.

We ask for transformation of heart for those who inflict pain, anguish and grief on our vulnerable sisters and brothers. Give us generosity to stand in solidarity with others so that together we heal the hearts and lives of all Your people. Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One God, forever and ever. Amen.

*Text excerpted from the **Reflection & Prayer to End Human Trafficking** by Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange, December 2025.*

# Get Involved

## **Stay Connected**

Follow us on social media and explore our webinar library to stay informed and help share accurate information.

## **Raise Awareness**

Engage your community through events, school sessions, or parish activities. You can also request a virtual or in-person presentation from the Alliance.

## **Advocate for Change**

Encourage your Governor to post the National Human Trafficking Hotline in public settings and support legislative reforms that expand protections for survivors.

## **Act with Intention**

Make ethical purchasing decisions using tools such as LaborShield and our fair-trade/survivor-made goods listings.

## **Live the Mission**

Submit prayers of the faithful, participate in liturgical observances, volunteer, join a working group, or contribute financially to sustain prevention and advocacy efforts.

# Meet Our Team



**Katie Boller Gosewisch**  
Executive Director



**Christine Commerce**  
Director of Programs



**Darla Buchanan**  
Executive Assistant



**Janet Nolan**  
Consulting  
Development Liaison



**Marilyn Zigmund Luke**  
Director of  
Advocacy



**Waed Alnimri**  
Director of  
Communications

# Contact us

Alliance to End Human Trafficking was founded in 2013 by a group of Catholic Sisters committed to ending human trafficking and supporting survivors. They created a national network of resources and support that includes many different congregations of women religious and mission-aligned partners. Today, this member-based organization has grown to include more than 115 congregations and another 150+ individuals and organizations spread throughout the United States. AEHT is also the U.S. member of Talitha Kum, the international network of consecrated life working to end human trafficking.

## Contact Information

### Phone



+267-332-7768

### Email



[info@alliancetoendhumantrafficking.org](mailto:info@alliancetoendhumantrafficking.org)

### PO Box



713492 Chicago, IL 60677-4392

### Website



[alliancetoendhumantrafficking.org](http://alliancetoendhumantrafficking.org)

## Social Media



Alliance to End Human Trafficking



@AlliancetoEndHumanTrafficking



Alliance to End Human Trafficking (AEHT)



Alliance to End Human Trafficking