

HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS MONTH



Bucks Coalition Against Trafficking (BCAT)

BCAT was established in January 2013 as a project of Network of Victim Assistance (NOVA).

Our Mission: "The Bucks Coalition Against Human Trafficking's mission is to eradicate human trafficking in Bucks County through victim identification, community education, enhancement of arrests and prosecution of traffickers, legislative advocacy, and a coordinated response for victim and survivor services."

BCAT includes individuals and members of community groups, staff from non-profit and private business, faith based groups, law enforcement, county, state & federal agencies working together to help women, girls, men and boys in our community who are victims of human trafficking. BCAT has a set of committees where members can become involved in Victim Support, Community Outreach and Awareness, and Laws and Prosecution.

Human Trafficking Awareness Month: Activities and Opportunities for Community Partners and Members

January is National Human Trafficking Awareness Month and each year BCAT organizes activities to heighten community awareness. Share with your friends, family, co-workers, and faith and community organizations and be sure to like BCAT on Facebook.

SURVIVOR VOICES IN ART

Survivor Voices in Art- BCAT has engaged with local businesses and community organizations to display artwork that has been created by survivors of human trafficking who live in our community. Supporting survivors can help to validate their experiences and ensure that their voices are included as we raise awareness and understanding about human trafficking. We are grateful for the artists who are sharing their beautiful creations: Meghan, Stephanie, Tina, Jen, Michelle, Angela, Janine.

While we know that Covid-19 health protocols may be in place during the exhibit time, please consider visiting Calm Waters Coffee Roasters at 242 Mill Street in Bristol to support the Survivor Art Display. We are grateful to Andrew and Jodi, Owners of Calm Waters for their partnership in this project.

You may also see a full list of artists and visit the display in the virtual gallery at BCATPA Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/bcatpa> or www.novabucks.org.

The artwork is on display at:

Calm Waters Coffee Roasters
www.calmwaterscoffee.com
January 8th - January 31st

BCAT Community Meetings

BCAT is always looking for new members! If you are interested in joining the coalition to fight human trafficking in Bucks County, contact Julie at julied@novabucks.org. The next community meeting will be held in February 2022. Keep checking the BCAT Facebook page for a meeting announcement and other updates!

Follow BCAT on Facebook!



Bucks County Commissioner's Meeting - January 19, 2022 @10:30AM

Over the past 9 years the Bucks County Commissioners have issued a proclamation to declare January as Human Trafficking Awareness Month. This year the Proclamation will be presented at the January 19th meeting and while attendance may be limited you can observe the livestream at [Facebook.com/BucksCountyGovt](https://www.facebook.com/BucksCountyGovt). Join us and help us advocate, then post on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram with #HumanTrafficking Awareness.

Human Trafficking Awareness Month: Activities and Opportunities for Community Partners and Members



Join in the Red Sand Project at www.redsandproject.org

Today, millions of people are enslaved. (Source: Global Estimates of Modern Slavery: Forced Labour and Forced Marriage, International Labour Organization, Geneva, September 2017). Take part in raising awareness for those affected by modern day slavery, including victims of human trafficking, forced labor and forced marriage.

Started by artist and activist Molly Gochman in 2014, the Red Sand Project “is a participatory artwork that uses sidewalk interventions and earthwork installations to create opportunities for people to raise questions, connect and take action against vulnerabilities that can lead to human trafficking and exploitation,” according to Gochman’s website. Filling the cracks in sidewalks with red sand draws attention to people “who fall through the metaphoric cracks,” the artist’s website states.

Join with us as we use red sand to highlight the presence of human trafficking in our community and raise awareness about how we can take steps to eradicate exploitation of vulnerable children, women and men.

Create your own installation on sidewalks near your home, workplace, house of worship, or community gathering place and share your work by posting photos on Facebook and mention @BCAT and #RedSandProject. www.redsandproject.org

You can pick up packets of red sand at **Network of Victim Assistance (NOVA)**, 2370 York Road, Bldg B-1, Jamison, PA. Please check the BCAT Facebook page for other available locations. For more information about the Red Sand Project or BCAT contact julied@novabucks.org.

**HUMAN TRAFFICKING
IS HAPPENING IN THE
UNITED STATES.**

**WEAR BLUE ON
JANUARY 11th TO
RAISE AWARENESS**

January 11
#WearBlueDay



@DHSBlueCampaign

#WearBlueDay: January 11

#WearBlueDay - National Human Trafficking Awareness Day is recognized each year on January 11th and the Department of Homeland Security's Blue Campaign works to educate and raise awareness about human trafficking, as the color blue is used to raise awareness of this crime.

The public is invited to wear blue and we encourage you to take photos in your blue clothing and share them on Facebook with:

"Today, I'm participating in @DHSBlueCampaign's #WearBlueDay to bring awareness to #humantrafficking. Are you?"

Don't forget to tag BCAT (@bcatpa) so we can like and share your photos!

Annual Festival of Trees at The Pearl S. Buck House

Each year during the Annual Festival of Trees, the rooms of Pearl S. Buck's iconic Bucks County stone farmhouse come alive with the glow of holiday decorations. BCAT's display theme reflects the importance of learning human trafficking survivors' stories. Visitors have the opportunity to vote for their favorite display. Even though this year will look a little different due to COVID-19 protocols, the Festival of Trees remains one of the most unique and historic holiday traditions in the region. This exhibit is open through January 9, 2022. You can learn more about the exhibit at www.psbi.org.

