

UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA



UCF

Center for the Study of Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery

UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

YEAR IN REVIEW

(January 2023 to July 2024)



A message from the Executive Director, Dr. Jessica Wickey

Advancing the Fight Against Human Trafficking:
The HTMS Center's New Home at the Rosen College of Hospitality Management

We would like to welcome the **UCF Center for the Study of Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery (HTMS Center)** to the **Rosen College of Hospitality Management**. I am honored to lead the anti-trafficking efforts for the college on behalf of the HTMS Center; strengthening the pillars of Education, Research, and Community Engagement. We aspire to be the foremost platform for collating and distributing knowledge, research, and fostering community partnerships to effectively counteract human trafficking and modern slavery on a global scale. Our vision extends beyond academic research; it seeks to influence policy, inspire action, and ignite change.

This past year has been one of profound growth, significant achievements, and continued dedication to our mission of eradicating human trafficking and modern slavery through impactful advocacy and comprehensive education. We hosted several workshops with **global delegates** from more than **20 countries** in partnership with WorldOrlando and the **US Department of State**. These global leaders contributed to our understanding of international trafficking. Policymakers, law enforcement, educators, and advocates met with the HTMS Center to collaborate and share best anti-trafficking practices.

We also made remarkable strides in expanding our research capabilities. One specific study on **mega-events and trafficking** not only advanced academic knowledge but also informed intervention strategies at local, national, and international levels.


Our advocacy efforts have been equally impactful. By partnering with governmental agencies, non-governmental organizations, and international bodies, we have continued to grow our network. We presented at the **16th Annual Human Trafficking Awareness Conference, HT Joint Task Forces Forum**, and presented several workshops and seminars.

Our advocacy has also extended to raising public awareness, where we have used various platforms to educate communities about the signs of trafficking and ways to prevent it. Our student advocacy group, the **Knights of the RELM**, hosted the first-ever **Red Sand Project** on a college campus this January as part of Human Trafficking Awareness Month. They also hosted two Leadership Workshops over the year focused on **“grooming tactics traffickers use on college students”** and **“how to become an advocate against trafficking while in college.”** These amazing future leaders make me so very proud!

We have been **in the fight against human trafficking since 2019** when we hosted the first “Leadership Development Workshop” on “Human Trafficking in the Hospitality Industry,” facilitated by our partners, United Abolitionists, Inc. During this workshop, our students learned to identify and report trafficking in the hospitality and tourism industry. From this one workshop, the desire to educate all our students was born, and education remains a cornerstone of our work. This year, we reached a milestone in our education, equipping **more than 5,700 hospitality and tourism students** with the skills and knowledge necessary to identify and report trafficking if they witness it in their workplaces. They have the skills to lead their teams in anti-trafficking efforts, to help stop this horrific crime.

Our accomplishments would not have been possible without the unwavering support of our faculty, staff, and students. **To our partners, your collaboration has been invaluable** in extending our reach and enhancing our impact. To our dedicated staff, your tireless efforts and unwavering commitment are the driving force behind our success.

We are filled with hope and determination as we look ahead to the coming year. We will continue to build on our achievements, exploring new frontiers in research, expanding our advocacy initiatives, and enhancing our educational programs. Our commitment to the fight against human trafficking and modern slavery is stronger than ever, and we are confident that together, we can make a difference.

With sincere gratitude, 

Dr. Jessica Wickey, '13MS, '24EdD
Executive Director, UCF Center for the Study of Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery
Director, Internship Program
Associate Lecturer, Department of Tourism, Events, Entertainment and Attractions



DR. JESSICA WICKEY
'13MS, '24EdD

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UCF'S CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND MODERN SLAVERY HIGHLIGHTS



Photos by Rosanne Perez, UCF Rosen College of Hospitality Management Photographer (rperez64@ucf.edu)

INTRODUCTION



EDUCATION

RESEARCH

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

OUR MISSION

At the Center for the Study of Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery, we are committed to deepening the understanding of the escalating global challenge of human trafficking and modern slavery. Our approach encompasses comprehensive community engagement, rigorous research, focused education, and specialized training. Our goal is to not just study this complex issue but to actively seek and implement solutions.

OUR VISION

We aspire to be the foremost platform for collating and distributing knowledge, research, and fostering community partnerships to effectively counteract human trafficking and modern slavery on a global scale. Our vision extends beyond academic research; it seeks to influence policy, inspire action, and ignite change.

OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- Tackling all forms of human trafficking with a holistic approach.
- Prioritizing the dignity and rights of every individual.
- Collaborating with survivors as key partners.
- Working together with various sectors for a unified response.
- Focusing on tangible outcomes and real-world impact.
- Utilizing research and data to guide our actions.

Through community engagement, research, education, and training, we seek solutions to combat human trafficking and modern slavery. We support future leaders of hospitality and tourism management industries, aiming not just to study but to actively implement change.

We are educating the future leaders of the hospitality and tourism industry on ways to identify and report human trafficking in events, entertainment, restaurants, lodging, tourism, and transportation.

**The Center for the Study of Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery, also known as the “HTMS Center” at the University of Central Florida, was established in 2018.*

***The Center was previously supported by UCF Global Perspectives and International Initiatives (GPII). As of the Fall 2023 semester, the Center has been transitioned to the UCF Rosen College of Hospitality Management and is led by the Executive Director, Dr. Jessica Wickey.*

UCF’S CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND MODERN SLAVERY **IMPACT**

5,700+ STUDENTS

have been educated since 2020 via their internship courses to identify and report Human Trafficking in the hospitality industry.

10+ GLOBAL INITIATIVES

hosted by U.S. Department of State’s International Leadership Visitor’s Program and in international conferences.

14 BOARD MEMBERS

from UCF, Valencia College, Love Missions Global, One More Child, FLITE Center, a Certified Coach, and lived experience experts.

30+ PRESENTATIONS

in collaboration with the Florida Department of Health, Pasco County Sheriff’s Office, the Florida State Attorney’s Office, and the University of Surrey, both within various states and internationally.

2 PUBLICATIONS

in the Event Management Journal and Human Trafficking: A Systemwide Public Safety and Community Approach (2nd Edition) - Chapter Title: Human Trafficking and the Hospitality Industry

8 EVENTS HOSTED

Red Sand Project, Polaris Star Awards, Research Colloquiums, Guest Lectures, and Leadership Development Workshops.

1 STUDENT ORGANIZATION

Knights of the RELM - established in 2023 to support the UCF HTMS Center’s anti-trafficking efforts, and advance social justice in events and beyond.

5 PARTNERS

United Abolitionists, Inc., It’s a Penalty, Paving The Way Foundation, One More Child, and FLITE (Fort Lauderdale Independence, Training & Education) Center.



Photos by Rosanne Perez, UCF Rosen College of Hospitality Management Photographer (rperez64@ucf.edu)

RESEARCH COLLOQUIUM: MEGA-EVENTS AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING
HOSTED BY: UCF ROSEN COLLEGE OF HOSPITALITY MANAGEMENT

Mitigating the Scale, Reach, and Impact of Human Trafficking at Major Events: A North American Perspective was published in the *Event Management Journal* (see page 18). **Dr. Jessica Wickey and Mr. Tomas J. Lares** discussed this study as part of the **UCF Rosen College of Hospitality Management’s Research Colloquium series**, hosted by **Dr, Michael Duignan** in January 2024, during Human Trafficking Awareness Month. Click [HERE](#) to view the event photos.



Photos by Rosanne Perez, UCF Rosen College of Hospitality Management Photographer (rperez64@ucf.edu)

HUMAN TRAFFICKING LEADERSHIP PANEL
HOSTED BY PAVING THE WAY FOUNDATION & KNIGHTS OF THE RELM

In October of 2023, Paving the Way Foundation and the UCF Center for the Study of Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery's student organization "Knights of the RELM" hosted a Leadership Workshop focused on educating college students on the grooming and "sugaring" tactics traffickers use to "groom" young people to lure them into trafficking. These tactics are long-term tactics used to groom the victim.

The moderator of the panel was Jan Edwards, the Founder and President of Paving the Way Foundation, an organization that is a fierce disruption in the cycle of child trafficking around the globe. Paving the Way's goal is to empower communities to be a disruption in the cycle of child trafficking and exploitation by empowering children, parents and businesses through education and awareness training programs. **Thank you, Jan, for being a mentor and moderator to our students and college.**

Panelists included current UCF Rosen College of Hospitality Management students Sydney Weisman, Annastazia Allgire, and James Costa, alumnus Danny Neddo, and Paving The Way Foundation intern, Ezri Damschroder.



HUMAN TRAFFICKING LEADERSHIP PANEL
Wednesday | October 4, 2023 | 12:00 - 12:50 pm



Jan Edwards
President
Paving the Way Foundation
Moderator



Sydney Weisman
Event Leadership, M.S.
Event Management Certificate
President, Knights of the RELM



Annastazia Allgire
Hospitality Management, B.S.
Managing Sporting Events Certificate
Vice President, Knights of the RELM



Ezri Damschroder
Events and Volunteer Coordinator
Paving the Way Foundation



James Costa
Leadership and Strategies in Hospitality
and Tourism Graduate Certificate
Volunteer Coordinator, Knights of the RELM



Danny Neddo
Hospitality Management, B.S.
Managing Sporting Events Certificate
Secretary, Knights of the RELM

Join us in person at the Darden Auditorium or virtually @rosencollege on YouTube
9907 Universal Blvd, Room 101, Orlando, FL 32819

OUR EVENTS (CONT.)

RED SAND PROJECT & HUMAN TRAFFICKING LEADERSHIP PANEL
HOSTED BY IT'S A PENALTY & KNIGHTS OF THE RELM

In January of 2024, **It's A Penalty** and the **UCF Center for the Study of Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery's** student organization **"Knights of the RELM"** hosted a **Leadership Workshop** focused on anti-trafficking efforts in global sporting events. After the workshop they hosted the first ever Red Sand Project event on a college campus to shed light on the survivors of human trafficking. **Click [HERE](#) to view the event photos. Click [HERE](#) to watch the event video.**





Center for Study of Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery
UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA



IT'S A PENALTY



HUMAN TRAFFICKING LEADERSHIP PANEL
Wednesday | January 24, 2024 | 12:00 - 12:50 pm
Knights of the RELM's Red Sand Project | 1:00 - 2:00 pm



Matt Humberstone
Student Ambassador Programme Manager
It's A Penalty



Sydney Weisman
Event Leadership, M.S.
Event Management Certificate
President, Knights of the RELM



Annastazia Allgire
Hospitality Management, B.S.
Managing Sporting Events Certificate
Vice President, Knights of the RELM



Liz Lowther
Student Ambassador Programme Coordinator
It's A Penalty



James Costa
Leadership and Strategies in Hospitality and Tourism Graduate Certificate
Volunteer Coordinator, Knights of the RELM



Danny Neddo
Hospitality Management, B.S.
Managing Sporting Events Certificate
Secretary, Knights of the RELM

Join us in person at the Darden Auditorium
9907 Universal Blvd, Room 101, Orlando, FL 32819



Photos by Rosanne Perez, UCF Rosen College of Hospitality Management Photographer (rperez64@ucf.edu)

RED SAND PROJECTS HOSTED BY THE CENTRAL FLORIDA HUMAN TRAFFICKING TASK FORCE:
ORANGE, OCSEOLA, SEMINOLE COUNTY

Our Executive Director, Dr. Jessica Wickey, is a member of the **Central Florida Human Trafficking Task Force**. This task force is a network of governmental & non-governmental agencies working together to combat all aspects of human trafficking in Central Florida.

One of the major events hosted by the Task Force is Red Sand Project events. The Red Sand Project is a participatory artwork created by Molly Gochman that uses sidewalk interventions and earthwork installations to create opportunities for people to question, connect and take action against vulnerabilities that can lead to human trafficking, modern slavery, and exploitation - redsandproject.org

The **Task Force hosted three Red Sand Projects in January 2024; in Orange, Osceola, and Seminole Counties**. Law enforcement, community officials, policy makers, educators, advocates and abolitionists attended this event to support survivors, the lived experience experts, to shed light on human trafficking and modern day slavery. Community members of all ages attended these events to support and advance anti-trafficking efforts. **State Attorney Andrew Bain was in attendance, along with Chiefs of Police in Osceola County, Sheriff Marcos R. Lopez, and Seminole County, Sheriff Dennis Lemma, and other law enforcement leaders.**



POLARIS STAR AWARDS

The **Polaris Star Award Gala** is an annual event that brings together individuals, organizations, businesses and activists who are dedicated to combating human trafficking. This prestigious award ceremony, hosted by **United Abolitionists, Inc.**, honors and recognizes the outstanding efforts and initiatives made in the fight against modern-day slavery and exploitation.

In 2024, the 14th Annual Polaris Star Awards Gala partnered with It’s a Penalty, an organization that raises awareness through campaigns during major sports events, educating on issues of abuse, exploitation and human trafficking, and equipping people with the knowledge and skills to identify and report suspicious activity. The event was hosted at **UCF Rosen College of Hospitality Management on January 26th, 2024**. Click [HERE](#) to view the event photos.

At this year’s Polaris Star Awards, the HTMS Center honored **Dr. Roberto Hugh Potter (UCF Professor and former Director of the HTMS Center)**, **Shilpa Deshpande Finnerty (Project Manager, WorldOrlando)**, and **Karen Solla (Public Affairs Coordinator, Global Perspectives and International Initiatives, UCF Global)**, for their tireless support in leading the HTMS Center’s anti-trafficking efforts from 2019-2023. We want to thank you all for leading the fight against human trafficking.

Thank you to **Mr. Tomas J. Lares, President of United Abolitionists, Inc.**, for hosting the ceremony for the past 13 years, and for your dedication to combatting trafficking in Central Florida. Thank you to our emcee for the evening, **Ms. Karla Ray** from News Channel 9 in Orlando. **Board Members Ms. Kimberly Brewster and Ms. Olivia Littleton** were honored during the ceremony, winning awards for their work in advancing anti-trafficking efforts. Click [HERE](#) to watch the highlight video.



Photos by Rosanne Perez, UCF Rosen College of Hospitality Management Photographer (rperez64@ucf.edu)

WINE TASTING AT THE POLARIS STAR AWARDS

For the first time at a Polaris Star Awards, a wine tasting was held before the ceremony. Ms. Jennifer Hostetter, a faculty member at the UCF Rosen College of Hospitality Management hosted the wine tasting for attendees. **The student group Knights of the RELM planned and executed the event.**

Ms. Jennifer Hostetter is a thirty-year veteran of the service industry. She has over twenty years of experience in food and beverages, where she has served in numerous capacities both in and out of the kitchen. She also spent seven years in high-end retail sales working in various management roles for the Fine French Linen company, Yves Delorme. Ms. Hostetter holds a Master of Food Culture & Communications from the University of Gastronomic Sciences in Italy, a Bachelor of Arts in History from Covenant College, and an Associates of Science in Culinary Arts from Johnson & Wales University. In addition, Ms. Hostetter is a Certified Specialist of Wine and she is currently working towards certification as a Specialist of Spirits, both awarded through the Society of Wine Educators.

Thank you to Ms. Hostetter for her expertise, and to the Rosen College Events and Catering team for the exquisite food during the wine tasting and the ceremony.

Beverages were sponsored by Republic National Distributing Company's Valor program.



Photos by Rosanne Perez, UCF Rosen College of Hospitality Management Photographer (rperez64@ucf.edu)

OUR CELEBRATED BOARD MEMBER WINNERS

POLARIS STAR AWARDS SURVIVOR ADVOCATE OF THE YEAR AWARD: OLIVIA LITTLETON

Olivia Littleton works as an Anti-Trafficking Team Supervisor for One More Child, an organization focused on bringing healing and hope to survivors of sex trafficking, and works tirelessly to prevent one more child from being coerced into it. She demonstrates a commitment to addressing the needs of victims and survivors through efforts directly impacting victims and survivors by helping trafficking survivors begin a new life by providing expert leadership, holistic care, and powerful advocacy. She is also working to prevent more children and adults from being trafficked while predators financially profit.

She develops and implements innovative solutions to the complex problems facing victims and survivors as she follows a “dynamic trauma-informed approach” in her anti-trafficking efforts. She helps mobilize teams to assess the needs of survivors, connect them with essential community resources, deliver clinical services, and provide mentorship throughout a survivor’s emotional, physical, and mental recovery journey.

She has trained, supervised, advised, and collaborated with anti-trafficking mentors, clinicians, and advocates to ensure survivor needs are met. She advocates for commercially sexually exploited individuals through court accompaniment, referrals to local providers, mentorship, and more. She actively engages with and provides training to community groups, government agencies, law enforcement, mental health providers, social services, and other key stakeholders. **Through her efforts, she dynamically supports survivors of human trafficking, reintegrating them into society.**

Olivia has completed individual assessments to ensure victims receive a comprehensive, trauma-informed direct services plan that meets the individual needs of the survivor for over three years for several dozen survivors. She coordinates mental health, legal, financial, and emergency safety assistance for survivors. During this process, she develops relationships with service providers, law enforcement, governmental agencies, mental health, and medical providers to assist victims/survivors and families with navigating the various systems and services. This tireless effort given by a lived experience expert and survivor of human trafficking allows Olivia to truly connect with the victims so that they feel safe with her – an important part of reintegration for a survivor of this horrific crime. Her unrelenting efforts have assisted many survivors to leave their traffickers and start their journey to a new life, free from slavery.

Olivia is an advocate and leader partnering with local non-profits to combat trafficking and is a member of the Central Florida Human Trafficking Task Force, and a member of the Community Outreach Committee that plans events to educate the community at large on human trafficking. She has participated in many events, specifically during human trafficking awareness month to educate survivors on the resources available, **to assist in reintegrating survivors into society – so they can live a happy and healthy life free from trafficking.**

Olivia was awarded the Survivor Advocate Award for her efforts in supporting survivors of human trafficking. It is an honor to have Olivia serve on the UCF HTMS Center Advisory Board.



Photos by Rosanne Perez, UCF Rosen College of Hospitality Management Photographer (rperez64@ucf.edu) and Olivia's LinkedIn page.

OUR CELEBRATED BOARD MEMBER WINNERS (CONT.)

POLARIS STAR AWARDS
CATALYST AWARD: **KIMBERLY BREWSTER**

Kimberly Brewster has over twenty years of experience as a law enforcement officer and retired from the Orlando Police Department as a Master Police Officer in 2019. She holds a Master of Science degree in Criminal Justice and instructs Criminal Justice courses at the state and university level for the past 14 years.

Since retiring, Kimberly serves as a TEAM ADAM Consultant for the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC). In this role, she assists police agencies in abducted or kidnapped missing children as well as long-term missing cases, human trafficking, and child sexual exploitation crimes. She is the Child Abduction Response Team CART Coordinator for Central Florida and Pasco County areas for NCMEC, coordinating efforts and additional resources amongst law enforcement agencies during child abductions.

Her expertise derives from her years working in the Special Victim’s Unit for Orlando Police Department as a detective working missing juvenile, human trafficking, and cases of neglect, child abuse, and sexual abuse. Kimberly has a diverse portfolio in investigations, having also served as a Gang Investigator and later a Background Investigator for the Recruiting Unit.

Kimberly’s passion lies in investigating missing person cases, human trafficking awareness and prevention, and helping students succeed with life skills outside the classroom. She frequently participates in educational events and recently represented NCMEC at the USF Missing in Florida Day event. **She considers one of her biggest accomplishments as being responsible for the creation of an educational endowment for human trafficking survivors that has flourished for the past ten years.** In 2014, Kimberly collaborated with retired Valencia College president, Dr. Sandy Shugart, to offer a unique benefit to survivors of human trafficking. In collaboration with organizations that harbor victims and survivors, **a program was implemented to offer tuition assistance, free college, to survivors of human trafficking. Since the inception of this program, Valencia College has assisted over thirty survivors.**

Kim was awarded the Catalyst Award for her efforts in educating the community at large about human trafficking. **It is an honor to have Kim serve on the UCF HTMS Center Advisory Board.**



Photos by Rosanne Perez, UCF Rosen College of Hospitality Management Photographer (rperez64@ucf.edu)

OUR GLOBAL INITIATIVES

WORLD ORLANDO AND THE US DEPARTMENT OF STATE:
INTERNATIONAL VISITOR'S LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

Combating Trafficking in Persons. A Project for:

- Asia, Africa, and Europe (July 2024);
- Comoros and Madagascar (May 2024);
- United Nations Women Tajikistan Program Office (February 2024);
- Near East & North Africa (February 2023)



Since 1963, WorldOrlando has served as the local implementer of the U.S. Department of State’s International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP). Launched in 1940, the IVLP is a professional exchange program that brings up to 5,000 international leaders to the U.S. each year. More than 200,000 IVLP participants have engaged with Americans, including more than 500 current or former Chiefs of State or Heads of Government, 10 Nobel Laureates, and thousands of private and nonprofit sector leaders.

The HTMS Center and our partner United Abolitionists, Inc. present our educational efforts and community wide anti-trafficking approach to these global leaders during each visit. Since 2019, we have met with more than 50 global leaders from 30+ countries and five continents.



We thank WorldOrlando and the US Department of State for their collaborative efforts in educating the global community about human trafficking.



Photos by Dr. Jessica Wickey.

OUR PARTNERS

Thank you to our partners who lead the way in advancing anti-trafficking education and outreach.



First Responders to the Human Trafficking Crisis in the United States, United Abolitionists exists to stop all forms of human trafficking in the United States. Many organizations tirelessly fight human trafficking on an international scale but there is so much work to be done right here in the U.S. Despite the increased media attention and legislative efforts, human trafficking remains pervasive in our country. We are dedicated to addressing the crime in “our own backyard”.

Learn more about them on their website:
stophumantrafficking.com



Since 2014, It's a Penalty has been working to disrupt the fastest growing and second largest criminal industry in the world: human trafficking and exploitation. We believe that prevention is even better than cure. As well as providing people with the tools to protect those who have been abused, exploited or trafficked, It's a Penalty strives to prevent people from becoming victims of abuse, exploitation and human trafficking in the first place.

Learn more about them on their website:
itsapenalty.org



Paving The Way Foundation was created to provide answers to those questions. We've educated over 30,000 youth, parents, teachers, and community leaders about child trafficking and online exploitation, sharing with them the impact it has on our children and the actions to take to prevent it.

Learn more about them on their website:
pavingthewayfoundation.org/



Last year, we had the privilege of serving 250,259 children through our Foster Care, Anti-Trafficking, Child Hunger, Single Moms and Family Support programs. An additional 143,334 individuals were impacted through advocacy, trainings, awareness, and volunteering. As we reflect on all the years we have been able to help children with thankfulness and awe, we look forward to a future filled with hope for every child in need!

Learn more about them on their website:
onemorechild.org



FLITE (Fort Lauderdale Independence, Training & Education) Center was created in 2009 through a partnership of the Community Foundation of Broward, the United Way of Broward and the Junior League of Greater Fort Lauderdale, with the intent of offering comprehensive access to services for youth aging out of foster care. FLITE Center has become the hub of all support services for our transitioning youth to become successful adults within a safe, nurturing environment that promotes personal growth while developing practical life skills. FLITE Center is Broward County's one-stop resource center offering all supportive services.

Learn more about them on their website:
flitecenter.org

OUR STUDENT ORGANIZATION: KNIGHTS OF THE RELM

Knights of the RELM is a student organization that focuses on making a positive social impact through the use of events. KoTR focuses on student development academically, professionally, and socially. They work alongside UCF's Center for the Study of Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery and other anti-trafficking organizations to achieve their mission.

CULTURE

PASSION

RESPECT

OUR MISSION

Our mission at Knights of the RELM is to be service leaders of change through impact, legacy, development, and sustainability in events, specifically mega-events on a local, national, and global scale. We aim to accomplish our mission through the creation of 360-degree value of events through student development; effectively teaching about the duality of events, particularly mega-events, with a focus on residential community impact; and increasing student involvement in mega-events and the knowledge to aid in the prevention of human trafficking.

OUR OBJECTIVES

- **Impact and Legacy:** Create 360-degree value of events through student development.
- **Events and Development:** Effectively teach about the duality of events, particularly mega-events with a focus on residential community impact.
- **Sustainability:** Increase student involvement in mega-events and the knowledge to aid in efforts towards sustainability (socially, economically, and environmentally) in events.



2024-2025 KNIGHTS OF THE RELM BOARD MEMBERS



SYDNEY WEISMAN
Major: Event Leadership, M.S. Student; Event Management Graduate Certificate

PRESIDENT



ANNASTAZIA ALLGIRE
Major: Hospitality Management, B.S. Student

VICE PRESIDENT



MIA ROSSI
Major: Event Management, B.S. Student

SECRETARY



MADELYN HUTCHINSON
Major: Restaurant and Lodging Management, B.S. Student

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR



SYDNEY GROSS
Major: Entertainment Management, B.S. Student & Theme Park and Attraction Management, B.S. Student

MARKETING DIRECTOR



DR. JESSICA WICKEY
Email: JWB@ucf.edu
Executive Director, UCF Center for the Study of Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery

ADVISOR

OUR RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS

At the Center for the Study of Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery at the University of Central Florida, we are dedicated to combating human trafficking through comprehensive research, scholarly publications, and impactful presentations. Our multifaceted approach aims to illuminate the complexities of this global epidemic, foster informed dialogue, and drive actionable solutions. By leveraging the expertise of interdisciplinary teams and partnering with local, national, and international organizations, we strive to create a holistic understanding of human trafficking. Our goal is not only to provide academic insights but also to translate our findings into practical strategies that policymakers, law enforcement, and community organizations can implement. We are committed to empowering survivors, educating future leaders, and raising awareness through our innovative and collaborative efforts. Together, we can work towards a future where human trafficking is eradicated, and every individual is free from exploitation.

Our rigorous research initiatives delve into diverse domains, from socio-economic factors to technological advancements, to understand and address the intricate dynamics of human trafficking. By leveraging interdisciplinary methods, we strive to uncover new insights and develop innovative strategies to combat trafficking effectively. Our research encompasses a wide range of topics including the role of technology in trafficking, the socio-economic factors that contribute to the vulnerability of certain populations, and the effectiveness of various intervention strategies. By collaborating with experts from various fields and using advanced research methodologies, we ensure that our findings are robust and impactful. Our research is not just about deepening understanding; it’s about making a tangible impact on policies, practices, and the lives of those affected by trafficking.

RESEARCH PAPER PUBLICATIONS

MITIGATING THE SCALE, REACH, AND IMPACT OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING AT MAJOR EVENTS: A NORTH AMERICAN PERSPECTIVE

Authors: Dr. Jessica Wickey, Dr. Alan Fyall, Mr. Gaurav Panse, Dr. Giulio Ronzoni

Human trafficking is a global problem with challenges for societies and those agencies tasked with the protection of the public. Much human trafficking is in the form of sex or labor trafficking with over 22,000 cases reported in the US alone in 2019. Although prevalent in many industries, the event industry is particularly vulnerable to human trafficking with tourism destinations and the major events they host prone to such activity. This exploratory study, underpinned by collaboration theory, adopts a qualitative approach by interviewing stakeholders in the US to identify the causes, scale, reach, and impact of human trafficking in the context of major events. The study then identifies those initiatives designed and implemented to help mitigate the occurrences of human trafficking activity and minimize the damage to individuals and negative reputation for those major events caught up in this modern-day criminality.

During our qualitative study we interviewed law enforcement, policy makers, non-profit advocates, and educators to understand how mega events are an intersection for sex and labor trafficking.

We discovered and discuss in the study:

- Underlying causes of trafficking (sex or labor or both) in major or mega events
- Event Safety Funnel from the perspective of Human Trafficking
- Strategies to mitigate the scale, reach and impact of human trafficking at major or mega events
- Implementation of mitigation strategies to contribute to a positive legacy for major events
- Emergence of Digital Trafficking
- Collaborative, educational-driven public safety and community approach to combat trafficking

We are so proud of our research authors for also **winning the Silver Award from the *Event Management Journal* at the Event Management Conference in June of 2024.** We would also like to thank Mike Duignan, Ph.D., and the entire editorial board for this prestigious award.

Read the full article [here](#).

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3727/152599522X16419948695152>



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We believe in the power of knowledge dissemination to inspire change. Our team produces a range of scholarly publications, including journal articles, book chapters, and research reports, to share our findings with the global community. These publications contribute to the body of knowledge on human trafficking and modern slavery, offering evidence-based solutions and influencing policy and practice worldwide.

****Please let us assist you in using research and data to combat trafficking. For more information, email JWB@ucf.edu****

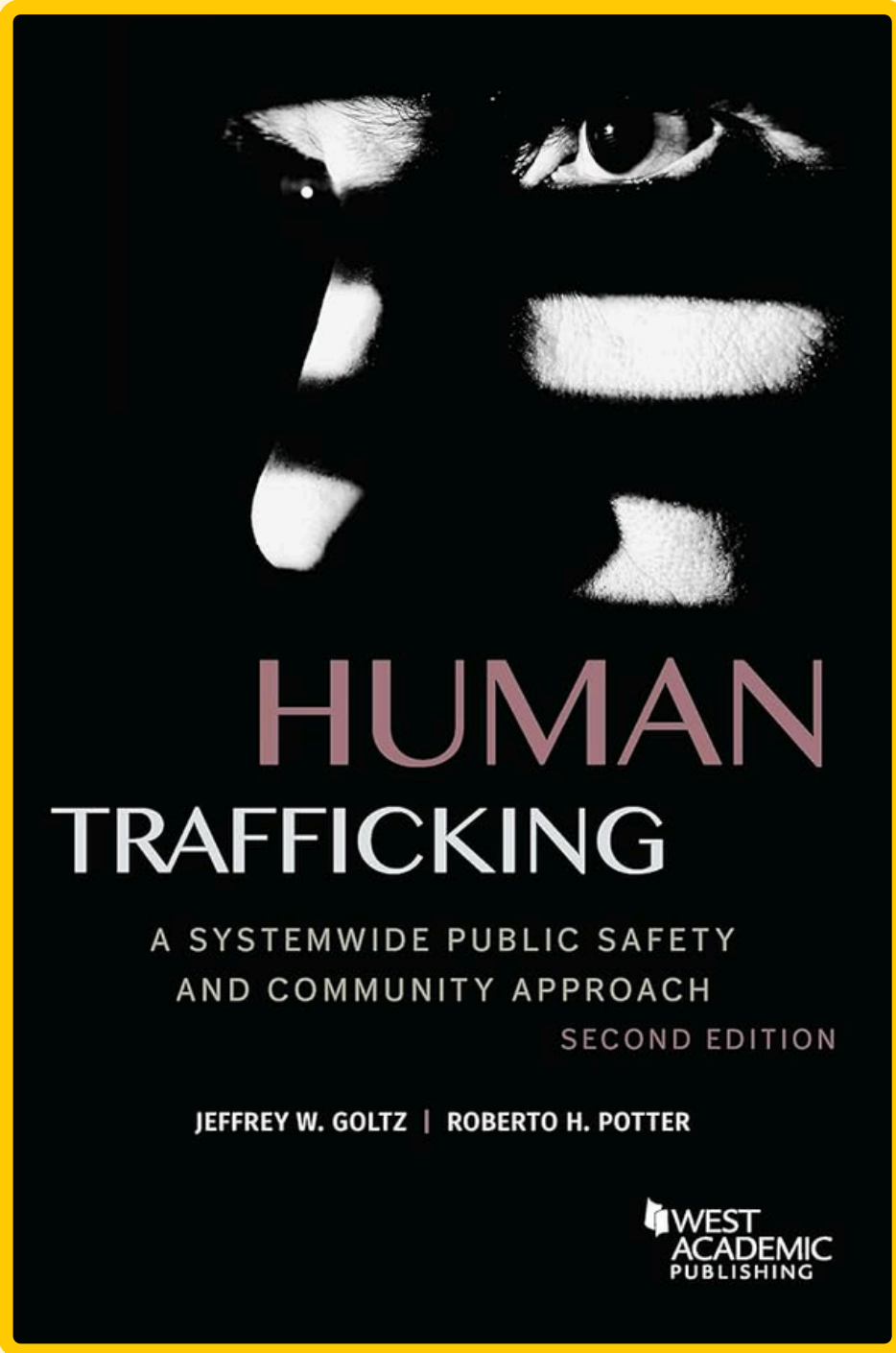
BOOK CHAPTER PUBLICATIONS

HUMAN TRAFFICKING: A SYSTEMWIDE PUBLIC SAFETY AND COMMUNITY APPROACH (2ND EDITION)
CHAPTER TITLE: HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND THE HOSPITALITY INDUSTRY

Chapter’s Authors: Dr. Jessica Wickey, Dr. Diego Bufquin, Dr. Marcos Medeiros, & Dr. Tingting Zhang

This enhanced edition of Human Trafficking: A Systemwide Public Safety and Community Approach is a substantially expanded compilation of the first edition. It includes several additional components of the response to human trafficking and highlights the key roles performed by investigators, prosecutors, judges, corrections, social services, community and faith-based organizations, criminal justice, healthcare, the hospitality industry, media, and educational institutions-as described by forty-six leaders, practitioners, and experts who are in these roles, at the forefront of the battle. Accordingly, it “takes a village” made up of defined public affairs leadership and action from many sectors to fight human trafficking and recover victims, this book stretches across several disciplines which are presented, in-depth, throughout fifteen chapters. **This book also offers the reality and the “state of” human trafficking to the reader through the riveting testimony of the “lived experience” and voices of five survivors.**

Intended for multiple audiences within academia and practitioners in the field by suggesting models and methods, this book can be used to better understand and approach human trafficking holistically and systematically at the community and regional levels. Unlike any other, it is an edited collection of separate conversations and authentic voices in each chapter that describes the approaches and the overarching narratives and themes of the response to human trafficking, reflecting the point of view and experience of the individual authors and contributors-thereby making a strong contribution to the literature in the field.



Imprint: West Academic Publishing
Series: Higher Education Coursebook
Publication Date: 10/05/2023

Access the book [here](#). Save 15% with code HESTUDENT at checkout.

All royalties from this book go into a special fund at the University of Central Florida’s Center for the Study of Human Trafficking and Modern-Day Slavery.

RESEARCH GRANTS

2024 PHASE I OF THE HHS INNOVATION CHALLENGE TO PREVENT HUMAN TRAFFICKING AMONG WOMEN AND GIRLS

The innovative online educational initiative “**Shielding Women and Girls,**”, developed and offered by the Rosen Professional Internships faculty and the Center for the Study of Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery presents a comprehensive, self-paced curriculum designed to educate hospitality majors on the complexities of human trafficking.

Year: 2024
Grant: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Amount: Awarded \$50,000
Foundation: US Department of State
PI: Dr. Jessica Wickey



OUR INTERNAL ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

We **thank our advisory board members** for joining our efforts to combat human trafficking and modern slavery.



DR. JESSICA WICKEY

Executive Director, UCF Center for the Study of Human Trafficking & Modern Slavery;
Director, RCHM Internship Program;
Associate Lecturer, Dept. of Tourism, Events, Entertainment & Attractions
JWB@ucf.edu

*“Through education we can equip our future leaders of the hospitality and tourism industry with the tools and resources to advance anti-trafficking efforts. **By instilling this drive for social justice we are creating an army of abolitionists, and I am excited and inspired to see them lead the next generation to #stophumantrafficking.**”*



KYLE TRAGER

Director of Development
UCF Rosen College of Hospitality Management
kyle.trager@ucf.edu

*“The center is in the right place, with the right team, at the right time to make a difference. **Now is the moment for the greater hospitality and tourism community to come together and join the fight against human trafficking by helping provide the resources and support to unleash the potential of the HTMS.**”*



HOLLY ROBBINS

Marketing and Communications Manager
UCF Rosen College of Hospitality Management
hollyrobbins@ucf.edu

*“Our students are the catalysts for change, and their dedication to ending human trafficking will be the driving force behind its eradication. **It’s inspiring to witness their determination and readiness to lead the fight for a world free from exploitation.**”*

OUR INTERNAL ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA (CONT.)

We **thank our advisory board members** for joining our efforts to combat human trafficking and modern slavery.



DR. GARY DEEL

Educator, Attorney, Author, and Research Academic
UCF Rosen College of Hospitality Management
gary.deel@ucf.edu

"Human trafficking and modern slavery in the hospitality sector are scourges on the industry that we all revere so fondly. I'm proud to be a part of an initiative that works to eradicate these kinds of illegal and unethical activities – here in local communities and all around the world."



TRICIA CONNELLY

Instructor
UCF Nicholson School of Communication
tricia.connelly@ucf.edu

*"It was my late mentor, John Bersia, who originally said to me **you don't choose to fight human trafficking, it chooses you**. Over a decade later, I still know this to be true but also add my own belief that everyone can help fight human trafficking within their own skillset. **No matter how you choose to help, know it is needed, and with our collective actions we can build a safer world for all.**"*



MAYARA MARTINES

Project Manager (2024), Center for the Study of Human Trafficking & Modern Slavery;
Graduate Assistant, UCF Transfer Center
mayara.martines@ucf.edu

*"Education, research, and community engagement are essential to not only combat human trafficking but also to raise awareness. **We must unite all efforts, from developing curricula for future leaders to supporting the recovery of victims and becoming advocates. Together, we can #StopHumanTrafficking.**"*

OUR EXTERNAL ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS

We **thank our advisory board members** for joining our efforts to combat human trafficking and modern slavery.



DR. JEFFERY GOLTZ

Dean
School of Public Safety, Legal Studies
& Education, Valencia College

*“One of the most rewarding aspects of serving on this advisory board is the tangible difference our efforts make in the lives of survivors. **Through our collaborative approach, we support groundbreaking research and practices that shed light on the root causes of trafficking, inform policy initiatives, and empower communities to take action.**”*



EZEKIEL MCKINE

Regional Advocate II
FLITE Center

*“As part of my work at the FLITE Center, I guide those aging out of foster care and other vulnerable youth towards successful reintegration into society. **By focusing on assisting survivors of human trafficking we can ensure they live the best versions of themselves - free from trafficking.**”*



MISTI SPENCER

Certified Personal, Professional and
Business Development Coach

*“Encouraging businesses to adopt socially responsible practices and support survivor empowerment is crucial in creating systemic change. **My goal is to leverage my business acumen to foster partnerships that amplify the Center's impact and drive long-term solutions.** I am grateful for the opportunity to contribute to this critical work and look forward to collaborating with the Center's team and partners.”*

OUR EXTERNAL ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS (CONT.)

We **thank our advisory board members** for joining our efforts to combat human trafficking and modern slavery.



OLIVIA LITTLETON

**Anti-Trafficking Supervisor
One More Child**

*“Through accurate research, collaborate survivor services, and comprehensive prevention education, a world free from human trafficking is within our reach. **We can be the generations that say “No More!” to modern day slavery and exploitation. We are fighting for lives worthy of freedom and restoration!”***



TINA KADOLPH

**Co-founder and President
Love Missions Global**

*“Being part of a movement for change has had a significant and positive impact on my life. **It is inspiring to witness community experts dedicating their time and efforts to better equip, engage, and make a meaningful impact in the fight against human trafficking. I am grateful to actively participate in the center’s initiatives, with the hope that one day we can put an end to this horrific crime.”***



KIMBERLY BREWSTER

**CTEAM ADAM Consultant
National Center for Missing and Exploited Children**

*“I have seen the toll trafficking takes on victims-I’ve looked them in their eyes, their souls are dead from all the trauma. It is not enough to stand by and allow others to be subjected to the hell trafficking is. **I joined the Advisory Board in order to provide gained experience and law enforcement knowledge to assist with the eradication of trafficking, the renewal of victims into survivors, and the prevention and protection of our children and communities. I will always strive to give survivors the freedom and resources they need to regain their own power and sense of identity.”***

OUR EXTERNAL ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS (CONT.)

We **thank our advisory board members** for joining our efforts to combat human trafficking and modern slavery.



ALAN WILKETT

**Law Enforcement (RET) Sergeant
and Human Trafficking Consultant**

*“Having witnessed in a real and personal way the devastating impact trafficking has on the human experience, I seek for ways to positively collaborate to reduce that impact. The UCF HTMS Center exists to study, create, and implement strategies and processes to reduce and ultimately end human trafficking. **Serving on the Center’s Advisory Board is both an honor and fulfills the desire to move the mission forward.**”*



DR. DOUG GILMER

**President and CEO
Resolved Strategies**

*“I am excited to work with this **amazing team dedicated to help fight human trafficking in all its forms.** As a career law enforcement officer, I recognize the intersection between human trafficking and the hospitality industry. I also recognize the need for more, and better, purposeful research in this field. The Center is laser focused on these issues and is **committed to making rapid impact.**”*

We thank our Advisory Board members for their support of the HTMS Center’s mission and vision. Their collective decades of anti-trafficking efforts help to lead the HTMS Center’s initiatives with unparalleled expertise and passion.

Each member brings a unique perspective and a wealth of knowledge, which are instrumental in driving forward our goals and strategies. Together, they form a robust backbone that empowers us to combat human trafficking more effectively, ensuring that our programs are both impactful and sustainable.

We are deeply grateful for their unwavering commitment and invaluable contributions, which inspire us to continue our work with renewed vigor and dedication.

HOW IT BEGAN

THE FOUNDATION OF THE UCF CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND MODERN SLAVERY



The foundation for the Center for the Study of Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery was established by the late John Bersia. As a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist, Bersia passionately taught courses, wrote about, and hosted television shows on the topic of human trafficking. He started the first UCF initiative on human trafficking in 2003, which grew to be the Human Trafficking Awareness Program in 2011. When the HTMS Center officially started in February 2018, it was part of UCF’s College of Sciences and John Bersia served as the interim director and co-chair of the advisory board. According to Bersia in 2018, he says:

*“While this was the culmination of 15 years of progress by campus and community partners to raise awareness of the problem, it was also just the beginning. Although human trafficking now garners significant national and international attention, the need to fortify and expand our efforts is more important than ever. **With our existing infrastructure, we are well positioned to continue leading and innovating much-needed solutions, and eventually create national and international models of excellence to address and prevent this scourge on humanity.**”*

Other notable advisory board members at the time included the late attorney David W. Boone, founder of Civil Lawyers Against World Sex-Slaver (CLAWS), Ambassador Harriet Elam-Thomas, a former U.S. Ambassador to Senegal who directed Diplomacy Studies at UCF, Ambassador Luis C. deBaca, former U.S. Ambassador-at-Large to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, Francis Bok, abolitionist and former Sudanese child slave, Richard Lapchick, chair of the DeVos Sport Business Management Program and director of the Institute for Diversity and Ethics in Sport at UCF, and Dr. Kevin Bales, Professor of Contemporary Slavery and Research Director at The Rights Lab in the University of Nottingham.

In July of 2018, the HTMS Center won UCF’s Community Challenge Initiative, along with the Florida Prison Education Project, with the proposal **Collectively Confronting and Resolving the Injustice of Human Trafficking**. This proposal aimed to unite the campus and community partners in the fight against human trafficking. Though the momentum of this contest stopped, the goal of the HTMS Center remained – “to expand the understanding of human trafficking in a comprehensive, interdisciplinary context, and search for solutions through coursework, research, distinguished speakers, student fellowships, survivor scholarships, partnerships, international professional exchanges, and community engagement.” Unfortunately, with the passing of John Bersia in 2019, the HTMS Center’s goal to fight human trafficking in our communities, in our state, throughout the nation, and worldwide slowed but never stopped.

SPECIAL THANKS TO UNITED ABOLITIONISTS, INC. PRESIDENT, MR. TOMAS J. LARES

In 2019, the UCF Rosen College Professional Internships Team organized a Human Trafficking workshop at the Rosen College of Hospitality Management, facilitated by United Abolitionists, Inc. The workshop was attended by 200 students, and discussed grooming tactics traffickers use to groom people. They also presented characteristics to look for when working in the hospitality and tourism industry.

At the end of the one-hour presentation, United Abolitionists, Inc. expert presenters asked **“now that you know the signs, have any of you witnessed human trafficking in your workplace”? 30 students raised their hands - reporting possibly witnessing human trafficking in their workplace.** In response, UCF Rosen College introduced human trafficking training to educate future leaders in the hospitality and tourism industry. The education was launched in 2020 in the internship courses online modules.



WE THANK **MR. TOMAS J. LARES** FOR DEVELOPING THIS CURRICULUM HTMS, AND FOR PROVIDING HIS EXPERTISE TO EDUCATE OUR STUDENTS.

OUR PRESENTATIONS

Engagement and education are key to our mission. Through presentations at conferences, workshops, and seminars, we share our research findings and best practices with diverse audiences. Our presentations aim to educate and empower stakeholders, from students and academics to practitioners and policymakers, to take informed actions against human trafficking. We participate in and host various events where we present our latest research, discuss emerging trends, and share successful strategies for combating human trafficking.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

Florida Annual Joint Forum on Human Trafficking

Topic: Introduction to the Center for the Study of Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery

Presenter: Dr. Jessica Wickey

Date and Location: November 2023, Orlando, FL

Central Florida Human Trafficking Task Force, Community Outreach Committee

Topic: Protecting Young People from Online Predators

Presenter: CFHTTF Partners

Date and Location: April 2023, Orlando, FL. Watch the presentation [here](#).

HOSTED PRESENTATIONS

World Orlando with the International Visitor Leadership Program hosted by the U.S. Department of State

Topic: Combating Trafficking in Persons: A Multi-Regional Project

Presenter: Dr. Jessica Wickey & Mr. Tomas J. Lares

Date and Location: July 2024, Orlando, FL

World Orlando with the World Affairs Council of Central Florida and the International Visitor Leadership Program hosted by the U.S. Department of State

Topic: Combating Trafficking in Persons: A Project for Comoros and Madagascar

Presenter: Dr. Jessica Wickey

Date and Location: May 2024, Orlando, FL

World Orlando with the World Affairs Council of Central Florida and the International Visitor Leadership Program hosted by the U.S. Department of State

Topic: Combating Trafficking in Persons: A Project for United Nations Women Tajikistan Program Office

Presenter: Dr. Jessica Wickey

Date and Location: May 2024, Orlando, FL

Central Florida Human Trafficking Task Force, Community Outreach Committee

Topic: Expert Panel Discussion: Behind the Screens: Illuminating Awareness, Empowering Youth Leaders

Presenter: CFHTTF Partners

Date and Location: April 2024, Orlando, FL

UCF Rosen College Teaching Colloquium

Topic: Mitigating the Scale, Reach, and Impact of Human Trafficking at Major Events: A North American Perspective

Presenter: Dr. Jessica Wickey & Mr. Tomas J. Lares

Date and Location: January 2024, Orlando, FL

Rosen College Spring 2024 Leadership Development Workshop Series

Topic: Student Panel Discussion: Human Trafficking in Mega-Events with It's A Penalty and Knights of the RELM

Presenter: It's A Penalty, KOTRELM

Date and Location: January 2024, Orlando, FL. Watch the presentation [here](#).

HOSTED PRESENTATIONS (CONT.)

World Orlando with the World Affairs Council of Central Florida and the International Visitor Leadership Program hosted by the U.S. Department of State

Topic: Combating Trafficking in Persons: A Project for Guinea-Bissau

Presenter: Dr. Jessica Wickey and Mr. Tomas J. Lares

Date and Location: November 2023, Orlando, FL

Rosen College Fall 2023 Leadership Development Workshop Series

Topic: Student Panel Discussion: Human Trafficking Through Grooming, Sugaring, and AI

Presenter: Dr. Jessica Wickey, Ms. Jan Edwards, KOTRELM

Date and Location: October 2023, Orlando, FL. Watch the presentation [here](#).

World Orlando with the World Affairs Council of Central Florida and the International Visitor Leadership Program hosted by the U.S. Department of State

Topic: Combating Trafficking in Persons: A Project for the Near East & North Africa

Presenter: Dr. Jessica Wickey

Date and Location: February 2023, Orlando, FL

Rosen College Spring 2023 Leadership Development Workshop Series

Topic: Human Trafficking in Central Florida, a Panel Discussion with Law Enforcement, Educators, and Advocates

Presenter: Dr. Jessica Wickey, Dr. Jeff Goltz, Ms. Jan Edwards, Partners

Date and Location: January 2023, Orlando, FL. Watch the presentation [here](#).

INVITED PANEL MODERATOR

16th Annual Human Trafficking Awareness Day and Film Festival

Topic: Human Trafficking in Hospitality and Tourism Specific to Mega-events and the Sports Industry

Presenter: Dr. Jessica Wickey

Date and Location: January 2024, Orlando, FL

To see previous presentations, please refer to our website hospitality.ucf.edu/htms

ADDITIONAL EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATIONS

UCF Rosen College of Hospitality Management

Topic: Human Trafficking in Hospitality and Tourism Specific to Entertainment Management Undergraduate Students

Presenter: Dr. Jessica Wickey

Date and Location: March 2024, Orlando, FL

Highpoint University

Topic: Human Trafficking in Hospitality and Tourism Specific to Event Management Undergraduate Students

Presenter: Dr. Jessica Wickey

Date and Location: February 2024, Online

Coakley & Williams Hotel Management Company (CW Hotels)

Topic: Human Trafficking in Hospitality and Tourism Specific to Executive Level Attendees

Presenter: Dr. Jessica Wickey

Date and Location: January 2024, Online

To request a specialized presentation or tailored workshop for your company, school, or event, email htmscenter@ucf.edu

HOW TO REPORT HUMAN TRAFFICKING

SHORT RECAP ON HOW TO IDENTIFY TRAFFICKED INDIVIDUALS

According to the UNODC (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime), the main warning signs seen in trafficked individuals include:

- Inability to make eye contact
- Is in poor physical health and appears malnourished
- Displays abnormal behavior or declining mental health
- Shows signs of abuse
- Exhibits lack of self-control
- Has few or no personal possessions
- Does not have control of personal finances and/or documents
- Are discouraged from speaking on their behalf
- Can or will not disclose their residential address
- Appears exceptionally fearful of law enforcement
- Is not in control of their own schedule
- Speaks of owning a high debt, despite having no assets
- Is compensated for work only through gratuities
- Works excessive hours and not allowed breaks
- Has inconsistencies in their stories
- Lacks general knowledge of the region in which they reside
- Has a skewed sense of time
- Traffickers often use soft branding (color victim’s hair, or all their victims have the same jewelry) and hard branding (tattoos, including barcode tattoos).

Poor Mental Health or Abnormal Behavior

Poor Physical Health

How to Confirm the Legitimacy of a Job Posting

- ✓ Fearful, anxious, depressed, submissive, tense, or nervous/paranoid
- ✓ Exhibits unusually fearful or anxious behavior after bringing up law enforcement or immigration officials
- ✓ Shows signs of substance use or addiction

- ✓ Shows signs of poor hygiene, malnourished, and/or fatigue
- ✓ Shows signs of physical and/or sexual abuse, physical restraint, confinement, or torture

- ✓ Does the employer have a recognized website?
- ✓ Does the company have a social media presence such as a LinkedIn page?
- ✓ Does the employer have any referrals from previous employees or Board of Directors?

LOCAL HOTLINE FOR CENTRAL FLORIDA HOSTED BY:
UNITED ABOLITIONISTS, INC.


24/7 HOTLINE
CALL: 888-88-HOPE
1-888-88-4673-1

TEXT: 407-504-1319

NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING HOTLINE

24/7 • Toll free
Confidential
200+ languages

 **CALL**
1-888-373-7888

 **TEXT**
"BeFree" (233733)

 **LIVE CHAT**
humantraffickinghotline.org

GET HELP • REPORT TRAFFICKING

More information at humantraffickinghotline.org

STUDENT FEEDBACK

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT FEEDBACK AFTER COMPLETING HUMAN TRAFFICKING TRAINING

All undergraduate students, no matter which degree they declare must complete the human trafficking education and training as part of the requirements for graduation. The training is **housed within the internship courses as online modules**. A **pre-test and post-test are assessed to test the students knowledge** after their online learning to identify and report human trafficking.

The human trafficking training I received at the Rosen College couldn't have been better and I feel fully comfortable and informed to now spot signs of human trafficking.... it also increased my confidence to speak up and report whatever I see even if it turns out to be not trafficking, it is worth it to be better safe than sorry. If I were to spot human trafficking in my workplace or in a public space I will most surely report this very pressing issue.

L.V. '2025

This training has significantly increased my awareness of human trafficking and its signs, reinforcing the importance of being vigilant in both my workplace and in public. I now understand that recognizing suspicious behavior can be crucial in preventing exploitation and assisting victims.

C.T. '2024

This training has been very helpful to me because it brings real questions to life, and how I would answer and act if I were to face these terrible things in real life. I strongly intend to report human trafficking if I witness it, no matter where I am. How I report it is dependent on the situation so that I can make sure I am keeping myself safe as well.

R.T. '2024

This training has opened my eyes to the fact that human trafficking can happen at any point in time and to anyone, anywhere. This training has showed me different ways and signs to look out for if myself or anyone around me may be in danger and how to look out for them and report trafficking.

This training was very helpful to me because it showed me how I can be a leader against human trafficking in the hospitality industry.

A.V. '2025

To learn more about Human Trafficking education:
Email: HTMSCenter@ucf.edu

SPONSORSHIPS

SPONSORSHIP FOR THE UCF CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND MODERN SLAVERY
Your sponsorship supports groundbreaking research, education, survivor empowerment, and community engagement in the fight against human trafficking.

DONATE from \$25. to \$1,000,000.
Every dollar donated is used in the
fight against human trafficking.

IN-KIND AND PROBONO DONATIONS

IN-KIND DONATIONS CAN PROVIDE VALUABLE SUPPORT TO THE UCF CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND MODERN SLAVERY.

- **TECHNOLOGY AND EQUIPMENT:** COMPUTERS, LAPTOPS, OR TABLETS FOR STAFF, STUDENT FELLOWS, OR SURVIVORS PARTICIPATING IN SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS.
- **AV EQUIPMENT** SUCH AS PROJECTORS, CAMERAS, OR MICROPHONES FOR TRAINING SESSIONS AND EVENTS.
- **OFFICE SUPPLIES** LIKE NOTEBOOKS, PENS, OR PRINTING PAPER FOR DAY-TO-DAY OPERATIONS.
- MARKETING MATERIALS SUCH AS **PRINTED FLYERS, POSTERS, OR BANNERS** FOR OUTREACH AND AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS.
- **EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS** LIKE BOOKS OR SUBSCRIPTIONS TO RELEVANT JOURNALS.
- **LEGAL ASSISTANCE FOR SURVIVORS OR ADVOCACY-RELATED EFFORTS.**
- GRAPHIC DESIGN OR MARKETING SERVICES TO ENHANCE AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS.
- **TRANSLATION SERVICES** FOR RESOURCES IN MULTIPLE LANGUAGES TO ASSIST SURVIVORS FROM DIVERSE BACKGROUNDS.
- PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING FOR STAFF OR TEACHERS INVOLVED IN RELATED EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS.
- WORKSHOPS OR SEMINARS HOSTED BY EXPERTS IN RELATED FIELDS.
- **FINANCIAL SUPPORT ALTERNATIVES:** GIFT CARDS FOR FOOD, TRANSPORTATION, OR CLOTHING TO DIRECTLY ASSIST SURVIVORS.
- **EVENT SPONSORSHIPS** FOR PUBLIC FORUMS, AWARENESS WALKS, OR CAMPAIGNS DURING MAJOR EVENTS LIKE HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS MONTH.
- **PRINT OR MEDIA** ADVERTISING TO AMPLIFY MESSAGING DURING HIGH-VISIBILITY CAMPAIGNS.

**SURVIVOR
SCHOLARSHIPS**

\$21,000. will support ONE survivor to
attend one-year at UCF covering all
housing, tuition, and books.

JOIN OUR MISSION

Together, we can uncover truths, advocate for change, and build a future free from exploitation. By joining us, you become part of a global effort to end human trafficking and modern slavery. Your involvement, whether through reading our publications, participating in our events, or supporting our research, helps us move closer to a world where every individual can live free from exploitation.

TOGETHER, WE CAN #STOPHUMANTRAFFICKING

LET’S STAY CONNECTED

VISIT OUR OFFICE

UCF CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND MODERN SLAVERY
UCF ROSEN COLLEGE OF HOSPITALITY MANAGEMENT
9907 UNIVERSAL BLVD., SUITE 109
ORLANDO, FL, 32819

MAKE AN IMPACT, DONATE

foundation.ucf.edu/givetorosen

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

hospitality.ucf.edu/HTMS

PARTNER WITH US

HTMSCenter@ucf.edu

UPCOMING EVENTS

Educating for FREEDOM: Combating Human Trafficking Through Knowledge and Action Conference

January 22, 2025 9:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. at UCF Rosen College
9:30 - Opening Keynote
10:30 - AI and Trafficking Session
12:00 - Red Sand Project
1:30 - Closing Keynote

Polaris Star Awards and Reception

January 24th, 2025 6 p.m. - 9 p.m. at UCF Rosen College

See more information and how to register on our website.



UCF

Center for Study of Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery

UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA



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August, 2024

