



AWARENESS AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 6 - JUNE 2014

INTRODUCTION

We welcome our readers to our newsletter for June 2014! In June we had many activities. We are continuing to follow up with NTV about when the story about human trafficking will air. We held two separate partner and volunteer trainings on human trafficking for our passionate partners and volunteers. Both events were well received and brought forth some good stories and interaction. We are now ready to work together to raise awareness. We also continued holding workshops in Nairobi and its environs, in total we conducted 18 workshops in June. We also attended a workshop organized by International Rescue Commission to initiate a new counter trafficking network. The network does not yet have an official name. But HAART is happy to be a part of this network that we hope can provide a strong voice to end modern slavery in Kenya. We also met our partners from Kenya Peace Network in Mombasa for a meeting to coordinate the human trafficking activities and attended a Misesan Cara members meeting. We are planning to start a new youth project mid July, where we will work with vulnerable youths and empower them with training on human trafficking. They will be equipped to educate their peers about human trafficking. Moreover HAART will evaluate the awareness programme in July. We are continuing to assist victims of human trafficking. You can read the second part of Sr. Mary's article on victims assistance. Moreover we are continuing the human trafficking scenarios. This time with a football story to keep in line with the World Cup in Brazil.



The picture is from our first partner and volunteer training that we held on June 14th. In the picture Sr. Mary is presenting for the volunteers.

Inside this Issue

- Introduction
- Assisting victims of trafficking
- Trafficking scenario #5
- Volunteers of the Month
- HAART in Social Media

She Promised me Heaven, but Took me to Hell (Part 2)

By Sr. Mary O'Malley

The next two months Sr. Mary is explaining her experiences with assisting victims. In HAART's work to end modern slavery, we assist and identify victims. These victims are often extremely traumatized and in need of basic protection. Sr. Mary is our project coordinator for the victims assistance programme. She will meet the victims, listen to their stories and work with the rest of the staff to assist each victim based on their individual need.

It was Slave Labor

"I had carried my best clothes and I told the lady in no-uncertain-terms that I was recruited as an IT specialist to Samsung Corporation. But she carried-on, shouting at me using racist language that I was going to clean this, wash the SUV's twice weekly, wash, iron and hang the clothes, clean all the upstairs rooms daily and do the same in the guest wing twice daily (22 big rooms in a palatial house). Kitchen and laundry cleaning would be my responsibility also. 'Then, this will keep you lazy Kenyans on-your-toes.' My heart was racing and already my head throbbed. I could not imagine myself in this hell for two years. Worse still I felt so angry and cheated out of the exclusive job promised me in Dubai"

"I managed to escape six months into my contract, while I was still paying back my airfare. One Monday morning when the garbage truck came to the gate, I slipped out and ran. I ran . . . and ran for all I was worth. Then I must have collapsed. When I came-round a police man was standing over me and said he would take me to the Kenyan Embassy. From there I had to wait three weeks to get a lift on a cargo flight. It meant I had left my few good outfits and a new suitcase borrowed from my sister. Imagine my humiliation on arrival- I had to ask a taxi man for the use of his phone to call her."

Then Anna looked painfully at me and said, "except for my son, I feel no reason to live." I knew she had uttered a profound truth that many trafficked victims actually take their own lives. To go through the pain of counseling, digging up the painful past and trying to find some meaning in life is a mammoth task. Yet, I have seen that even if they go through with the counseling the rewards are worth all the effort. Another victim, Nancy, said, "apart from a few things in a plastic bag which fitted on my knees, I had no other earthly goods to call my own."

During a two year stint there she was becoming progressively weaker, but they only took her to a small dispensary where she had her blood pressure measured. One day as she and I waited in a queue at the Nairobi hospice she told me that "one weekend they had a 'stag party' for one of the son's coming-of-age, and

the young boy of 6 years old was in and out of the kitchen. I had some few words of Arabic and he communicated to me that after the party they were hatching a plan to drive me further into the desert. Will you like that?" he chuckled.

"I knew it meant my end, so, after the party I refused to go back in the Pajero (as they had arranged) with only one man driving it. Things were very bad but at least my children know I came home alive and not simply to be 'pickings' for the vultures." Sadly, Nancy died six months after her return to Kenya from advanced cervical cancer.

Trafficking in women and children is a multi-billion dollar trade with major profits to criminal syndicates. It results from a global demand for purchased sex and cheap labor. Nearly every country on our planet is involved in one way or another, whether as source, transit or destination for trafficked persons. In such a lucrative business the most vulnerable are regarded as disposable merchandise or commodities to be bought, sold and some sold on again to another pimp. A trafficked woman or child can be sold for as little as \$100 but in a year her pimp will make over half a million USD for her services. In most cases she does not see a penny of it. Sadly, this new form of slavery is rampant, but nowhere more rampant than in Kenya.



Human Trafficking Scenarios #5

By Tom Young

Over the next few months HAART will present a series of human trafficking scenarios which we hope will educate our readers about how easily trafficking can occur from everyday situations. At the end of each scenario we will apply trafficking screening questions to determine if the subject of the scenario has been trafficked.

David, 14 years old, meets his friends every Saturday to play football on the sand pitch near Malindi jetty. They play games against other teams and David is one of the better players on his team, usually scoring in each game. As is the case with many young men in Kenya, David dreams of playing football professionally in Europe. For a few weeks David has noticed a well dressed man watching the games. David is approached by the man who says he manages a football academy that scouts for players for professional clubs in Europe. The man is looking for a player to have trials in Europe for two weeks. David can't hide his excitement and tells the man he is interested. The man explains further that his family needs to pay US\$8,000 for him to go. The man gives David a phone number and tells him to call when he is ready to travel.

David runs home to tell his family the news. His parents and brothers know about his football ability and are supportive, encouraging David to follow his dreams. David's father is aware of footballer salaries in Europe and realising the possible financial gain for the family, gets the US\$8,000 together. David gets a passport and contacts the man who assists with a visa and air tickets, and says accommodation and meals will be provided in Europe. They travel by bus to Nairobi and then fly to France.



After arriving in Paris David asks the man which French football clubs he will be going to, but the man says he needs to confirm the details. They are collected by a driver and taken to an industrial area of Paris. The car stops suddenly and the man pulls

David out of the car, throws him on the sidewalk and tells David aggressively that he knows where his family lives. The car speeds away with the man and all of David's belongings.

David doesn't know anyone in France, can't contact his family, doesn't speak French, doesn't have any money and has been left abandoned and vulnerable on the Paris streets. He is afraid of going to the police because of the threat to his family. He spends two weeks in fear surviving in the streets before he finds someone who can help him. David eventually returns to Kenya and is reunited with his family. He is traumatised by the experience, fears the man will return, misses a year of school and avoids going out in public.

1. Was David lured into this situation and deceived? – Yes.
2. Did David attend football trials and receive accommodation and meals as agreed? – No.
3. Was David prevented from talking to family and friends? – Yes.
4. Was David physically, sexually or psychologically abused? – Yes, physically and psychologically.
5. Was David in possession of valid identification documents? – No.
6. Was David left vulnerable to further crime and at risk of being re-trafficked? – Yes.
7. Does David fear that something bad will happen to him, or to a family member, if he reports the incident? – Yes.
8. Has David been trafficked? – Yes.

During the World Cup 2014 don't forget the dark side of the world game – football trafficking.

Suggested further reading:

“Football academies to register with Football Kenya Federation”, Standard Media, by Gilbert Wandera, March 25 2014. Link: bit.ly/1okGzOm



Awareness Against Human Trafficking

P. O. Box 26893 - 00504 Nairobi
Kenya

Phone: +254 738 506 264

E-mail: info@haartkenya.org

WE ARE ON THE WEB!!!

PLEASE VISIT US AT:

HAARTKENYA.ORG

Follow US ON FACEBOOK

FACEBOOK.COM/HAART.KE

Upcoming events

- 10-15 workshops at the grass root level organized by our volunteers
- Assistance to victims' of human trafficking (VOTs)
- Anti-trafficking campaign in social media
- HAART to evaluate awareness programme

HAART in social media:

Please visit us on our new Facebook account:

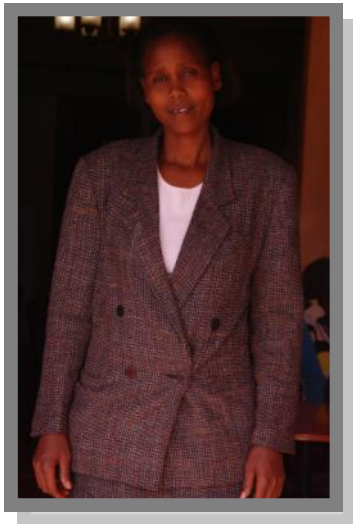
facebook.com/HAART_Ke

If you click LIKE, you will receive daily news feeds.

You can also get our daily tweets if you follow us on twitter:

[@HAARTKenya](https://twitter.com/HAARTKenya)

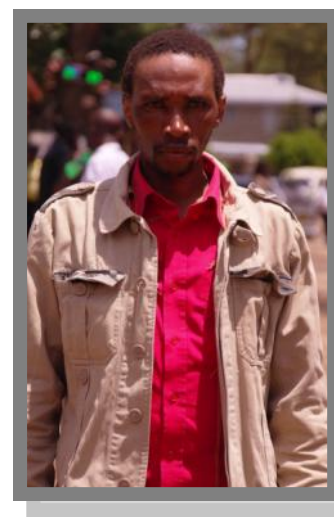
Volunteers of the month



Nairobi Diocese

Ann Njenga

Kikuyu Deanery



Ngong Diocese

David Masila

Narok Deanery