

# How To Be a Good Ally:

## Practical Things You Can Do to End Trafficking



*This webinar is supported by the  
“Human Trafficking, Health Equity, and  
Academic Collaborative” Funded Grant*

# Speaker Biography

*Samantha Searls* is a program manager at the Intercommunity Justice and Peace Center (IJPC). At IJPC, Samantha's education and advocacy work focuses on breaking down unjust systems. As part of her work to end human trafficking, Samantha chairs the Public Education and Awareness Committee of End Slavery Cincinnati's Anti-Human Trafficking Coalition. Samantha has her Master of Social Work from Washington University in St. Louis and her Bachelor of Social Work from the University of Indianapolis. Prior to her time at IJPC, Samantha served as a community organizer working on environmental, economic and social justice issues.



# Intercommunity Justice and Peace Center (IJPC)



- Founded in 1985 by five communities of religious women
- Greater Cincinnati & Northern Kentucky
- **Mission** : The Intercommunity Justice and Peace Center educates and advocates for peace, challenges unjust systems, and promotes the creation of a nonviolent society

# Intercommunity Justice and Peace Center (IJPC)



- **Vision**: A just and peaceful world
- Education & Advocacy
  - Lens of Peace & Nonviolence
- Three current programs:
  - Death Penalty
  - Immigration
  - Human Trafficking

# Human Trafficking Program



- **Overall Goal of IJPC's Human Trafficking Program:**  
To bring visibility to the issue of human trafficking by educating young people, elected officials and the general public about the realities and needs of trafficked people in order to create systemic change.

# Human Trafficking Program



- Community Education & Advocacy
  - Offer interactive presentations
  - Run advocacy campaigns to address systemic issues
  - Occasional individual case advocacy to illustrate issues
- Changes coming soon!

# Goals for Today

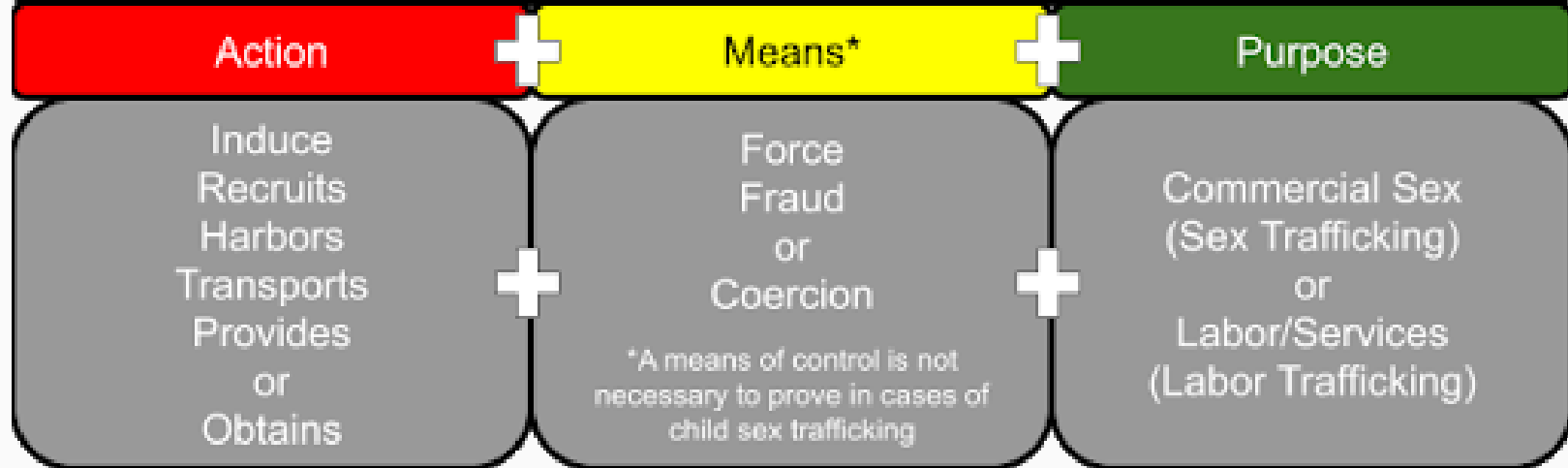


- Understand personal motivations and self interest
- Create personal awareness of own self
- Learn how to best support survivors of trafficking
- Name ways to take concrete action

# Human Trafficking 101 Review



## Federal Definition of Human Trafficking





# Why Do We Do This Work?



- **Use the chat** and answer the following question in one or two sentences:

Why do you care about ending human trafficking?

# My Story: Self Interest



# Self Interest



- Selfless ----- Self Interest ----- Selfish
- “Self Among Others”
  - How does what you need serve others too?
    - Jail example
  - How does this community issue affect you?
    - Foreclosure example
  - What can you learn/take away from being involved?

# Self Interest: Human Trafficking



- Start with surface questions
  - Why did I decide to attend these webinars?
  - What do I want to do with this information?
- Keep asking yourself “why” - go deeper
  - Why do you care about the issue of human trafficking?
  - What’s your self interest in getting involved in this issue?

# What is an Ally?



- Defined as
  - One that is associated with another as a helper : a person or group that provides assistance and support in an ongoing effort, activity, or struggle
  - Often now used specifically of a person who is not a member of a marginalized or mistreated group but who expresses or gives support to that group

# Being an Ally - Self Awareness



- Understand and communicate your self interest
- Be aware of yourself
  - Do you hold any bias or judgements against the population you seek to serve? What's your motive?
  - How might your understanding of cultural norms be challenged?
  - What situations might trigger intense emotion or trauma within you?

# Being an Ally - Self Awareness



- How will you be perceived? What privileges do you hold?
  - Appearance
  - Demographics
- What skills do you have? What skills don't you have?

# Things to Consider



- LISTEN to survivors and survivor-informed organizations
  - To understand their unique experience
  - To find out what they need/want
    - Follow their lead
- This work is not easy
  - Be open to feedback, be ready to grow
  - Progress is not linear



# Supporting Survivors



- Prioritize survivor-led, survivor-informed initiatives, campaigns, and organizations
- Donate money
- Supply in kind items
- Volunteer your time
- Deepen your understanding

# Supporting Survivors



- Speak up, correct misinformation - educate others
- Change your spending habits, pay attention to strikes/boycotts
- Engage in advocacy campaigns
  - Join planning meetings, engage your legislators, show up to press conferences/rallies/protests
- Organize others

# Ways to Take Action



- Check out IJPC's volunteer guide: [bit.ly/IJPC -HT-Guide](https://bit.ly/IJPC-HT-Guide)
- Stay connected to IJPC
  - Criminal record expungement campaign
  - Education on root causes
- Attend future webinars in this series
- Find your local anti-trafficking coalition



**Join our email list!**  
[www.IJPCincinnati.org](http://www.IJPCincinnati.org)

# Commitments



- Use the chat and answer the following question in one or two sentences:

How will you take action after this webinar? By when?

# Questions



Samantha Searls, MSW

samantha@IJPCcincinnati.org

Direct: 513-864-5781 (No cases please)


www.IJPCcincinnati.org



@ijpccincinnati



@ijpc.cincinnati

A portrait of Dr. Suk-hee Kim, a woman with short dark hair, smiling. She is wearing a green and white patterned top and a name tag that reads "NKU DR. SUK-HEE KIM".

# Human Trafficking, Health Equity, and Academic Collaborative

For more information, please visit [website](#) and contact Dr. Suk-hee Kim, Ph.D., COI, MSW, Associate Professor in the School of Social Work & NKU's Diversity Faculty Fellow at [kims16@nku.edu](mailto:kims16@nku.edu)