



Rotary Project Request

Immediate Needs for Survivors of Human Trafficking in Alaska

Priceless is an anti-sex trafficking organization based in Anchorage, Alaska that walks with survivors to find new life while meeting practical needs. Priceless has had almost 200 women referred into the program since we began. We've trained over 150 mentors to walk with trafficking survivors, mobilized over 200 volunteers, and have educated hundreds of community members around our state on the realities sex trafficking in Alaska. We pair each survivor with a team of mentors who helps navigate resources, meet needs, and build healthy relationships as our survivors work to establish a new "normal" free from the chains of their past.

Perhaps our community impact was best summed up in a letter we received from Marlin Ritzman, Agent with the FBI when describing Priceless. Marlin said... "Priceless has been an important resource for women and girls in Anchorage who have experienced the trauma of sex trafficking. Priceless has also been an essential partner of the FBI, in our law enforcement efforts to identify and protect victims of commercial sexual exploitation and human trafficking. Priceless staff have helped the FBI locate possible victims in human trafficking cases and provide the much needed support and services to victims after they are identified and recovered. The Priceless Program has been an invaluable partner in providing the needed emotional, physical, and financial support that victims of trafficking desperately need."

The following project would assist in our efforts to meet the immediate needs of trafficking survivors in Alaska.

Immediate Needs :: \$10,000

- When a survivor comes to us often they have nothing. Their list of needs is vast and often immediate. Having resources on hand to meet these needs is vital to the success of our survivors! These funds are used to meet the practical and physical needs of the clients we serve. These needs range from food, clothing, transportation, trauma counseling, housing, and more. These basic needs are often the hurdle that prevent survivors from being able to escape their old life and take the needed steps toward a more healthy and hopeful future. Being able to meet these needs quickly helps provide the lifeline to survivors in their moment of greatest need. These funds are not just given to the survivor, instead we utilize their mentoring relationship to help use these funds to meet needs. For example, if a survivor needs food we don't just hand them a box of food. Instead, their mentors use these funds to take them shopping for the food she needs. This allows survivors to not only get their immediate need met (food) but also to build new relationships and develop the life skills (shopping, budgeting, meal planning) to live an independent and positive life as they move forward. The resources meet the immediate need and also help build the healthy lifestyle that is so important for future success.

Thank you for your consideration of this projects! Your partnership with Priceless helps ensure that the future for trafficking survivors in Alaska is brighter than the past they have experienced.