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## Human Trafficking in the News

### **18 arrested in two-day juvenile sex sting**

Eighteen people were arrested in a multi-agency undercover sex solicitation investigation. The two-day operation happened on June 28 and 29. The Fargo Police Department, Moorhead Police Department and other regional agencies conducted Operation Guardian Angel at two local hotels. Operation Guardian Angel is a federal program to combat the issue of people trying to buy sex with juveniles.

### **The '5 disguises' used by human traffickers**

(CNN) Across the U.S., there is a movement to prioritize human trafficking prevention in our nation's communities. Schools, youth service programs, juvenile corrections services, group homes, and other youth-oriented spaces have begun to recognize their great potential to empower youth to stay safe from exploitation.

### **Seattle police set up massage parlor in sex-sting operation, arrest 204 men**

In the first sting operation of its kind for the Seattle Police Department's Vice & High Risk Victims Unit, detectives set up shop in a massage parlor they had shut down in the spring. They never expected the volume of business they got from men seeking sex.

[Click here to read these articles on our website](#)

## National Public Radio promotes article on trucking and Truckers Against Trafficking

National Public Radio recently promoted one of its July 13 articles, titled "Truckers Take the Wheel in Effort to Halt Sex

Trafficking" by reporter Frank Morris, into its Best of NPR category, giving it longer air time and greater visibility. Prior to writing the article, Morris interviewed Beth Jacobs, TAT field trainer and survivor/leader, as well as Kylla Lanier, TAT deputy director, and a host of trucking/travel plaza representatives.



As a result of this article, TAT has received quite a few e-mail inquiries and some new donations.

*NPR -- Sex trafficking wasn't a major concern in the early 1980s, when Beth Jacobs was a teenager. If you were a prostitute, the thinking went, it was your choice. Jacobs thought that too, right up until she came to, on the lot of a dark truck stop one night. She says she had asked a friendly-seeming man for a ride home that afternoon. [Click here](#) to read more.*

## TEC Equipment joins TAT as sponsor and dealership partner



Surrounded by a number of TEC Equipment employees, Guido Hajenius, (right center), received the check for TAT from TEC Equipment Regional President Victor Salvino (left center).

TEC Equipment, the West's premiere, multi-point, full-service truck and trailer dealership with 23 locations throughout Washington, Oregon, Nevada and California, has become a \$25,000 TAT platinum sponsor, as well as a [TAT Dealership Partner](#) (TDP). As a TDP, TEC Equipment has additionally committed to distributing TAT materials at each of its locations.

Guido Hajenius, TAT strategic coordinator, received the check from TEC Equipment Regional President Victor Salvino at a special presentation at TEC Equipment's La Mirada

location. Hajenius was impressed by the number of employees who listened intently to his remarks and wanted to take a picture with him. "This was not a publicity stunt for them," he stated. "They were proud to know how this sponsorship was making a difference in helping to save people's lives. The TAT Dealership Partner program allows companies like TEC to not just financially sponsor the work TAT does, but to spread awareness and distribute TAT materials through the stores to other truck drivers."

"We chose TAT, because it's part of our industry and supported by our State Trucking Association and several large Industry suppliers, including Volvo Trucks," stated Georgia Field, office manager for TEC Equipment. "We know the severity of the problem and want to help."

## Freedom Drivers Project makes first appearance at the Iowa 80 Walcott Truckers Jamboree

The Freedom Drivers Project (FDP), with TAT Programs Coordinator Michelle Bishop managing the exhibit, welcomed more than 1,000 people through its doors at the 37th annual Iowa 80 Walcott Truckers Jamboree, July 13-15. Volunteers from the Iowa Motor Vehicle Enforcement (MVE) division helped Bishop with the exhibit, by working both inside and outside TAT's traveling museum, inviting people to tour, helping people digest what they were seeing and reading, as well as answering any questions they had.

Bishop reported that many people departed the FDP with in-depth questions to gain a better understanding of how trafficking happens and how to spot it. "They were amazed," she said, "that trafficking happens in our country and that it happens as prolifically as it does. They were also happy there was a way to actively get involved. I had many people come and tell me stories about how they have already helped a victim and thanked us for what we do."



Delia Moon Meier, owner and senior vice president of the Iowa 80 Group (left), toured the FDP and visited with Michelle Bishop, TAT programs coordinator.

## Ohio law enforcement, transportation leaders continue united

## front in fighting human trafficking



Two significant events took place in Ohio at the end of June and the beginning of July that will significantly impact the fight against human trafficking.

On July 1, Ohio became the first state in the Union to begin TAT training as a compulsory portion of the curriculum for entry-level CDL licensing. In response to this action, a number of other states are also looking to see if they can institute a similar mandate in their CDL training.

Prior to that, at the end of June, Captain Mike Crispen of Licensing and Commercial Standards for the Ohio State Highway Patrol held his second annual transportation coalition meeting in Columbus with more than 60 participants from the trucking/travel plaza industry, law enforcement, transportation leaders and anti-human trafficking coalition members.



TAT Field Trainer Beth Jacobs, shown here with Capt. Mike Crispen of the Ohio State Highway Patrol, provided a training at Ohio's second annual transportation coalition meeting.

Beth Jacobs, TAT's field trainer and a survivor/leader, provided a training at the meeting. "The questions from the audience were voluminous," Crispen reported, "and had to be ended to move to the next agenda. Everyone was very appreciative of the training, and the law enforcement officers stated they really learned a lot about how

the victims think and why they act around them the way they do. This training will allow them to adjust their interactions to gain their (the survivor's) confidence and/or ensure there is a coalition member with them during the interactions. One said he never really saw the world from their point of view and that it really opened his eyes. Another said all officers need to hear this. The coalition members were very interested in how Beth utilized resources and why or why not. I think this was enlightening to them to help direct their resources appropriately."

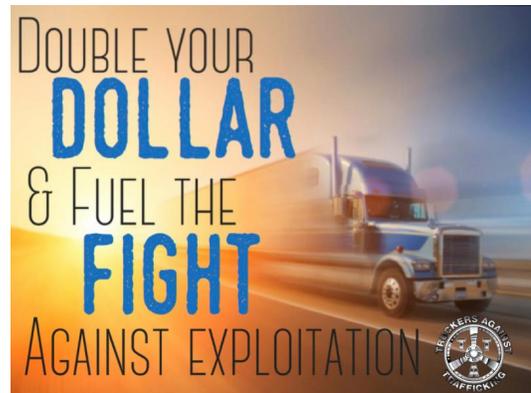
[Click here](#) to continue reading.

## Double your donation: Accept the Change a Path matching grant challenge

Between August and October, Change a Path (CAP), an organization providing financial grants to support not-for-profit organizations working in the sex-trafficking space, is providing a \$25,000 matching grant challenge to TAT. For every dollar donated to TAT during those three months, Change a Path will match the amount given, up to \$25,000.

"As our model works to bring funders and supporters together to maximize our impact, we are offering TAT a matching grant opportunity to expand its fundraising potential," said Shannon Rogers, CAP founder. "In (this) our second grant to TAT, we hope to broaden the impact of our giving by encouraging TAT's friends, partners and supporters to join this giving campaign. TAT is committed to addressing a challenging problem that requires community and business engagement; we all need to work together to support them in their efforts. Together we can make a difference."

In 2015, Change a Path provided a \$25,000 grant to TAT for its coalition builds.





Members of the Change a Path Advisory Board are (from left to right):  
 Front row: Jen Cavanaugh, Shannon Rogers  
 Back row: Julie Caskey, Ruth Siegmund, Monica Gyulai

## Visit TAT at the Great American Trucking Show in Dallas

Check out all the great exhibits at the Great American Trucking Show (GATS) in Dallas this year, Aug. 25-27. Visit TAT at Booth 21098 at the Kay Bailey Hutchinson Convention Center. Come say hello, tour the Freedom Drivers Project and learn how you can play your part in combating domestic sex trafficking as part of your everyday job.



## Upcoming Events

**Aug. 3** - Kansas law enforcement training, Olathe, KS, Kylla Lanier, TAT deputy director, and Beth Jacobs, TAT field trainer, presenting

**Aug. 8** - Kentucky coalition build, Frankfort, KY, Esther



Goetsch, TAT coalition build coordinator, presenting

**Aug. 11** - National Truck Driving Championships, Indianapolis, IN, FDP and Helen Van Dam, FDP director, attending

**Aug. 16** - American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators International Conference, Williamsburg, VA, Beth Jacobs, TAT field trainer, presenting

**Aug. 18** - Help Inc. board meeting, Broomfield, CO, FDP and Kendis Paris, TAT executive director, presenting

**Aug. 24-27** - Great American Trucking Show, Dallas, TX, FDP and TAT staff, attending

**Aug. 29** - Peterbilt Lunch and Learn, FDP and Helen Van Dam, FDP director, attending

## Thank you to our Platinum and Gold level corporate sponsors!



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 PO Box 816 | Englewood, CO 80151  
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