



Truckers Against Trafficking Newsletter

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Notable Quote

"I simply wanted to message you to tell you thank you! I survived trafficking a few years ago, and one of the things I remember being said by my abductors was to stay away from the truckers. They KNEW to stay away from y'all, because they knew what would happen if a trucker caught them! You may just have been the reason I'm alive today." - Trafficking Survivor B. L., shared with permission

Trafficking

A poem by Ron "Straydog" Witherspoon

Too young to be a woman
Too old to be a child
Just an adolescent girl
With a pretty, big smile

She was born into poverty
But she dreamed of fame
To be a singer and a dancer
Then everyone would know her name

The home of the brave
And the land of the free
The U.S.A. is where she needed
to be

She heard about a man
That would take you there
A van-load of girls without a

Human trafficking in the news

CNN recently ran an article on Norma Bastidas, a survivor of sexual abuse who also was almost trafficked. Bastidas has completed the world's longest triathlon to raise awareness of human trafficking in the United States and Mexico. TAT's partner iEmpathize (www.iempathize.org) has been along the entire route with Bastidas, from Cancun, Mexico to Washington, D.C. They are putting together a documentary on her and this amazing ultra-triathlon.



In the final portion of her ultra-triathlon, Norma Bastidas ran to Washington, D.C.

care

It wasn't long after they
crossed the line
She found out how they would
have to pay for their ride
Then life became a living hell
We will kill your whole family if
you ever tell

So not one word ever came
from their lips
They were passed around like a
bag of chips

Flop houses and truck stops,
most anywhere
They were beaten and bruised
but nobody cared

Perverts were willing to pay the
most

How many died? We will never
know

Some were sold and never
came back

Put on a boat down by the
railroad tracks

They never worked in groups
Just one or two at a time
A lot of people saw them
But no one seemed to mind

Then some trucker said
'This ain't right'
So he called the hotline
Late one night.

Then the police came running
And one girl was saved
How in the world
Did the others get away?

But that trucker started
something he'll remember till
his dying day
Cause Truckers Against
Trafficking is here to stay



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Woman tackles world's longest triathlon

Norma Bastidas will run, bike and swim more than 3,700 miles to raise awareness and fight human trafficking. To continue reading, [click here](#).

Human trafficking exists in Nebraska

Nicole Ebat OMAHA(KPTM)--There are at least two thousand people in Nebraska who are forced to work as prostitutes... To continue reading, [click here](#).

Thirty arrested in Winston-Salem for sex trafficking

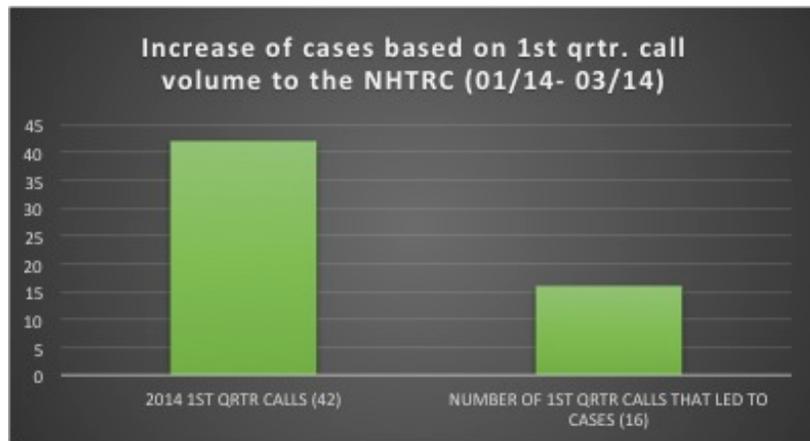
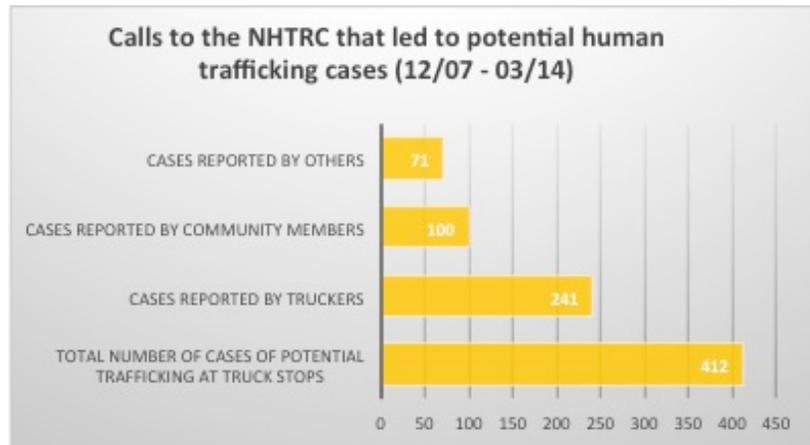
Police have arrested 30 people in Winston-Salem on sex trafficking charges. To continue reading, [click here](#).

Trucking industry continues to prove critical component to anti-trafficking fight

The first quarter report on calls to the National Human Trafficking Hotline from members of the trucking industry shows that their calls continue to be a critical component in the fight against human trafficking.

Since the National Human Trafficking Hotline started in December 2007, truckers have made 832 calls to report human trafficking tips. The total number of cases of potential trafficking reported by truckers is 278. (Note: A case refers to a specific report or request submitted to the hotline via phone call, SMS text message, email, or online tip report. Each case may have multiple signals and/or multiple people associated with it.)

Truckers rank 13th in terms of reporting potential trafficking tips but are eighth in terms of reporting potential sex trafficking tips. Truckers rank 19th overall in number of calls to the National Human Trafficking Hotline, operated by the National Human Trafficking Resource Center (NHTRC).



TAT presents in four states in MAY

Speakers for TAT will be making presentations at the following meetings in May:

May 2 -- New Mexico Trucking Association Annual Meeting, Kylla Leeburg speaking

May 6 - Women in Trucking 2014 Webinar Series, Noon (Eastern Daylight Time), Kendis Paris speaking on "Combating Human Trafficking through the Trucking Industry." [Click here](#) to register.

May 13 -- Kansas Motor Carriers Association Safety Management Council, Candace Joice speaking

May 14 -- North Dakota Motor Carriers Association Annual Convention. Kendis Paris speaking with North Dakota US Attorney, Tim Purdon

May 15 -- Massachusetts Motor Transportation Association Spring General Membership Meeting, Kylla Leeburg speaking

What is TAT?

Truckers Against Trafficking (TAT) is a non-profit organization that exists to educate, equip, empower and mobilize the trucking industry to combat human trafficking as part of their regular jobs. Domestic sex trafficking occurs along our nation's highways and at its truck stops, where traffickers can sell their victims to a transient population they believe are less likely to attempt rescue. In response, TAT is asking the 3 million domestic truckers, as well as other members of the trucking industry, to become aware of this issue, and, when they suspect a human trafficking case, to call the national hotline and report it. Visit our website at www.truckersagainstrafficking.org to learn more.

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