# Petition to Eradicate Child Trafficking: A Call to Action for Lawmakers & Leaders

Every year hundreds of thousands of individuals are victims of child trafficking here in the United States. Child sex trafficking is a grave violation of human rights, a scourge on our society, and an affront to the values we hold dear. It exploits the most vulnerable among us, subjecting them to unimaginable horrors for the sake of greed and power. Despite our collective efforts, child sex trafficking continues to thrive in all of our communities. We can no longer stand idle. We must act now to implement bold, comprehensive solutions that protect survivors, prosecute traffickers, and prevent this heinous crime from flourishing. Together, we can eradicate child trafficking.

# WE, THE UNDERSIGNED, CALL ON LAWMAKERS, GOVERNMENT LEADERS, AND THE PUBLIC TO UNITE AND PRIORITIZE THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS:

# 1. Advance Legislation for Safe Home Certification Standards

Survivors of human trafficking deserve more than just a pathway to exit their exploitation; they deserve access to safe, supportive environments that meet their complex, long-term recovery needs. Currently, the lack of standardized certification for safe homes leads to inconsistent levels of care. We call for state and federal legislation that establishes rigorous, survivor-informed certification standards for safe homes across the nation. By implementing these standards, we ensure that survivors receive high-quality, trauma-informed support and care, laying the foundation for a life of freedom and dignity.

## 2. Adopt 'Funding Follows the Survivor' Legislation

Survivors of trafficking have unique needs, and a one-size-fits-all approach to funding is not enough. Often, funding is allocated to programs rather than the individuals they aim to serve. We urge lawmakers to adopt a 'funding follows the survivor' model. This approach empowers survivors by allocating resources directly to them, allowing them to choose the services that best support their recovery and empowerment. By centering funding around survivor autonomy, we create a system that is truly responsive, flexible, and effective in promoting lasting recovery and reintegration.

### 3. Implement a National Data and Response Network for Human Trafficking

To effectively combat human trafficking, we need a centralized, technology-driven network that streamlines reporting, coordinates responses, and connects survivors to vital services beyond just a traditional hotline. A national, 24/7 response network using advanced AI and secure data analytics would provide an anonymous, efficient system for collecting and addressing reports of trafficking.

This network would foster cross-jurisdictional collaboration among law enforcement, service providers, and community organizations, empowering them to identify trends, target prevention strategies, and act swiftly. We call on lawmakers to support the implementation of this robust network, which will transform the fight against trafficking into a coordinated, data-informed effort.

#### Why These Priorities?

Collectively, We believe that these priorities address the most critical gaps in our response to human trafficking: protection, empowerment, and technological coordination. By standardizing care through safe home certification, we elevate the quality of support survivors receive. By ensuring that funding follows the survivor, we respect their autonomy and dignity in choosing the services they need. And by implementing a national data and response network, we harness the power of technology to streamline intervention, protect survivors, and enhance community safety.

#### **OUR CALL TO ACTION**

With one voice, We urge lawmakers, government leaders, and communities across the nation to make these priorities a reality. These policies will transform lives, uphold human dignity, and dismantle trafficking networks. Let us come together to demand a future where freedom is a right, not a privilege.

Eradicating human trafficking will not be achieved through isolated efforts. It requires collective impact – a unified approach where every individual, organization, and institution plays a part. That is why we are of one mind that we can build a world where trafficking is no longer a threat, where survivors are empowered to reclaim their lives, and where dignity and freedom prevail for all.

Sign this petition today and join the movement to eradicate child trafficking. It will take all of us, but together, We can make this vision a reality.

