

## ***Not Alone: Working Together in the Fight Against Human Trafficking***

### **What do I do if I want to help?**

**Kristen Abrams:** What makes me want to go to work every day is I know that traffickers are out there. They're working hard, we in the activist community need to be working even harder. I'm the Senior Director of the Combating Human Trafficking program at the McCain Institute for International Leadership at Arizona State University.

Every community has a unique fingerprint and it's why we work really at the local level. We're working to build resilience within communities to try to prevent human trafficking in the way that makes most sense in that community and with that particular population.

**Daniella Alvarado Perez:** I'm the Senior Prevention Advisory Specialist at Love146. I spend most of my time traveling nationwide to help professionals better understand how to have these difficult conversations about trafficking to prevent them with their youth.

It is scary going up to your teenager and asking them about consent or talking to them about sharing content online and even human trafficking. So we help parents manage this and we help caregivers manage these difficult situations and we help youth as well.

When I first entered this field, it was because I had skills that transitioned well into working with youth and to leading trainings. And as I learned more about how human trafficking affects our communities, the populations that are most vulnerable, and the tools and the resources that we can offer these individuals, I became more and more passionate.

**Abrams:** Working with individuals and understanding frankly how desperate their situations were and how having an advocate, a trained lawyer, who could help navigate what this country has made a very complex process of either achieving a T-Visa or getting an asylum application through. It was something that I believed in and continue to believe in.

**Alvarado Perez:** I know that this is a situation that we can truly end in our communities. We have the tools. We have the resources and people care. It really just takes us working together and that's what keeps me going to work every day.