



FREE THE SLAVES eUPDATE

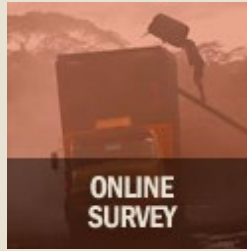
A quarterly progress report to supporters about Free the Slaves activities and impact



SURVIVORS PAINT MESSAGES OF HOPE



FRONTLINE PARTNER WINS MEDAL



ONLINE SURVEY



SIDEWALK ACTIVISM



HOUSE PARTY TOOL KIT



Slavery Survivors Paint Messages of Hope to Slaves Still in Bondage

They said it simply, and artistically: Freedom is possible.

The artists were slavery survivors in northern India, members of the Federation of Former Slaves, organized by the Free the Slaves frontline partner group MSEMVS. Their mission was to create a gesture of solidarity and hope for those still enslaved.

Both adults and children joined in. The adults painted an illustration that depicts communities getting organized, demanding

their rights, and overcoming the agents of slavery in India's brick manufacturing industry. The children painted a tree of freedom, showing that employment, health, food, land, human rights, schooling and playtime are the fruits of independence from slaveholders.

The canvases were sent to a meeting of enslaved brick kiln workers in the state of Odisha. Every year, thousands of impoverished Odisha villagers are taken by traffickers to brick factories far from home, where they are forced to work 12-15 hours a day for six months without pay.



The villagers of Odisha are just beginning to get organized to resist traffickers and slavery. The inspirational canvases helped communicate that those who are now free stand ready to help.

Learn more about Free the Slaves programs in India on our [India webpage](#), including video of Free the Slaves teaching child slavery survivors how to paint.v



Free the Slaves Frontline Partner wins “Nobel Prize of Asia”

We’ve received wonderful news that one of our Nepali partners, Shakti Samuha, has won a prestigious award for its anti-trafficking work. It’s called the [Ramon Magsaysay Award](#), and it is presented annually for achievements that improve lives and transform societies. It’s considered by many to be Asia’s premier prize and highest honor.

Shakti Samuha, an organization formed by sex slavery survivors, works to liberate women and girls from sexual exploitation in Kathmandu’s dance bars, restaurants and massage parlors. The Ramon Magsaysay Award committee was impressed by the dedication and leadership that Shakti Samuha has brought to the anti-slavery movement in Nepal.

“In electing Shakti Samuha to receive the 2013 Ramon Magsaysay Award, the board of trustees recognizes its founders and members for transforming their lives in service to other human trafficking survivors, for their passionate dedication towards rooting out a pernicious social evil in Nepal, and the radiant example they have shown the world in reclaiming the human dignity that is the birthright of all abused women and children everywhere.”

FTS has supported Shakti Samuha for the past six years, providing intensive support to its organizational development and ability to demonstrate results. Watch our mini-documentary and read more about Shakti Samuha’s work on the [FTS Nepal webpage](#).



You Can Strengthen Free the Slaves: Complete Our Online Survey

Your ongoing support and activism has helped Free the Slaves move people from slavery to freedom around the globe. Now, if you’re willing to donate 10 minutes of your time, you can help us become even more effective.

Please click to our 2013 online supporter survey. It’s quick. It’s easy. And it will make a difference. [Here’s the link](#). Your impressions about Free the Slaves are extraordinarily valuable. Your insights and guidance will help us

become a stronger organization. Be sure to enter the drawing for a Free the Slaves T-shirt at the end of the survey. are children entitled to?” Students responded enthusiastically with answers such as: “Right to Shelter!” and “Right to Education!” Learn more about our child rights in mining project on our [Ghana webpage](#).

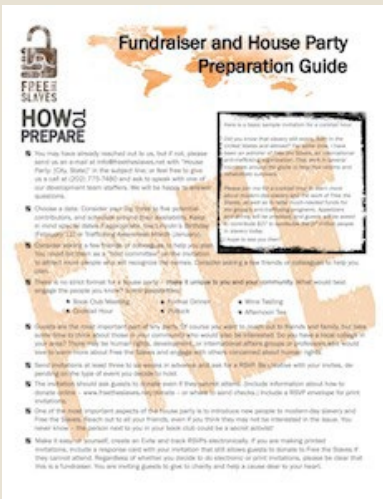


Sidewalk Activism: Fighting Slavery with Chalk

Students from the Free the Slaves Chapter at Columbia College in Chicago found a simple but effective way to spread the word that slavery still exists. They spelled it out where everyone could see it: on the sidewalk.

“We covered the sidewalks with facts that were sure to draw attention,” says chapter president Lynnea Malley. “It was awesome to see how much attention we generated while we were chalking. Several people out for an evening stroll stopped to see what we were writing and asked us for more information.”

Lynnea cautions others to research your local sidewalk chalk law before taking to the streets. But she says that chalking was a remarkably successful way to mobilize supporters to take action. “This activity was cheap, effective, and a ton of fun for our chapter!” she says. You can check out other ideas for student anti-slavery activities on our Free the Slaves [student chapter webpage](#).



House Party Fundraising Tool Kit Now Online

Want to support the work of Free the Slaves? Throw a party! Many people have asked us for ways that they can spread the word and raise donations. We’ve created the [Fundraiser and House Party Preparation Guide](#) to make it easy.

The guide provides a rundown of simple steps to prepare for an event. It includes suggestions for various types of parties, how to budget, how to attract people to the event, a timeline of steps you will need to take, a sign up sheet and donation forms. The kit provides all the information you need, and guides you through the process to make your party a success.

Be creative, bring people together who want to help out, have fun and don’t stress too much. Raising funds for Free the Slaves is a chance to have fun with people who are passionate about the same things you are, while making a difference.

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