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People are NOT for sale

**Australian Catholic Religious
Against Trafficking in Humans**

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July 9 2021

Dear Supporters and Members,

Thank you if you have already responded to our 2021 fundraising campaign.

As you are aware ACRATH receives no government funding and hence we will continue our fundraising campaign until 30 July - UN World Day Against Trafficking in Persons. The monies raised will keep our critical anti-slavery programs funded for the next year.

COVID-19 has made millions of people around the world, including in Australia and our region, more vulnerable to human trafficking. In order to reduce the risk of trafficking during the pandemic ACRATH has expanded its outreach work to schools, health care providers and community organisations.

We work closely, via online and face-to-face training events, to ensure people can identify if a person is the victim of forced labour, sexual exploitation or a forced marriage, and for them to also know the correct referral pathways.

This month ACRATH, in partnership with St John of God Healthcare (SJGHC), is embarking on a major formation-training program from July to December which will be offered to 563 leaders from SJGHC facilities in Australia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea and Timor Leste.

Led by ACRATH's healthcare liaison and forced marriage worker, Megan Bourke, the formation sessions will raise awareness of human trafficking and modern day slavery and of what can be done within SJGHC to identify and support trafficked people and to identify slavery in supply chains.

The SJGHC program follows a training partnership over many years with St Vincent's Health Australia. Our work with St Vincent's Health Australia has led to the training of Advocates for Change and the identification of trafficked people at both the Sydney and Melbourne public hospitals.

"We discovered very quickly during the pandemic that vulnerable people were at greater risk. One way to support them is to train the people most likely to encounter them. We know that young girls at risk of a forced marriage will sometimes disclose to a trusted teacher. We also know that frontline hospital workers are the ones likely to treat a trafficked person. Training of these people is essential," said ACRATH President Louise Cleary CSB.

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“Everything ACRATH has done in the 16 years since we started is done in partnership with others. We work closely with other agencies, including the Australian Federal Police and Anti-Slavery Australia. Your support is needed to keep our programs running.”

Please help eliminate forced marriage, forced labour and modern day slavery. We can only do what we do to protect and support victims of human trafficking and slavery through your generosity.

Please donate today

You can donate online at:

<https://www.trybooking.com/au/donate/acrath>

OR go to <https://acrath.org.au/donate/>

Cheques payable to ACRATH Public Fund and posted to:
ACRATH National Office, 54 Beaconsfield Parade, Albert Park, 3206.

Direct Deposit

Commonwealth Bank of Australia

ACRATH Public Fund

BSB 063 111 Account number 10802141

(Please send an email to treasurer@acrath.org.au if you make a donation by direct deposit giving name and contact details so that a receipt can be sent).

Please donate to our appeal today.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards



Christine Carolan, Executive Officer



Sr Louise Cleary CSB, President

For more appeal information contact Rosie Hoban on 0431 471046 or media@acrath.org.au.