

**GREEK ORTHODOX LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY, INC.
NATIONAL COMMITTEE REPORT
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2023 – HOUSTON, TX
NATIONAL PHILOPTOCHOS BOARD MEETING**



Human Trafficking Awareness and Action Committee

Chair: Katherine Siavelis

Co- Chair: Martha Driscoll

Members: Irene Arsoniadis, Stephanie Cha, Eleni Constantinides, Cindy Crosson, Despina Denne, Vasilianna Fakiris, Irene Fotos, Diana Jianas, Effie Moraitakis, Matina Pappas, Aphrodite Skeadas, Andrea Tiggas, and Anna Vedouras

November 10, 2023

Mission Statement:

The mission of this committee is to educate and develop awareness of the multi-faceted problem of human trafficking and to encourage action by assisting and working with national and local agencies that assist victims of human trafficking.

Objective:

To build and enhance the focus in three important areas of Human Trafficking:

Awareness, Action, and Prevention.

Over the course of this year, our Human Trafficking Awareness and Action Committee, through several Zoom Conference Calls and research within each of our nine Metropolises and nationwide has been working toward completing the following tasks for each of our objectives:

Awareness:

- ❖ Developed a Human Trafficking Fact Sheet with current vital statistics and information to be disseminated through each of our Metropolises to each of our Chapters to provide awareness of this multi-faceted issue.
- ❖ Informed and encouraged our Philoptochos members, friends and families to see the *Sound of Freedom* movie to obtain an insight into Human Trafficking in and outside of our country.
- ❖ Promoted educational videos from U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security and other agencies (ex. Blue Campaign dhs.gov/bluecampaign).
- ❖ Referred our Committee to our National Philoptochos Social Services Resource Guide.

Action:

- ❖ Updated and completed the Human Trafficking Awareness & Action Documents for each of our Metropolises listing the Human Trafficking Agencies and Services offered to be posted on each of their websites.
- ❖ Provided presentations and speakers on Human Trafficking within Chapters and Metropolises.
- ❖ Enhanced and updated reading list and resources.

Prevention:

- ❖ Researching Education/Prevention Program could be used to educate the Youth within our Parishes and Metropolis Youth Programs.
- ❖ Scheduling meeting(s) with Youth and Young Adult leaders within our Metropolises and Archdiocese to determine the most appropriate Human Trafficking Education/Prevention Programs and Curriculum that can be utilized and implemented with our youth.

National Board Members are encouraged to research educational materials that deal with the Education/Prevention of Human Trafficking and submit the following information to our **Committee Chairs: Katherine Siavelis (katherine.siavelis@gmail.com) and Marty Driscoll (martydriscoll@bellsouth.net):**

- 1) Suggested Copy or Link of the Education/Prevention Material
- 2) Brief description of this Education/Prevention Material
- 3) Relate how the Education/Prevention Material could be used to educate the youth within our Parishes and Metropolis Youth Programs