

peacepromise

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

JULY 2026

The Difficult Duality

As we come together to enjoy our summer attending barbecues, nibbling loaded chili dogs, and lounging poolside...someone within five miles of us is being sold into prostitution.

Significantly underreported, this is an issue that spans centuries of history. Human trafficking did not begin in the modern era, but has deep, twisted roots that require us to grapple with the duality of our nation being **both great and greatly damaged**.

In the early 1900s, following the American abolition of slave trade, the selling of women and girls referred to as “white slavery” was outlawed in thirteen countries across the globe signed the International Agreement for the Suppression of White Slave Trade. By 1921, twenty more countries joined. Although the agreement was meant to cauterize the wound of trafficking, all it did was slow the bleeding, merely thrusting it into the shadows away from public eyes.

Through the 40s & 50s, trafficking largely remained a “hush hush” issue, specifically persisting in the fields of agriculture, domestic work, & hospitality. Migrant workers, limited by language and economic barriers found themselves in the clutches of trafficking and slavery.

“For years now, a fundamental disagreement about prostitution and trafficking for sexual exploitation has raged with no sign of abatement.”

— Jody Raphael (DePaul College of Law)

Although terminology was coined for this “modern” form of trafficking in the 1990s, it was no stranger to many American victims who had spent decades being forced into prostitution rings, compelled to service any and all paying solicitors. Now with the advent of Onlyfans, Pornhub, and other digital vehicles of exploitation, the trend of sex sales is more on the rise than ever before. Even the more tame social platforms (Instagram, Snapchat, TikTok) seem to be lax in their restrictions, and innocents are easily made victims. Death is often considered the great equalizer, but I would argue it is sex.

Especially on large celebrated holidays, exploitation’s hooks sink deeply into our everyday goings on. Trafficking is not simply a crime of abduction by strangers, but a complex system that preys on vulnerability, isolation, and unmet needs. While policy and laws can change the landscape of sex trafficking, we must individually make the choice to stand and fight the oppression and exploitation that still occurs in our world today.

As we celebrate a milestone birthday of our country, we want to thank you for all you have done to help free women from human trafficking. **We want to both celebrate the things that make this nation beautiful and look ahead to a brighter future.**

Catelynne Lewis,
Marketing Coordinator

A Letter From Dawn

Peace Promise Volunteer
Dawn Faust



Dear friends,

I have enjoyed participating in Growth Groups for some time now. Showing up, sharing meals, and building relationships has blessed me in ways I never saw coming!

More recently, I've been included in the Thrivers Groups as well. Growth Groups for fun, connection and learning. Thrivers Groups are for diving deeper, processing and supporting the women in the room.

Both nights provide a safe space to be open, vulnerable and receive the love and support we all need in this life. Thrivers Group...is the space where the hard work is done. This is the night we sit with the ugly and messy parts of life. We celebrate the wins. We listen and we don't judge. We provide suggestions and hold each other accountable.

The Thrivers Group is where you find the "all-in" women. They are committed to their own healing and growth as well as committed to each other. They show up consistently. They share hard experiences, they laugh together, and they make new memories as they grow and learn.



We have been learning about Safe People. Last week my heart was so full as I participated in a conversation about people in our lives that are not safe people. The talk turned into an opportunity for one survivor to open up and process feelings and expectations she has about someone in her life she has come to see is not a safe person for her at this time. Watching these women rally around their fellow survivor was beautiful. Listening to this survivor use her words to explain her complex feelings, filled my heart with pride.

The Thrivers Group is more than a meeting—it's a community. It's a place where burdens are shared, victories are celebrated, and hearts are strengthened. The women in this group continually inspire me with their courage, honesty, and willingness to do the hard work that leads to growth and healing.



TAMP INTO Good Ground

Working at Good Ground means more than just making coffee.

It is joining a team whose daily work directly supports the healing programs of Peace Promise, aiding the mission of restoring hope and strengthening lives of individuals who have been impacted by sexual exploitation.



Banana Bread Latte



Strawberry Matcha

Summer Specials



Soaps *by* Survivors

Retail Locations

Good Ground Coffee

244 S 17th Street
Camp Hill

Locals Market

200 N U.S. 15
Dillsburg

Longnecks True Value

127 Doe Run Road
Manheim

Messiah Lifeways

100 Mount Allen Road
Mechanicsburg

Roots Salon

3804 Gettysburg Road
Camp Hill

Route 174 Roadside Market

849 Boiling Springs Road.
Mechanicsburg

Smucker Gardens

1677 US-209
Millersburg



***off for July 4th!**

Visit Us

Mon thru Friday

7am - 3pm

Saturday

8am - 3pm

Two businesses.
One home.
One purpose.





Drivers Needed



Our Direct Care Team is looking for a few individuals who would be willing to volunteer as part of our list of drivers to assist as needs arise.

For more information, email
volunteer@peacepromise.org

Volunteers Needed at Good Ground Coffee!

We have some openings to help cover volunteer shifts at Good Ground Coffee.



Please contact Elyse Acosta at
goodgroundcoffee@peacepromise.org
for more information & ways to get involved!



Summer Experiences!

Is there a summer activity that you love to do with your family that you would like to financially sponsor for the group, or simply provide the supplies for the experience? Ideas could include: Lake Tobais; Picnic at Little Buffalo; Herr's Drive in movie night; Mini Golf and Ice-cream. We would love to share your family's favorites with the community of survivors as they grow in experiences.

Reach out to rebecca@peacepromise.org or patty@peacepromise.org

Service Opportunity

Would You Consider Providing Meals For Our Survivor Groups?



Please consider partnering with Peace Promise by signing up to either 1) make a meal or 2) sponsor a meal for our survivor support groups. There are a variety of dates and times available and this is one easy way that our community can walk with us in survivor support.

Do you have a skill or hobby to share?

Master of Power Tools?
Fishing? Yes, please. Basic home maintenance? We should ALL learn how to shut off an overflowing toilet!

Or are you a tech person that wants to teach how to use sheets, or google drive? We want you!

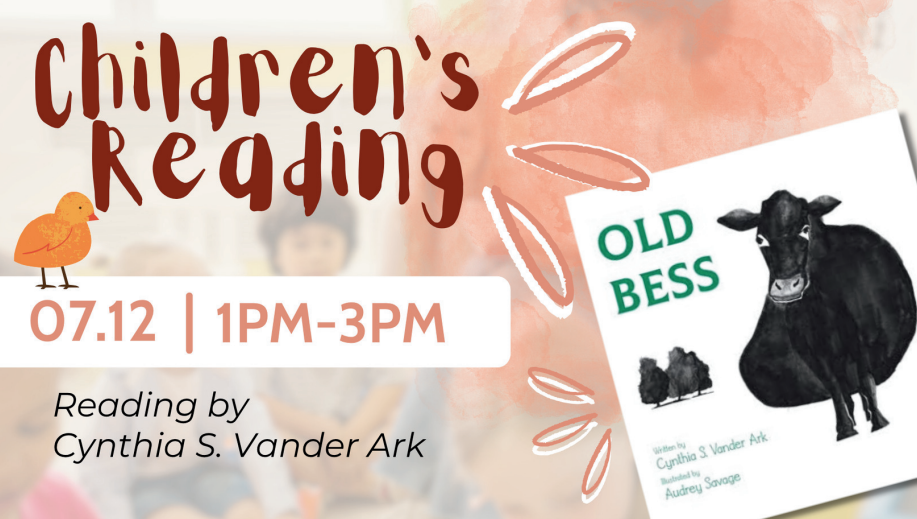


For more information, on either of these opportunities mail
rebecca@peacepromise.org

Join Us for a Special Farm-Themed Story Time!

Gather the little ones and join us for a DELIGHTFUL reading of *Old Bess* by author Cynthia S. Vander Ark!

This family-friendly event is a special collaboration between Peace Promise, Soaps by Survivors, Good Ground Coffee Company, and Cynthia herself.



Best of all, proceeds from Old Bess support the life-changing work of Peace Promise, helping survivors of human trafficking find hope, healing, and restoration.

We would love to meet with your community!

Consider connecting with us as you fill your calendar this year. We can speak on topics such as the sex industry, trafficking, and pornography, among other topics. We would love to speak to your church, group, or school. We would love to share our mission with you!

For more information, email us at admin@peacepromise.org



Partner Number: 50045

Peace Promise receives a portion of the proceeds anytime you make a donation to Community Aid when you give them our name and our partner number! So make those donations and don't forget to tell them who sent you!

Donate Now



Upcoming Dates!

- 7/11 - Soaps by Survivors @ Meadowbrooke Gourds' Summer Celebration
- 7/12: Children's Reading with Cynthia S. Vander Ark
- 10/11: Run for Freedom (In-Person)



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Peace Promise is a 501 (c)(3) organization.