



January 6, 2020  
MEDIA ADVISORY

## Restaurant Association to Introduce Anti-Trafficking Program During Dallas County Commissioners Court Presentation

Tuesday morning, Jan. 7, 2020, 9 a.m., at Dallas County Commissioners Court, the Greater Dallas Restaurant Association's **24HourDallas** initiative will introduce an anti-human trafficking program. This announcement will take place in tandem with Dallas County Commissioner **Dr. Elba Garcia's National Human Trafficking Awareness Day** resolution presentation.

Human trafficking is modern-day slavery. It is the exploitation of men, women, and children for forced labor or sex by a third-party for profit or gain. National Human Trafficking Awareness Day is January 11.

24HourDallas and the restaurant industry will invite Dallas County businesses to do something about human trafficking right now.

In partnership with the **Dallas Police Department, hck2 Partners, DuPriest POP, TransNation Translations, Dallas County, and restaurateurs Edith and Chris Aslam**, 24HourDallas has developed a simple way restaurants and other businesses can passively communicate to trafficked individuals.

A multi-lingual placard has been designed for the one public setting where trafficking victims have privacy: Public restrooms.

The program was developed out of an experience the Aslams had in realizing how restaurants – particularly fast-casual restaurants – are often on the sex and labor trafficking "superhighway."

Through this service, Dallas-area restaurants, bars, entertainment venues, hotels, stores and others can help trafficked persons realize they are not free and give them steps to take to escape their captors.

We invite these businesses to request anti-trafficking materials at [24hourdallas.org/freedom](https://24hourdallas.org/freedom)

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### AVAILABLE FOR INTERVIEW, JAN. 7, 2020

**Keith Foster**, a volunteer leader with the 24HourDallas initiative, will speak before Commissioners Court. Following the resolution, he, **Dr. Elba Garcia**, trafficking expert **Charcene Jackson** from the Dallas County District Attorney's office and other 24HourDallas coalition members will step out into the lobby to speak with media. In addition we will have representatives who can talk about 24HourDallas and the restaurant industry's leadership in this initiative.

*24HourDallas is an initiative of the Greater Dallas Restaurant Association. The mission of 24HourDallas is to create a safe, vibrant and diverse nighttime culture in Dallas for businesses, residents, and guests. The GDRA is a chapter of the Texas Restaurant Association.*

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