

COMPASSION LINK

Assemblies of God World Missions

AN INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF
THEORY AND PRACTICE IN COMPASSION
MINISTRIES



THEME—HUMAN TRAFFICKING

VOLUME 5—SPRING 2012

COMPASSION LINK

PURPOSE

This publication is a service of the Assemblies of God World Missions (AGWM) Compassion Ministries Planning Committee with the purpose of providing relevant and current information on theory and practice of compassion ministries in AGWM circles and beyond.

The publication is intended to become a resource link between AGWM regions and ministries, and to offer information to our Assemblies of God churches and constituents, as well.

EDITORIAL STAFF

- JoAnn Butrin Ph.D. (*Editor*)
- Bob McGurty
- Doug Sites
- Peggy Johnson Knutti
- Diane Campbell
- Neil Ruda

EDITOR'S MESSAGE

Human trafficking is a tragic demonstration of evil, greed, perversion and depravity of mankind. It causes us to feel outraged, stirs up moral indignation, and it makes our hearts ache at the thought of women and children being sexually exploited and exposed to of emotional and physical pain.

Probably more than any other social injustice, human trafficking stirs us to “want to do something.” And it should. But the question that we attempt to answer in this issue, is “What should we, as concerned and motivated Christians do to help right the horrible wrong of trafficking.?”

We hope that you will find this issue to be informative and also assist you as you ponder how you can make a difference in the fight against human trafficking.

—JoAnn Butrin, Editor

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction to Human Trafficking	4
Carla Marroquin	
Prevention of Human Trafficking	12
Carla Marroquin	
What Can You Do About Human Trafficking	20
Case Studies	
Practical Ways for the Church to Help Trafficking Victims . . .	23
JoAnn Butrin	
Have a Safe Journey	30
Brandy Wilson	

COMPASSION LINK

INTRODUCTION TO HUMAN TRAFFICKING

By Carla Marroquin

I was walking to my aunt's house for ironing work when I was kidnapped by three men. They closed my eyes, gagged my mouth, and threw me in their car... In Corinth, this man told me, "We have found a job for you." He took me to a bar where I saw women in sex work. I tried to protest, but the men in the bar took me to the bathroom and raped me one after the other until I went unconscious...¹

This is only part of a 13-year-old survivor's story at the Vatra Shelter in Vlora, Albania. Multiply this story by millions today and you will only begin to grasp the magnitude of modern slavery.

HISTORY

Over 400 years ago the trans-Atlantic slave-trade emerged as Africans were forcibly taken from their land and exported all over the world for purposes of forced labor. Entire nations and economies were built on the backs of

slaves. What is shocking, however, is that in our modern-day civilized society slavery has once again emerged with a brutality that rivals anything in history. Today it is called *human trafficking*.

RAPID INCREASE

In 2001 when the U.S. State Department issued its first *Trafficking In Persons (T.I.P.) Report*, it was noted that, "...at least 700,000 persons, especially women and children, are trafficked each year across international borders. "Today an estimated 12.3 million (International Labor Organization <http://www.ilo.org/global/publications/ilo-bookstore/order-online/books/WCMS_081882/lang--en/index.htm>) men, women and children are trafficked for commercial sex or forced labor around the world annually. Conservative estimates project that there are 27–30 million slaves on the earth right now (Free The Slaves <<http://www.freetheslaves.net/>>) and some experts estimate that there are as many as 200 million.

According to U.S. Health and Human Services human trafficking is the Number 2 illegal industry in the world, second only to illegal drugs, and is the fastest growing. The U.S. State Department tells us human trafficking is a 32 billion dollar a year industry: that's more than the revenues of Starbucks, Nike and Google combined.

WHAT EXACTLY IS HUMAN TRAFFICKING?

In 2000 the U.S. **2000 Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act (V.T.V.P.A.)** gave a legal definition of “severe forms of trafficking in persons”: (a) sex trafficking in which a commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such act has not attained 18 years of age; or (b) the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery.

The U.N. Protocol Against Trafficking in Persons—created by the United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime (U.N.O.D.C.) is the foremost *international* agreement on trafficking in persons. It is also known as **The Palermo Protocol** signed in Palermo, Italy in 2000.

Both laws define trafficking in persons as a set of acts, means, and purposes. Both emphasize the use of force, fraud, or coercion to obtain the services of another person. And both acknowledge that movement is not required, framing the crime around the extreme exploitation that characterizes this form of abuse. (Visit the UNODC Web site at <<http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/human-trafficking/index.html>>.)

Human trafficking is commonly broken down into three categories: commercial sexual exploitation, labor trafficking (including child soldiers) and trafficking in human organs.

Examples of human trafficking cases span sex trafficking in India and Latin America, the shrimp in-

COMPASSION LINK

dustry in Thailand, child soldiers in Burma, cotton in Uzbekistan, fishing on Lake Volta in Ghana, and forced labor in Florida's citrus fields.

WHO ARE THE VICTIMS?

While anyone can become a victim of trafficking, certain populations are especially vulnerable. These may include: undocumented migrants; runaway and homeless youth; and oppressed, marginalized, and/or impoverished groups and individuals. Traffickers specifically target individuals in these populations because they are vulnerable to recruitment tactics and methods of control.

An estimated 2.5 million people are in forced labor (including sexual exploitation) at any given time as a result of trafficking.²

Of these:

- 1.4 million (56 percent): are in Asia and the Pacific
- 250,000 (10 percent): are in Latin America and the Caribbean
- 230,000 (9.2 percent): are in the Middle East and Northern

Africa

- 130,000 (5.2 percent): are in sub-Saharan countries
- 270,000 (10.8 percent): are in industrialized countries
- 200,000 (8 percent): are in countries in transition³

The majority of trafficking victims are between 18 and 24 years of age⁴

- An estimated 1.2 million children are trafficked each year⁵
 - 95 percent of victims experienced physical or sexual violence during trafficking (based on data from selected European countries)⁶
 - 43 percent of victims are used for forced commercial sexual exploitation, of whom 98 percent are women and girls⁷
 - 32 percent of victims are used for forced economic exploitation, of which 56 percent are women and girls⁸
 - Many trafficking victims have at least a middle-level education⁹
- Although these statistics indicate that most trafficking victims

COMPASSION LINK

today are 18 years of age or older, it is globally agreed that the average age of induction into commercial sexual exploitation is 12 and growing younger each year.

WHO ARE THE TRAFFICKERS?

The exploiters, including traffickers, pimps, and brothel owners make up what is known as the sex industry. Traffickers and organized crime groups are the perpetrators that have received most of the attention in discussions about the sex trafficking. They make money from the sale of sex as a commodity.

- 52 percent of those recruiting victims are men, 42 percent are women and 6 percent are both men and women¹⁰
- In 54 percent of cases the recruiter was a stranger to the victim, 46 percent of cases the recruiter was known to victim¹¹
- The majority of suspects involved in the trafficking process are nationals of the country where the trafficking process is occurring¹²

By tolerating or legalizing

prostitution, the state, at least passively, is contributing to the demand for victims. The more states regulate prostitution and derive tax revenue from it, the more actively they become part of the demand for victims.

In destination countries, strategies are often devised to protect the sex industries that generate millions, even billions, of dollars per year for the economy. When prostitution is legal, governments expect to collect tax revenue. Where prostitution is illegal, criminals, organized crime groups and corrupt officials profit.¹³

WHAT ARE THE PUSH FACTORS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING?

Globalization: Globalization can be defined as an elimination of barriers to trade, communication, and cultural exchange. Those who view it negatively see it as an opportunity for stronger economies to exploit weaker. Those who favor globalization believe that worldwide openness will promote the inherent wealth of all nations.

Regardless of one's economic

COMPASSION LINK

philosophy, the destabilization of the Soviet Bloc with deficient economic and political infrastructures in its satellite countries, the formation of the European Union, the increase and availability of transportation as well as the Internet can be pointed to as elements of globalization and facilitators of human trafficking.

Poverty: Many, if not most trafficking victims fall prey to this practice because they seek a better life or enhanced economic opportunities. They are, therefore, vulnerable to false promises of good jobs and higher wages. (Kevin Bales, freetheslaves.net) Poverty itself is often a result of war, famine or other natural disasters, the breakdown of family units, substance abuse, lack of opportunity for education and gender bias among other factors. (U.S. Aid)

Organized Crime: As has been noted, human trafficking is the Number 2 illegal industry world-wide. The Japanese Yakuza, Chinese Triads, Mexican and Colombian Cartels, Russian, Albanian and Italian mafias and

more recently the Central American Maras and Salvatruchas are trading in humans. It is said today that where there is a drug trade, there is human trafficking.

Why? Simply because drugs must be either grown and harvested or fabricated, then packaged, transported, sold to a supplier, then distributed and sold: All at high risk due to strict laws, police vigilance and stiff penalties. On the other hand, a human being can be obtained and maintained for minimal cost, exploited repeatedly over several years and discarded, only to be replaced by another disposable human. Laws penalizing human trafficking are limited and penalties are often less than half compared to those of the illegal drug trade.

Government Corruption: One of the most disturbing features of today's slavery is the government corruption and complicity that allows it to continue.

According to the DCAF 14 Report, law enforcement in nation after nation is often-times complicit in trafficking,

COMPASSION LINK

pocketing bribes for looking the other way, “losing” vital travel and citizenship documents, and in some cases actually working directly with criminal elements to facilitate the movement of human beings across national and international borders. (National Underground Railroad Freedom Center <<http://freedomcenter.org/freedom-forum/index.php/2010/02/police-corruption-traffickings-silent-partner/>>)

In each annual T.I.P. Report, national governments are measured against the T.V.P.A.’s minimal standard of efforts to combat trafficking under the “3P” paradigm: prosecution, protection and prevention. According to their rating, each nation is labeled “Tier 1”, “Tier 2” or “Tier 3” in decreasing order of cooperation and progress. Visit the State Department’s Web site at <<http://www.state.gov/j/tip/rls/tiprpt/2011/164224.htm#3>> and locate the 2011 report on your country of interest.

Religion and Culture: A religious paradigm of misogyny allows females to be victimized. This

is evidenced in cultures that espouse strong religious beliefs such as India, Thailand and the Mekong Sub-region, Nigeria, Albania and the Balkans. In Latin America the prevailing “macho” culture is fertile soil for male entitlement while a strong Catholic influence has encouraged women to suffer in silence and submission.

Siddarth Kara (2009) investigated human trafficking in eighteen countries and six continents over a three year period. Kara says this about push factors:

More than poverty, military conflict, or other social disasters, what drove rural women into the clutches of sex traffickers was a primary factor everywhere I investigated trafficking: Millions of women lived in a world that overwhelmingly disdained them.

Demand: Although trafficking is usually associated with poverty, it is often the wealthier countries that create the demand for victims for their sex industries.

There are four components that make-up the demand: 1) the men

COMPASSION LINK

who buy commercial sex acts, 2) the exploiters who make up the sex industry, 3) the states that are destination countries, and 4) the culture that tolerates or promotes sexual exploitation.¹⁵

The widespread proliferation and normalization of pornography has given way to a glamorization of the pimp culture and a generation of men who demand that their sexual fantasies be fulfilled. This is coming at the cost of the enslavement of our women and children.¹⁶

Dorchen Leidholdt, a feminist leader in the battle to stop violence against women, says, “Pornography socializes men and boys to believe it is “sexy” and wonderful to treat another person as an object. It teaches them that women and girls are for sale. As a consequence, it is the best propaganda for sex trafficking.”¹⁷

The international community has its eye on *sex tourism* and those who travel to pay for sex. This happens and those who travel to pay for sex acts must be held accountable. Recent stud-

ies confirm, however, that in the majority of cases in countries where sex tourism is prevalent, regular purchasers are proven to be “locals” and “natives” of the slave’s country and culture. (See 2011 T.I.P. Report)

There is no neutral ground for today’s citizen: Either I am part of the problem, or I am part of the solution.

SUMMARY

The issue of modern day slavery is complex and global. Government and Non-governmental organizations, as well as faith-based alliances are recognizing the need to collaborate in order to end this scourge.

When an issue is as complex as this is, the opportunities to have a positive impact on it are innumerable. Rescuers, radio and TV celebrities, friends, legislators, law enforcement, lobbyists, educators, entrepreneurs, trainers, tour guides, pastors, parents, politicians, medical personnel, missionaries, authors, advertisers, advocates and abolitionists are only a few of the necessary play-

ers. Are you one?

The Nurture Hope Network (NHN) has come together to facilitate that collaboration. We offer a staging area for resources, methods, concepts, brainstorming and the sharing of ideas. Please join the Network and help us build a bridge to freedom.

ENDNOTES

¹ Kara, Siddarth. Sex Trafficking Inside the Business of Modern Slavery, (2009).

² International Labor Organization, *Forced Labor Statistics Factsheet* (2007). Accessed 3/12/2012.

³ *Ibid.*

⁴ International Organization for Migration, *Counter-Trafficking Database, 78 Countries, 1999-2006* (1999). Accessed 3/12/2012.

⁵ UNICEF, *UK Child Trafficking Information Sheet* (January 2003). Accessed 3/12/2012.

⁶ The London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, *Stolen smiles: a summary report on the physical and psychological health consequences of women and adolescents trafficked*

in Europe (London, 2006). Accessed 3/12/2012.

⁷ Op. Cit., ILO (2007).

⁸ *Ibid.*

⁹ Op. Cit., IOM (1999).

¹⁰ *Ibid.*

¹¹ *Ibid.*

¹² United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), *Trafficking in Persons: Global Patterns* (Vienna, 2006). Accessed 3/12/2012.

¹³ Hughes, Donna M. “*The Demand for Victims of Sex Trafficking*” June 2005. Accessed 3/13/2012.

¹⁴ DCAF is an international foundation established in 2000 on the initiative of the Swiss Confederation, as the ‘Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces’. Accessed 3/12/2012.

¹⁵ Op. Cit., Donna M. Hughes.

¹⁶ Recent studies indicate a significant association between pornography and attitudes of sexual aggression. Vis á vis: Guinn, David E. with Julie DiCaro, Esq. Pornography: Driving the Demand in International Sex Trafficking, (2007) Sher, Julian. Caught in the Web: Inside the Police Hunt to Rescue Children from Online Predators. (2008).

¹⁷ Transcribed from video documentary, “*Sex & Money*”

PREVENTION OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

by Carla Marroquin

Young British people raising their pints in popular bars can hardly fail to notice the beer-mats provided for their use. They are enticing, well-produced, sex-worker calling cards—or so they appear to be. Flip them over and you get a glimpse of the brutal reality for the trafficked woman being advertised. The campaign was launched by a group of young people who felt passionately about raising awareness of trafficking by addressing the ‘demand’ side of the sex market—starting with their peers.¹

The anti-trafficking movement has struck a chord of justice which resonates throughout a diverse demographic. Joining the movement means working with a huge cross-section of society.

This requires each individual and group to clearly define their strategy and keep their goals in the foreground while affirming the common battleground we share with fellow activists. Collaboration is the key.

Given the difficulty in identifying and extracting trafficking victims once they are immersed in this clandestine practice, prevention could be the most effective way to protect vulnerable populations.²

The prevention of trafficking in persons requires creative and coordinated responses. Efforts to deter traffickers by addressing the root causes that led them to become traffickers go hand-in-hand with the deterrent impact of criminal justice efforts. Victim assistance efforts to break the cycle of trafficking must be directed both at preventing victims from being re-trafficked and also at preventing victims from becoming traffickers.³

Between these poles are the porous borders (of countries of origin, destination and transit) which allow this illegitimate market to “trade” across borders.

In this article we’d like to highlight two very different prevention case studies and offer some best practice steps for preventing commercial sexual exploitation.

CASE “X” PANIAMOR OF COSTA RICA—AWARENESS AS PREVENTION⁴

Paniamor⁵ (meaning “bread and love”) is a non-profit, non-governmental children’s advocacy agency in Costa Rica, Central America formed in 1989.

Social, economic, cultural and gender factors that promote [commercial sexual exploitation] were identified. More than one hundred blind spots facilitating child trafficking within Costa Rica and two main internal trafficking routes from the northern and southern borders with San José were discovered through a mapping exercise.

Paniamor trained personnel from a selected advertising company in regards to Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC). The awareness campaign that developed was: “Don’t be fooled! Behind a job promise could be a destination of pain.”

METHODOLOGY AND MEANS

1. T.V. and radio announcements
2. Three print ads posted on



billboards and buses, and published as posters which were distributed across the country. The ads featured a passport and plane ticket inside an open bird-cage; a mousetrap baited with a wad of dollar bills; two earrings dangling from a fish hook. The posters were placed at immigration offices, airports and border stops.

3. A bookmark was distributed to minors receiving travel documents by the passport office.
4. Each printed ad featured the Costa Rican law against trafficking and a hotline number.
5. A Web site was created providing information on issues concerning CSEC with an electronic form on which to anonymously report cases to the police or to prosecution offices.

COMPASSION LINK

6. The campaign was launched at a press conference to insure adequate visibility and increase its impact. The event was attended by relevant government stakeholders.
7. Paniamor established strategic alliances with major television and radio stations and secured time slots allotted for public service programs. This reduced cost, allowing them to run at prime time when younger viewers would see.
8. A participatory approach, implying the involvement of primary stakeholders in designing, implementing and assessing the results of the campaign, was adopted by Paniamor during the project. The consultation with the Immigration Office was the key in identifying specific information tools, such as the bookmarks, targeting potential teenage migrants, as well as the most suitable locations for implementing the intervention. While requiring an adjustment in the original plan of the campaign, this consultative process contributed to ensuring

the validity and pertinence of all the products developed.

RESULTS

- Paniamor received more than 10 calls per week as well as a higher and more frequent number of reports of CSEC cases, thereby highlighting existing and potential problems.
- Furthermore, since Paniamor works closely with government and non- governmental agencies providing care services to child survivors, more trafficked and exploited children received the necessary assistance and referrals.
- The distribution of bookmarks and stickers, and the broadcasting of the television advertisement on the closed-circuit TV of the General Directorate of Immigration in San José prompted many people, both adults and minors, to ask for information on safe migration. Additionally, the General Directorate of Immigration and immigration officials became strongly involved in the prevention of child trafficking and sexual exploitation.

COMPASSION LINK

- As a result of the training received, communication company experts have become interested in the issue of child trafficking and sexual exploitation on a more personal level, and are considering producing documentaries/films on the issue.
- Government authorities, policy makers and law enforcers were also sensitized through the campaign. They are now more proactive and accountable in protecting children from trafficking and sexual exploitation and in prosecuting traffickers.
- The campaign has attracted considerable attention from the press and various anti-trafficking agencies, such as the UNICEF Office for Central America and ILO/IPEC, and has been identified as a good example of a preventative strategy.

CASE “Y” — GIRLS BE AMBITIOUS

The objective of the Girls be Ambitious program of Japan Relief for Cambodia and American Assistance for Cambodia, two non-governmental organizations, is

to prevent the trafficking of Cambodian women and girls by raising awareness among those most vulnerable, providing incentives to keep them in school and providing vocational training that will improve their employment prospects, generate income and socially and politically empower them.

The program runs off the Rural School Project, a joint effort of the two organizations, which manages more than 300 schools in villages in Cambodia. The Girls be Ambitious program provides financial assistance to families whose daughters attend school. Each month, homeroom teachers e-mail the program in a Microsoft Excel attendance sheet for sponsored girls; immediate payment of US\$10 is provided where girls have achieved perfect attendance. Where girls do not have perfect attendance, the payment for that month is withheld pending the program’s investigations into the reasons for this lack of attendance.

In addition to the regular school curriculum, participants in the Girls be Ambitious program

COMPASSION LINK

are provided with training in English, computer skills, handicrafts, agriculture and other vocational skills as well as awareness-raising programs. Private persons or entities are called upon to participate in the project by sponsoring a participating girl for a school year for US\$120.

More information about the Girls be Ambitious program is available at: <www.camnet.com.kh/Girls-Ambitious>. More information about the Rural School Project is available at: <www.cam-bodiaschools.com>.⁶

BEST PRACTICE IN PREVENTION

Because the issue of human trafficking is complex and simultaneously global and local, each of us has opportunity to make a difference in the battle to end it. You may want to consider these general questions as you consider how to become involved.

Awareness:

1. Ensure that human dignity (and where working with children, children's best interests)

are at the center of all objectives and activities.

2. Identify vulnerable populations and include participatory strategies which enable them to be a part of the decision-making process, helping them achieve their own rights.
3. Research awareness campaigns already launched in region. Connect with creators to learn of results. Borrow and share information. Collaborate.
4. Capture relevant moments and make use of them. Support must be sought when issues become topical and receive media attention. Don't assume the issue will stay topical for long.
5. Create awareness at various levels: grass roots, public sector, private sector and government. The greater the buy-in the higher degree of sustainability.
6. Determine your public—who is most likely to have greatest influence on desired outcome? How can you best reach them?

Action:

1. Provide programs that offer

COMPASSION LINK

- livelihood options including basic education, skills training and literacy especially for women and other traditionally disadvantaged groups.
2. Improve children's access to educational opportunities and increase the level of school attendance.
 3. Ensure that potential migrants, especially women, are properly informed about the risks of migration (e.g. exploitation, debt bondage and health and security) as well as avenues available for legal, non-exploitative migration.
 4. Examine the effect of repressive and/or discriminatory nationality, property, immigration, emigration and migrant labor laws.
 5. Reduce vulnerability by ensuring that appropriate legal documentation for birth, citizenship and marriage is provided and made available to all persons.
 6. Sensitize communities regarding the presence of slaves and exploiters, who is vulnerable, and how to detect and report it.
 7. Get official recognition for the problem by discussing the issue with relevant ministries and work towards joint ownership of the problem to increase the chances of governmental support.
 8. Make use of international support and pressure.
 9. Direct pressure can be applied by international organizations contacting your Government through appropriate channels to express the international community's concern about the situation. Indirect pressure is applied where the relevant country is mentioned at international conferences or in foreign media in relation to the issue at the center of your campaign.⁷
- Human Trafficking is a 32 billion dollar per year business operated by international criminal organizations as well as local gangs and even family members. Powerful government officials are

COMPASSION LINK

embroiled in the illegal industry of slavery. Key players are ruthless and intervention is risky.

Alan Paton, a South African freedom fighter, said that one day he would be obliged to respond, “Sir, I have none.” to this query by his judge, “Alan, where are your scars?”

“You don’t have any scars, Alan?” to which Alan would reply, “No, Lord.”

“Was there no cause worth fighting for?”⁸

ENDNOTES

¹ Article from CBS Business Network Resource Center: *Stop traffic! A global selection of some of the more progressive, inventive and even unusual initiatives that have been launched to tackle trafficking* <http://findarticles.com/p/articles/mi_m0JQP/is_404/ai_n21026846/> Accessed 3/19/2012.

² Institute for the Study of International Migration, Walsh School of Foreign Service, Georgetown University. *Preventing Human Trafficking: An Evaluation of Current Efforts*. <<http://www12.georgetown.edu/sfs/>

isim/Publications/GMF%20Materials/PreventionofHumanTrafficking.pdf>. Accessed 3/21/2012.

³ United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) Toolkit <[http://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/Toolkit-files/07-89375_Ebook\[1\].pdf](http://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/Toolkit-files/07-89375_Ebook[1].pdf)> Accessed 3/19/2012.

⁴ For details on this and other prevention methods being applied, see article by ECPAT (End Child Prostitution/Pornography and Trafficking), *Distilling Elements of Good Practice*. <http://www.ecpat.net/EI/Publications/Trafficking/Trafficking_Action_Programme.pdf>. Accessed 3/19/2012.

⁵ Visit their website at <<http://www.paniamor.org>>

⁶ ECPAT, op cit.

⁷ ECPAT. *International Guidelines: Setting up a Campaign*. <http://www.ecpat.net/eng/CSEC/good_practices/index.asp>. Accessed 3/28/2012>.

⁸ Recounted by Dr. Boesak at meetings of July 2011. <<http://www.penton.co.za/?p=895>>. Accessed 3/28/2012.

COMPASSION LINK

Assemblies of God World Missions

FORUM ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING

REGISTRATION FORM

August 23-25, 2012 • Kansas City, Missouri

Name: _____ Street Address: _____
E-Mail: _____ City/State/Zip: _____
Phone Number: _____

I am a:

- District Official Children's Ministries Leader Layperson
 Pastor Women's Ministries Director Other: _____

Registration Cost

\$100 per person (includes one dinner and two lunches)

Payment Options

*Please note: registration fee is **nonrefundable** after August 1. All fees must be paid prior to the event.*

- I would like to pay by check.
 I would like to pay by credit card.



Name on Card: _____

Card #: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Signature

Date

Please save completed form and e-mail as an attachment to jshockley@ag.org. You can also print and fax to 417-862-0876 or send by mail to Joy Shockley, AGWM International Ministries, 1445 North Boonville Avenue, Springfield, MO 65802. If you have any questions, please contact Joy at 417-862-2781, Ext. 2053.

Information on the Web: http://compassionlink.org/html/compassion_forum.html.

You may also register totally online—go to <www.compassionlink.org> and follow the links to *Compassion Forum Registration*.

COMPASSION LINK

WHAT CAN YOU DO ABOUT HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN 10 MINUTES? 10 DAYS? 10 MONTHS?

10 MINUTES

Think about what you might do about the tragedy of human trafficking in the next ten minutes?

Ideas:

- Put the hot line number in your phone — 1-888-373-7888
- Look up “human trafficking” on the Internet (Also check the Global AIDS Partnership web site for a number of links— <www.globalaidspartnership.org>)
- Talk to a friend about the issue

10 DAYS

What can you do about the human trafficking in the next ten days?

Ideas:

- Make some posters for awareness
- Organize a prayer walk
- Do research on the issue in your area

10 MONTHS




What can you do in the next ten months?

Ideas:

- Volunteer at a local shelter for trafficked women
- Ask to teach on the subject in a Sunday School class or other setting
- Organize a care group to plan a prevention strategy in your community
(*Ten/Ten/Ten taken from Bay Area Coalition Against Trafficking*)

COMPASSION LINK

main page	knowledge	training	refreshment	tools	mail us
Home page	Who we are	Events	Retreat	Resources	Contacts




QUICK LINKS

- Human Trafficking/Compassion Forum
- Missionary Retreat
- Resources & Links

OTHER WEB SITES

- Assemblies of God USA
- Assemblies of God World Missions
- Global AIDS Partnership


Missionary Retreat



June 1–3, 2012
Branson, Missouri

The biennial retreat for IM, AGWM Executive and AGWM General missionaries will be held at the Lodge of the Ozarks in Branson. The guest speaker will be Doug Clay. For more information, click [here](#).


Compassion Forum



August 20–23, 2012
Kansas City, Missouri

This conference will provide training for appointed Assemblies of God World Missions missionaries and missionary associates who are working in compassion ministries. For more information, click [here](#).

Forum on Human Trafficking



August 23–25, 2012
Kansas City, Missouri

How can we as Christians, churches and leaders respond to this crisis? This conference, open to missionaries, pastors and interested laypersons, will examine this tragic situation. For more information, click [here](#).

[Home](#) | [Who we are](#) | [Events](#) | [Retreat](#) | [Resources](#) | [Contacts](#)


Copyright 2012 © CompassionLink. All rights reserved.

For helpful information and a myriad of resources to respond to crises in a compassionate manner, explore our web site—<www.compassionlink.org>. If you need information or training materials on HIV/AIDS, we have a companion web site—<www.globalaidspartnership.org>. Finally, if you need help creating sustainable resources or microenterprises, check out—<www.sustainhope.org>.


COMPASSION LINK

B ***We would like to hear from you!***

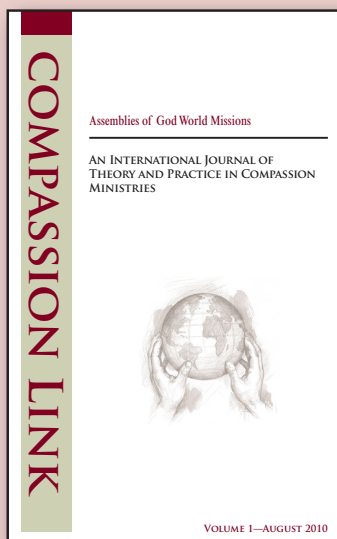
This is our fifth edition of *Compassion Link Journal*—we're now into our second year of production. We've enjoyed and received great fulfillment in producing the journal, and would welcome your feedback, suggestions, comments, and anything else you'd like to share with us. Here's how to reach us:

 Online at our web site—<www.compassionlink.org>

 Email <info@compassionlink.org>

 Phone 417-866-3500 or 417-862-2781, ext. 2079

 Mail 1445 N. Boonville Ave. Springfield MO 65802, to the attention of AGWM International Ministries



SUBSCRIBE TO COMPASSION LINK JOURNAL!

To receive four quarterly journals each year, subscribe to *Compassion Link Journal* today. To receive it electronically as a PDF file, email nruda@ag.org. The cost is \$15 per year, and may be charged to your account or you may pay by check.

PRACTICAL WAYS FOR THE CHURCH TO HELP TRAFFICKING VICTIMS

by Beth Grant

Never, never will we desist til we have wiped away this scandal from the Christian name, released ourselves from the load of guilt... and extinguished every trace of this bloody traffic, of which our posterity, looking back to the history of these enlightened times, will scarce believe that it has been suffered to exist so long — William Wilberforce, speech before the House of Commons, 18 April 1791.

The conviction of Wilberforce is flowing through the Church today. Many are asking for concrete steps to become involved in the battle to end slavery.

- Provide basic personal items and toiletries for rescued victims in a local shelter.
- Have qualified members of the congregation provide language translation for foreign trafficking victims and authorities.
- Offer volunteer medical and health personnel from the church to a clinic serving prostituted women and child victims of abuse.
- Report signs of child sex abuse/exploitation or exploitation of minors to authorities.
- Bring awareness of the trafficking issue in public schools to aid in prevention.
- Initiate a meeting of community church leaders and interested people of faith to prayerfully consider how to collaborate for awareness, prevention, and intervention in your city.
- Begin an outreach into an area of prostitution in your city or town, prayerfully building relationships and establishing the presence of Jesus there.
- Work with local authorities to start an aftercare shelter for trafficking survivors.

Raids? Best left to law enforcement or agencies working with

COMPASSION LINK

law enforcement. The church is most effective in doing what only the church can do ... bringing hope and healing through Jesus Christ and life-changing ministry to victims.

Prevention: By including the topic of sexuality and the injustice/danger of sex trafficking in Christian education curriculum for upper elementary children, middle school, and high schoolers, the church is helping forewarn young people to the dangers of trafficking. Middle school girls are especially vulnerable if they are unhappy at home, in an unhealthy home environment, or if someone has already sexually abused them as children.

Knowledge about trafficking framed in compassionate concern for young people within our churches and communities can open doors for dialogue with vulnerable children and teens, making potential victims less at-risk for traffickers who want to victimize them. A healthy identity in Jesus Christ and understanding one's value as a child of God created for good purposes are the

greatest deterrents to exploitation.

Prayer and Intercession: In Jesus' announced ministry mandate in Luke 4:18, His anointing not only included proclaiming the gospel but also for setting the captive free. As Pentecostal followers of Jesus, this is also the mission of the 21st-century church. However, the first step in helping men and women in sexual slavery — like any other kind of slavery — is for God's people to pray and intercede for those in bondage in our communities. Steps for strategic intercession include:

- Praying over the areas of our cities/communities where evil reigns. This includes known areas of prostitution and drug use.
- Beginning a prayer group in the church among women with a heart for sexually exploited women and children. We must precede all action related to spiritual bondage with intentional, intensive intercession. Vision, passion, discernment, workers, and empowerment flow out of prayer.

COMPASSION LINK

- Beginning a prayer group among men in the church for men who are exploiters and who are themselves in sexual bondage to pornography or sexual exploitation. Jesus came to bring freedom for both women and children who are being exploited through trafficking and for the men who exploit them — whose hearts are bound with evil.

Research: Investigate what others are already doing in your community in terms of sex trafficking. Learn what respected state or national secular or faith-based organizations are already doing. Inquire of law enforcement and social services to learn if and how trafficking is occurring within your city. Is your city a city of origin, transit, or destination for victims? Bring together those in your church who are employed in law enforcement, social services, public schools, counseling, medical workers, and legal professionals to get a clearer understanding of what is happening locally. Knowing what is happening and who is already helping victims or

potential victims in your community helps you understand how your church can help engage practically and share the hope and healing of Jesus Christ.

Note: Ruthless organized crime largely controls sex trafficking. You must precede any action to help victims with prayer, research, and dialogue with law enforcement professionals who work with this issue. Trafficking laws in America define how people can give help, so become aware of the legal issues surrounding your potential engagement with victims.

Examine your hearts and attitudes as followers of Jesus: As members of the body of Christ and a local church, prayerfully considering how to engage in ministry to those in sexual slavery requires us to examine our attitudes toward prostituted women and children. Do our attitudes reflect our culture's attitudes or the heart of Jesus?

As parents, teachers, social workers, medical personnel, counselors, middle school/youth pastors, here are questions to ask ourselves:

COMPASSION LINK

- If a young girl of age 10 or 11 looks promiscuous or highly sexualized, how did she get that way? Little girls are not born sexualized. If they look highly sexual as a minor, something has happened to make them see themselves as sexual. Sexual abuse is not their fault or responsibility. Do we naturally blame the victim?
- Secular culture portrays child pornography as a victimless crime. How did a young girl come to be in front of the pornographer's camera? Who or what is keeping her there? How does it destroy her future?
- If a prostituted teen or woman comes to our church, will we welcome her in our hearts and community of faith on her journey to healing and deliverance? Or, will we reject her because of personal fear and judgment? Or, is our compassion conditional, based on how she ended up in a life of prostitution?

Jesus demonstrated compassion and forgiveness for all, includ-

ing prostituted women and men who exploit them. Are we, as His followers, willing and ready to extend the same grace and opportunity for forgiveness and healing?

WHY THE CHURCH MUST ENGAGE

Several years ago an official with the U.S. State Department confidentially approached me. She shared her concern that the success rates for secular agencies working with trafficking victims in America were dismally low. For that reason, she stressed that the church must become engaged with helping trafficking victims if they are to experience any long-term hope and change.

There is no full recovery, freedom, and hope from the trauma of sexual slavery without Jesus Christ. Many good secular organizations in America are helping survivors with legal, medical, political, or social services. However, since sexual slavery is more than physical slavery — it devastates the spiritual, mental, and emotional dimensions of the person as well

COMPASSION LINK

— only Jesus Christ can bring new life, healing of body, mind, and spirit, and a new beginning for victims. Through His love and liberating truth, Jesus can make a prostituted man, woman, or child a new creation, transforming their identity into one with value as created by God. “If any man [any woman] be in Christ, he [or she] is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new” (2 Corinthians 5:17, KJV). Jesus’ mission through His church is to take broken, exploited people and help them become strong, valued men and women of God.

Restoration from sexual trauma is a healing journey. This healing journey is best walked with patient people of faith who believe in God’s work in the trafficking victim’s life — people who believe in miracles and know that God is not willing that any should perish without Him. Sadly, what society offers in terms of victim services is often weeks long at best. Who better to walk with survivors of sexual exploitation than the community of faith

who can pray, trust, and love on the healing journey? When social services stop, who will be there for survivors?

In the evil darkness of sexual slavery, the light and love of Jesus Christ and His people shine most brightly. A graphic description of a dark world of violence and injustice in Isaiah 59 is a frighteningly accurate portrayal of what is happening in areas of America’s cities and even small towns. God’s response to such violence and evil, however, was not avoidance but sending truth and salvation through His Son. God sent Jesus to invade the darkness of evil and redeem those in bondage to it.

In the same way, the church in America cannot allow the present darkness of sexual slavery and its related evils to intimidate it nor can the church ignore it. Rather, it is time for the church to challenge the darkness with the proclamation and engagement of Jesus Christ’s love, power, and truth. As the church does, it will see God’s raw grace at work as exploited men, women, and

COMPASSION LINK

children find healing and freedom through Christ Jesus. “If the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed” (John 8:36).

Helping trafficking victims requires an engagement of the whole gospel. Sometimes we view ministry to those victimized by sexual exploitation strictly as compassion ministry or a humanitarian endeavor of the church. The truth is, helping victims of sexual exploitation find new life requires the whole ministry to which Jesus has called the church: a transparent presentation of Jesus as Savior, Lord, and Healer integrated with Christ’s compassion expressed in practical ways to survivors. An authentic integrated compassionate ministry will see men, women, boys, and girls find healing, be set free from sexual bondage, and become redeemed brothers and sisters in the community of faith.

The Spirit-empowered church is uniquely equipped to facilitate healing for trafficking survivors. Dark spiritual power is often evident in those who have experienced years of sexual exploitation,

especially victims who have been subjected to religious rituals as a part of their bondage. As a result, it is the work of the Holy Spirit through His people in discernment, wisdom, healing, faith, and deliverance that is critically needed to help the sexually exploited find deliverance and freedom. May God give His church wisdom and courage to engage in this battle for freedom.

RESOURCES FOR LEARNING AND TEACHING ABOUT SEX TRAFFICKING AWARENESS

Hughes, Donna M. 2003. “Hiding in Plain Sight: A Practical Guide to Identifying Victims of Trafficking in the US.”

Robb, Ruth, and Marion Carson. 2002. *Working the Streets: A Handbook for Christians Involved in Outreach to Prostitutes*. United Kingdom: New Wine Press.

McConnell, Douglas, Jennifer Orona, and Paul Stockley. 2007. *Understanding God’s Heart for Children: Toward a Biblical Framework*. Colorado Springs: Authentic Publishing.

Grant, A. Elizabeth, and Cindy Hudlin, eds. 2007. *Hands That Heal: International Curriculum to Train Caregivers of Trafficking Survivors*. Faith Alliance against Slavery and Trafficking (FAAST). (Academic and

COMPASSION LINK

community-based versions available.) *The Salvation Army's Anti-Trafficking Training Program: Recognizing and Serving Victims of Human Trafficking (Training Manual)*. 2006. The Salvation Army National Headquarters, Washington, D.C.

INVOLVE YOUR STUDENTS

- Is there a big brother/big sister type mentoring program around? Support it.
- Do you have friends who are getting beat up at home, or worse? Be a friend. Talk to your parents about how you might be able to help them.
- Do you see kids getting bullied at school? Don't stand by and let it happen: report it to your school's front office. It's not uncommon for teens to "pimp out" other teens. The signs of force and coercion are sometimes visible in the halls at school.
- Have you heard a friend talk about an offer to make some extra money by sleeping around? Offer them some info about how traffickers operate and what slavery is really like.
- Is your church involved in fighting trafficking? Find out if your youth group could sponsor an awareness day or event for your community.
- Offer to lead a food drive for or clean up or paint at a rescue facility in your area.
- Take donuts to your local human trafficking task force office some morning on behalf of all the kids in your grade. Have everybody sign a card and tell them thanks for risking their lives for the vulnerable and exploited among us.
- Raise money for organizations like Royal Family Kids Camps—a faith-based group who sponsors summer camps for at-risk foster kids. www.rfkc.org
It's endless... use your educated imagination!
Excerpted from Winter 2011 *Enrichment Magazine* article by A. Elizabeth Grant
Tips for involvement supplied by trafficJ.A.M., International

COMPASSION LINK

HAVE A SAFE JOURNEY

by Brandy Wilson

A wall of the Museum of Human Rights in Santiago, Chile, is lined with photographs depicting human rights violations from each inhabited continent. Some of the photographed people held signs such as: “Have a safe journey—thanks for helping us fight sexual exploitation and abuse in Liberia.” (*Sexual Abuse Task Force, Liberia*)

But what is a “safe journey” in relation to living among those who are being bought and sold in sex slavery? A safe journey for whom? For all involved—but primarily for those who are being tortured multiple times a day by men who purchase their bodies for rough sex and premeditated injury.

Often we might wish and feel justified in swift actions and programs to ‘rescue’ girls and women from brothels, hotels, and red-light areas in our respective countries. Unfortunately, fast-acting approaches do not lend to long-lasting effective results.

For those of us addicted to productivity, the thought of ‘best practice’ that does not include immediate action and results is often beyond comprehension. Our own desires for efficiency cannot win over obtaining the healthiest and most long-lasting results for those we serve. Holistic interventions such as building trusting relationships, providing public education, and facilitating free choice are imperative to a successful strategy.

Sex trafficking cannot be just an ‘issue’ within which we want to work. The focus of our life-investment in the girls and women who are being ravished should be our reason for investment. After all, Jesus died not for the issue, but for the person who is affected by and ensnared by the issue of human/sex trafficking.

EDUCATION

In order for one to be an advocate in voice and or action, we must first have knowledge and understanding of the issue.

COMPASSION LINK

Both the scope and depth are important. Those wishing to be involved in the area of human trafficking must ultimately ask themselves, as well as their students the following question: “Where can I/we begin to connect with the issue of sex trafficking and help bring healing to those exploited by this horrible injustice?” (*Hands That Heal*)

Small groups of interested individuals in churches and communities are ideal populations for education. Here are some questions which must be answered before even a basic understanding of the atrocity can be developed:

- What is sex trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation?
- What are the immediate and long-term felt needs of victims?
- How can I effectively be involved in bringing health, healing and wholeness to exploited persons?

All victims of human trafficking are treated like someone else’s property. When human beings are treated like property or ordi-

nary possessions, then they are being treated as slaves. Thus, human trafficking can be thought of as a pathway to slavery. There may be as many as 27 million slaves in the world today. Many of those were likely trafficked into slavery; others may have been born into slavery. Slavery robs individuals of their God-given liberty and dignity and is an insult to God who created everyone in His image and for His purposes. (*Hands That Heal*)

BUILDING TRUSTING RELATIONSHIPS

Beginning with prayer and asking the Lord to direct us to the appropriate area to begin focused intercessory prayer walks is a step that cannot be excluded. Building trusting relationships does not happen at a swift pace. The willingness and commitment to walk and intercede regularly through areas of known prostitution and trafficking are vital. We must know the heart of the Holy Spirit as we entertain the ideal of investing in the lives of women and girls who have had their free-

COMPASSION LINK

dom, dignity and trust stripped from them.

Women who have been tricked, lured, kidnapped or otherwise forced into prostitution are not likely to embrace a friendship, let alone a trusting relationship with someone they do not know. Trust has been deeply compromised and is not easily shared again.

Prayer walks in the areas of known prostitution and silently allowing the Holy Spirit to begin building His presence among the streets in those areas is vital to the furthering of healthy ministry. As we walk, pray, and intercede in the Spirit for His presence to begin touching the hearts of the women who are being so brutally violated, we also begin building presence in the area.

Building presence does not need to include conversations at first. It does, however, need to include consistency. Over time, conversations with those in the immediate area will come somewhat naturally. From there, one can begin the journey of forging acquaintances that can ultimately

lead to the forming of trusting relationships. Relationships where trust is given must be built, nurtured and undergirded with the anointing of the Holy Spirit.

For more than 7 months we walked the streets of Constitución, a barrio in Buenos Aires, Argentina. During this time we would not only pray silently in the Spirit as we walked through the streets, but we also purchased water from the small corner kiosks. We would sit in the small plaza and silently pray, read, and write—and just ‘be’ in the immediate area.

Our faces seemed to become less threatening to others in the small plaza as the months continued. We saw women from the Caribbean being sold by national police officers—the officers would take the money from the buyer and usher the woman into the violator’s car.

Prostituted transvestites marked several streets as well. After months of intercession, presence building, and consistency, the evening a healthy

COMPASSION LINK

conversation was started between a team member and a prostituted transvestite was a victory. It was a very long and intentional journey we took as a team—many hours of intercession, of asking the Holy Spirit to use us in this barrio as He deemed fit. (*Compassion Argentina*)

Ministry to those who are being horrifically abused in the areas of human trafficking and prostitution is not a ministry anyone can simply ‘build.’ It is an act of faith, a Holy Spirit-led initiative to increase the Kingdom of God. Prayer walks and slowly building relationships may seem daunting, but the long-term results of health, healing and wholeness through the power of the Holy Spirit will prove victorious.

“By submitting and committing himself [herself] to the Word of God, [the development worker] tries to communicate the message of the real Christ to his [her] real neighbors ... He [she] now moves on to see that his [her] neighbor asks the questions and he [she] seeks the answers in Christ.” (Koyawma, 1974, 91)

FACILITATING FREE CHOICE

For a woman who has been stripped of her dignity, freedom and her life as she once knew it, facilitating free choice is imperative. Those who are sexually exploited have even their basic human rights taken away from them.

Having someone come into their current world and rapidly uproot them to a “better place” can be horribly devastating. The woman is likely to feel violated by this move—even though the persons/group responsible for this move are acting out of a desire to be helpful. The choice to leave the brothel, hotel or red-light areas must be that of the woman.

The education discussed in the section above, as well as the practical insights of building trusting relationships makes facilitating free choice a natural step. Do we wish that all were free in mind, body, spirit, finances? Yes, of course we do. Some of these freedoms are without reach of the trafficked and exploited person since they are the property and owned by another individual.

COMPASSION LINK

We must be willing to invest our lives in bringing the truth of the Gospel of Christ to those enslaved. We can provide the opportunity for the exploited to see, hear, process and accept the freedom only Christ can give. We must also realize that the heart and soul of a victim can be saved, set free, released from bondage and embrace a relationship with the Risen Lord, even if her physical body is not yet redeemed from exploitation.

As we intentionally focus on providing opportunity for freedom of choice, we must realize that we cannot make the choice for spiritual or physical freedom for the one enslaved. Jesus Christ and the work of the Holy Spirit through Him is the only means by which anyone can be truly set free. While it is a great privilege to educate, intercede, build relationships and encourage community health within areas of exploitation, we must trust the power of the Holy Spirit to be the changing agent—not us. We must remember the scripture: “The truth [Christ] will set you free.”

Dr. Bethenee Engelsvold of Bombay, India, states: “We who seek to address the carnage of human trafficking are small Davids in a land filled with Goliaths. But God knows no culture, enemy, trauma, or obstacle that limits His sovereign power and ability to transform the lives of survivors—one life and miracle at a time.” (*Hands That Heal*)

The Scripture tells us: “The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because He has anointed me to preach good news to the poor, He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor” (Luke 4:18-19).

It is only through the leading and guiding of the Holy Spirit that we can productively journey though the distinct cultures and communities which are plagued with the pain of human trafficking. It is a journey well worth the education, time and investment as Pentecostal believers. The “The Kingdom of God is at hand”—let us share this truth responsibly, and in ‘best practice’ mode with

COMPASSION LINK

those who are enslaved.

As we embark on this journey of bringing His health, healing and wholeness to those who are exploited, enslaved, and broken, may we do so keeping in mind that freedom does not come from us as workers. Freedom comes through the One who gave His life for freedom for all.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

A. Elizabeth Grant. 2011. *Sex Trafficking: In a City Near You*. Enrichment Journal.

Compassion Argentina. 2011. Models of practice in Buenos Aires.

FAAST. 2007. *Hands that Heal:*

International Curriculum to Train Caregivers of Trafficking Survivors [copyright of Project Rescue International on behalf of FAAST.]

Koyama, Kosuke. 1974. *Water Buffalo Theology*. London: SCM

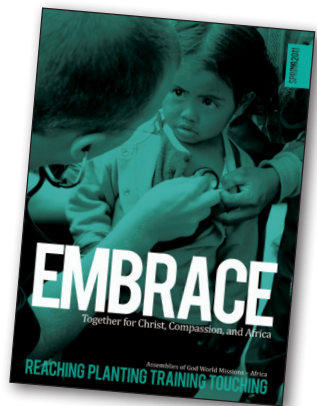
Mary Mahon. 2011. <<http://generalcouncil.ag.org/CouncilToday/Missions/19954>>

Human Rights Exhibit. 2012. Museum of Human Rights. Santiago de Chile.

Tania Fiolleau. 2012. <<http://www.lifesitenews.com/news/as-a-former-prostitute-and-madam-i-know-firsthand-why-prostitution-must-be>>

Embrace is a project of Africa AG Care. AAGC maximizes efforts to confront the painful, complex, and sometimes-deadly issues facing the people of Africa. Touching their human needs increases their opportunity to respond to the gospel.

For a free subscription, email embrace@africaagcare.org, call 417-851-5895, fax 417-851-5899, or write to Embrace, 580 W Central St., Springfield MO 65802.



COMPASSION LINK



Assemblies of God World Missions

1445 N. Boonville Ave.
Springfield, MO 65802-1894

Phone: (417) 862-2781
Email: info@compassionlink.org
Web Site: <http://www.compassionlink.org>