

# Weekly Newsletter

January 8, 2024

## | Local news

The Open-Door Network held a Human Trafficking Awareness event on a street downtown that's been known as a primary location for sex trade in Bakersfield. Dess Perkins, founder of EmPOWERment and survivor, was interviewed with KGET based on her experience with human trafficking and how she took her experience to inspire hope in others to help them access a better future.

Ms. Perkins was also featured in the news sharing her journey on fighting human trafficking.



## | Eyes Wide Shut

This educational human trafficking conference on Saturday, January 13, was completely free to the public and ALL tickets were reserved making this another completely sold out event for EmPOWERment. There were panelists from the SB14 bill, human trafficking survivors, and more.

## | This month

This month is National Human Trafficking Prevention Month. It will be filled with local events - two of which are featured in this quick newsletter - supporting those currently in and survivors from human trafficking. To help show your support you can wear blue which is the international color for human trafficking awareness and attend a few events in support this month.

