



MAY 2023

PATH EDUCATION



In 2013, Cindy Crawford had a dream A dream of opening a long-term residential care home away from the urban environment where women who were being sexually trafficked or exploited could come to heal in a holistic environment. Cindy, a survivor of trauma, was working as a mentor for Scarlet Hope and saw the disconnect between doing outreach versus being able to offer a safe place to start over with the right tools needed for that purpose.

Fast forward to 2019 when Sycamore Farm was born but not yet a reality. Cindy was doing weekly outreach to women in an area full of motels where she would offer meals, hygiene products and snack bags, but this just wasn't enough. However, it did show Cindy the need for a safehouse. While her dream was to provide long term residential, trauma informed care, she saw that there was a need for something more immediate. She started looking for homes that could be used as safehouses and had a few deals fall through. In the meantime, she would put women up in hotel rooms, even driving them to another location in the state if that's what it took, and partnering with organizations that did offer emergency homes such as Refuge for Women all the while looking for something that would fit the need.

During 2022, SHE FOUND IT! The Sycamore Farm safehouse became a reality on May 4, 2023. It provides a safe place to land immediately for women 18 and over with no dependents or pets and offers help and guidance on what the next best step is for the woman enslaved to this kind of life. Slowly but surely, Cindy is achieving her dream of providing support, help and peace to women in need.

At PATH we are always looking for partners so that when we meet someone in need, we have a resource to provide to them. PATH Vice

President, Sister Jacqueline Aceto, met someone at her workplace right after Sycamore Farm opened. This woman needed help and Sister Jacquie was thrilled to be able to reach out to Sycamore Farm as a needed resource. That woman ultimately ended up going a different direction but here's how to reach Sycamore Farm if you know of someone who needs its service:

Complete the quick intake form on <https://www.sycamorefarmky.org/safehouse> If sending an email is easier, please send to intake@sycamorefarmky.org The intake process is a quick 5 questions and then Cindy will meet with the client or the person reaching out on her behalf to chat and make sure the woman is a good fit or is ready to receive help the safehouse can offer.

What can you do for Sycamore Farm? Currently the safehouse is looking for weekend House Assistants, preferably those versed in trauma situations who can pass a background check. This position would be one weekend per month and would involve spending time with the clients in whatever way is needed – playing board games, meditation or devotionals, cooking. Whatever is needed to create that sense of normalcy and safety.

Sycamore Farm also runs an on-call phone number for incarcerated women allowing them to gain mentorship to help develop a plan of action for when they get out of prison instead of returning to an unhealthy situation. On call volunteers are needed to answer the phone. You can designate the block of time you would be available and Sycamore Farm will train you. Learn more at www.sycamorefarmky.org.

What You Need to Know About Domestic Servitude

According to the National Human Trafficking Hotline, domestic work is the number-one venue for labor trafficking in the United State. Domestic servitude is a form of human trafficking in which domestic workers are kept in employment against their will through the use of force, fraud, or coercion. Victims of this crime are often abused and underpaid, if paid at all. Traffickers take advantage of the fact that authorities cannot inspect homes as easily as they can in formal workplaces. But you can be a victim's voice.

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Blue Campaign offers a variety of resources that can be helpful for identifying and reporting potential cases of domestic servitude, as well as other types of forced labor:

- [Blue Campaign 'Forced Labor' Webpage](#)
- [U.S. Customs and Border Protection 'Forced Labor' Webpage](#)
- [DHS Labor Trafficking Awareness Videos](#)
- [National Human Trafficking Hotline 'Domestic Work' Webpage](#)

To report criminal violations of forced labor, contact the Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) tip line at 866-347-2423 or submit a [HSI tip form online](#).

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PATH IN THE BOARDROOM

On May 20th, the PATH board and support staff met for our yearly strategic planning session. We had the opportunity to list our skills and interests and how those benefit PATH. We also had the chance to list strengths/weaknesses/opportunities/challenges as we navigate into our 10th year. Stay tuned for updates as we continue our development over the next several months.

Many thanks to Sister Jacqueline Aceto and the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth for providing our meeting location and the wonderful lunch we shared.



PATH AND YOU

Visit [PATH's website to schedule your FREE training today!](#)



PATH would like to thank Toasty's Tavern, a local Louisville bar and grill, for their generous donation this month. This Shelby Park favorite sold raffle tickets for a gift basket including Woodford Reserve bourbon, Toasty's merchandise along with a local print from a local artist. The Louisville natives who own and work at Toasty's know that Derby time is a double-edged sword for those in the hospitality industry -with the increase in tourism comes an increase in human trafficking.

PATH would like to extend its sincere thanks to Toasty's for recognizing the challenges that come with one of the world's largest sporting events and for making PATH the beneficiary of their efforts so that we can continue our mission of education and awareness around human trafficking.



SAVE THE DATE

PATH will once again be participating in Give For Good Louisville on September 14, 2023. Mark your calendar now and be sure to watch the newsletter for more information. 100% of your donation provides PATH education and training at no charge to requesting organizations. Thank you for your past support and we look forward to Give For Good Louisville 2023!

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