



# ANNUAL REPORT

2023



# OUR BOARD & LEADERSHIP

HEAL Trafficking's leadership and staff are a diverse group of professionals with expertise in the fields of health care, public health, nonprofit management and program development, education, direct services, fiscal development, advocacy, law, research, and more.



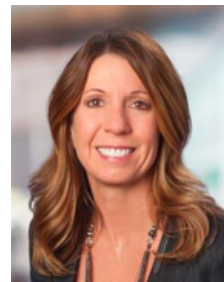
**Kathleen  
Thurmond**  
Chair



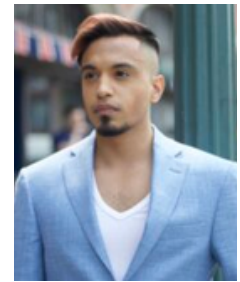
**Kristin  
Potterbusch**  
Vice-Chair



**Bette Ann  
Baker**  
Secretary



**Keetha  
Mills**  
Treasurer



**Jose  
Alfaro**  
Member



**George L.  
Askew**  
Member



**Rhonelle  
Bruder**  
Member



**Miya  
Cain**  
Member



**Abigail  
English**  
Member



**Megan  
Tackney**  
Member



**Eli  
Plaut**  
Member



**Jason  
Spees**  
Member



**Lauren  
Frey**  
Member



**Hanni  
Stoklosa**  
HEAL's CMO



**Amanda M.  
Stylianou**  
HEAL's CEO

# GREETINGS FROM OUR CEO

In the heart of a bustling city, in a quiet clinic room, a healthcare professional trained by HEAL Trafficking gently converses with a patient. It's a moment of connection, a crucial point of intervention in the complex world of human trafficking. This is where our story begins – not just in this room, but in countless others across the globe where the HEAL community's collective effort touches lives. As we move into 2024, we carry these stories with us – tales of resilience, hope, and the power of a united front against human trafficking.

As we turn the page from the impactful moments of 2023, we find ourselves reflecting on a year rich with achievements, challenges, and learning. Human trafficking, a multifaceted and global issue, presents unique challenges, especially from a healthcare perspective. It is in the healthcare setting where signs of trafficking can be first recognized. Healthcare professionals, equipped with the right knowledge and tools, can be pivotal in identifying and assisting trafficking survivors.

Over the past ten years, HEAL Trafficking fortified its status as the leading non-governmental organization at this vital intersection, empowering healthcare professionals through education, advocacy, and a shared commitment to addressing trafficking as a public health

issue. Our collective effort has not just been about treating the symptoms of this global epidemic; it's been about understanding its roots and working towards systemic change.

Reflecting on my first year as CEO of HEAL Trafficking, I am deeply grateful for the extraordinary dedication of our network, which includes over 4,000 survivor experts and other professionals. Their passion and resilience are at the heart of our mission to innovate health solutions for eradicating human trafficking. As we continue our journey, our unwavering commitment is to heal trafficking globally through a comprehensive, health-centered, and survivor-centered approach. We begin 2024 with renewed vigor, as we strive to create a world free from trafficking, ensuring safety and healing for all. Join us in this vital mission.

With gratitude,



**Amanda Stylianou, PhD, LCSW**  
CEO, HEAL Trafficking



# HEALTH

HEAL Trafficking asserts that addressing human trafficking as a public health issue is critical, recognizing the impact trafficking has on individual and community health. The intersection of healthcare and human trafficking is where HEAL positions its efforts, emphasizing the unique role health professionals play in identifying and supporting survivors. This approach is rooted in the understanding that trafficked individuals often encounter healthcare systems during their exploitation. Thus, equipping healthcare professionals with the skills to recognize and respond to trafficking can lead to early identification and intervention, offering a lifeline to those in exploitative situations. Throughout 2023, HEAL's initiatives included collaborating with global health organizations to incorporate trauma-informed care into health services and shaping health policy to prioritize survivor care. As we move into 2024, we will continue to build on these efforts, expanding our partnerships and influence to further embed anti-trafficking protocols into health systems worldwide.

## **Co-Authorship with the World Health Organization (WHO)**

Collaborated with WHO to produce a comprehensive report on addressing human trafficking through health systems, marking a significant contribution to international health policy and emphasizing HEAL's leadership in integrating anti-trafficking knowledge within global health initiatives.

## ***Global Policy and Healthcare Insights***

Contributed vital insights and data for the 2023 U.S. Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Report, informing global strategies to combat human trafficking within healthcare settings, thereby enhancing international awareness and response efforts.

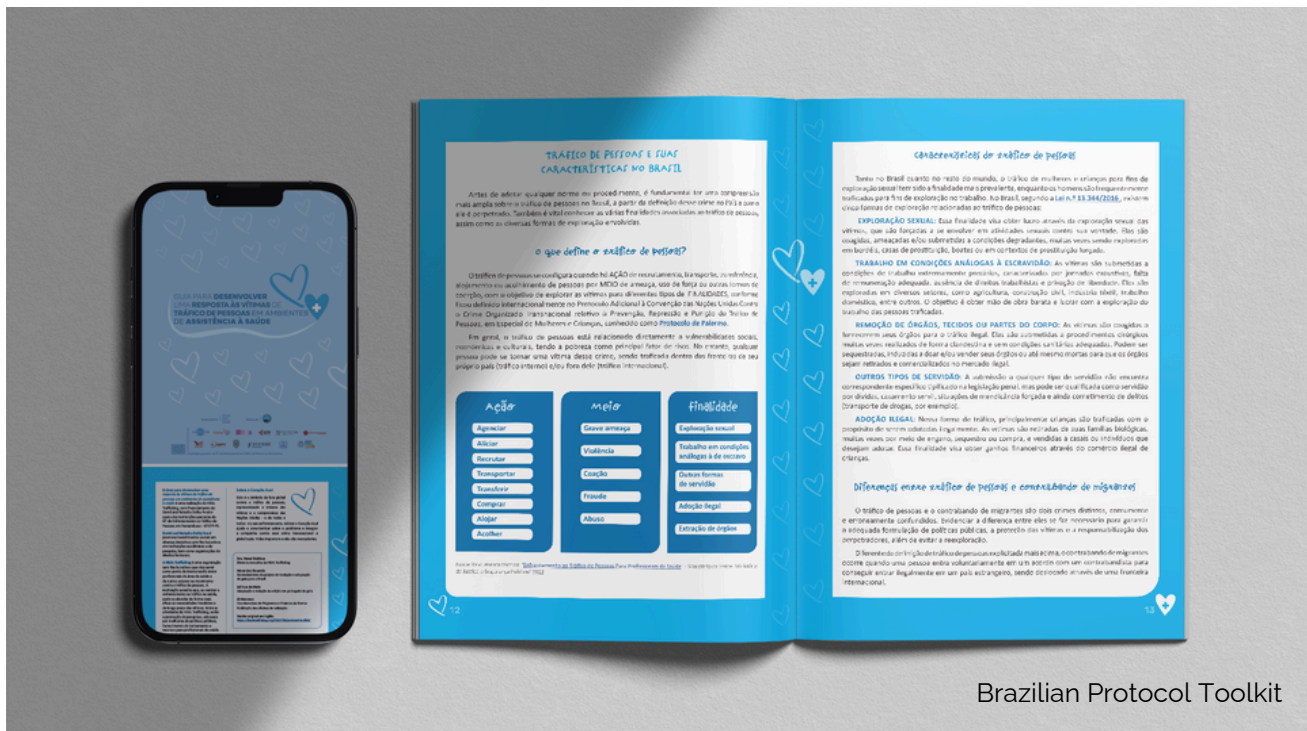
## ***Tailored Training Consultancy***

Provided expert technical assistance to healthcare organizations worldwide, enhancing their anti-trafficking training programs. This effort ensured that healthcare professionals are equipped with the knowledge and skills necessary to identify and assist trafficking survivors effectively.

## ***Development of MMIP Protocols***

Developed and supported the implementation of health system protocols specifically addressing the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Peoples (MMIP) crisis. This work underscores HEAL's commitment to addressing trafficking within vulnerable communities through targeted healthcare interventions.





Brazilian Protocol Toolkit

### Brazilian Protocol Toolkit Launch

Adapted and translated HEAL Trafficking's Protocol Toolkit for use in Brazilian healthcare systems, demonstrating the toolkit's versatility and HEAL's dedication to providing localized resources for healthcare professionals worldwide.

### Amplified Education on Forced Labor/Labor Trafficking

Initiated collaborations aimed at educating healthcare professionals on the identification and assistance of labor trafficking survivors, highlighting the critical role of healthcare settings in the broader fight against all forms of trafficking.

### Awarded a Grant with Justice at Work

Secured a grant to educate Pennsylvania healthcare providers on labor trafficking, further emphasizing the healthcare sector's essential role in identifying and responding to trafficking scenarios, with a particular focus on labor exploitation.

# EDUCATION

Education is a cornerstone of HEAL Trafficking's mission, focusing on empowering healthcare professionals to become informed advocates against human trafficking. Through our Train the Trainer Academy, we not only educate healthcare providers about the signs of trafficking and appropriate responses but also empower them to pass this critical knowledge on to others. This cascading effect of education ensures a widespread understanding within the healthcare community, creating a network of professionals equipped to act against trafficking. In 2023, our education initiatives reached an unprecedented number of healthcare providers across various disciplines, significantly enhancing their capacity to identify and support trafficking survivors. Moving forward into 2024, HEAL Trafficking aims to further amplify our educational outreach, developing new resources and training programs to meet the evolving needs of the healthcare community.

## ***Cross-Border Educational Initiatives***

We expanded our educational reach into Canada by adapting our Curriculum Assessment Tool, demonstrating our commitment to international anti-trafficking education.

## ***Protective Outreach for Ukrainian Refugees***

In partnership with the International Organization for Migration, we produced a Public Service Announcement for Ukrainian refugees, focusing on preventive education and awareness in crisis situations.

## ***Educational Video on Labor Trafficking***

We collaborated with Lush Cosmetics and Give Way to Freedom to create an educational video highlighting healthcare professionals' critical role in identifying and assisting labor trafficking survivors.

## ***Impactful Educational Presentations***

Our Speakers' Bureau delivered educational presentations to a variety of audiences, enhancing the healthcare sector's commitment to combating trafficking.

## ***Train the Trainer Program Success***

Our Train the Trainer program has empowered a broad network of professionals to educate thousands on trafficking identification and response, significantly expanding our impact and healthcare's capacity to fight trafficking.



# ADVOCACY

At the heart of HEAL Trafficking's efforts is a robust advocacy program, designed to enact systemic change and maintain human trafficking as a priority on the global agenda. Through strategic engagement with policymakers, collaboration with industry leaders, and the elevation of public awareness, HEAL Trafficking seeks to advocate for policies and practices that provide robust support for survivors and prevent trafficking. Key achievements in 2023 included hosting a seminar on Forced Labor Awareness in Healthcare with the American Hospital Association (AHA) and Jones Day, moderating panels at the National Human Trafficking Prevention Summit, and advocating for equitable anti-trafficking measures at the IOM's Regional Symposium in Egypt. These initiatives reflect HEAL's significant influence in shaping policies and practices. As HEAL moves into 2024, it aims to further amplify its voice and impact in the policy arena and public discourse, demonstrating a proactive stance that is key to advancing the fight against human trafficking on all fronts.

## ***Forced Labor Awareness in Healthcare***

Teamed with the American Hospital Association and Jones Day for a seminar on ethical labor in healthcare supply chains, highlighting forced labor issues.

## ***National Human Trafficking Prevention Summit***

Led in anti-trafficking by participating and moderating panels on healthcare supply chain diligence.

## ***High-Level Advocacy Participation***

Collaborated with the U.S. Department of State and at the IOM's Symposium in Egypt, promoting effective anti-trafficking measures internationally.

## ***Co-Hosted Panel on Race and Equity***

Advanced anti-racism in healthcare by co-hosting a panel focusing on race and equity in anti-trafficking efforts.

## ***Advocacy at the IOM's Regional Symposium***

Was crucial at the IOM Symposium in Egypt, advocating for fair anti-trafficking policies, showcasing HEAL's global policy influence.

# LEADERSHIP

HEAL Trafficking prioritizes the creation of strong, collaborative networks through its linkage efforts, bringing together professionals from healthcare, law enforcement, social services, and advocacy to form a united front against human trafficking. The organization's commitment to expanding its staff and outreach initiatives in 2023 significantly bolstered its capacity to facilitate comprehensive support for survivors. Notable accomplishments include sharing insights on trafficking with leaders from the Choice Hotel Franchise and collaborating with Brazilian stakeholders to adapt the HEAL Trafficking Toolkit. Additionally, earning the 2023 Platinum Seal of Transparency from GuideStar reinforced trust in HEAL's operations and mission. As HEAL Trafficking looks to 2024, it aims to deepen these connections and enhance the collective effectiveness of the anti-trafficking community, ensuring a coordinated and robust response to the needs of survivors.

## ***Hospitality Industry Education Efforts***

Worked with Choice Hotel leaders to boost trafficking awareness and foster industry-wide collaboration.

## ***Global Engagement and Support Expansion***

Collaborated with Brazilian partners to customize the HEAL Trafficking Toolkit, broadening its global reach and effectiveness.

## ***Transparency and Trust Achievement***

Received the 2023 Platinum Seal of Transparency from GuideStar, affirming our transparency and trustworthiness.

## ***Leadership and Staff Expansion***

Welcomed Dr. Amanda Stylianou, enriching our team with her expertise in survivor support programs, and Nani Cuadrado, who brings invaluable experience in developing healthcare response protocols to human trafficking. We further expanded our team by appointing a new Director of Operations, an Anti-Trafficking Programs Manager, and a Administrative and Communications Specialist, significantly enhancing HEAL's capacity for impactful work in 2024.



# CONNECT WITH HEAL

## Join Our Online Forums

Become a part of our growing community dedicated to making a difference in the fight against human trafficking. Join our online forums at [www.healtrafficking.org/join-a-committee](http://www.healtrafficking.org/join-a-committee) to share ideas, ask questions, and collaborate with others across various sectors including Advocacy, Direct Services, Education & Training, Protocols, and Research.

## Join Our Email List

Keep up to date with us by joining our email list through our website. You'll receive a quarterly newsletter detailing HEAL's latest endeavors, alongside bulletins that offer insights into research, upcoming events, and training opportunities. Your subscription ensures you're always informed and connected to our cause.



Website

[www.healtrafficking.org](http://www.healtrafficking.org)



E-mail

[info@healtrafficking.org](mailto:info@healtrafficking.org)



Telephone

617-209-9369



Address

236 Ximeno Avenue, Long Beach, CA, USA




Social media handle

@HEALTrafficking



---

 [www.healtrafficking.org](http://www.healtrafficking.org)

 617-209-9369

 [info@healtrafficking.org](mailto:info@healtrafficking.org)

---

2023