

New Jersey Chapter

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American Academy of Pediatrics

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Focus for Health Foundation Supports NJAAP's Anti-Trafficking Task Force

East Windsor – July 29, 2022 – The New Jersey Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics (NJAAP) has launched an Anti-Trafficking Task Force aimed at fighting and preventing child trafficking in the state of New Jersey. The Task Force is an initiative of the NJAAP Adolescent Health Committee. The Focus for Health Foundation will provide support to allow the Anti-Trafficking Task Force to receive valuable input from a diverse group of survivors with lived experiences.

The Focus for Health Foundation is a 501 (c) 3 foundation that provides funding to organizations addressing health disparities, racial justice, criminal justice reform, and child sex abuse. The Foundation funds innovative organizations for systematic change, such as the New Jersey Coalition Against Human Trafficking (NJCAHT) and others. They seek partnerships to support and work with groups engaged in identifying and minimizing the social causes that make individuals vulnerable to poor health outcomes. Their goal is to level the playing field so that everyone has the same opportunities in life.

Felicia K. Taylor, MBA, CAE, CEO, NJAAP said “We are grateful for the generous contribution from Focus for Health in support of our Anti-Human Trafficking work. This support will allow us to promote survivor-led initiatives that will educate and engage the public and healthcare communities to help eradicate human trafficking.”

Gina Cavallo, Survivor Expert Consultant, Co-chair said “Both labor and sex trafficking is a violent crime against humanity, leaving an open wound on every part of your mind, body, and soul. Supporting the Task Force will help us continue to educate and bring awareness, preserving dignity and rights of all humanity.”

Interested in sponsoring this work? Contact Aldina M. Hovde, MSW CTSS at antiraffickingtaskforce@njaap.org to learn more about potential sponsorship opportunities. For more information about the Anti-Trafficking Task Force, please visit <https://njaap.org/anti-trafficking/> or call 609-842-0014 x 123.

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Founded in 1956, the NJAAP is dedicated to improving the health and well-being of all children and families in the state of New Jersey. The Adolescent Health Committee addresses important issues related to adolescents, including mental health, suicide prevention, trauma/toxic stress, prevention of sexually transmitted diseases, school start times, and awareness/prevention of human trafficking.

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