

Newsletter FALL/WINTER 2023

MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO, JANET CAMPBELL

Dear Friends and Supporters,

This year has been nothing short of miraculous! **To date this year, we've been privileged to stand alongside more than 125 survivors and their families.** These incredible individuals have faced adversity head-on, and it's nothing short of inspiring to witness their remarkable journey towards recovery and flourishing.

We celebrate their resilience. Behind each victory lies a winding path filled with unwavering determination and courage.

Each survivor's story unfolds uniquely, like a flower blooming in its own time. But one thing remains constant — **they need a community of compassionate hearts to rally behind them.** In this battle for hope and healing, there's a place for everyone to make a difference.

Every person deserves not only our support but a community that stands as a shield, ready to assist in any way possible, ensuring they have the resources needed to heal and embrace the life they truly deserve.

The fight against human trafficking isn't a solo endeavour. It's a collective effort. When we stand together, informed and vigilant, we create an environment that makes a difference in the fight against human trafficking.

Thank you so much for your continued support to help to make this happen!



Janet Campbell CEO, Joy Smith Foundation

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JOYaction 2023



Thank you to Pine Ridge Church for your leadership with our **Joy In Action Birds Hill event**.

This year's event wrapped up on September 30th. It demonstrated how it transcends mere fundraising; it's a collective effort to raise awareness, ignite discussions, and inspire action within our community.

Throughout the event, participants shared powerful stories with us. Stories of random strangers approaching to discuss the personal impact of human trafficking on their loved ones. Stories of curious minds wanting to know more about Joy in Action and how they can contribute to the cause.

Thank you to all the participants.
Your unwavering support is what makes
Joy in Action a true force for change.





On November 20th a new podcast affiliated with the Foundation will be launched – Luma & Bloom. 'Luma & Bloom' is another way of providing a deeper understanding of the crisis of human trafficking. The podcast will offer thoughtful and insightful dialogue on topics that are otherwise avoided. We hope that you will listen in to learn and expand your understanding of the difficult topics and subjects that surround human trafficking.

SPOTLIGHT | MONTHLY DONORS: KARIS & REN REGEHR



In the world of compassionate giving, Karis and Ren Regehr are the embodiment of unwavering commitment to the Joy Smith Foundation's mission.

Karis Regehr shares their story, saying, "We knew Joy Smith through our community, and her tireless efforts in the fight against human trafficking. When Joy was in parliament, she introduced a bill that got a lot of pushback. It was rare for a mother/wife to take up such an all-encompassing cause. It left an indelible impression on us."

The Regehrs made a remarkable choice — they decided to contribute monthly, understanding that lasting change requires consistent support.

Ren reflects, "The satisfaction we derive from knowing that we are contributing to the end of human trafficking is immeasurable. It's an opportunity to bring healing and hope to survivors."

Karis concludes with a heartfelt message to potential donors, "No matter the size of your support, it can make a real difference. I feel very good that I could be a part of a good thing to overcome a bad thing."

The Regehrs' story demonstrates that individual actions can drive meaningful change, reminding us that each of us, in our own way, can be a beacon of hope.

5 TIPS TO HELP KIDS SAFELY NAVIGATE THE ONLINE WORLD

Every day, kids are surrounded by multiple devices that provide access to all the internet has to offer. With more readily available, it's extremely important for families to learn to recognize potential dangers to help keep their kids safe exploring the online world. Strike the right balance between access and safety with these tips.

Keep the Conversation Flowing

Encourage your kids to talk about their online adventures and discoveries. Teach them about potential dangers and remind them that they can always turn to you with questions or concerns.

2 Set Up Some Ground Rules

Establish clear screen time limits and content boundaries and make sure your kids understand them. Explain why these rules are important and how they can help protect them from online risks.

RECENT EVENTS



We had such a great time with the residents of The Melody Retirement Residence who held a "Walk and Roll" event in support of Joy in Action!



Janet spent a day with

Canadian Border Services
officers! They discussed the issue
of human trafficking and how
officers can help identify potential
cases of human trafficking
when processing individuals

entering Canada.



Thank you to the **Interlake Foundation** for their continued support of our Prevention and Intervention programs!
Your unwavering commitment to helping individuals affected by human trafficking in our neighbourhoods is beyond amazing!



SPOTLIGHT VOLUNTEER: ISABELLA THIESSEN



My journey with the Joy Smith Foundation began when a friend handed me the book, "The True Story of Canadian Human Trafficking" by Paul H. Boge. What I discovered in those pages shook me to my core – human trafficking was happening right here in Canada.

The knowledge I gained from the book stirred something within me, and I signed up for the Foundation's newsletters, eager to learn more about their work. It was through this connection that I stumbled upon the annual fundraiser, "Joy in Action."

I chose to volunteer because I wanted to be part of a cause that truly resonated with me. I had been searching for the right organization for a while, and the Joy Smith Foundation's local focus and inclusive approach felt like the perfect fit. Volunteering for the foundation is a simple and effective way to contribute to my community.

What stands out to me is how well the Foundation treats its volunteers. I genuinely feel appreciated and valued.



Join us in this incredible journey with the Joy Smith Foundation and be part of a community that makes a real impact in the fight against human trafficking. Your involvement can be a beacon of hope for survivors and the entire community.

3 Share the Importance of Privacy

Help your kids understand the value of safeguarding their personal information. Explain why they should not share their full name, address, phone number, or school details online. Add an extra layer of protection by teaching them how and why to turn off locations on their social apps.

4 Stay in the Loop

Keep an eye on your children's online activities. Parental control software could help you periodically check in on their social media and other online activity. This isn't about invading privacy; it's about ensuring their safety and recognizing danger!

5 Boost Critical Thinking

Empower your kids with critical thinking skills. Teach them to question what they see online, assess the credibility of information, and to avoid interacting with people they do not know in real life. These skills can help them prevent dangerous situations!

LOOKING FOR MORE?





Download our handout for parents and/or our handout for high school students in the resources section of our website joysmithfoundation.com/resources/



Joy was asked to sit down for an interview with **CBC News** to discuss accountability within Manitoba's Child and Family Services to protect the children it cares for. The article, "Falling through the cracks" can be found on the Foundation's website.



Janet with The U.S. Ambassador to Canada, David L. Cohen, for a **reception in honour of U.S. Secretary of Interior Secretary Haaland**.





Over 3,000 people have attended **Joy Smith Foundation Human Trafficking Prevention workshops and presentations** so far this year.

MESSAGE FROM OUR FOUNDER, JOY SMITH

Dear Friends and Supporters,

It is my privilege and honour to have an opportunity to say **Thank You** for your prayers, and for your unwavering dedication to help us combat human trafficking.

Many caring people are doing this through their volunteer efforts and financial support. You are the unsung heroes who allow us to carry on our important work. One survivor said, "without you and your Foundation, I would never have found my way to a better life." Our donors and volunteers should embrace that comment.

We can do the job we were called to do because of you.

Many young girls and boys, here in our own country are living in trauma and poverty because a criminal lured them and trafficked them for profit. These individuals are often forgotten and end up choosing suicide to end their pain. I ask you during this Christmas season, to help us bring hope to those who are suffering.

Your donation helps save a life. Any amount makes a difference in so many young lives. Please join our team to stop human trafficking and to help prevent it from happening in the first place.

Have an inspiring 2024! I look forward to having you as part of our team to stop human trafficking and the aftermath of suffering as a result of this horrific crime against our youth. I look forward to hearing from you!



Joy Smith B.Ed, M.Ed, O.M.
Former Member of Parliament
Founder of the Joy Smith Foundation

Human Traffickers are empowered by public apathy and emboldened by despair.

So let us shake off the shades of indifference and refuse to be complacent.

Let us work together to bring an end to this injustice as we rescue the victims of modern-day slavery.

— JOY SMITH



Please consider a monthly donation

A monthly donation provides us with a consistent and reliable source of funding — letting us implement the long-term Prevention and Intervention Programs that WILL see our mission of ending human trafficking in Canada come to reality.

\$25 a month for a year

Your gift will support the Foundation's daily front-line work. This gift will go right into action supporting such activities as the daily requests to meet with parents of at-risk youth, working directly with police officers to gain justice for victims, and our advocacy efforts to end human trafficking in Canada.

\$45 a month for a year

Shine a spotlight on the risk of human trafficking in Canada. This gift covers the costs associated with the Foundation delivering a school presentation.

\$150 a month for a year

Enables the Foundation to connect a trafficked survivor to the personalized care and support they need to heal and rebuild their lives.

\$1,000 a month for a year

An enduring gift that will fund the creation and the on-going availability of one online course on the National Human Trafficking Education Centre website.



NOW ACCEPTING DONATIONS



Christmas Baskets For Survivors

This holiday season, you have the power to make a real difference in the lives of Canadian survivors of human trafficking. The Joy Smith Foundation is excited to announce that we are currently accepting donations to create special Christmas gift baskets for survivors and their families.

Every Christmas basket is thoughtfully customized to meet the unique needs and circumstances of survivors and their families. Your contributions enable us to bring warmth and joy to their lives during a season that can be challenging.

Your donations will facilitate the secure delivery of these heartfelt gifts. Your kindness provides encouragement, reminding survivors that they are cared for.

"I just wanted to say thank you SO MUCH for thinking of me and for the Christmas gifts...
I cried tears of joy as I was unwrapping the gifts you brought me.
I just couldn't believe it!!! It's been years since I had contact with anyone over the holidays.
It felt amazing to know that someone cares. Thank you, from the bottom of my heart!"

- 2022 CHRISTMAS BASKET RECIPIENT -

Join us in spreading love, hope, and joy this holiday season!

Donate now and help us create brighter, happier holidays for those who need it the most. Your support truly matters.



Alexandra, Joy, Janet and Katelyn





SEE THE TRAFFICKING SIGNS

TRAFFICKINGSIGNS.CA



Grades are dropping



New circle of friends and isolation from their old group



Unexplained cuts or bruises



Frequent sleepovers at a friend's house



Sudden interest in a man several years older



Sudden change in style of dress or makeup





Change in attitude towards school, regular activities, friends



Using two cell phones



New clothing, jewellery, or gifts without having money