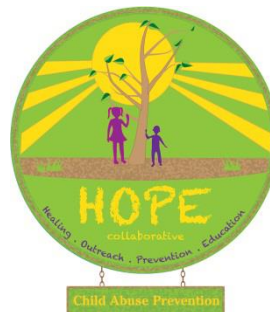


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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HUMAN TRAFFICKING CONFERENCE THE MODERN SLAVERY

RIVERSIDE, CA (March 10, 2016) – The HOPE Collaborative, the designated child abuse prevention council for Riverside County, is hosting its 43rd Annual Children's Conference. This year's topic is **Human Trafficking: Reclaiming our Youth, HOPE, and Power**. The conference is a day of training and education for professionals, biological and foster parents, and other individuals that work directly or indirectly with youth about a very serious issue: Human Trafficking. It has become a growing epidemic and this conference provides special training about how to prevent, identify, and approach victims of exploitation. HOPE would like to invite you to attend this event. **HOPE is offering six (6) continuing education units for those who need it for professional licenses and also 6 units for foster parents.**

The conference is being held at the Grove Community Church at 19900 Grove Community Drive, in Riverside, CA from 9am to 3pm, Thursday, March 10, 2016. The event is sponsored by First 5 Riverside, whose mission is to invest in partnerships that promote, support and enhance the health and early development of children, prenatal through age 5, their families and communities. Representatives from First 5 Riverside have been active participants of the HOPE Collaborative and integral in advocating for strong and healthy families. The First 5 Sponsorship provides scholarships for several foster parents to attend for free.

The conference keynote speaker is Opal Singleton, of Million Kids, a nonprofit dedicated human trafficking awareness. Workshop presenters are from the following organizations: Christopher's Clubhouse, Calvary Chapel Murrieta, Operation Safehouse, Big Brothers, Big Sisters, San Bernardino Coalition Against Sexual Exploitation, and Family Service Association. These dynamic presenters will cover topics to include but not limited to: Avoiding Exploitation, The Role of Faith Based Organizations, Pimp vs. Victim Mentality, Life After Trauma, Vicarious Trauma, and Working Within Diversity to Heal.

Parents, professionals, seniors, community leaders, and students -- anyone seeking to help or be helped in human trafficking is invited to attend and/or participate as a vendor at this event. For details of the events please visit the HOPE website: www.HOPECollaborative.org or follow us on Twitter @RivCoHOPE Facebook: www.facebook.com/HOPECOUNTYRiverside. Instagram: @hopecollab.

For more information on HOPE Collaborative, contact Dariana Ortiz, Program Manager at dortiz@fsaca.org.

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