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Human Trafficking: Modern Day Slavery
Lydia Weiss

Trigger warning: article discusses human trafficking and sexual violence.

It’s an issue that doesn’t get talked about. A human rights violation that is so underground that prosecuting the top offenders is nearly impossible. It’s a tragedy many of us don’t want to believe is happening right here in Lansing, MI. Human trafficking is a prominent issue that is considered by many to be modern day slavery.

Due to the difficulty of regulating and detaining traffickers, the key to ending human trafficking is education and building awareness. Yassaman Haji-Valizadeh and Krystal Myge are two Michigan State University Law students who have partnered to educate MSU’s campus and the community about human trafficking. “Human trafficking is the same wherever you go. It is modern day slavery and it’s happening in Michigan,” said Myge. Human trafficking is literally the commodification and sale of human beings and consists of many different forms: sex trafficking where (primarily) women are repeatedly raped; labor trafficking which happens in Michigan, primarily due to extensive amounts of farm land; trafficking of organs; trafficking of babies who are born to women who have been sex trafficked, and other forms. Haji-Valizadeh and Myge explain that the average age of girls who are trafficked is between 10 and 12 years of age. “Within Michigan, kidnapping is the most common way girls are trafficked. Or through familial connections that involves coaxing and brainwashing,” said Myge. Detroit in particular serves as a hub for sex traffickers because of its proximity to Canada and serves as an easy, less-regulated international border.

On Saturday, March 22, 2014 a dance and theater show, “Cries for Freedom: A Depiction of Modern Day Slavery in the USA” will premiere at the Wharton Center – Passant Theatre at 7:30PM. The show is produced and directed by Myge and examines the lived experiences of victims of trafficking. The show uses one real life story of a woman Myge met in Canada who now runs a non-profit to help other victims, and the other characters are composites of many women’s experiences worldwide. Haji-Valizadeh explained that the goal of the show is about “educating and creating awareness. We are showing and telling you what happens [to these women].” Myge added, “If people are more aware, they will be more careful. We want to touch people’s hearts. After seeing the show you can never say you didn’t know it was happening and that’s the whole point. Now you know, so what are you going to do about it?”

Myge and Haji-Valizadeh warn that the show is graphic and contains a trigger warning as the show depicts rape scenes and beatings. “It’s the truth and people need to know. Most people don’t want to talk about it. It’s not fair to the victims if we sugar coat it for an audience,” said Haji-Valizadeh. The recommended age of audience members is 12+.

Admission is free, but donations will be accepted for the House of Promise, a non-profit organization raising funds to build a rescue shelter for victims of sexual exploitation in Michigan. The House of Promise is a religious organization that is going to buy a house for survivors of trafficking between the ages of 12 and 22 and will be the first victim’s shelter in Michigan. The house will be located in Lansing. All money raised at “Cries for Freedom” will be given directly to House of Promise.

How to get involved:
1. Michigan Human Trafficking Task Force—anyone can join http://www.humantrafficking.msu.edu/
3. Fundraise for any organization that works on the issue of human trafficking.
4. Senator Judy Emmons or call your senator and ask what they are doing in regards to human trafficking issues.

Additional Resources:
2. Theresa Flores: The Slave Across the Street. She also has her own organization called Save our Adolescents From Prostitution. http://www.traffickfree.com/Bio.html

REMEMBER!
To turn your clocks forward 1 hour!
Sunday, March 9th @ 2:00 AM
Learning to Love Your Body
Yes, you can!

Twiggy then, Miley Cyrus now. For years women’s minds have been infiltrated by images telling them to be skinnier, look taller, and wear less. Body management products are now a billion dollar market; items from weight loss pills to plastic surgery and everything in between. All of these images, products, and advertisements are meant to convince women that they are just imperfect enough, that if they buy one certain product all their dreams will come true! Unfortunately, as some of us have learned, buying that one product they buy one certain product all their dreams will come true! It most likely doesn’t happen. As some of us have learned, buying that one product they buy one certain product all their dreams will come true! It most likely doesn’t happen.

The hard fact is that media really does use the perfect image of a woman. So perfect in fact, that often times she’s not even real. Going under the radar in news coverage, images of women displayed in magazines, advertisements, and TV commercials go through the editing process anywhere from twenty to thirty times. The result of such a process leads to an image of a composite of a woman. You may see one person’s eyes, another person’s arms, another person’s lips, and the list goes on. Additionally, to create the “perfect” woman, typically the bust is enlarged, the waste is made smaller, and the imperfections are removed through photo editing computer programs. Despite this, many women look at these images and think, “If I just change something about me then I can look like her.” Let me tell you right now, you can’t. It’s impossible. Why? Because the model for the image does not even look like that. So, what can we do?

In order to contradict habits of perfection-seeking, try first coming to terms with how the media is created. The media’s sole goal is to convince you to buy something. Even if you think you are the most perfect looking woman to ever walk Michigan State University’s campus, you can flick on the television and find an advertisement that will try to convince you otherwise. Don’t be upset for too long though, soon enough that same advertisement will show you a product which you can buy to “fix” your “short comings”, allowing you to never feel insecure again! And BAM! Just like that, many of us find ourselves running out to the local beauty store quicker than you can say, “It’s all a lie, I’m already perfect.” Shortly after, we find out that nothing has changed except our body image, which sometimes has plummeted, and our sense of shame has increased. It’s not our fault we got sucked into the media’s spell of selling products, almost everyone does at one point or another! But now that we are aware of it, it’s time to stop accepting and start questioning.

We must stop comparing our bodies to these unattainable, digitally-created bodies. The truth is, less than 5% of all women are actually this body size, so when we step back and look around, it’s body diversity that we see, and that’s a great thing! Cliché as it may sound, if we all looked exactly alike, life would be very boring. Therefore, we should celebrate all the amazing things our body CAN do, not what it can’t. Our bodies are magnificent and have an endless capability to do incredible things. So become a “love your body” activist and join events celebrating your incredible beauty! Or at least take a moment every day and think about the amazing things you CAN do because of your amazing body.

If you would like to know more about loving your body and want to participate in events celebrating body diversity, mark your calendar for Love Your Body Week at MSU, March 23-28! Check wrc.msu.edu for details.

Sources: http://abcnews.go.com/Health/100-million-dieters-20-billion-weight-loss-industry/story?id=16297197 and the film, Killing Us Softly IV.

Submitted by Haley Mathie, WRC Intern

Women’s Networking Association

The mission of the Women’s Networking Association (WNA) is to connect women across campus through meaningful and empowering relationships. Providing an opportunity for women to network and support one another is an essential step for building women’s leadership at Michigan State University and in the Greater Lansing community.

SPRING SEMESTER @ A GLANCE

“Evening of Networking”
Wednesday, March 19, 2014: Networking begins @ 4:30PM,
Panel begins at 5:15PM—Four Seasons Room, James B. Henry Center for Executive Development, (3535 Forest Road, Lansing, MI—FREE onsite parking available).
Join the Women’s Networking Association for an evening of networking, hors d’oeuvres and some of Lansing’s most successful and inspiring women. The evening will provide an opportunity to network with Michigan State and Lansing community leaders. Hear from female executives: Paulette Granberry Russell, Senior Advisor to the President for Diversity, Director, Office for Inclusion and Intercultural Initiatives & Title IX Coordinator; Dr. Janet Lillie, Associate Dean for Undergraduate Education, College of Communication Arts & Sciences and Jacquie Joseph, MSU Head Softball Coach.

“LinkedIn Tutorial”
Wednesday, April 16, 2014: 8:30AM—10:00AM OR 3:30PM—5:00PM, A138 James B. Henry Center for Executive Development, (3535 Forest Road, Lansing, MI—FREE onsite parking available). LinkedIn is a critical part of professional networking today. This “hands on” training will teach everything you need to know about LinkedIn—whether you are an experienced user or just getting started. Presented by Bethany Rigg, Associate Director, MSU MBA Career Services Center.

RSVP to wrc@msu.edu or (517) 353-1635

Michigan Women’s Commission

• Women in Business
• Women Veterans
• Women & Human Trafficking

For additional details, including resources and up to the minute information, check us out on Facebook @ facebook.com/miwomenscommission

Follow us on Twitter @MIwomenscomm

March 2014
National Women’s History Project
Celebrating
Women of Character, Courage and Commitment

2014 National Women’s History Month Nominees:

The women who were nominated to be 2014 National Women’s History Month Honorees represent the wide-range of women’s accomplishments and achievements. Each is a woman of courage, commitment and character. Included in this year’s nominees are educators, institution builders, business, labor, political and community leaders, relief workers and CEOs. Many were pioneers in a variety of fields and all earned placement in numerous categories and endeavors.

Chipeta (1843 – 1924)
Indian Rights Advocate and Diplomat
Chipeta was a wise and contrary advisor to her husband, an Ute Indian leader. Born into the Kiowa Apache tribe in the 1840s, Chipeta was raised by the Uncompahgre Ute tribe in what is now western Colorado. In her teens she wedded Ouray, who became a powerful Ute chief during the often violent and brutal times of western settlement. Chipeta was a peacemaker who did not consider all settlers to be the enemy, often giving food to starving white families. Chipeta lived 45 years on a reservation in Utah, lauded as a wise elder and advisor to other Indian chiefs and an honored guest in the homes of settler families.

Anna Julia Haywood Cooper (1858 – 1964)
African American Educator and Author
Anna J. Cooper was an author, educator, speaker, and among the leading intellectuals of her time. Born into enslavement, she wrote "A Voice from the South," widely considered one of the first articulations of Black feminism. Throughout her long life, Anna worked for the betterment of African American women’s lives, which she saw as the foundation for a more just society for everyone. Cooper worked at Washington, D.C.’s M Street — now Dunham High School for nearly 40 years, focusing the all Black high school on preparing students for higher education, successfully sending many students to prestigious universities.

Frances Oldham Kelsey (1914 – Present)
Pharmacologist and Public Health Activist
Frances Oldham Kelsey as the Food and Drug Administration’s (FDA) pharmacologist refused to approve thalidomide, a drug that was later proved to cause severe birth defects. Kelsey required scientific rigor for all her clinical trials as well as ongoing oversight of drug testing at the FDA. In addition, her research led Congress to pass the 1938 Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act greatly strengthening drug regulations by the FDA. Dr. Kelsey continued her work at the FDA until her retirement in 2005 at age 91. In 2010 the FDA established the Frances Kelsey Award, an annual award given to a staff member for their commitment to scientific rigor.

Arden Eversmeyer (1931 – Present)
The Old Lesbian Oral Herstory Project Founder
Arden Eversmeyer founded the Old Lesbian Oral Herstory Project (1999), to ensure that the stories of lesbians born in the first part of the 20th century, who were labeled “mentally ill”, fired from their jobs, rejected by their families, and even raped and murdered with impunity, are recorded in history. Project volunteers have documented over 320 diverse life stories recording the sacrifices and obstacles faced by lesbians of that era. The collection is now archived, and continues to grow, as part of the prestigious Sophia Smith Collection at Smith College. Today Eversmeyer is proud to live in a time when she can be her true self with acquaintances, friends, family, medical professionals, and everyone.

Jaida Im (1961- Present)
Advocate for Survivors of Human Trafficking
Jaida Im founded Freedom House, the first residential shelter for adult female survivors of human trafficking, in Northern California in 2010. Im left her 20-year career as a health care professional to found the non-profit organization. Under her direction, the program offers holistic case management, counseling, educational resources, and job training for victims of abduction and enslavement. In fall 2013, Freedom House opened The Nest to serve girls ages 12-17. This new shelter provides a space to help girls to recapture their interrupted youth in a loving family setting.

Tammy Duckworth (1968 – Present)
Member of Congress and Iraq War Veteran
Tammy Duckworth, U.S. Representative from Illinois, is an Iraq War veteran and former Assistant Secretary of Veterans Affairs. In 2014, she became the first disabled woman elected to serve in the House of Representatives. Duckworth has a strong record advocating and implementing improvements to veteran’s services. In 2004, she was deployed to Iraq as a Blackhawk helicopter pilot. She was one of the first Army women to fly combat missions during Operation Iraqi Freedom until her helicopter was hit by an RPG on November 12, 2004. She lost her legs and partial use of her right arm in the explosion and was subsequently awarded a Purple Heart for her combat injuries.

Lisa Taylor (1974 – Present)
Civil Rights Attorney
Lisa Taylor is a leading civil rights trial attorney who has worked for over twelve years to ensure that civil rights laws are enforced around the country. While working with the Department of Justice, Taylor focuses primarily on educational and disability law and shows an unwavering commitment to ending discrimination and promoting equality and justice. Lisa was in Naval ROTC as a student and served as an officer aboard the USS Tarawa, where she developed the ship’s first program to address sexual harassment. Taylor became a lawyer out of a strong desire to serve those who could not serve themselves.

Source: Reprinted from the National Women’s History Project. For a complete list of 2014 nominees, including additional categories, visit: http://www.nwhp.org/whm/honorees2012.php.
Don't Miss!

Mia McKenzie
Coming to MSU!

Feminist, Writer, Blogger,
Author and Editor-in-Chief of
Black Girl Dangerous/BGD

Wednesday, March 12, 2014
6:00—7:30 PM
MSU Union—Ballroom (2nd Floor)

Mia McKenzie is the Founding Editor and Editor-in-Chief of the wildly popular blog, Black Girl Dangerous (www.blackgirldangerous.org), which "seeks to, in as many ways possible, amplify the voices, experiences and expressions of queer and trans* people of color." Black Girl Dangerous provides a virtual space for people of all different backgrounds to share their voices, literary and artistic talents, and create a community and collective activism. As we celebrate Project 60/50, Ms. McKenzie’s visit to Michigan State University will deepen our conversations about the remaining civil rights work to be done in all our communities. Ms. McKenzie is also the winner of the 2013 Lambda Literary Award for her novel The Summer We Got Free.

For more information on Mia McKenzie, visit:
Source: http://miamckenzie.net/

Laugh

"Advancing gender equity through education and access to resources"
Gender Matters!

Free the Girls!
DONATE A BRA

Amnesty International MSU is a student organization on campus that aims to educate the MSU community about injustices and human rights abuses that occur around the world and in our own back yards through such events as academic panels, documentary viewings, and collaborations with other student organizations. This semester Amnesty International MSU is holding a bra drive in support of Free the Girls, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to helping survivors of sex trafficking in Mozambique provide for themselves, re-integrate into their societies, and fight to end generational prostitution.

With many organizations who aim to end sex trafficking, the focus is often on freeing the women and girls who have been trafficked and not much attention is paid to helping them re-integrate. Because many survivors of sex trafficking were trafficked when they were very young, they lack the adequate education, skills, or social connections to re-establish themselves on their own.

Free the Girls partners with Project Purpose, an organization that works with survivors and their children in Maputo, Mozambique to break generational prostitution and human trafficking. Free the Girls is able to provide entrepreneurial opportunities for the women and girls by providing used bras donated from countries like the United States for them to sell.

From Monday, March 3 through Monday, March 31, 2014, there will be a donation box located in the MSU Women's Resource Center, 332 Union Building, where MSU students, faculty and staff can drop off new or gently used bras. These bras will be delivered to the women of Project Purpose by Free the Girls. Through this bra drive, Amnesty International MSU hopes to make a small difference in the lives of survivors of sex trafficking by providing entrepreneurial resources for the women to use to increase their agency and boost their efforts to end human trafficking in Mozambique through economic advancement and empowerment.

Anyone interested in getting involved in any capacity with Amnesty International MSU is invited to attend our weekly meetings on Mondays at 7:00PM in Wells Hall—Room A120. You can find the organization on Facebook (Amnesty International MSU), Twitter (@AmnestyIntlMSU), or on their website (http://amnestyinternationalmsu.wordpress.com)

Submitted by Emma Davis, Vice-President,
Amnesty International MSU

Just a thought . . .
Love Your Body!

March 2014
The 9th Annual Women’s Health Fair!
(Hosted by the MSU Women’s Resource Center)

Thursday, March 27, 2014
11:30 AM - 1:30 PM
MSU Union Bldg., Ballroom (2nd Floor)

Stop by during your lunch for great information and an opportunity to win fabulous prizes!!

Some invited organizations include:

American Cancer Society
American Heart Association
Curves
WomenHeart
Creative Wellness Holistic Health
MSU Safe Place
Sexual Assault Crisis & Safety
Reflexology

And many more . . .

Donate Your Old Phone and Help Support MSU Safe Place

Each year MSU Safe Place works to provide shelter, advocacy, support groups, counseling groups, safety planning, as well as information and referrals to survivors of violence and their minor children. Through grants, fundraising, donations and the support and generosity of the University and surrounding communities, MSU Safe Place has been able to provide these services for free to students, faculty, staff and their spouses/partners, as well as nonaffiliated members in the Greater Lansing area.

In order to support the funding of these programs, MSU Safe Place collects used cell phones, iPods, and other electronic devices year-round to help raise much needed funds. This March MSU Safe Place is challenging the Greater Lansing and MSU communities to help them collect 500 cell phones and devices!

MSU Safe Place hopes to make 2014 a record-setting year by collecting more cell phones than ever before! There will be many donation sites on campus including Student Services Building, Neighborhood Engagement Centers and the MSU Women’s Resource Center.

For a complete list of drop-off sites, please check their Facebook and Twitter or go to their website at http://safeplace.msu.edu!

Submitted by Jacquelyn Fisher, MSU Safe Place

The Successful Black Women of MSU will host the 3rd Annual PEACE SUMMIT

Saturday, March 30, 2014 1:00PM
MSU Union Building—Ballroom (2nd Floor), 49 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER:
Ms. Rochelle Riley, Detroit Free Press Columnist

THEME:
46664: Enslaved, but not Broken . . .

FREE & OPEN to ALL, however registration required @ sbwpeacesummit.wufoo.com/forms/46664sbwps

For more information, visit: successfulblackwomen@webs.com

March 2014
Wednesday, March 12, 2014: Mia McKenzie—Black Girl Dangerous. 6:00PM—7:30PM, MSU Union Building—Ballroom (2nd Floor). Feminist, Writer, Blogger, Author and Editor-in-Chief of Black Girl Dangerous/BDG. Hosted by the MSU Women’s Resource Center. No RSVP necessary. (See ad on page 4).

Thursday, March 13, 2014: Budgeting 101. 12:00N—1:00PM, MSUFCU Headquarters, 3777 West Road, East Lansing, MI. Learn budgeting basics and how to reach your desired financial goals without creating new debt. Presented by GreenPath Debt Solutions. RSVP to MSUFCU.org, e-mail pday@msufcu.org or phone 517-664-7725. Co-sponsored by MSUFCU and MSU Women’s Resource Center.

Tuesday, March 18, 2014: Practicing Critical Awareness Media Literacy Series—America The Beautiful (Part 1). 12:00N—12:50PM, Student Services Bldg., Room 6 (Lower Level). In a society where “celebutantes” like Paris Hilton dominate newstands and models who weigh less than 90 pounds die from malnutrition, female body image is one of the more dire problems facing today’s society. “America the Beautiful” illuminates the issue by covering every base. Child models, plastic surgery, celebrity worship, airbrushed advertising, dangerous cosmetics - no rock is left unturned. Co-sponsored by MSU Health4U, MSU Counseling Center Sexual Assault Program, MSU Safe Place, MSU Olin Health Education and the MSU Women’s Resource Center. RSVP to health4u@msu.edu. (Program continues on Tuesday, March 25, 2014).

Tuesday, March 18, 2014: Understanding Your Credit Report and Score. 6:00PM—7:00PM, MSUFCU Headquarters, 3777 West Road, East Lansing, MI. Understand why your credit score is important and what factors may impact your score. Presented by Laura Hoosey, MSUFCU. RSVP to MSUFCU.org, e-mail pday@msufcu.org or phone 517-664-7725. Co-sponsored by MSUFCU and MSU Women’s Resource Center.

Wednesday, March 19, 2014: Women’s Networking Association’s “Evening of Networking”. 4:30PM—Networking begins, 5:15 PM—Panel begins, Four Seasons Room, James B. Henry Center for Executive Development, (3535 Forest Road, Lansing, MI)—FREE onsite parking available). Join the Women’s Networking Association for an evening of networking, hors d’oeuvres and some of Lansing’s most successful and inspiring women. This evening will provide an opportunity to network with Michigan State and Lansing community leaders. Hear from female executives: Paulette Granberry Russell, Senior Advisor to the President for Diversity, Director, Office for Inclusion and Intercultural Initiatives & Title IX Coordinator; Dr. Janet Lillie, Associate Dean for Undergraduate Education, College of Communication Arts & Sciences and Jacquie Joseph, MSU Head Softball Coach. FREE and open to ALL. Sponsored by the MSU Women’s Resource Center and the Broad College of Business. RSVP to: wrcl@msu.edu or 517-353-1635 by March 17th.

Friday, March 21, 2014: Embracing Our Changes: Midlife and Beyond; Promoting Health for Women of Color from Midlife and Beyond. 8:30AM—4:00PM, Kellogg Hotel & Conference Center. (See ad on page 10).

Saturday, March 22, 2014: The 21st Annual Dia de la Mujer Conference, “An Educations Worth & the Journey There”, Wellness & Well Being. 8:00AM—5:00PM, Kellogg Hotel & Conference Center. (See ad on page 7).

Saturday, March 22, 2014: Premiere of “Cries for Freedom: A Depiction of Modern Day Slavery in the USA”. 7:30PM, Wharton Center for Performing Arts—Pasant Theatre. FREE and open to ALL. Donations accepted for House of Promise. (See article on page 1).

Tuesday, March 25, 2014: Practicing Critical Awareness Media Literacy Series—America The Beautiful (Part 2). 12:00N—12:50PM, Student Services Bldg., Room 6 (Lower Level). In a society where “celebutantes” like Paris Hilton dominate newstands and models who weigh less than 90 pounds die from malnutrition, female body image is one of the more dire problems facing today’s society. “America the Beautiful” illuminates the issue by covering every base. Child models, plastic surgery, celebrity worship, airbrushed advertising, dangerous cosmetics - no rock is left unturned. Co-sponsored by MSU Health4U, MSU Counseling Center Sexual Assault Program, MSU Safe Place, MSU Olin Health Education and the MSU Women’s Resource Center. RSVP to health4u@msu.edu.

Tuesday, March 25, 2014: MSU Safe Place BIG BANG-QUET Community Challenge Final Voting and Reveal Reception. 5:30PM—7:30PM, University Club of MSU, 3435 Forest Road, Lansing, MI. Sponsored by the University Club of MSU. (See ad on page 8).

Thursday, March 27, 2014: Women’s Health Fair! 11:30AM—1:30PM, MSU Union Building—Ballroom (2nd Floor). Join the MSU Women’s Resource Center for the 9th annual Women’s Health Fair!! Prizes, demonstrations, ZUMBA, and more! (See ad on page 5).

Sunday, March 30, 2014: 3rd Annual Peace Summit. 1:00PM, MSU Union Building—Ballroom (2nd Floor). Theme: 46664: Enslaved, but not Broken . . . Keynote Speaker, Ms. Rochelle Riley, Detroit Free Press columnist. Sponsored by the Successful Black Women of MSU. FREE and OPEN to ALL. For more information, including how to register, visit: successfulblackwomen@webs.com. (See ad on page 5).

Monday, March 31, 2014: 2014 WACSS Forum and Resource Fair. 11:30AM—2:30PM, Kellogg Center, Big Ten Rooms—A,B,C. The Women’s Advisory Committee for Support Staff is a committee of women support staff charged with advising the Executive Vice President of Administrative Services on issues affecting women staff. FREE but must be registered! Online registration available at www.wacss.msu.edu.
Don’t Miss!!

The 21st Annual Dia de la Mujer Conference

“An Educations Worth & the Journey There”

Wellness & Well Being

The DIA DE LA MUJER Conference is an annual meeting of Chicana/Latina women who come together from all parts of the community in Michigan and the Midwest to celebrate successes, share information, and discuss issues of concern to our people. It is a day of workshops, exhibits, and entertainment focusing on La Mujer—the personal, professional, political, and academic aspects. More importantly, it is an opportunity to meet with other women like ourselves who believe in the value of community building and positive interaction.

Saturday, March 22, 2014
8:00AM—5:00PM, Kellogg Center, MSU

Contact: Maria Serrato
(989) 992-1008 or serratom@msu.edu

Office of Cultural and Academic Transitions (OCAT)

To register and/or for more information, visit: http://ddlm.ocat.msu.edu/

20th Annual Race for the Place 5K:
Sunday, April 13, 2014!

The Race for the Place is the largest annual fundraiser for MSU Safe Place and allows their program to continue to provide vital services to the members of the MSU and greater Lansing communities who experience relationship violence and stalking.

Entry Fee

On or before March 31, 2014: $25.00
After March 31, and Race Day: $30.00
MSU students with valid ID or under age 18: $20.00
Group discount (up to 4 individuals) must register together in person or by mail: $60.00.

Kids Run 100-Yard Dash

The FREE Dash starts at approximately 1:45 p.m., after the 5K, and is open to kids 6 and younger. All participants receive a ribbon and special prizes.

Kids One-Mile Fun Run

The One-Mile Fun Run will start immediately following the 100-yard dash. Boy and girl top finishers will be awarded a first-place medal. This run is open to kids 12 and younger. All participants receive a medal and special prizes. $15 entry fee includes a short-sleeved t-shirt with pre-registration.

Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteers are needed between 9:00AM—3:00PM on Race Day. If you would like to volunteer for Race for the Place, contact Alyssa Baumann, Volunteer/Advocacy Coordinator, at baumann9@msu.edu or 432-9570.

For more information or to register, please visit: http://safeplace.msu.edu/race-for-the-place-5k or follow Race for the Place on Facebook.

SAVE THE DATE!

CRIES FOR FREEDOM:
A depiction of modern day slavery in the USA

SAVE THE DATE - Michigan ACE Women's Network 2014 Conference

June 2—3, 2014

2014 Conference Theme - Make a Difference: Leadership, Inclusion, Connections

Join faculty, staff and administrators from around Michigan as we seek to create a better future for all women through empowerment, solidarity and networking. The 2014 Annual State Conference of the Michigan ACE Network for Women Leaders in Higher Education will be held June 2—3, 2014 at the Kellogg Center in East Lansing, Michigan.

For additional information, including online registration, visit: http://www.miacenetwork.org/.

Online Voting Available:
February 1 - March 24
www.universityclubofmsu.org/theclubwithaheart

Final Voting & Reveal Reception
March 25, 2014 @ 5:30PM - 7:30PM
University Club of MSU

*The CRCF will receive a small percentage of the donations to cover processing fees.

Sponsored by the MSU Federal Credit Union

MSU Safe Place Needs Your Votes!
Help us win a $10,000 credit towards a fundraising event at the University Club of MSU! Each “vote” is cast with a $5 tax-deductible donation to the Capital Region Community Foundation. Every organization will receive the funds raised from votes*, plus - with your help - we’d like to win the Grand Prize!

Online Voting Available:
February 1 - March 24
www.universityclubofmsu.org/theclubwithaheart

Final Voting & Reveal Reception
March 25, 2014 @ 5:30PM - 7:30PM
University Club of MSU

*The CRCF will receive a small percentage of the donations to cover processing fees.

Sponsored by the MSU Federal Credit Union
“Women’s Day of Service”

Saturday, April 12, 2014
9:00AM—2:00PM
Day begins and ends @ McDonel Hall Kiva

Join members of the MSU community as they participate in a Women’s Day of Service! MSU students, faculty, staff and community members will have the opportunity to volunteer at various local agencies around East Lansing and Lansing. Both women and men are welcome to volunteer! Don’t miss this special day focused on social justice. Registration required. Questions, contact MSU Women’s Resource Center at 517-353-1635.

To register:
1. Sign up for a Give Gab account (www.givegab.com)
2. Join Michigan State University under “Universities” tab @ top of page
3. Click “Groups” tab @ left of page—Women’s Resource Center, join group
4. Click “Volunteer” tab @ left—Women’s Day of Service, select a task
5. Volunteer on Saturday, April 12, 2014!

Get Involved!
Women’s Council

Are you an activist? Are you passionate about gender equality? Want to make a difference on campus? Join Women’s Council—a Council of Progressive Students (COPS) student organization.

Meetings: Wednesday nights at 9:00PM—Room 6, Student Services Building

Contact Tera Warn: warntere@msu.edu for more information.

Women’s Council is also currently seeking new executive board members.

Save the Date!

Take Back The Night
“Healing with Community. Thriving in Unity.”
Tuesday, April 15, 2014

Take Back the Night is a day-long series of events to raise awareness about sexual assault and sexual violence.

Take Back the Night is an international organization, started in 1975, to empower survivors of sexual and domestic violence to give their experiences a voice, in a very public way. It also educates the public about what it means to experience sexual and/or relationship violence, and how our culture plays a role in that experience.

Special Performance by spoken word artist Melissa Hasbrook
Keynote Speaker: Senator Gretchen Whitmer

Events will begin at MSU Beaumont Field and conclude with a march and keynote address.

Save the Date!
**HOT OFF THE PRESS!**

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**THE Parents Action Committee on Minority Academic Concerns**

**ANNOUNCES**

**Bring a bra and a buck and help support girls who've been rescued out of sex slavery.**

**DATE:** Monday, March 3, 2014 through Monday, March 31, 2014  
**TIME:** ALL DAY (Monday—Friday)!!! 8:00AM—5:00PM  
**LOCATION:** Drop-Off Box @ the MSU Women's Resource Center, 332 Union Building (3rd Floor).

**Free the Girls (FTG)** is a national charity and was featured in the CNN Freedom Project. FTG partners with safe houses and after care facilities in third world countries and provides an opportunity for women rescued from sex trafficking. Used bras are collected to create an inventory for these women to earn a living selling second-hand clothing. While doing this, they can attend school, get healthy, and care for their families. FTG gives these women an opportunity to start a new life and not fall back into trafficking. **Sponsored by the MSU Chapter of Amnesty International.**

For additional information, visit: [http://freethegirls.org/get-involved/help-collect-bras/](http://freethegirls.org/get-involved/help-collect-bras/)

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**EMBRACING OUR CHANGES: MIDLIFE & BEYOND**

**Promoting Health for Women of Color from Midlife and Beyond**

**Friday, March 21, 2014**  
8:30AM—4:00PM  
Kellogg Hotel & Conference Center  
East Lansing, Michigan

The MSU College of Human Medicine, Office for Diversity and Inclusion, and the MSU Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology & Reproductive Biology cordially invites you to this unique event. It is designed to impart useful scientific and community information to healthcare providers and policymakers. The focus is on the needs of women of color, and immigrants who are 40 and older.

**PURPOSE:** This conference will teach healthcare providers and policymakers to empower women of color, and immigrants who are 40 and older, with preventive health skills to age healthfully and gracefully. Three platforms will impart information: 1) state of women’s health; 2) evidence-based information; and 3) voices from the community.

- Keynote speakers will describe the “state of older women of color” in midlife based on disparities they face.
- Four break-out sessions will deliver specific evidenced-based information on pertinent topics (e.g., cancer screening/prevention, cardiovascular disease, mental health, etc.)
- A lunch keynote will tie the three platforms (policy, evidence, and community) together
- Followed by a panel of “Community Voices”, Survivors, Immigrants

**INTENDED AUDIENCE:** Community Healthcare Providers, Social Workers, Nurses, Paraprofessionals, Community-Based Organizations, Churches, etc.

**OBJECTIVES:**

- Gain knowledge of the state of health of women of color from midlife to old age.
- Gain knowledge of policies that impact women’s health in Michigan (e.g. Affordable Care Act).
- Gain evidenced-based knowledge about health behaviors and diseases that affect aging, underserved women disproportionately.
- Gain knowledge of strategies to address policy and disease from a community perspective.


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**EMBRACING OUR CHANGES: MIDLIFE & BEYOND**

**Promoting Health for Women of Color from Midlife and Beyond**

**Saturday, May 17, 2014**  
MSU Kellogg Center Auditorium

**Students from around the Greater Lansing area in grades 1st-8th will participate in this annual spelling bee contest. There’s something for everyone. All spelling bee contestants will receive a “goody bag,” Certificate of Participation and their names will be entered into the Grand Prize Drawing for a bicycle.**

**Students:** Students placing 1st-4th in each grade level will receive cash prizes, a trophy, and will be recognized by the Lansing City Council in June.

**Teachers:** When two or more students from your class participate in the spelling bee, your name will be entered into a drawing for a special gift.

**Principals:** The school with the most registered students for the spelling bee will receive the 2014 Plaque of Recognition.

In preparation for the spelling bee, two rehearsals have been scheduled for May 1st and May 5th, 2014 from 6:00PM - 8:00PM. Specific information about the rehearsal, along with general spelling bee information, will be shared upon receipt of the registration fee.

**Parents/Guardians/Grandparents/Teachers** interested in receiving a registration form can do so by visiting: [www.wrc.msu.edu](http://www.wrc.msu.edu), contacting Ms. Audrey Smith via e-mail at (smithau010@yahoo.com), or telephone (517) 353-1635. The registration fee is $10/student and the deadline is Wednesday, May 7, 2014. All 1st-8th graders are encouraged to participate.

This event is sponsored in collaboration with Elite Contractors, Inc., The Michigan Bulletin and the MSU Women’s Resource Center.
CONGRATULATIONS To
Coach Suzy Merchant and the MSU Women’s Basketball Team.
Winning their fourth Big Ten title in program history, and their second in four seasons!!!!

2014 Big 10 Champs!!!!!

A special congrats to graduating seniors:

Clariisa Bell

Annalise Pickrel

YOU ROCK!!

Niagara Foundation—Michigan, cordially invites you to a panel discussion “Celebrating Women as Community Builders; Perspectives from Three Women Leaders” in commemoration of Women’s History Month.

The panelists will share their views on the role of women as community builders, discuss the contributions of women to the society in different fields, and talk about the challenges that they encounter; encouraging women to realize and fulfill their full potential by sharing their personal stories.

PANELISTS: Cindie Alwood—Women’s Center of Greater Lansing; Jannel Glennie—Reverent, Lumen House; Cynthia Jackson-Elmoore—PhD; Dean and Professor, Honors College, Michigan State University

Tuesday, March 11, 2014 ■ 6:30PM—8:30PM
East Lansing Hannah Community Center
(Executive Conference Room)
819 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI 48823

There will be a reception between 6:30PM and 7:00PM. Turkish cuisine refreshments will be served.

FREE & OPEN to ALL although reservations required. RSVP to:

Co-sponsored with the Women’s Center of Greater Lansing.