A Call to Action
Maggie Chesbrough

“It ought to concern every person, because it is a debasement of our common humanity. It ought to concern every community, because it tears at our social fabric. It ought to concern every business, because it distorts markets. It ought to concern every nation, because it endangers public health and fuels violence and organized crime. I’m talking about the injustice, the outrage, of human trafficking, which must be called by its true name -- modern slavery.” – President Barack Obama, September 25, 2012; New York, New York.

January is National Human Trafficking Awareness Month and many campus events have been put in place to help educate students, staff, faculty, and people in the community about human trafficking and why this issue should matter to you. Human trafficking does not discriminate. It occurs in areas as small as our own communities and has become a worldwide epidemic. In recent years, the efforts to end human trafficking have been taken more seriously and have begun to be recognized by various politicians, law enforcement, and even our current president of the United States.

There are several types of human trafficking that occur right here in the United States, such as labor trafficking and sex trafficking. Labor trafficking occurs when an individual performs labor or other services through the use of force, fraud or coercion. Whereas, sex trafficking involves the forced prostitution of women, children and men. President Barack Obama expresses some very illustrated examples of human trafficking in his speech given to the Clinton Global Initiative in 2012:

“When a man, desperate for work, finds himself in a factory or on a fishing boat or in a field, working, toiling, for little or no pay, and beaten if he tries to escape -- that is slavery. When a woman is locked in a sweatshop, or trapped in a home as a domestic servant, alone and abused and incapable of leaving -- that’s slavery. When a little boy is kidnapped, turned into a child soldier, forced to kill or be killed -- that’s slavery. When a little girl is sold by her impoverished family -- girls my daughters’ age -- runs away from home, or is lured by the false promises of a better life, and then imprisoned in a brothel and tortured if she resists -- that’s slavery. It is barbaric, and it is evil, and it has no place in a civilized world.”

We pride ourselves on being the land of the free, and yet our own people are being sold or forced into prostitution and beaten or killed if they try to escape. As difficult as it is to accept, we must acknowledge that slavery is not an issue of the past, for it is occurring right here at home in present day America. If you are interested in contributing to the fight against human trafficking, consider joining the MSU LEAD Campaign against Human Trafficking by contacting MSULeadCampaign@gmail.com for more information. There will be several events in the upcoming months that will dive deeper into the issues of human trafficking and how we, as a community, can eradicate this inhumane institution. If you’re interested in reading more in-depth about human trafficking and how it pertains to your community, consider Lawrence Cosentino’s article, “A Matter of Humanity,” published in January’s edition of City Pulse. Stay tuned for more events and volunteer opportunities by subscribing to the MSU Women’s Resource Center’s listserv, newsletter and/or check out our website for more information (wrc.msu.edu). Who will? Spartans Will.
Interested in receiving weekly e-mails about upcoming programs and events? To join the WRC Listserv, send an e-mail with the subject line “WRC Listserv” to wrc@msu.edu. Be sure to indicate your name and e-mail address.

Women’s Networking Association
*Spring Semester @ A Glance*
FREE and open to all! RSVP required.
Please call (517) 353-1635 or email wrc@msu.edu (with “Networking” in the subject line).

Wednesday, January 27, 2016: Night On the Town with the Women’s Networking Association. 5:15PM—9:00PM. Socialize and network with professional women at Michigan State University, enjoy dinner at Brody Hall, 2nd Floor (Room 221) and cheer on the MSU Women’s Basketball team vs. Purdue University during this evening on us. Space is limited. Registration is required by January 22, 2016 to the MSU Women’s Resource Center via email: wrc@msu.edu or via phone: 517-353-1635.

Wednesday, February 24, 2016: “Strategically Bold: Overcoming Limits and Barriers.” Choose one of two sessions (8:30AM—10:00AM OR 3:30PM—5:00PM), Chittenden Hall, Room 110. This seminar will teach participants to reprogram their thinking from complacency and coping to dynamic and daring! The strategies, which will be described and practiced, are a culmination of presenter, Regina Carey’s work as a learning specialist, educational consultant, and Empowerment Coach. From posture to purpose, participants will learn techniques for overcoming the “Imposter Syndrome” and gaining confidence and respect in the workplace.

Wednesday, March 23, 2016: “WorkLife Balance: Fantasy or Reality?” Choose one of two sessions (8:30AM—10:00AM, Chittenden Hall, Room 110, OR 3:30PM—5:00PM), MSU Union, Mosaic: Multicultural University Center. As professional women, life can blend into work and work can overlap with life, sometimes in ways that make us feel unbalanced. Join us for an honest discussion with the new Executive Director of the MSU WorkLife Office, Dr. Barbara Roberts. Leave with tips for success and a better understanding of how to strike a “balance” that will work for you.

Wednesday, April 27, 2016: “Communication & Conflict Resolution.” Choose one of two sessions 8:30AM—10:00AM, Chittenden Hall, Room 110 OR 3:30PM—5:00PM, MSU Union, Mosaic: Multicultural Unity Center (2nd floor). Have you ever experienced a breakdown in communication at work? At home? Both? Miscommunication and gender bias in communication can be major causes for conflict in the workplace. Dr. William Donohue, MSU Department of Communication, will provide tips and skills for successfully communicating and resolving conflicts at work to help you be a leader in positive and effective communication.

The mission of the Women’s Networking Association (WNA) is to connect professional 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.

Check out the MSU Women’s Resource Center’s new blog, created by Department Aide, Maggie Chesbrough. The blog seeks to redefine society’s beauty standards with each and every post! If you are a diehard feminist or just someone who wants to learn more about the different forms of oppression people experience every single day, this is the blog for you! ♡

Embrace-your-image.tumblr.com

January is….
Slavery and Human Trafficking Awareness Month
Stalking Awareness Month
National Mentoring Month

Smile you are beautiful ❤
Tuesday, January 12, 2016: Michigan Cottage Law: How to Start a Food Business From Your Home Kitchen. 6:00PM—7:00PM, MSU Federal Credit Union – Farm Lane Branch Community Room, 4825 E. Mt. Hope Road, East Lansing, MI. So you've got a great idea for a food product, but the thought of investing in a building and restaurant equipment is daunting. You might be surprised to find out how Michigan's Cottage Food Law has opened up entrepreneur opportunities for small food producers to legally prepare certain foods right in a home kitchen and sell to the public. It's a great way to test your recipes and business ideas without a major cash outlay. This information session will provide details on the Michigan Cottage Food law, what foods can be made at home, how to sell, food-labeling requirements, and some best practices of home-based food producers. Presented by Kellie Hanford, Small Business Development Center (SBDC). To RSVP, sign up at MSUFCU.org or by phone at 517-664-7725. Co-sponsored by MSU Federal Credit Union and MSU Women’s Resource Center.

Monday, January 18, 2016: Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

Tuesday, January 19, 2016: Academic Women’s Forum: The Daring Way. 3:30PM—5:00PM, MSU Union Building, Lake Ontario Room. Join us as we kickoff the semester with an overview and discussion around the concept of living and working “The Daring Way™”. We will be using the research of Dr. Brene Brown to help us explore how we would like to show up, be seen and live brave in 2016. Facilitator: Lisa Laughman, Office of the University Physician/Health4U. To RSVP, email health4u@msu.edu.

Tuesday, January 19, 2016: How to Repair Your Credit. 6:00PM—7:00PM, MSU Federal Credit Union – Farm Lane Branch Community Room, 4825 E. Mt. Hope Road, East Lansing, MI. So you've pulled your credit report and you see there are issues, but what are the next steps? In this seminar we will discuss some strategies and ideas of how to address items that are on your report and other steps you can take to make improvements. We will also dispel some of the myths about credit repair and the companies that promise they can fix your credit for a fee. Presented by Greenpath Debt Solutions. To RSVP, sign up at MSUFCU.org or by phone at 517-664-7725. Co-sponsored by MSU Federal Credit Union and MSU Women’s Resource Center.

Friday, January 22, 2016: Balancing Work, Life, School & Leadership. 3:00PM—4:00PM, MSU Union Building, Lake Ontario Room. Being a student leader means juggling multiple roles throughout each day. This workshop will feature tips and tricks for managing a busy schedule from a presenter who is a self-identified “compulsive over-commiter.” Learn how to balance work, life, school and leadership in an already busy world. Presenter: Connie Victor, President of Women’s Initiative for Leadership Development. Hosted by the Women’s Initiative for Leadership Development. RSVP to the MSU Women’s Resource Center at wrc@msu.edu or 517-353-1635.

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Join us on Facebook:  
Follow us on Twitter:  
Follow us on Tumblr: msu-wrc.tumblr.com

“Advancing gender equity through education and access to resources” — Gender Matters!

WRC Staff: Lydia Weiss, Interim Director; Audrey C. Smith, Office Manager; Cynthia Cotton, Professional Assistant. WRC Students: Megdelawit Abebe, Lauren Dietz, Kiana Elkins, and Maggie Chesbrough, Department Aides.
Did you receive any small gifts or stocking stuffers for the holidays that don’t work for you? Donate them to survivors! The MSU Sexual Assault Program gives self-care items to the clients we serve. The items collected in this drive will provide survivors with items to help them cope with trauma and care for themselves.

**LOOKING FOR:** Lotions • Hair Care Products • Face Wash • Soaps • Bath Products • Comfy Socks • Cocoa • Tea • Manicure Supplies • Nail Polish • Essential Oils • Candles • Adult Coloring Books • Art Supplies • Colored Pencils • Markers • Puzzles • Stress Balls • Journals • Temporary Tattoos • Kinetic Sand • Mints • Gum • Jewelry • Etc.

**MSU Drop-Off Locations:**
MSU Women’s Resource Center
49 Abbot Rd.
332 Union Bldg.
East Lansing, MI 48824

MSU Counseling Center
Sexual Assault Program
556 East Circle Dr.
14 Student Services Bldg.
East Lansing, MI 48824

Additional Drop-Off Locations Include: Willow Tree Family Center, Bliss Salon and Spa, Greater Lansing Housing Coalition, EagleMonk Pub and Brewery, Northwest Initiative, Curvaceous Lingerie, Firecracker Foundation, and Avenue Café.

Please contact Tana Fedewa, MSU Sexual Assault Program Coordinator, via email at Tanaf@cc.msu.edu with questions.
2016 MLK Commemorative Celebration Event Schedule

**Sunday, January 17**
3:00 pm & 7:00 pm shows
Jazz, Spirituals, Prayers & Protest
(College of Music)
Fairchild Theater, MSU Auditorium

**Monday, January 18**
3:15 pm - 4:15 pm
Commemorative March For Justice
From Union to Admin. Building Steps

**Monday, January 18**
9:00 am - 10:30 am
MLK Community Resource Fair,
& On-Site Service Learning Projects
MSU, Union Ground floor

**Monday, January 18**
4:15 pm - 5:00 pm
MSU Museum Tour
Featuring MSU Student Activism
MSU Museum

**Monday, January 18**
10:45 am - 3:00 pm
MLK Student Leadership Conference,
PechaKucha Talks, Film & Discussion
MSU, Union 2nd Floor

**Monday, January 18**
5:00 pm - 6:30 pm
(Doors open at 4:30pm)
Scholarship Community Dinner
Hubbard Hall Café

For more info contact the Office for Inclusion and Intercultural Initiatives at 517-353-4563 or inclusion@msu.edu or visit our website at:

www.inclusion.msu.edu
Events & Resources

24 HOUR CRISIS INTERVENTION CENTER
- Make a Real Difference in the Community
- Learn Effective Communication Skills
- Gain Clinical Experience
- Give Back to the Community
No Experience Necessary
We will Train you!

Volunteer now
Attend one of the following orientations:
Wed. January 20th, 7pm-9pm @ MSU, Berkey Hall
Thurs. January 21st, 7pm-9pm @ MSU, Berkey Hall
Thurs. January 28th, 7pm-9pm @ LCC, Cannon Building
Sat. January 30th, 12pm-2pm @ The Listening Ear

2504 E. Michigan Ave. Lansing, MI
(517) 337-1717
www.theear.org
Michigan State University is excited to announce Sibs and Kids Weekend, where any and all MSU students are encouraged to bring their siblings, children, cousins, or friends for a fun weekend of activities. The events are completely FREE, but you must register each guest in order to attend these events. You can register online by going to uabevents.com to find more information and specific times. These activities will occur on Friday, February 5th through Saturday, February 6th and will be located in the MSU Union, unless specified otherwise.

There are a plethora of activities for you and your guest to attend, from bowling and carnival games to airbrushed tattoos and a photo-booth. On Saturday you have the choices of going on a scavenger hunt through the halls of the modern art museum, pretending its summer by swimming at IM Circle, or flying through the galaxy and getting the full experience that Michigan State University’s Planetarium can provide.