

### FREEDOM NETWORK USA

is a national alliance of experienced advocates working with survivors of all forms of human trafficking to ensure that trafficked persons have access to justice, safety, and opportunity.





Worked on Four Crucial Bills with Congress Added victim-centered approach to key legislation, including the Abolish Human Trafficking Act of 2017, Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2017, Frederick Douglass Trafficking Victims Prevention and Protection Reauthorization Act of 2017, and the Department of Homeland Security Blue Campaign Authorization Act of 2017.

#### **TRAINING**



Provided training and technical assistance to almost 900 participants across the nation through in-person training and webinars.

#### **MEMBERSHIP**

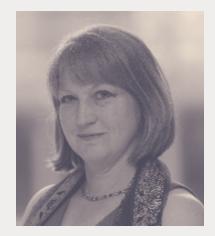


Increased by 33% with 15 new associate members.

# A NOTE FROM JEAN

Freedom Network USA remained resolute and determined to advance our rights-based approach to human trafficking in 2017. We have stood firmly alongside our immigrant, LGBTQ, POC, and sex worker allies to fight for dignity, respect, and fair policies. Protecting the human rights of all individuals is the only effective way to prevent human trafficking. Conveniently, it is also the right thing to do. FNUSA will continue #StandingTall, come what may.

We thank you for joining us.



Gratefully,

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Jean Bruggeman
Executive Director

#### WE INVITE YOU TO STAY ENGAGED AND CONNECTED

Sign up for our newsletter at freedomnetworkusa.org

#### **FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA**

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As the national landscape shifts, the one thing that has not changed is our resolve and dedication to our mission. We will continue to advocate for what is right, train others to provide the most compassionate and effective services, and convene our members to elevate their expertise and amplify the voices of survivors.

Because we know that every survivor—and every story—counts.

### 2017 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

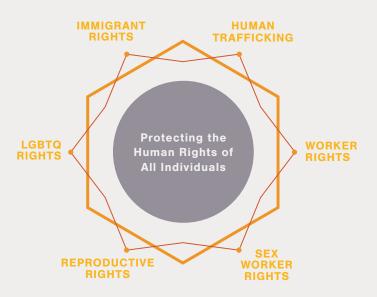


Left to right: Jean Bruggeman, Ima Matul, Nat Paul, and Kate D'Adamo.

Engage in advocacy with government agencies and legislators to promote the adoption of human rights-based legislation, policies, and programs. Freedom Network USA is a trusted expert on human trafficking in the US. We worked with congressional staff, on both sides of the aisle, to focus on several pieces of legislation, including the reauthorization of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act, authorization of DHS' Blue Campaign, and the annual appropriations. FNUSA's victim-centered language was included, while harmful "end-demand" language was removed, thanks to FNUSA's efforts. FNUSA also held its first congressional briefing in conjunction with our biennial advocacy day. Members and staff met with 21 congressional offices to discuss specific legislation and educate them on issues that impact all survivors of human trafficking.

# 2017 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

ADVOCATING FOR A HUMAN RIGHTS-BASED APPROACH



Improve services and responses to trafficking survivors through supporting the human rights-based human trafficking movement.

FNUSA is committed to building a stronger, more comprehensive, more intersectional anti-trafficking movement.

FNUSA welcomed 15 new members in 2017, increasing the geographic (new members in the Midwest and Northeast) and topical (employment law and medical expertise) scope and expertise of the network. After years of discussion, in 2017, FNUSA engaged in specific outreach and recruitment efforts to attract Individual Members who identify as Survivor Leaders.

Four Survivor Leaders will join as FNUSA Individual Associate Members in 2018! For a complete list of our members, please visit freedomnetworkusa.org/current-members.

Develop collaborations with allied organizations to address the root causes of trafficking, including abuse, poverty, and discrimination.

2017 ushered in an all-out assault on vulnerable populations. Survivors, attorneys, social workers, community organizers, and grassroots leaders had to work around the clock to protect the rights of those impacted. FNUSA worked with allied movements to submit advocacy letters, hold meetings with government officials, and support litigation through amicus briefs to protect the rights of immigrants, women, low wage workers, the LGBTQ community, and many others.

Because of this political climate, our commitment to a human rights-based approach has never been stronger.

### 2017 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Provide training and technical assistance to legal and social service providers, law enforcement and prosecutors, and faith and community groups in the US to increase access to effective, victim-centered non-judgmental services for survivors.

The 15th Annual Freedom Network Conference was held in Washington, D.C., on April 5-6, 2017. Over 400 attendees gathered to delve into the concept of justice and explore how inequalities and injustices can create vulnerabilities to human trafficking. The conference was the largest yet. Federal agencies and nonprofits alike turned to FNUSA staff for expert training and consulting throughout the year. Combined, FNUSA trained almost 900 participants in the 2017 calendar year.

We expect significant growth in our training efforts in 2018. FNUSA was awarded a Training and Technical Assistance grant from the US Department of Justice Office for Victims of Crime at the end of 2017. This three-year project will assist housing providers and human trafficking programs in addressing the emergency, short- and long-term housing needs of survivors.

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"I found the entire conference to be both educational and thought-provoking.

I leave here inspired!"

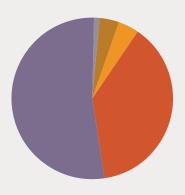
"Topics were very engaging, thought-provoking. Great survivor contribution."





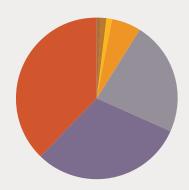
Top to bottom: FNUSA Members Noel Mendoza and Janie Chuang.

### FINANCIAL REPORT



### **Total Income**





### **Total Expense**

Personnel	389
Program Expenses	31%
Contracts	23%
Operations	6%
Travel and Meetings	1%
Business Expenses	>1%
Media/Recruitment	>1%

# OUR TEAM

#### Staff

Jean Bruggeman
Executive Director

Melinda Smith
Director of
Partnerships

Freedom Network
Training Institute Director

Avantika Shenoy
Freedom Network
Training Institute Coordinator

### **Board**

Kathleen Morris Chair Amy Fleischauer Secretary Jacqueline Murray Treasurer Florence Burke
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