



# Freedom Network USA

## Associate Membership Information

Thank you for your interest in becoming a member of Freedom Network USA (FNUSA)!

Associate Membership is the first step in becoming a General Member. This is a probationary membership of 12 months after which the organization or individual will be eligible to apply for Full Membership. This allows the applicant time to better understand the network and for FNUSA Members and staff to better understand the work of the applicant.

Please begin your application process by thoroughly reviewing the FNUSA Membership Criteria, Standards of Care, and Application Procedures. Then, email your completed application to Melinda Smith at [membership@freedomnetworkusa.org](mailto:membership@freedomnetworkusa.org).

### Eligibility Requirements:

- Work directly with survivors of human trafficking in some capacity or are an individual survivor advocate.
- Dedicate at least .5 FTE to anti-trafficking work.
- Federal and State employees or agencies are NOT eligible for membership; except in the case of college or university employees.
- Note for Large organizations with offices in multiple states: Each individual office is required to submit a separate application for review. This ensures that the values and services are consistent with FNUSA.

### Benefits of Becoming a Freedom Network USA Associate Member include:

- Access and consistent interaction with experts dealing with trafficking issues across a multitude of disciplines. Many FNUSA members are subject matter experts in their respective fields and have been recognized with some of the nation's top accolades including the Presidential Award for Extraordinary Efforts to Combat Human Trafficking.
- Discounted registration rate to the annual Freedom Network USA conference.
- Access to free formal and informal training and technical assistance on an array of human trafficking topics. Members get early access to new tools and materials on best practices, messaging guidance, and policy analysis.
- Ability to participate in FNUSA working groups tackling issues that impact survivors.
- Ability to participate in FNUSA's Advocacy Day (held in Washington DC every other year).
- Align with the nation's largest human rights-based human trafficking network.

### Expectations of Freedom Network USA Associate Members include:

- Support FNUSA's mission and core values. *Required*
- Meet or strive for minimum Standards of Care. *Required*
- Abide by FNUSA's Confidentiality policy. *Required*
- Pay Annual Dues (currently \$300 for Organizations, \$150 for Individuals, \$0 for Individual Survivors). *Required*
- Share data, case examples, experience, and resources to collective efforts, including participating in working groups and the FNUSA Member Report every other year.
- Attend the annual conference and member meeting.
- Support FNUSA policy efforts by signing on to advocacy letters, lending organizational resources, and coordinating with local partners where appropriate.



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- Be an ambassador for the network by connecting potential members, allies and partners with FNUSA and amplify its message.

## Application Review Process

- The FNUSA Steering Committee will accept Associate Membership applications **until September 15, 2020**.
- FNUSA Steering Committee Members and staff will conduct phone interviews with all applicants by **October 1, 2020**.
- All decisions will be made at the annual FNUSA Steering Committee meeting in **November 2020**.
- Applicants will be notified of the Committee's decision in **December 2020**.
- All applications will be reviewed and considered based on the information provided either on the application form or during the interview with FNUSA Steering Committee Members and staff, and information available on the applicant's website and other public statements and materials.
- If applicants are not offered Associate Membership in 2020, they are welcome to reapply in a future membership cycle.

## Freedom Network USA Membership Application Timeline

Associate Application Period Opens	July 1, 2020
Associate Application Period Closes	September 15, 2020
Associate Applicant Interviews	July 1 – October 1, 2020
Associate Application Reviews	November 2020
Associate Notification of Decision	December 1, 2020
Associate Membership Begins	January 1, 2021
Associate Member Dues	Due by January 31, 2021