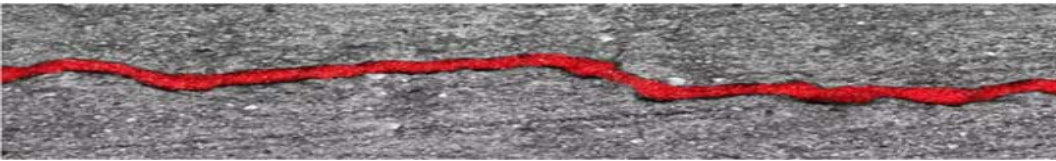


IWIN Initiative

I'm worth it now

*Red Sand
Prayer Service*



IWIN Initiative

I'm worth it now

IWIN, working with human trafficking investigators, provides backpacks to survivors who are entering a wrap-around program to support them emotionally, physically and spiritually. The backpacks, containing all new items, include a change of clothes, toiletry items, a handwritten card of encouragement and a bracelet. A matching bracelet is given to a volunteer prayer warrior to support the survivor through prayer.

IWIN also raises awareness about the atrocity of human trafficking and its prevalence right here in our home country of Canada by providing volunteers with the opportunity to participate in a Red Sand Prayer Service.

IWIN stands for I'm Worth It Now - We want survivors to know that it doesn't matter what their past looks like; it doesn't matter what their future looks like; they are worthy of love and respect NOW!

Red Sand Prayer Service

Leader:

Heavenly Father, we come to you today in praise and thanksgiving for creating all human beings in Your likeness and image. We are all Your precious and beloved children. We gather now in prayer, in hope that You will help us grow in awareness and understanding of the destruction and devastation of human trafficking. We ask that Your Holy Spirit fill our hearts with courageous compassion for not only those who we can see, but also for those we are unable to see and for those who are locked in the difficult darkness and pain of human trafficking.

Reader 1:

Proverbs 31: 8-9

"Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and the needy."

Human trafficking affects all our lives and communities. It may be happening in a house down the street, to our children's friends, to our daughters, our sisters and possibly even our mothers. In Canada, the majority of women trapped in human trafficking are Canadian citizens. The prayers and cries of individuals who are oppressed and exploited are heartfelt, and God hears them. God cares about those who are oppressed and exploited, and we should too.

Reader 2:

Psalm 82:4

"Rescue the weak and the needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked."

Human trafficking is tied with the illegal arms trade as the second largest criminal industry in the world. While it is impossible to truly know the full scope and impact of this problem, we do know that women and children are the primary victims both in Canada and worldwide.

Human trafficking is one of the fastest growing crimes, with traffickers in Canada profiting \$200,000 - \$600,000 per victim, per year. These enormous profits make it difficult for women to escape. IWIN supports agencies in Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Ontario who assist women exiting these situations and entering wrap-around support programs.

Reader 3:

Matthew 25:40

"Truly I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me."

Human trafficking persists for many reasons, including a lack of awareness, the difficulty of identifying it, and the need for long-term support for those who want to leave. We all need to work together to bring awareness to our communities and stop our daughters, sisters and mothers from being trafficked. We also need to help ensure we are raising a generation of men that our daughters, our sisters, the women in our society, can be safe with. Let us also encourage kindness and respect in our families and communities, creating a world where everyone is valued and protected.

Reader 4:

Trafficked persons are seen by their captors as a commodity and a way to make money. We need to have the wisdom to see that they are loved and treasured by God, each with their own unique story.

"My name is Shannon. When I was 18 years old, I had just graduated high school and was excited to start a new chapter of my life. I moved from my small town to Calgary, where I had a job lined up. A woman I met online seemed friendly and offered to help me settle in. I thought I could trust her, but soon after I arrived, she betrayed me.

She hurt me and used threats to control me. I was scared because she knew where my family lived, including where my little sister went to school. For four months, I felt trapped, forced to do what I was told. I was afraid for my life and for the safety of the people I loved.

One day, I found the courage to tell the truth to one of the men I was sent to. Instead of hurting me, he helped me escape. He gave me money and took me to a safe place where I could start to rebuild my life. The person who controlled me was eventually sent to jail, but even now, I'm still healing from what happened.

I hope my story helps others understand how important it is to support those who feel trapped and scared. No one should ever feel alone in the darkness."

Although Shannon's name has been changed, her story is based on a real-life Calgary case.

Reader 5:

Litany of Saints

Jesus, Son of the Living God - *Lord Hear Our Prayer*

St. Josephine Bakhita - *Pray for Us*

St. Kateri Tekakwitha - *Pray for Us*

St. Mary Magdalene - *Pray for Us*

St. Maria Goretti - *Pray for Us*

St. Agnes of Rome - *Pray for Us*

All Holy Men and Women - *Pray for Us*

Leader:

Human trafficking prevents people from living the life God intended for them. We are called to take action. By raising awareness and offering support, we can help bring hope and healing to those affected. The IWIN Initiative supports human trafficking survivors because they believe every person is Worth It Now. Let us bow our heads for a moment of silence to honour God's children who are in need and to ask our Heavenly Father for the courage to act with love and justice.

All:

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee.
Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of
thy womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now,
and at the hour of our death. Amen.

We invite you to pour your red sand into the cracks now, remembering that it symbolizes the precious lives of those who are overlooked or forgotten.

“Rescue the weak and the needy; deliver them from the hands of the wicked” Psalm 82:4

We encourage everyone participating in the IWIN/Red Sand Awareness Raising Initiative to post photos of your red sand transformation on social media using #iwin_calgary and #RedSandProject.

*Iwininitiative.ca Instagram: @iwin_calgary_
facebook.com/iwincalgary*

Registered Charity number 784936700RR0001