



The Exodus Road

EMPOWERING RESCUE

Press Release

Liberty Alliance Counter-Trafficking Leadership Conference

For Immediate Release

February 26, 2015. Jomtien Beach, Thailand. The Exodus Road hosted the Liberty Alliance Counter-Trafficking Leadership Conference in Jomtien Beach, Thailand in late February. Nearly 150 people came together to learn and collaborate to more effectively combat human trafficking. The goals of the conference were simple: to equip practitioners to fight trafficking more effectively and to encourage collaboration among efforts.

In the opening keynote address, The Exodus Road CEO Matt Parker encouraged attendees to work together in a spirit of unity, mentioning that long-term collaboration is essential for effectively fighting modern slavery.

“The Great Wall of China took nearly 2,000 years to build. It was nearly 4,000 miles long, but it was built brick by brick. We are laying bricks in a much greater vision of freedom today. And it will take all of us doing our part. It will be a long fight; but it will happen brick by brick. . . . I want everyone in this room to succeed. Because that is the answer to fighting human trafficking,” Parker said.

The workshops and sessions gave the participants opportunities to connect with like-minded people from all three tiers of the fight: prevention, rescue, and after care. Over 50 organizations were represented including from both the government and nongovernment sectors. The Exodus Road was able to fund the expenses of the conference, apart from travel, which took place in a local beach community for most participants.

The main session speakers, experts in their fields, touched on topics such as: Thailand and Counter-Trafficking Law, ASEAN and Its Impact on Trafficking, and Anti-Money Laundering Strategy. Panel discussions, with audience Q & A segments, also engaged the participants and stimulated practical discussion. Additional topics were covered in break out sessions such as The Repatriation Process for Victims, After Care Best Practices, and Innovative Technology to Fight Trafficking.

Presenters included leadership from a wide variety of reputable organizations such as: Freeland, Liberty Asia, American Bar Association, Thai Royal Police, Thai Social Welfare Department, Office of the Attorney General in Thailand, and the Labour Rights Promotion Network.

“This is amazing,” one participant commented, “I never thought I’d see this many people from both the government and the NGO community come together in such a positive way to fight trafficking.”

The Liberty Alliance is a network of committed partners who believe collaboration is essential for effective change. It’s leadership consists of Freeland, Liberty Asia, and The Exodus Road. This year’s annual event, which was hosted and lead by The Exodus Road, was funded in partnership with Messenger International, Equitas, and The Exodus Road itself.

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Photos: <http://theexodusroad.com/2015/03/liberty-alliance-counter-trafficking-leadership-conference/>

