

Community Assessment Tijuana Mexico

Tijuana-Mexico Human Trafficking & COVID-19

What are the main objectives of the project, and who will benefit from it?

- To facilitate large, sustained, coordinated, and impactful initiatives against the human sex and labor trafficking scourge that exists within District 5340's borders.
- Mexico is a large source, transit, and destination country for human trafficking, according to the U.S. State Department's Trafficking in Persons (TIP) 2011 report. To make matters worse, public fear of criminal organizations—many of which are involved in trafficking—impedes the ability of government and civil society to effectively combat trafficking. Worse still, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and government representatives report that some law enforcement officials tolerate and are sometimes complicit in trafficking, impeding implementation of anti-trafficking statutes.
- Increasing the cooperation between the U.S. and Mexico, by establishing consistent law enforcement mechanisms, and increasing awareness. Educating the youth in both countries, will reduce the numbers of trafficking victims. It is imperative to make changes to policies in both Countries.
- To promote a COVID-19-era advised broad and holistic education, identification, and prevention program. Disseminating education and awareness programs to the county level of leadership. Additionally, compose downloadable curriculum for educators to deliver to their students. This will help create trafficking free communities.
- The United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime (UNODC) said, "there has been an increase in migrant smuggling and human trafficking. The UNODC warned "the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic and its consequences will probably endanger the lives of these people even more."
- Restrictions on movement during the COVID-19 pandemic will not stop trafficking. Women from rural villages in the region, drawn to Tijuana by promises of good jobs in America, can also find themselves victimized by human traffickers. They are abducted and forced into modern-day slavery as soon as they cross the border

Area of Focus

Which area of focus will this project support?

Peace and conflict prevention/resolution

Measuring Success - Peace and Conflict Prevention/Resolution

Which goals of this area of focus will your project support?

Training leaders, including potential youth leaders, to prevent and mediate conflict. This supports peace building in communities and regions affected by conflict

To make sure that survivors of trafficking have access to food, shelter, and to medical assistance at the most basic level, and access to justice and access to information

How were members of the benefiting community involved in finding solutions?

The local community was involved in planning our project by educating the Rotary District 5340 project team on the areas of need to help combat human trafficking.

The community organizations engaged in this effort updated the *Rotary District 5340 Leadership Team* on the current projects underway to help in this effort, and the gaps that exist that need to be filled.

The leadership from District 5340 have had multiple conversations and meetings, particularly with local organizations fighting human trafficking. The purpose is to determine what is required to better combat human trafficking and aid with services for its victims:

Organizations in Mexico dedicated to ending human trafficking and assisting and supporting victims.

- El Pozo de Vida
- The Salvation Army Mexico
- Freedom House Mexico
- Polaris Mexico
- Migrant Center
- La Gloria Extended-Hours Day Care Center
- Battered Women's Shelter in Ensenada

The consensus of the community identified the following needs and support, to help eradicate Human Trafficking in San Diego and neighboring borders:

1. Awareness
2. Advocacy
3. Education
4. Survivor Support

How will you measure your project's impact?

Measures – will include:

- Numbers of groups and organizations participating in peace-building efforts
- Numbers of individuals trained
- Number of communities reporting reductions in level of conflict
- Social and other Media attention

Collection Methods – on various cycles of frequency, will include:

- Direct observation
- Public Records
- Surveys/Texts/Questionnaires

Project Financials – refer to grant request G-2464 \$120,000

For Your Consideration:

Anti-Human Trafficking Committee & CLOVID-19

Under Leadership of District Governor Steve Weitzen

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