



# Guiding anti-trafficking advocates

Learn effective interventions  
and preventions based on  
decades of research and direct  
practice knowledge and skills

[celiawilliamson.com](http://celiawilliamson.com)

**“The fight against  
trafficking  
isn’t just about  
rescue; it’s about  
rebuilding dignity  
and reclaiming  
humanity and  
human rights.”**

— Dr. Celia Williamson



## THE PROBLEM

# Human Trafficking Survivors

Victimized by traffickers, shackled by ineffective interventions



The Power of Language:  
The Importance of Using  
the Right Terms



Understanding the  
Shared Struggles  
of Many Human  
Trafficking Victims



The History  
of Human  
Trafficking Laws  
and Policies



Human  
Trafficking and  
the Oppression  
of Women and  
Women of Color



The Oppression  
of Marginalized  
Populations

**TO EFFECTIVELY ERASE HUMAN TRAFFICKING, WE MUST  
UNDERSTAND, AS A COMMUNITY, THAT OUR CURRENT  
INTERVENTIONS ARE ONE OF THE PROBLEMS HOLDING US BACK.**



## THE PROBLEM

Human trafficking statistics reveal a very sad reality for many people

**MILLIONS**

of people in sex and labor trafficking worldwide<sup>1</sup>

**54%**  
are female<sup>1</sup>

Approximately  
**24%**  
are children<sup>2</sup>

Sex trafficking is the  
**MOST COMMON**  
type of trafficking in the U.S.<sup>3</sup>

**MILLIONS**

of child sexual abuse material files reported<sup>4</sup>

Child sex trafficking is reported in all  
**50 STATES**<sup>2,4</sup>

**BILLIONS**

in annual illegal profits from forced commercial sexual exploitation<sup>5</sup>

**SECOND**

most profitable illegal industry in the U.S.<sup>6</sup>

Statistics vary and may be unreliable due to the clandestine nature of human trafficking.

<sup>1</sup>ILO 2022 Report

<sup>2</sup>United Nations 2023 Report

<sup>3</sup>Polaris

<sup>4</sup>National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) tip line in 2022

<sup>5</sup>ILO Report 2024

<sup>6</sup>UNICEF



## THE PROBLEM

Human trafficking statistics reveal a very sad reality for many people

**TODAY**

**49.6** million people

An estimated 49.6 million people are victims of human trafficking worldwide.<sup>1</sup> While many institutions are working to assist and make a difference, there is a lack of evidence-based work and large-scale coordination to drive significant, lasting change.

**THIS NUMBER GROWS EVERY YEAR.**

“

The most powerful tool in advocacy is a lived experience shared with courage and conviction.”

— Dr. Celia Williamson



<sup>1</sup>ILO 2022 Report

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## THE PROBLEM

Human trafficking statistics reveal a very sad reality for many people



### BEHIND EVERY STAT IS A PERSON

— someone's child, parent, sibling, family member, or friend.

This is a severe issue that doesn't end with one person or one survivor at a time.

 **IT TAKES A GLOBAL COMMUNITY TO LEARN, CONNECT, AND COLLABORATE TO COMBAT HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND PROMOTE SOCIAL JUSTICE.**



## THE SOLUTION

# Meet Dr. Celia Williamson

- **Delivered** over 200 presentations in human trafficking and social justice
- **Delivered** keynotes at more than 30 conferences
- **Completed** numerous studies, 49 peer-reviewed articles and government reports, and edited two books on sex trafficking
- **Wrote** four books: *A Seat at the Table: The Courage to Care About Trafficking*, *The Survivor's Journey* book and workbook, *Effective Case Management with Human Trafficking Survivors*, and *Best Life Human Trafficking Prevention for Girls at Risk*.
- **Taught** thousands of students to become skilled and knowledgeable change makers via evidence -based courses on social work, community organization, human trafficking prevention and interventions, and individualized coaching.
- **Created** the first International Human Trafficking & Social Justice Conference which has hosted representatives from 50 states and 60 countries with thousands in attendance for 20 consecutive years.



## THE SOLUTION

# Meet Dr. Ceila Williamson: Her Impact

- **1993** • **Founded** Second Chance, the first anti-trafficking program in Ohio
- **2002** • **Recipient** of federal funding by the Department of Justice and/or National Institutes of Health to conduct research in human trafficking and its affects on wellbeing
- **2004** • **Founded** the annual International Human Trafficking & Social Justice Conference
- **2009** • **Founded** Lucas County Human Trafficking Coalition
  - **Inducted** into the Ohio Women's Hall of Fame for her work on sex trafficking and prostitution issues throughout Ohio
  - **Second Chance received** the FBI Director's Community Leadership Award for its efforts
- **2010** • **Gathered** relevant data and worked with politicians to enable the first anti-trafficking law in Ohio to be passed
- **2012** • **Provided** research findings to support the need to pass an anti-human trafficking Safe Harbor Law in Ohio
- **2013** • **Chaired** the Research & Analysis Subcommittee for the Ohio Attorney General's Human Trafficking Commission
  - **An editorial manager** for the Journal of Human Trafficking
- **2014** • **Provided** data used to pass the first Demand Act in Ohio to hold customers of victims of human trafficking accountable.
  - **Named** 26th most influential social worker alive today by Social Work Degree Guide
- **2015** • **Opened** the Human Trafficking and Social Justice Institute to advance the mission of combating human trafficking and supporting victims of this crime through research, education, and engagement
- **2018** • **Created** Partners Against Trafficking in Humans (PATH), a community-wide coordinated, accountable, transparent service delivery system for survivors of human trafficking
  - **Created** a statistically valid screening to identify trafficked youth and those at risk
- **2019** • **Founding** member and president of the Global Association of Human Trafficking Scholars (GAHTS)
- **2020** • **Formally established** Emancipation Nation
  - **Founded** the Emancipation Nation Network
  - **Started** the Emancipation Nation Podcast
- **2022** • **Became** a member of the G100, serving as one of the global 100 women changing the world and serves as the global wing against human trafficking.
- **2023** • **Awarded** an Honorary Doctorate for Social Justice from Jharkhand Rai University



## THE SOLUTION

# Meet Dr. Ceila Williamson: Her Impact



Celia Williamson, Ph.D., currently teaches social work practices and human trafficking courses, produces the Emancipation Nation podcast with over 200 episodes, and is the founder and lead facilitator of a global network of advocates called the Emancipation Nation Network, with over 20,000 members and growing.

Through her work she has influenced numerous laws, programs and policies related to human trafficking world-wide.

“Social justice begins where empathy meets action and courage confronts indifference.”

— Dr. Celia Williamson





# Emancipation Nation Mission

## We work with:

- Survivors
- Supporters
- Educators
- Providers
- Criminal Justice Professionals
- Social Workers
- Healthcare Providers
- Peer Leaders
- Researchers



## EMANCIPATION NATION

Combat human trafficking  
and promote social justice

Emancipation Nation is the leader in the fight against human trafficking, providing education, training, and advocacy that drive change.

### IMMEDIATE GOALS

1

Serve victims and survivors with evidence-based models of prevention and innovative solutions to help them make life changes, get access to resources, and live a more fulfilling and internally joyful life.

2

Build a knowledge base through rigorous research to empower targeted systems-level strategies to disrupt and prevent human trafficking.

3

Increase awareness of the issue by engaging in truthful, anti-oppressive, and inclusive narratives, so together, as a community, we can work to prevent more victims.



# Emancipation Nation

## Company Background

Emancipation Nation was created to carry out Williamson's mission, which is to help survivors of various forms of human trafficking and help prevent more victims through research, education, and advocacy.



## EMANCIPATION NATION

Combat human trafficking and promote social justice

**Emancipation Nation started with Williamson taking to the street in her home town, Toledo, Ohio, after losing friends to human trafficking. Every day, when she drove to work, she would see women on the street involved in prostitution and was determined to help them. She started by building relationships, interviewing women, and immersing herself in street culture. After six months, she created the first direct service anti-trafficking program in Ohio with initial funding from the United Methodist Church and the City of Toledo.**

Williamson went on to conduct street outreach on the streets of Toledo and in jails, facilitated groups, and advocated for women and youth. This work allowed her to win grants and bring funding to the Toledo community to provide programs and services for sex trafficking victims.

She went on to pursue her Ph.D. and returned to the Toledo community to build a thriving anti-trafficking coalition.



## THE SOLUTION

# Emancipation Nation

## How We Help Individuals



## EMANCIPATION NATION

Combat human trafficking  
and promote social justice

### WE HELP



**Survivors** heal; re-establish healthy boundaries; increase genuine trust, safety, and love; and gain the self-confidence to have healthier, more fulfilling relationships.



**Supporters, educators, advocates, peer leaders, social service and health care providers, and criminal justice professionals** understand and use best practices with training and other tools to help them competently fight for survivors' human rights, change policies, deploy practical strategies and evidence-based practice and programming, and advocate for high-risk individuals.



**Researchers** conduct rigorous studies to gain insights that we can use to push for real and meaningful change.



## THE SOLUTION

# Emancipation Nation

## How We Empower Individuals

Our evidence-based programs for individuals have been tested for effectiveness and efficiency.

### WE PROVIDE A 2-PHASE APPROACH

#### PHASE 1 EDUCATION

##### Best Life Prevention Curriculum for At-Risk Girls

Teaches human trafficking prevention for girls

##### Survivors' Journey

Teaches healing from interpersonal trauma

#### PHASE 2 COMMUNITY AND ONGOING SUPPORT

##### Emancipation Nation Network

Provides community, education, awareness, and support

“Let’s not just do something.  
Let’s do the best thing.”

— Dr. Celia Williamson



# Emancipation Nation

## How We Help Institutions

### We Work With

- Criminal Justice Professionals
- Health Care Organizations
- Direct Service Agencies
- Faith-Based Organizations
- Educational Institutions
- Peer Leaders

**We understand the needs of survivors and offer training and other tools to help institutions and organizations competently fight for survivors' human rights, develop policies, deploy practical and best practice strategies, and advocate for high-risk individuals.**

We offer in-office and virtual training and in-the-field study to empower institutions with real-life experience and skills to be effective.





## THE SOLUTION

# Emancipation Nation

## How We Help Institutions

Our evidence-informed programs for institutions have been widely used and proven through implementation for effectiveness and efficiency.

### WE PROVIDE A 3-PHASE APPROACH

#### PHASE 1 EDUCATION

##### Best Life Prevention Curriculum for At-Risk Girls

Teaches human trafficking prevention for girls

##### Survivors' Journey

Teaches healing from interpersonal trauma

#### PHASE 2 IMPLEMENTATION

##### Effective Case Management with Human Trafficking Survivors Course

Teaches case management and service

#### PHASE 3 COMMUNITY AND ONGOING SUPPORT

##### Emancipation Nation Network

Provides community, education, awareness, and support

“Our approach moves  
Victims to Survivors  
and Survivors to Thrivers.

— Dr. Celia Williamson



# Emancipation Nation

## Certified Facilitators

● **Our 30 years of experience and best practice strategies are offered as a certification program where we train individuals the formula that has been working to help survivors heal and prevent high-risk individuals from becoming victims.**

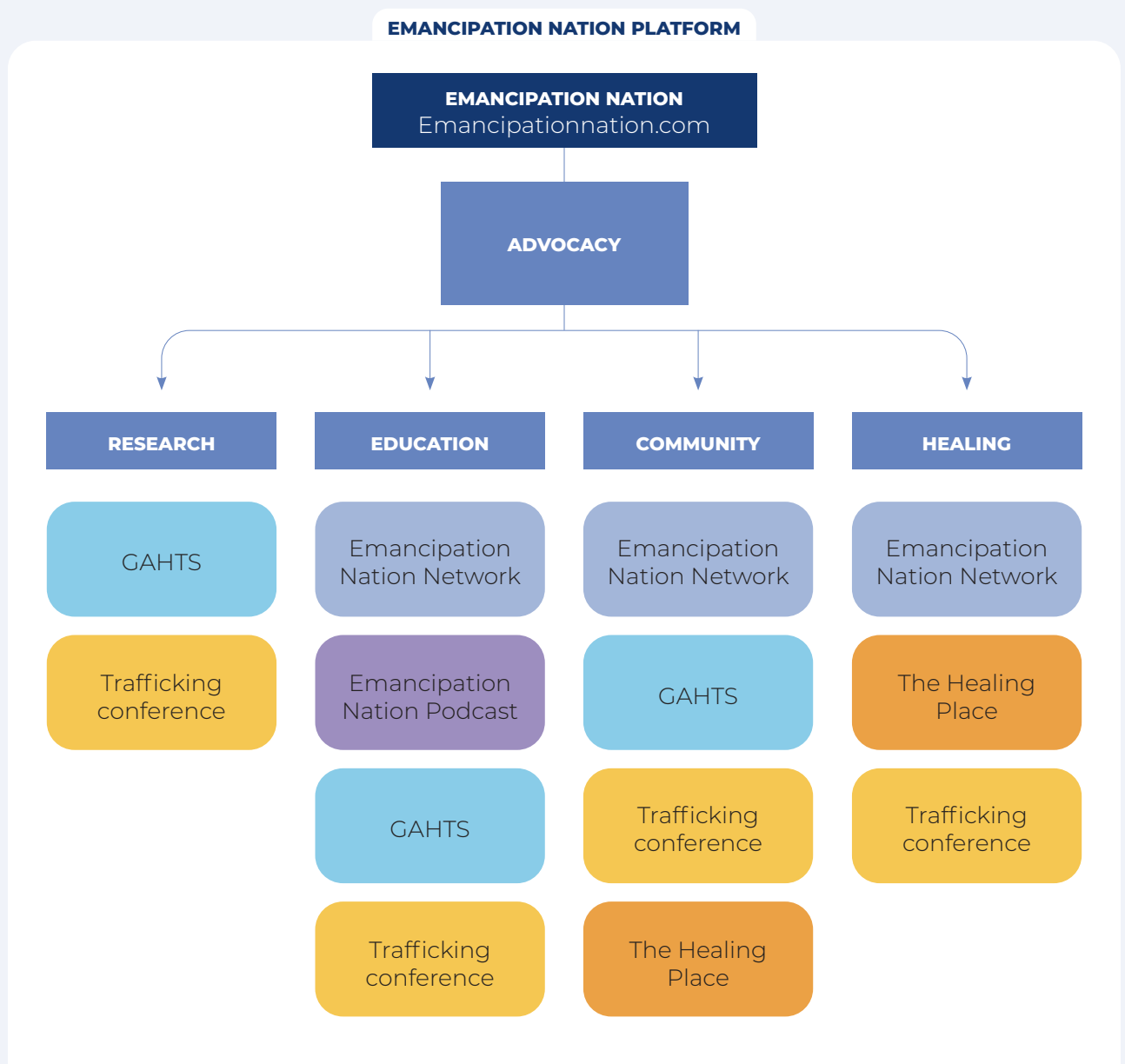
● **Our certification program:**

- Asynchronistic, however, we have trained large groups within institutions synchronistically.
- 12 - 18 months of training, approximately 6 hours per week commitment
- Theory and practical training with assigned experiential homework
- Offers Continuing Education Credits and a Certificate at the end of completion, and the opportunity to work as a Certified Facilitator through Emancipation Nation Network
- At the end of the Certification, Certified Facilitators can competently fight for survivors' human rights, inform local policies, support victims and survivors, advocate for human rights and social justice, and create pathways to grow awareness of the underlying issues.



# The Emancipation Nation Platform

By increasing awareness, research, education, and community engagement, we create an army of advocates to walk alongside survivors and prevent new victims.



# Our Team

Our group of people are determined to establish a collaborative effort worldwide so together we can end this humanitarian crisis.



## GENERAL MANAGER

Celia Williamson, PhD. LISW

## GLOBAL RESEARCH

Anna Schramm,  
MSW, LSW

## FINANCE & FIDELITY

Ashley Cutcher,  
MSW, LSW

## PEOPLE MOVER

Amy Lagesse,  
MA

## RESEARCH & EVOLUTION

Rosario Sanchez,  
PhD



# High-Risk Populations vs. The Global Problem

## Why Does This Matter?



There comes a point where we need to stop just pulling people out of the river. We need to go upstream and find out why they're falling in."

— Desmond Tutu

Currently there is a lot of awareness about human trafficking, and it is evident that this is a global problem. However, this awareness masks the root issue.

To create change we must understand that there are specific populations who are at high risk of being trafficked, and focus our efforts there to drive maximum impact.

● **THIS HIGH-RISK POPULATION  
ACCOUNTS FOR MORE THAN  
80% OF TRAFFICKED VICTIMS.<sup>1</sup>**



<sup>1</sup>International Labor Report - Global Estimates of Modern Slavery Forced Labour and Forced Marriage, 2022



# High-Risk Populations vs. The Global Problem Why Does This Matter?

● **THREAT + VULNERABILITY  
= RISK**

● **THREAT**

Being exposed to a person, people, or environment which increases the probability of danger. This could be someone inside the family, a friend(s), or someone outside of the family who is able to get close enough to the intended victim to manipulate, force, coerce, fraud, or otherwise deceive someone to gain their confidence.

● **VULNERABILITY**

Someone who is at higher risk of becoming a victim due to their past experiences, level of instability, decreased protective and increased risk factors, and/or life situation (LGBTQ+, BIPOC, runaways, people with disabilities, and other marginalized populations).



# High-Risk Populations vs. The Global Problem

**AS IS USUALLY THE CASE, IT IS THOSE WHO ARE ALREADY IN SITUATIONS OF GREATEST VULNERABILITY**

— including the poor and marginalized, workers in the informal economy, irregular or otherwise unprotected workers, and people subject to oppression and discrimination — who are most affected.



It is our view that everyone deserves social justice, meaning equal economic, political, and social rights and opportunities.

— Dr. Celia Williamson



# WHY NOW



**Even though this is a centuries -old problem for humanity, the severity is growing due to compounding crises such as the COVID-19 pandemic, armed conflicts, mass migration, illegal immigration, and climate change.<sup>7</sup>**

This has led to unprecedented disruption to employment and education, increases in extreme poverty and forced and unsafe migration, and an upsurge in reports of gender-based violence, together serving to heighten the risk of all forms of human trafficking.<sup>7</sup>



<sup>7</sup>United Nations SRSG

# WHY NOW



There are many initiatives to solve this growing problem, but the truth is, the majority do not outline and train others to engage in effective and efficient solutions to make quantifiable change.

## ● **THAT IS WHAT THE EMANCIPATION NATION IS ABOUT:**

Collaborating with individuals and institutions in the field and arming them with tested solutions backed by a community to support regional to global adoption.



<sup>7</sup>United Nations SRSG

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# WHAT CAN YOU DO

Solving the global humanitarian crisis of human trafficking requires an organized effort, leveraging all constituents in the field and utilizing strategies that have been proven to work.

**We ask that you join our movement in one, some, or all of the following ways:**

**1**

**Get trained**

and train your team using our evidence-based education.

**2**

**Support our movement**

through donations to Emancipation Nation and/or sponsoring a survivor.

**3**

**Hire Dr. Williamson**

to present to your organization or at your next event to increase awareness, inspire action, and introduce the solutions that will drive change.







# Thank you!

● **TAKE THE NEXT STEP  
BY CONTACTING US AT**  
[info@emancipatonnation.com](mailto:info@emancipatonnation.com)