

Napa Valley **Register**

Napa to host inaugural Human Trafficking Awareness Conference April 30

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Jennifer Huffman

Monarch Justice Center, a Napa-based organization dedicated to combating human trafficking, announced its inaugural Human Trafficking Awareness Conference.

The event will be held on April 30 at the Embassy Suites by Hilton Napa Valley, 1075 California Blvd. in Napa. There is no cost to attend.

"Human trafficking remains a pressing issue globally, and Monarch Justice Center is taking proactive steps to address this critical concern in the Napa community and beyond," the organization said in a news release.

The conference aims to raise awareness, educate attendees, and foster collaboration among stakeholders to effectively combat human trafficking, according to Monarch's announcement.

The forum will feature speakers and experts in the field, including representatives from the Napa County District Attorney's Office, the FBI, the Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE)/Sexual Assault Response Team (SART), and keynote speaker Nola Brantly, "a nationally acclaimed advocate and authority on human trafficking."

"We are excited to host our first Human Trafficking Awareness Conference and bring together individuals and organizations committed to eradicating this crime," said Shea Hunter, executive director at Monarch Justice Center. "By joining forces and sharing knowledge, we can make significant strides in preventing human trafficking, supporting survivors, and holding perpetrators accountable."

Attendees can expect engaging presentations, insightful panel discussions, and opportunities for networking and collaboration, according to organizers. Topics will include identifying signs of human trafficking, supporting survivors, legal frameworks, and community responses.

"We believe that education and awareness are crucial in the fight against human trafficking," said Kim Phinney, Monarch's board president. "Through events like this conference, we hope to empower individuals and communities to take action and make a positive impact in the lives of trafficking survivors."

The conference is open to law enforcement professionals, health care providers, social workers, legal professionals, educators, community leaders, and anyone interested in combating human trafficking, according to the center's statement.

To register for the free conference, visit:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/monarch-justice-center-human-trafficking-conference-tickets-867809901777>

The center can be reached at monarchjusticecenter.org or 707-927-4475.