

**February 20, 2012**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**Asheville, NC -, 2012 – Youth for Abolition**

**Youth for Abolition (Y4A)** promotes a mission to raise awareness among middle and high school students to prevent them from falling victim to sexual exploitation; and to give them a platform to take action and stand against domestic minor sex trafficking.

Youth for Abolition recently held one of their first events and ended up raising \_\_, for scholarships for human trafficking victims.

Members of Youth for Abolition commit to:

- learning more about sex trafficking through our curriculum
- raising awareness among peers to prevent sex trafficking of minors
- work to raise funds to support OEWM's aftercare, missions, and survivor scholarship funds
- resist messages in the media that sexualize teens and understand that the media often glamorizes prostitution

Money raised to support Youth for Abolition will go to set up “Survivor Scholarships” these scholarship funds will allow for human trafficking victims to apply for funding for leadership classes, job skill trainings, or help to cover the cost of education.

There are currently \_\_ chapters of Youth for Abolition, and they are looking to expand

**Human Trafficking and Modern Day Slaves**

There are more slaves in the world today than at any point in history. Modern-day slaves, also called human trafficking victims, can be male or female, from any country, or representing any ethnicity. They can be enslaved in any industry, although common industries include domestic servitude, agriculture, the commercial sex industry, factories, and the service industry. Human trafficking is not just a crime that takes place in other countries, it's happening here in our own backyard - affecting our children.

**MEDIA CONTACTS:**

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*programs offering shelter for domestic sex trafficking victims ages 12 - 25*

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