



HUMAN TRAFFICKING  
IN OUR BACKYARD  
[www.InOurBackyard.org](http://www.InOurBackyard.org)

## ABOUT IN OUR BACKYARD

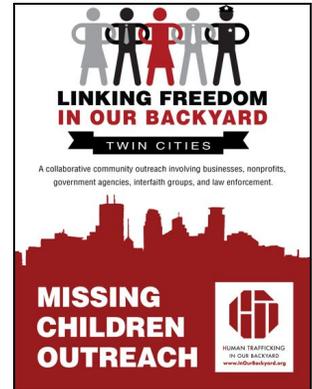
In Our Backyard (IOB) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit based in Central Oregon that links arms across America in the fight against human trafficking. Through more than a decade of dedication to this issue – from prevention to restoration – IOB has collaborated with top law enforcement, survivors, government officials, social service providers, medical professionals, businesses, schools, and faith communities as the key to creating comprehensive, lasting change.

**OUR VISION:** A world where all people are empowered to live in freedom.

## OUR WORK

IOB believes that **awareness is the critical first step to ending human trafficking**. IOB provides training for businesses, service providers, community groups, law enforcement and other government agencies to recognize and respond to human trafficking. Nita Belles, founder of IOB, is a **recognized expert and leader in the anti-trafficking movement** and serves as national keynote speaker and trainer.

In connection with our year-round anti-human trafficking efforts, IOB works to **eradicate sex trafficking surrounding the Super Bowl**. The operation began nine years ago and has continued in every Super Bowl host city since. This program increases awareness, supports law enforcement efforts and looks for children who are missing and at-risk of being exploited.



A cornerstone of our work, Freedom Stickers are placed in public restrooms across the country - the only time a victim of human trafficking is alone and safe to reach out for help. They contain the National Human Trafficking Hotline number and **provide hope and a pathway to freedom for victims of human trafficking**. Freedom Stickers originated with IOB in 2011 and were designed in collaboration with survivors.

In 2015, IOB was instrumental in the passing of Oregon's HB 3143, which requires that Freedom Stickers go out with every renewed liquor license in the state of Oregon to be placed in restroom stalls. IOB advocates for human trafficking legislation and **serves as an advisor on HT laws in several states**.

In 2017, IOB officially launched Convenience Stores Against Trafficking (CSAT). The program equips convenience stores to respond to the atrocity of human trafficking in America through industry-specific training and Freedom Stickers. CSAT has partnerships in 22 states, representing more than 8,000 locations. **As the eyes and ears of our nation's communities, convenience store employees can learn to spot human trafficking and save lives.**



In 2018, IOB is working to **expand HT prevention programming for middle and high school students** throughout Central Oregon. This program is built upon the foundation of Belles' six years of classroom presentations.

On an ongoing basis, IOB implements a victim-centered response and **connects survivors to services** including, but not limited to: housing, medical services, mental health counseling, health care, legal aid, law enforcement support and financial aid.

**For more information on our programs and to get involved, please visit: <http://www.inourbackyard.org>**