



**United Against Slavery
2020 Annual Report**



A Message from our Leadership

2020 presented a year of immense challenges with the spread of the Coronavirus. Everyone was impacted in some way, as new normals presented themselves across the United States and around the world. We also know that this impact was felt by vulnerable populations that may still be exposed to acts of violence, control, and coercion, as well as those already in their healing journeys.

For organizations providing direct care to victims and survivors of human trafficking, those challenges were exponentiated during 2020 and demanded a renewed focus to find innovative ways to provide services to new and existing survivors. At United Against Slavery, we also embraced new normals in our frontline data collection efforts, as we finished one study in transportation and begin a new multi-modal study. We know that our research and data collection effort can help improve counter trafficking work and ultimately can help survivors of human trafficking.

We know that our best days are ahead. We also believe that the anti-trafficking movement is at our best when we collaborate in the good times and through hardships.

My hope for 2021 and beyond is that we continue to strengthen collaboration, that we elevate survivor voices in our individual work, and that we rise above every challenge that may present itself.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Christi Wigle".

Christi Wigle
CEO & Co-Founder
United Against Slavery



2020 National Outreach Survey for Flight Attendants

In 2019, United Against Slavery formed a Transportation Working Group, in preparation for the upcoming 2020 NOS for Flight Attendants. UAS collaborated with two of the largest Flight Attendant Unions to distribute the study to their members.

“ Each National Outreach Survey was designed to document what is and is not working in frontline stakeholder groups as they combat labor and sex trafficking.

The survey launched prior to the global outbreak of Covid; however, Aviation and every other mode of transportation had to refocus to help divert the spread of the virus and also protect their frontline workers.

For the duration of the NOS for Flight Attendant study, participating Flight Attendants shared of their experiences and challenges that they faced.

600+ Flight Attendants Participated

The recurring theme of the data collected were issues relating to training programs, reporting protocols, and concerns about misidentification. Many Flight Attendants felt they could do more than they were doing already if protections were in place. Improvements need to be pursued to ensure that Flight Attendants are equipped and empowered to combat human trafficking in their work environment.



	2020 National Outreach Survey for Flight Attendants
Do you have concerns about misidentifying signs of human trafficking?	68%
Of those, said that they <u>will not</u> report trafficking because of those concerns.	11%

The NOS for Flight Attendant data will be published in 2022.





In 2020, United Against Slavery was awarded the first-ever USDOT Combating Human in Transportation Impact Award of \$50,000. Under this award, UAS began preparations for the 2021 National Outreach Survey for Transportation (NOST).

The global transportation industry and its associated infrastructure are the lifeblood of economic, social, and cultural growth around the world. Airlines, railroads, motorways, and the internet have connected us to a greater degree than at any other time in our history, enabling us to trade goods, exchange ideas, distribute humanitarian aid, and provide opportunity to millions of people every year. Unfortunately, the scope and scale of the industry also present significant challenges to government regulation and law enforcement, which human traffickers exploit to hide their criminal activities in plain sight.

The focus of the NOST is to collect frontline data to show how transportation intersects with all forms of human trafficking in all modes of transportation. There will be three groups surveyed in the NOST: transportation workers, service providers, and survivors of labor and/or sex trafficking. The NOST will help show how transportation was used during the recruitment, exploitation, extraction/escape, and during the healing journeys of survivors.

In preparation to launch the 2021 NOST, United Against Slavery collaborated with a large team of contributors:

110+ Contributors*

* Field Experts, including those with lived experience, academics, transportation companies, Universities, and Transportation Centers.



The U.S. Department of Transportation hosted a virtual seminar, with a collaboration with Department leadership and industry stakeholders, to help combat human trafficking. UAS leadership shared about the NOST at this event.

United Against Slavery recognizes that there is a tremendous amount of work to accomplish over the next decade to make it harder to traffick innocent men, women, boys, and girls. We believe that comprehensive frontline data collection is a missing tool for the anti-trafficking community, not just in the United States but around the globe.

We are committed to seeking the necessary resources and collaborative teams to continue collecting frontline data to help improve counter trafficking work.

We are today and will always focus our mission to help victims and survivors and those who work on their behalf. Onward.

