

# Fundraiser aims to end slavery in modern day

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Human trafficking is an industry estimated to generate \$150 billion in profits annually yet many are unaware it is occurring in their own backyard.

In fact, according to the National Human Trafficking Resource Center (NHTRC) hotline, more than 100 calls per day are received from citizens reporting trafficking in the United States or from victims asking for assistance. In addition, the International Labour Organization estimates almost 21 million human trafficking victims exist worldwide, with 5.5 million of those being children.

To help fight against this modern-day slavery, join Angels of Mercy, Inc. on Saturday as they strive to spread awareness about human trafficking

and violence against women. Their 3rd annual Stop the Trafficking – End the Cycle 5K Run/Walk event kicks off at 7 a.m. at Meridian Centre Park, 2025 South Winton Road. Registration is open until 7:45 a.m. and the 5K begins at 8 a.m. For those who prefer to walk, consider the 1-mile walking segment, which starts at 8:45 a.m.

Angels of Mercy, Inc. is a non-profit committed to aiding women and girls in need. The goal of this year's 5K is to raise funds, which will be used to create a home for healing for victims of human trafficking and violence. The organization, which was founded by Mary Jo Gugino-Coligan eight years ago, helps women achieve dignity, freedom and restoration through a variety of services. Visit [AngelsofMercyNY.org](http://AngelsofMercyNY.org) or call 585-730-4556 for more information.