

Human trafficking is a form of modern day slavery. It targets women and children in Canada and worldwide.

In the Hamilton Diocese our social justice project was to raise money for *Walk With Me* – a community based organization established by a survivor of human trafficking, Timea Nagey, which is an immediate program that helps human trafficked victims. This was brought about after some of our members attended an information session called “Voices of Survivors Journey into Hope” at the motherhouse of School Sisters of Notre Dame in Waterdown where three survivors of human trafficking told their story – Timea Nagy, Celeste Swan and Katrina McLeod.

Timea Nagy immigrated to Canada from Hungary over 14 years ago in the hopes of fulfilling a summer position as a housekeeper or nanny but was kidnapped, controlled, kept under horrible conditions and forced to work in the sex trade in Toronto and surrounding areas for 3 months until one day she miraculously escaped her captors. Timea Nagy is not only a survivor of human trafficking but also a speaker and social advocate on behalf of human trafficking victims worldwide.

Walk With Me provides emergency safe housing and financial support, in the form of gift cards for immediate needs. At our Fall Regional meetings, our Communications Chairperson, Nancy Morley, made an appeal to parish councils to help by donating and bringing \$25.00 gift cards for Tim Hortons, Walmart, Shoppers Drug Mart or gasoline since *Walk With Me* Canada Victim Services is not government funded. This appeal was very successful as members were generous and we were able to donate \$2,200.00 in gift cards. This was to help the survivors of trafficking as they journey into hope.

This concludes my report

Ana Sousa, President
Hamilton Diocese