

Register Now for October 12 Human Trafficking Forum at The Conference Center at Barefoot Resort in North Myrtle Beach

North Myrtle Beach, SC – September 21, 2016 -- The General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC) North Myrtle Beach Woman's Club, in collaboration with the City of North Myrtle Beach, City of Myrtle Beach, North Myrtle Beach Chamber of Commerce, Horry County Government, McLeod Seacoast, Elliott Realty, WPDE TV 15, and the North Myrtle Beach Times, invites the public to participate in a "**Community Forum on Human Trafficking**" on Wednesday, October 12, 9:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. at The Conference Center at Barefoot Resort, 2250 Premier Resorts Boulevard, North Myrtle Beach.



The purpose of the forum is to raise awareness of human trafficking and its devastating effects on our communities. Forum discussion topics will include:

- How people are targeted and held against their will
- Who the victims are, and how to recognize them
- The kind of help needed by people who have been trafficked – physically and mentally
- A review of cases in South Carolina, what the Federal and State laws are, the difficulties law enforcement face, success stories
- Community resources and gaps

South Carolina Attorney General Alan Wilson is the key note speaker.

Other speakers include Carrie Fisher-Sherald, Assistant US Attorney, Department of Justice; Robyn Causey, Horry Georgetown Technical College Professor; and Jennifer Coaxum, Law Enforcement Trainer–USC School of Law.

An afternoon panel discussion will include “Experiences from the Frontline” with representatives from Sea Haven, Inc., Doors of Freedom, Myrtle Beach Immigration and Law Enforcement, and the Eastern Carolina Coalition Against Human Trafficking.

North Myrtle Beach Woman's Club Chairperson-Elect and Forum Chairperson Kowena Suckstorf said, “After hearing Attorney General Alan Wilson speak at our GFWC state convention last year, the North Myrtle Beach Woman's Club wanted to make others more aware about what is going on in our state and our communities regarding human trafficking. It is frightening. We have been surprised by the interest in this forum and we are overwhelmed by the support shown from area governments, who are probably encountering this issue more than we realize. If we make the commitment to educate ourselves about human trafficking, we can better prepare ourselves to stand up to this sort of crime.”

The public is encouraged to attend this forum. The \$15 registration fee includes a boxed lunch. Register online at www.humantraffickingcommunityforum.eventbrite.com.

Those who want to continue to learn more about human trafficking after the October 12 forum can participate in an October 18, 9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. workshop at the

Myrtle Beach Education Center, 79th Avenue North, Myrtle Beach. The North Myrtle Beach Woman's Club has partnered with Coastal Carolina University's Division of Academic & Community Outreach to offer the follow-up workshop. The workshop will continue the focus on human trafficking through readings, case studies, and discussion. Persons who attend both the October 12 forum and the October 18 workshop may be eligible to receive one continuing education credit (CEU).

For more information, contact Kowena Suckstorf at 843-399-6950 or email vpmbbrnmbwc@gmail.com.

GFWC North Myrtle Beach Woman's Club Community Forum: Human Trafficking October 12, 2016 Forum Schedule

	Welcome and Introductions
10am-11am	Alan Wilson, South Carolina Attorney General
11am-12pm	Robyn Causey, Assistant Chair and Professor at Horry Georgetown Technical College
12pm-1pm	Lunch (with some video presentations)
1pm-1:45pm	Carrie Fisher-Sherald, Assistant U.S. Attorney, Department of Justice
1:45pm-2:15pm	Jennifer Coaxum, Law Enforcement Trainer with Children's Law Center at USC School of Law
2:15pm-2:30pm	Break; set up for panel
2:30pm-3:50pm	Panel: Christina Jackson with Sea Haven, Inc. Founder and Board Member, Andrea Wind and also Board Member Detective Heidi Jackson, Lighthouse for Life Sharon Rikard, Doors to Freedom Peter Woods, Myrtle Beach Police Officer NMB Dept of Public Safety/Law Enforcement representative Kelly O'Neill-Bagwell: President of Eastern Carolina Coalition Against Human Trafficking Donusia Lipinski, Immigration Attorney

3:50pm -4pm

Wrap Up

About the North Myrtle Beach Woman's Club

GFWC North Myrtle Beach Woman's Club is a large, active General Federation of Woman's Clubs charitable organization that has been active in North Myrtle Beach since 1974. The group is a service organization and raises funds each year to aid charities supporting women, children, and youth. To learn more about the club visit its web site at www.northmyrtlebeachwomansclub.com.

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