



**3Strands Global**

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Ashlie Bryant, President and Co-Founder

*Grant Title:* Human Trafficking Prevention Education

*Award Date:* July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016

*Grant Amount:* \$7,500

*Date Final Report Completed:* October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2017

## PART I: PROGRAM NARRATIVE

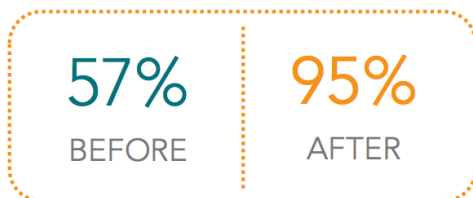
1. List the goals and objectives of the project/program followed by the progress made toward achieving each goal and objective.

*Program Goal:* Our primary goal for our human trafficking prevention education program was that 750 9<sup>th</sup> grade students and staff in El Dorado County would receive our Break Free Education. 3Strands Global used all \$7,500 of the grant funds to educate 812 students and staff in El Dorado County about human trafficking, exceeding our program goal. These students and staff came from El Dorado County high schools such as Oak Ridge High School, Ponderosa High School, and South Tahoe High School. We view one of our primary goals as the number of students educated because over the years, we have numerous empowerment stories about teens that were able to identify human trafficking signs and keep themselves safe from victimization as a result of our program.

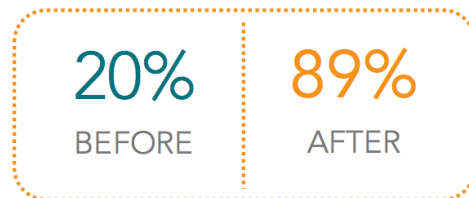
*Program Objective:* Our primary objective for our human trafficking prevention education program was that there would be a change in understanding and attitude about human trafficking between the students' pre and post surveys. Significant results from the Break Free Education surveys administered to every student and staff in 2016-2017 are listed below:

3Strands Global Prevention Education Survey Results 2016-2017	PRE-TEST		POST-TEST	CHANGE *
	Yes/True	No/False	Yes/True	Yes/True
Question 1: I could define human trafficking	74%	26%	98%	24%
Question 2: Are human trafficking and prostitution the same thing?	18%	82%	47%	29%
Question 5: Anyone can be a victim of human trafficking?	97%	3%	99%	2%
Question 6: Do you know about the human trafficking hotline?	20%	80%	89%	69%
Question 8: Can a person be recruited or trafficked online?	95%	5%	99%	4%
Question 9: Once I am 18, I won't have to worry about being trafficked.	4%	96%	2%	1%
Question 10: I understand the steps necessary to prevent myself and others from becoming victims of human trafficking	57%	43%	95%	38%

I UNDERSTAND THE STEPS NECESSARY  
TO PREVENT MYSELF AND OTHERS FROM  
BECOMING A VICTIM.



DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE  
HUMAN TRAFFICKING HOTLINE?



2. What difference did this grant make in your community and for the population you are serving? Please provide specific outcome results and/or data to support your impact (e.g. age groups, number of unduplicated clients, ethnic populations, etc.)

3Strands Global started the Break Free Education program as a result of the horrific trafficking incident in El Dorado Hills in 2008, when a Ponderosa High School student was trafficked from the Safeway parking lot. When we asked the survivor what we could have done as an organization to prevent her from being trafficked, she replied, "If I had learned about human trafficking in school, I would have been able to recognize the trafficker's tactics, and would have known not to get in the car with him."

This grant gave us the opportunity to educate 812 unduplicated 9<sup>th</sup> grade students in El Dorado County with our comprehensive human trafficking prevention education curriculum, which serves a three-fold purpose. First, when delivered on a large scale across multiple high schools, Break Free Education provides a common baseline for students in El Dorado County to understand modern day slavery and human trafficking. Second, it helps students recognize human trafficking when they see it. This is a crime that can hide in plain sight – trafficking victims will often continue to go about their daily routines while they are being trafficked. Teaching other students and teachers how to recognize the types of victims creates critical mass of eyes and ears in El Dorado County schools. Finally, prevention education helps students directly avoid becoming victims of trafficking themselves. The techniques traffickers use are subtle and clever. However, once known, they become obvious and simplistic. When students learn in the classroom about the tactics of traffickers, they become immediately recognizable to anyone who has gone through the program.

Over the past year, there have been a few cases where students self-identified as being groomed by a trafficker. For example, after receiving Break Free Education, a 16-year-old girl showed her phone to a trusted adult, sharing texts that had come from an "older boyfriend" who was grooming her (one of the many tactics traffickers use to draw in victims). By recognizing these red flags, she sought help and removed herself from the situation. Additionally, a 14-year-old boy was unknowingly being groomed online by a trafficker, but through the training, he understood the manipulative tactics of traffickers and felt empowered to seek help and direction. He told his athletic director that the Break Free Education program saved his life.

3. Did you meet any unexpected challenges during the project/program? If so, how did you handle them?

As mentioned in the extension request letter, we had planned to use the remainder of the grant funds to host a prevention education high school outreach event in April 2017, but the venue was unexpectedly asked to host a concert the same night, and requested that we reschedule the event. It was a challenge then to schedule presentations towards the end of the semester, as teachers' schedules quickly fill up at the end of the year. We were able to schedule an additional presentation at Oak Ridge High School this September to use the remainder of the grant funds.

#### 4. Describe lessons learned. What would you do differently?

While it is extremely effective for 3Strands Global staff and volunteers to deliver Break Free Education to students in classrooms throughout El Dorado County, it is even more impactful for them to receive human trafficking prevention education directly from their teacher. Over the years of delivering Break Free Education directly to students, we found a need for teachers themselves to receive thorough training on how to be trauma-informed and how to identify and recognize the signs of human trafficking among their students. By also training teachers how to deliver our prevention education curriculum to their classroom, teachers will be able to follow-up with students throughout the year, identify if someone is a potential victim, and connect them with the resources they need in accordance with their district and county human trafficking response protocols.

As mentioned in our interim report, we have expanded our Break Free Education program by partnering with two other nonprofit organizations, as well as the California Attorney General's Office and the California Department of Education to form PROTECT. This new comprehensive human trafficking prevention education program offers training for county stakeholders and school personnel, as well as curriculum for students in grades 5, 7, 9 and 11. We have created training videos and ready-to-go curriculum accessible through our online learning management system, so that teachers are equipped to deliver human trafficking prevention education directly to their classrooms. We are excited to pilot the PROTECT program in El Dorado County this fall, and have already begun partnering with the El Dorado County Office of Education and numerous districts throughout the county.

We were grateful to use these grant funds to continuously refine our Break Free Education curriculum over the past year, based on what we learned from delivering the curriculum to students in El Dorado County. Teaching the curriculum in-person allowed us to ensure that the videos, survivor stories, images and statistics that we use are informative and impactful for 9<sup>th</sup> grade students, and we were able to make revisions to the curriculum as needed. The ability to learn from both our survey results and from teaching students in the classroom allowed us to improve our Break Free Education curriculum to the point where we could turn it into a polished 9<sup>th</sup> grade curriculum for the PROTECT program that will not only be used by El Dorado County teachers, but also by teachers throughout the state of California.

#### 5. Has this grant helped a) attract new funds? Or b) increase volunteer involvement? If so, how?

This grant allowed us to deliver Break Free Education on a large scale in El Dorado County, allowing us to gather student survey results that demonstrate the effectiveness of human trafficking prevention education to new funders. This fall, the PROTECT program in El Dorado County is funded in part by the Rural County Representatives of California and the El Dorado County Health and Human Services Agency, who has agreed to fund the program over the next three years with the ability to renew the contract in the future. We have also begun conversations

with the El Dorado County Health and Human Services Agency about funding our reintegration program to place survivors of trafficking and foster youth in sustainable jobs.

The ability to deliver Break Free Education in El Dorado County classrooms has also allowed us to increase our student volunteer involvement. We have many opportunities to volunteer with 3Strands Global, whether at our annual Break Free Run, as an intern in our office, or selling survivor-made bracelets at community events. We are grateful for the platform that Break Free Education has given us to inform students not only about human trafficking, but also how they can do something in their own community.

6. Please provide at least one success story from the project/program that was a direct result of the WFED's funding. Stories do not need to be lengthy (250 words or less is typically sufficient) and should be written in third person. Please feel free to attach pictures.

The Women's Fund El Dorado grant allowed 3Strands Global to deliver human trafficking prevention education in 9<sup>th</sup> grade classrooms throughout El Dorado County. After receiving prevention education, one 9<sup>th</sup> grade girl realized that her mom's boyfriend was forcibly selling her mom for sex. The girl not only identified that her mom was a victim of sex trafficking, but realized that she herself was being groomed for trafficking by her mom's boyfriend. She told her teachers and the 3Strands Global staff member that receiving prevention education saved her from being trafficked, and afterwards the teacher was able to follow their school's mandated reporting protocol to ensure she was placed in a safe living situation with her dad.

## **PART II: PROGRAM BUDGET**

1. Please provide a copy of your approved budget, a list of actual expenditures of the Women's Fund El Dorado grant funds during the project/program, and an explanation of any differences. (If a portion of your grant remains unexpended, please contact the Women's Fund prior to submitting your final report.) Please use the Excel spreadsheet Line Item Budget template provided.

Please see the attached final program budget and grant expenditures for 3Strands Global's Break Free Education program in El Dorado County.

2. How will this project/program be sustained in the future?

As mentioned previously, this fall our PROTECT human trafficking prevention education program in El Dorado County is funded in part by the Rural County Representatives of California and the El Dorado County Health and Human Services Agency, who has agreed to fund the program over the next three years with the ability to renew the contract in the future.