



## Anti-Human Trafficking Summit

March 21, 2024 | 10:00AM CT

Speaker Bios

[Register Here](#)

---



**Caroline Roberts** – Senior Staff Attorney, CHILDREN AT RISK

Caroline Roberts serves as the Senior Staff Attorney at Children at Risk, advocating for policies that positively impact the lives of children. Caroline also serves as vice-chair on the Houston American Constitution Society board. Caroline attended New York University School of Law, where she served as symposium editor for the Environmental Law Journal. Before law school, Caroline graduated with a B.A. in psychology from Duke University. After graduation, she moved to Beijing to teach English to children and then to Shanghai where she taught writing and Western culture at Jiaotong University.



**Phuong Marquez**, Community Impact Director, Demand Disruption

Phuong Marquez serves as the Community Impact Director for Demand Disruption and works to collaborate with the churches and community organization in the Greater Houston area to facilitate trainings on prevention awareness with demand reduction strategies. Phuong comes

from a background of experience working with teen trafficking survivors, education, at-risk youth advocacy, restorative care, and case management that spans over a decade. Her heart and passion is to work with youth to educate and empower the next generation of justice advocates to take on this issue and be a part of the movement to end human trafficking in Houston.



**Kaelley Pandey** – Implementation Specialist, 3Strands Global Foundation

Mrs. Pandey (she/her) is at the forefront of combating human trafficking, combining her background of working with individuals with lived experiences of human sex trafficking and formal education. She has been in the anti-trafficking field for 7 years, working with survivors, underserved populations, and in awareness efforts. Kaelly brings a deep understanding of the complexities surrounding human trafficking and is committed to implementing both trauma informed and culturally responsive prevention education to all parts of society, including educational systems, legal systems, and healthcare systems.

She is passionate about the eradication of human trafficking and has dedicated her career to elevating the voices of those with lived experiences, educating the public, and fostering a culturally responsive and trauma-informed approach to this critical issue. Currently she serves as the Implementation Specialist at 3Strands Global Foundation where she supports the Prevention Education team in their efforts.



**Rhonda Kuykendall**, Social Worker and Survivor Leader, Texas Human Trafficking Survivor Leader Council

Rhonda Kuykendall is a survivor leader, speaker, consultant, and legislative advocate serving on the Texas Human Trafficking Survivor Leader Council. She holds a bachelor's degree in social work and is pursuing her master's degree in social work at the University of Houston Graduate College of Social Work focusing on political social work. Working as the Anti-Child Trafficking Consultant for Texas CASA, Rhonda is implementing anti-trafficking protocols in CASA programs

across the state. She chairs the Fort Bend County District Attorney's Human Trafficking Community Awareness Team. She serves on the Board of Directors of Child Advocates of Fort Bend and RedM the Movement. Rhonda received the 2023 Paul H. Chapman National Award from the Foundation for the Improvement of Justice. In 2015, she received the U.S. Congressional Medal for her work in Austin enacting legislation to protect children from sexual assault.



**Leticia D Manzano**- Senior Manager of Sexual Violence Services, HAWC

Leticia D. Manzano is the Senior Manager of Sexual Violence Services at the Houston Area Women's Center. She has worked for the agency for 26 years. In addition to providing counseling, she also supervises staff, interns and volunteers who provide counseling to women, men and children who are victims of sexual violence and/or domestic violence. Additionally, she does in-service training on topics relating to sexual and domestic violence to professionals, and other community members.

Leticia is currently on the Steering Committee of the Harris County Sexual Assault Response Team. She is on three committees for the Office of the Texas Governor's Sexual Assault Survivors Task Force, she is a survivor of childhood sexual assault and dating violence and is considered a subject matter expert. She is also a member of the Texas Association Against Sexual Assault. Until recently, she was the co-chair for the Legal Advocacy Network of the Texas Council on Family Violence for several years. She served as board member of Latinas on the Rise, a mentorship program for young women for many years. She was the coordinator for the Youth Service Providers Network in the Greater Houston Area and has also been the co-chair of Allies for Children and Teens of the Texas Council on Family Violence. She also provided parenting classes when she was employed at Depelchin Children's Center.

Leticia has spoken at numerous conferences and workshops regarding topics related to sexual and domestic violence and other forms of oppression. Notably, an essay entitled "Using Poetry to Reduce Shame" that she co-authored with her former co-worker, Debbie Okrina, was published and appears in an anthology entitled Shout-Out: Women of Color Respond to Violence.



**Delesha Jones**- Chief Program Officer, Covenant House

Delesha Jones is the Chief Program Officer at Covenant House Texas where she oversees all programs including the Safe Haven shelter, Rights of Passage transitional living program, Youth Engagement Center, Mental Health program, Outreach, Parenting Program, Human Trafficking, Career Services, LGBTQ, Data Management, and Grant Management.

Delesha is passionate about working on strategies, policies, and programs to build capacity and awareness among vulnerable populations.

Prior to Covenant House, Delesha worked at Kent Youth & Family Services, where she helped the development of children, youth, and families in South King County by providing counseling, education, and support services.

Delesha has over 20 years of experience working with underserved populations and holds a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette.



**Jazmin Vasquez**, Program Director, Paso Del Norte Center of Hope

Jazmin is the Program director with the Paso del Norte Center of Hope. She has been with the agency for five years as a case manager working directly with survivors of trafficking and youth who have been identified as high risk for trafficking. She recently transitioned to program director to assist with the agency's growth over the past year and provide support to our team of case managers as we continue to provide direct services to survivors of trafficking. Prior to working at the Center of Hope, she worked as a part time Teen Coordinator with the YWCA of El Paso providing life skills to youth in the community and has worked with at risk populations in different capacities over the years. She completed her master's degree in social work at New Mexico State University in 2017.



**Dr. Lidia Nuño**- Associate Professor, Texas State University School of Criminal Justice and Criminology

Lidia E. Nuño joined the School of Criminal Justice and Criminology as an associate professor in 2022 and serves as the founding director of the Social Equity Research and Policy Lab. Dr. Nuño holds undergraduate and graduate degrees in psychology, criminology and criminal justice, and justice studies from Arizona State University. Dr. Nuño's research and teaching interests include gangs, policing, and immigrants' experiences with victimization, including labor trafficking and labor exploitation. She has collaborated with several law enforcement agencies throughout the United States, and has worked with active and incarcerated offenders, including

gang members and juveniles, and at-risk youth in the United States, Central America, and the Caribbean.

## Thank you to our partners!



[Check out our upcoming Learning Events here!](#)