

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Orlando Non-Profit Paving the Way Foundation Selected for Prestigious June 2020 GlobalGiving Accelerator

Seeks to Raise Funds to End Child Trafficking and Educate Youth on the Dangers of Being Lured In

Average Age of Entry into Child Trafficking is 11-14 Years Old

ORLANDO, Fla. - (June 5th, 2020) – Local Non-Profit Paving the Way Foundation has been selected to participant in the prestigious GlobalGiving Accelerator program, to aid the Orlando-based organization's mission to stem child trafficking, educate children from being lured in, and create the next generation of advocates.

Paving the Way Foundation takes human trafficking prevention education to the next level, having trained more than 14,000 students, parents, and educators in Orlando and around the world in the past three years. It's fierce commitment to empowering communities to disrupt the cycle of child trafficking has made it a great fit for the GlobalGiving Accelerator program. Paving the Way Foundation is one of 600 organizations from 96 counties selected to participate in this exciting three-week challenge from June 8th to June 26th.

"We are honored to be the only Central Florida Organization to have been accepted," says Paving the Way Foundation's President, Jan Edwards, "Now it's time to raise the next generation of advocates. Florida ranks third in the nation in calls to the National Trafficking Hotline; and the average age of entry into child trafficking is 11-14 years old. With the extra time kids are spending at home, it's critical to educate them about this silent crime and how to prevent it! We are determined to interrupt the cycle, and we invite everyone to get involved."

The funds raised through the GlobalGiving Accelerator will be used to educate youth in developing healthy connections, decreasing insolation and taking actions to prevent exploitation.

Principal Jordan Rodriguez of Seminole High is very familiar with the power of the program. Edwards and her team educated more than 800 freshmen last year at the school. Knowing its value with his students, Rodriguez believes the course should be taught at all schools, "Learning about human trafficking...how to spot grooming and recruitment tactics, knowing what actions to take...is essential for our kids today," says Rodriguez. "If this saves one life, it's worthwhile!"

To learn more about Paving the Way Foundation, or to make donations, go to <u>www.pavingthewayfoundation.org</u>

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About Paving the Way Foundation

Paving the Way Foundation empowers communities to be a fierce disruption in the cycle of child trafficking through educational and training programs. We stand ready to provide these important programs in our schools and throughout our community. We can Stop Trafficking Today!

About GlobalGiving

GlobalGiving is the largest global crowdfunding community connecting non-profits, donors and companies in nearly every country. They help nonprofits from Orlando to Zimbabwe (and hundreds of places in between) access the tools, training, and support they need to be more effective and make our world a better place