



VFP 2021–2022

Strengthening Counter-Human Trafficking Efforts between the US Military and Society

Develop greater collaborative efforts between the US military and Guam to address human trafficking and its threat to homeland security in the “second island chain.”



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 STAFF SERGEANT | US ARMY

Challenges

2011

First known human trafficking case in Guam involved law enforcement, fueling public distrust.

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Human trafficking training courses conducted across Guam’s schools, government agencies, military, or community groups.

2015

Last peer-reviewed article on human trafficking in Guam; disbanding of the Human Trafficking Task Force.

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Calls to the human trafficking hotline; cultural barriers to reporting went unexamined.

Achievements



Established **GHRI**, a **501(c)(3) nonprofit** advancing research on **human trafficking and human rights in Guam and Micronesia**.



Helped **reactivate Guam’s Human Trafficking Task Force**.



Helped **Guam Coalition secure grant funding**.



Spoke at the **United Nations** on behalf of GHRI.



Earned doctorate degree focused on **law enforcement approaches to human trafficking**.



Direct **two graduate programs** at the **University of Guam**.

Activities

- (2022) Led conference attended by the **governor of Guam, senators, judges, and victim advocacy groups**.
- (2023) Coauthored “**GHRI Guam Human Rights Conference Series: Human Trafficking on Guam and in the Pacific**,” *Micronesian Educator*, vol. 33.
- (2024) Led **GHRI conference on poverty and homelessness in Guam**.
- (2025) Co-organized panel at **UN Forum on Business and Human Rights**; spoke at **UN Forum on Minority Issues** on behalf of GHRI.
- Currently conducting a study for the **Guam Coalition on service provider resources to address human trafficking**.



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