

The Medaille Trust

A Light Shining in a Dark Place of Human Trafficking

PLEASE PASS ON THIS MAGAZINE TO A FRIEND OR COLLEAGUE

Summer 2017

A charity to support women, men and children freed from trafficking



Help us make broken lives better - We believe we are the ideal partner for your Charity of the Year!

f
See our
Facebook page
for upcoming
events

f facebook.com/MedailleTrust

t twitter.com/MedailleTrust

“Give justice to the weak and the fatherless; maintain the right of the afflicted and the destitute. Rescue the weak and the needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked”

Psalm 82: 3-4

SUMMER 2017

WELCOME

CHARLOTTE KIRKWOOD, DEPUTY CEO AND EDITOR



Welcome to this edition of The Medaille Trust magazine. Well, finally Summer is upon us and we can at last enjoy some fine weather, the tranquillity of warm summer evenings and some of us will be hoping to enjoy a Summer break away with family and friends.

The anticipation and excitement of traveling to a foreign country is joyous for so many people but we regularly hear stories of what started out with the same hopes and dreams can soon become something very different with devastating and life changing effects. As you read on you will hear about the story of Billy and his journey to the UK with hopes of traveling for a good job and the chance to earn a fair wage. Unfortunately for Billy, and many others in our care, his travels ended in exploitation and fear.

We are currently supporting 96 individuals across our portfolio of safe houses, each with varying stories of exploitation and fear. Some also suffer extreme violence and physical and psychological harm. We are pleased to be able to help so many people that have suffered in this way but, as ever, we pray for a world where our services are no longer need. Until such time we will continue to help those in need, work with the authorities to secure effective legislation and successful prosecutions

to raise awareness of this crime through various methods such as our network of Diocesan Representatives and our 'Medaille Magazine'.

I believe that the Medaille Magazine allows us to keep our supporters informed of key issues and updates from the Trust. As Editor of the Medaille Magazine, I feel it is important that I understand if we are meeting the expectations of our valued readership and dedicated supporters.

For the last six years we have been constructing our magazine based on a mixture of current issues, client stories, house activities, Trust progress and various updates. Looking into the future I am very eager to know what more we can offer you in our forthcoming editions and ask you to consider emailing your suggestions to: enquiries@medaille-trust.org.uk entitling the email; 'Medaille Magazine'. Maybe you are interested in international developments or UK prosecutions? Whatever it might be I would really love to hear from you.

If you are considering a fundraising event for The Medaille Trust we would be delighted to hear from you and help with promotion of your event. Look out for our Trustees fundraising event in this edition!

The next edition will be sent to you at Christmas time.

Charlotte Kirkwood
Development Manager,
Deputy CEO & Editor.

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WHAT HAVE THEY BEEN UP TO NOW?

All the latest news from the Medaille Trust

NEW MANAGER AT CENTRAL SERVICES

Say Hi to our brilliant new House Manager, Simone!



TALKING TO THE PARISHIONERS OF BRACKNELL CHURCH

NATIONAL JUSTICE AND PEACE CONFERENCE 2017

We loved our time at the NJPC again this year!



MERSEY SERVICES IS NOW OPEN

Meet the team and find out how we are helping our clients in Merseyside.



MEETING WITH THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR SUSSEX



CASE STUDY

BILLY

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: ROMANIA

Billy is from a small village named Bihor in Romania. Since finishing school he had been working occasionally for 'cash in hand'. He is very young and wanted to help support his family. His vulnerability is around his young age.

Billy wanted to earn more money on a regular basis. He was speaking to his friend one day and his friend told him about a good job in England working in a carwash. His friend told him that he would earn £40.00 a day. Billy thought this was a good regular wage. He told his friend he was very interested and wanted to travel to the UK.

Billy traveled from Romania to the UK in a 7 seater mini bus with other Romanian nationals. Billy was told he would need to pay £120.00 to make the trip to the UK but on arrival he was told that this fee had been increased to £550.00. When in the UK the 'Boss' told Billy that he would have to work for only £20.00 a day until the whole debt of £550.00 was paid off. He was not given any days off and was expected to work 7 days per week, giving him no chance to rest or live freely.

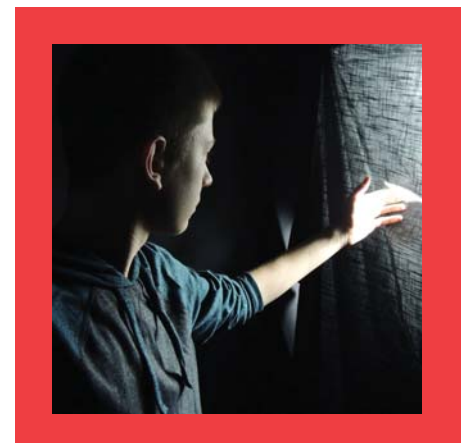
Billy was placed in a house with many other men that also worked for 'The Boss.' Billy recalls the house being very dirty with hardly any furniture. He claims he shared a bedroom with

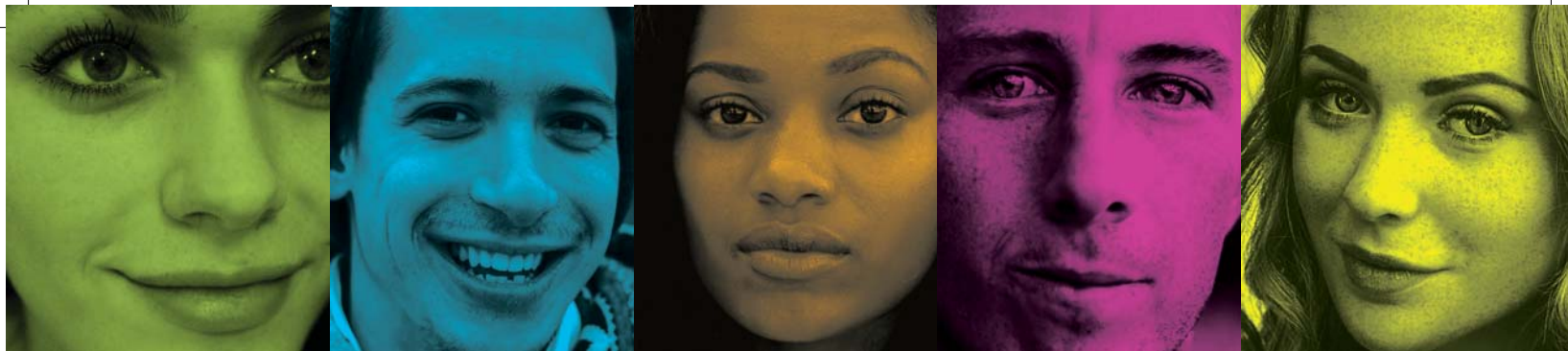
5 others. They all shared mattresses on the floor with no bed sheets. The house in which he had to live was of a very poor and unsafe standard but yet he was ordered to pay £100 per week in rent, leaving him just £40 per week to repay his debt and to buy food.

As soon as Billy arrived in the UK he had his identity card taken from him. Billy said he was very scared of 'The Boss' - "He was a very big man with no hair. He was always shouting at the others and I did not want to make him angry".

Billy had been in the UK for around two months when the police raided the carwash where he was working. He was taken by the police as they suspected Billy and 6 others to be victims of Modern Slavery. He was interviewed by the Police for about three hours at the police station and gave the Police the details of where he was living and the conditions. He gave details of his earnings and how he was recruited, it was then that Billy was entered into the National Referral Mechanism and taken to the Medaille Trust.

Billy has only been free for 3 weeks and since that time he has been living in a Medaille safe house. He settled into the safe house really well and he has recently told staff that he is comfortable, feels safe and is eating well. He engages well with other members of the house and is often seen in the company of others watching TV or going out shopping. When the client came into the house he expressed an interest in staying in the UK to find legal employment but more recently he has said he would like to return to Romania.





VOLUNTEERING

WE NEED YOU

Through our work with hundreds of vulnerable victims we heavily rely on donations to support our efforts in helping the victims of Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery. Donations of financial support are crucial and key to our achievements in offering the best possible level of care. However, we recognise that not everyone is in a position to offer financial support. So, how can YOU help support some of the most vulnerable people in our society?

Your time is also very valuable to us, so if you have a minimum of two hours per week we would like to hear from you. We all have different skills that can help us as a charity and the victims we support to move on from the terrible experiences they have encountered.

We believe that Volunteers help provide a diverse pool of experience and that Volunteers help an organisation to achieve its aims and achieve a level of service that could not otherwise be provided. We believe that volunteers can give our organization a wider range of skills to utilise providing a more sustainable and better improved future lifestyle for the victims in our care.

If you agree with the above and can offer the commitment of 2 hours per week we would love to hear from you. We have various locations around the country with various needs so please contact us on: enquiries@medaille-trust.org.uk

There are two main areas in which we need your help:

1. Working with our Diocesan Fundraising Representatives to help deliver talks and raise awareness while distributing our magazine.

Or

2. Working with the safe house staff to either directly or indirectly help the victims in our care. We are currently looking for help with the following activities:

- Gardening
- Employability skills
- Interview skills
- Job search
- Life skills
- Budgeting
- DIY
- Personal & social development
- ESOL
- Cooking
- Personal hygiene
- Exercise classes
- Basic IT skills
- Arts & Crafts
- Support with admin



I am Sharon Benning-Prince, lawyer, wife and mother by day and night! And also a trustee of the Medaille Trust. I have long been a corporate/commercial lawyer but in recent years have been working more in the anti-slavery, forced labour, supply chain arena and I have been fortunate to be a trustee of the Medaille Trust for nearly 3 years.

I first met Mike Emberson, our fabulous CEO, about 6 years ago at a Soroptimists' slavery forum. Mike was so very passionate about the work that he was doing that I was drawn to him and to the subject area and he ignited my passion for this work and the survivors. I have since worked with Primark on the Rana Plaza tragedy, written with Sedex on forced labour and written many articles on corporates and their supply chains.

Outside of my work, I do have a craze for adrenalin fuelled sports and activities and have climbed and zip-wired over mountains, white river rafted, jumped off cliffs and have now decided to jump out of a airplane this year both to satisfy my need for adrenalin but also to raise money for the Medaille Trust. Jess Gealer and I will be jumping in September with goskydive in Salisbury and the money that we raise will go to helping the Medaille in the superb work of assisting survivors. You can join us or donate to our cause on:

goskydive.com/the-medaille-trust or www.mydonate.bt.com/fundraisers/sharonbenning-prince1

We would love to have more on our jumping team but if you feel that you can't then please do give a little to such a superb cause and charity.

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WORLD DAY AGAINST TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS

30th July



In 2013, the United Nations General Assembly designated 30th July as the World Day against Trafficking in Persons. It was recognised that such a day was necessary to “raise enduring awareness of the situation of victims of human trafficking and for the promotion and protection of their rights.”

Trafficking in persons is a serious crime and a grave violation of human rights. Every year, thousands of men, women and children fall into the hands of traffickers, in their own countries and abroad. Almost every country in the world is affected by trafficking, whether as a country of origin, transit or destination for victims.

Trafficking in Persons as the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation. Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs.

The Medaille Trust are committed to working towards the elimination of human trafficking & modern slavery in the UK and globally. This continually involves raising awareness events on human trafficking &

modern slavery, working with law enforcement agencies, government and international partners to ensure that the rights and needs of people trafficked are met and collaborating with other like-minded organisations locally to tackle the complex issues surrounding trafficking.

On World Day Against Trafficking in Persons please pass on this magazine to a friend, family member or parishioner and ask them to do at least one of the following four things in recognition of **World Day Against Trafficking in Persons:**

1. Contact Medaille Trust and request to receive our FREE magazines (three editions per year)
2. Visit our website to find out more about Human Trafficking and what we are doing to help combat it.
3. Become a Medaille Trust supporter by making a donation to support the work of Medaille. Every donation will help make a difference in the lives of the victims affected by human trafficking.
4. Contact us on and invite one of our speakers along to your event or church so we can share our knowledge with your community - knowledge is power!

MERSEY SERVICES

NEW HOUSE

On Monday 8 May 2017, I was proud to be in the position of Service Manager when the Medaille Trust opened its doors for the first time to the victims of Human Trafficking and Modern Day Slavery at our new safe house.



WE ARE A TEAM

For me and my team this was the start of a new and exciting challenge, keeping victims safe and working to provide much needed support to allow those victims referred to the project to take time to reflect on their experiences and to recover both emotionally and physically from their horrific ordeals. I am sure a lot of our supporters will be interested in gaining some understanding about the work that takes place within a safe house environment and how we promote independence and confidence to integrate our clients into the local community. This new house will be used to support male victims of trafficking and modern day slavery. In the short time our house has been open we have been able to make sure our clients are safe and comfortable and introduce them to our schedule of activities, these activities will help our clients reach both their short and long term goals.

A TASTE OF PAELLA

Our clients come from many different countries and cultures so at the end of May it was fantastic to encourage the integration of our house guests when staff organised a healthy eating session. As part of our healthy eating sessions we will be supporting monthly 'cook off' challenges with a different recipe and country each month. In May, one of our clients showed other house guests how to cook Paella. I have to say it tasted great!

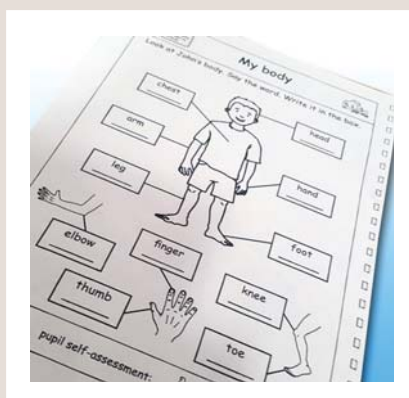
PHOTO LESSON PLAN

I am lucky to be working with a team of multi skilled support workers who have been working hard to put in place provisions to support house guests gain employment opportunities and improve their English skills. It is our aim to enrol our clients on to English language sessions within their new community.

As an additional source of learning, staff will deliver English 'taster sessions' on a weekly basis. It is important for us to promote the acquisition of good English skills to all our clients.

One of our recent lesson plans involved teaching the English words for different parts of the body.

This is particularly relevant should they need to describe any injuries or to communicate if they are feeling unwell.



We have big plans for our house and we are currently sourcing gardening equipment and volunteers to help us to create allotments in our grounds. The allotments will provide seasonal vegetables to support our healthy eating recipes and give the clients additional resources to support budget planning and promote healthy lifestyle choices. We will look forward to updating you all with our progress in the coming months.

BICYCLE MAINTENANCE

We were really pleased to receive a donation of 6 mountain bikes from a local school and I would like to say a personal thank you for this donation as these bikes have already started to make a positive contribution to the clients' health and wellbeing.



JULY 2017

NJPN

THE NATIONAL JUSTICE AND PEACE NETWORK
CONFERENCE



Every year, on the third weekend in July, hundreds of people come together at the Hayes Conference Centre in Swanwick, Derbyshire, for a weekend conference.

These people come from all walks of life and all areas of the UK and often further afield: there are theologians, campaigners, priests and religious, foster carers, Parents, activists, Refugees and asylum seekers, teachers, nurses, families, volunteers and students. Such a diverse range of people, what is it that they all have in common and what is it that draws them to this conference?

What they all have in common is that they are members of the NJPN - The National Justice and Peace Network. Members all share a vision of a world in which people live in peace and harmony, where our common humanity is respected and where all are able to contribute freely to the common good. The Network - which encourages work for justice and peace by promoting communication and shared action between members, supporters and partners was started in 1978 and has held an annual weekend conference since that date.

Individual and group members of the NJPN around the country are involved in national and local issues: anti-trafficking, poverty, inequality, credit unions, housing and homelessness, supporting refugees and asylum seekers, environmental issues and many more.

In 2017 the theme is 'A Sabbath for the earth and the poor', which explores the concept that we live in a world where people and nature are more often valued according to their economic capacity or usefulness to humans, rather than their intrinsic value as God's creation. Through listening to speakers, taking part in workshops and discussions, praying in liturgies (and relaxing and socialising!), the conference seeks to outline current realities and find ways to live out and advocate a different value system, based on the idea of 'Sabbath'.

So why are people drawn to this conference? They gather and meet to share the joys of their successes,

be renewed and reaffirmed in the face of disappointment and challenge, and filled with hope for the work ahead in the coming year. For as St Paul writes in Galatians, **Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.**

We, the Medaille Trust, were present at the conference again this year with our stall, sharing our work and our journey with others and listening to their's. For what is it that God asks of us?

**“To act justly
and to love mercy
and to walk humbly
with your God.”**

Micah 6:8

MEET

SIMONE

CENTRAL SERVICES MANAGER



Hello... my name is Simone and I wanted to introduce myself as the new Manager at our Central Services. I joined the Medaille Trust in May having worked in the Voluntary sector for over ten years.

I have previously been involved with the provision of support to witnesses and victims of crime and anti social behaviour as well as managing several projects designed to engage people in volunteering. I live nearby to the project with my family and although I was raised in Toxteth, the heartland of Liverpool, I fell in love with Wiltshire 25 years ago and never left. During my spare time I happily fail in attempts to achieve the 'beach body' look in the gym or I explore the local area with my endlessly energetic spaniel, Ralph.

I am very excited about my role as Service Manager with The Medaille Trust, now having settled in I look forward to managing a service that has become an excellent demonstration of the dedication and commitment provided by the team of key and support workers.

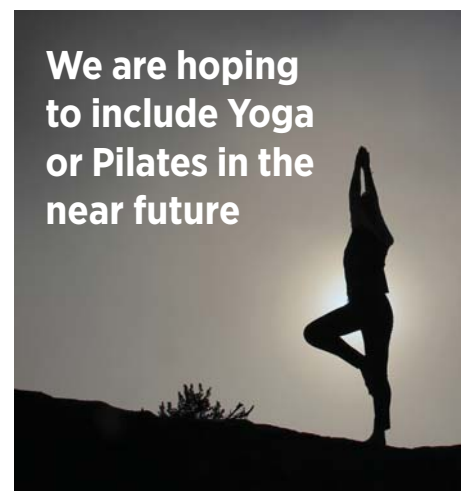
The house has 14 rooms that are for the use of female victims of human trafficking and modern slavery. The period of rest and reflection is aided

by a warm comfortable and homely environment. The rooms are softly decorated and each has a fridge for the client's individual use. These were kindly donated to the house and are greatly appreciated by all of the clients. Upon arrival at the house each client receives a 'welcome pack' of necessary provisions to ensure the first few days are made a little more comfortable and there is an atmosphere of calm that pervades the house.

The women are supported in their efforts to regain confidence and independence through a variety of educational and health themed activities. We have built successful relationships with other agencies that are able to assist the women with their efforts to learn and grow. The team here have developed some wonderful relationships with external agencies and we get a wonderful service from the local GP and benefit from donations such as clothing and toiletries from local businesses and church groups.

Many of the women attend English classes to prepare for potential future employment opportunities. There are also activities around nutrition and fitness such as healthy cooking, baking and walking activities. We are hoping to include yoga or pilates, gardening and plant cultivation in the near future as the women have expressed an interest in these pursuits. We are looking forward to developing these opportunities in the near future and will gladly update you with our progress.

We are hoping to include Yoga or Pilates in the near future



CASE STUDY

MARY'S STORY

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: ALBANIA

Mary was studying for her Master's degree in the capital of Albania when she met her boyfriend. She had been in a relationship with her boyfriend for 3 months but he lived abroad. In order for them to be together, the boyfriend suggested that she move to Genova, Italy. He persuaded her to go with him to Italy as he said he had work there for her.

Mary wanted to better herself with a good career - the opportunity sounded appealing and so she decided to take the chance of a job in Italy and be with her boyfriend. Mary saw this as a good opportunity to start a new life abroad. Mary had little contact with her family in Albania and this soon became the main factor of her vulnerability. Most of the time she felt very alone and he knew this.

Everything was apparently fine in Italy with her boyfriend for around 10 days and Mary was full of hope and excitement for the new life that was ahead of her. Slowly her boyfriend's attitude changed towards her. It started with Mary feeling pressured to drink large amounts of alcohol and to have sexual relations with her boyfriend. This soon escalated. At times Mary refused the alcohol but was then forced to drink it. Not wanting to upset her boyfriend she went along with things for the sake of a peaceful life. However, it did not end there. One morning Mary woke knowing something was not right. She had no memory of the

night before and she was in a lot of pain. When she asked her boyfriend what had happened he looked at her in disgust and ordered her to get cleaned up.

She recalls that at 4pm that same day she was taken to a house. "Where are we?" she asked. "This is my friend's house and you are here to work!" her boyfriend told her. When they arrived, Mary was forced in to prostitution.

Mary was trafficked from the capital of Albania to Italy in late 2014. She was forced to work in Italy as a prostitute until late 2016 when she was smuggled in the back of a lorry into the UK and was taken to Brighton. She was brought to the UK by people that worked with her ex-boyfriend. In the UK she was sexually exploited from late 2016 till the start of 2017.

Mary was being exploited in Brighton, for a number of months before a 'customer' helped her to escape. She became close with the 'customer' and he told her that he will help her to escape the situation. He planned everything and helped

her to escape in his car and paid for her onward travel to London. Mary was rescued at a major tube station in London by a lady asking if she was OK. The Metropolitan Police were called and a referral to the National Referral Mechanism was made.

Mary has been free since February 2017 when she was referred to a Medaille safe house. She is currently receiving counselling. She still feels 'beaten down' when she thinks about what has happened to her but acknowledges that she must be kind to herself and allow herself time to heal. She hopes to return to university and continue with her studies.

"When I first arrived I was scared and didn't know how to open up to the other ladies and staff. I now feel very supported and have never felt forgotten. I feel safe and feel as though I have found a temporary home. I really am so very grateful".



The Medaille Trust

Pledge your support today *giftaid it*

Donation

Please complete the form in block capitals

Title: _____
First Name: _____
Last Name: _____
Address: _____
_____ Post Code: _____
Email: _____

I would like to make a donation of:

£100 £50 £20 £10

Other:

Please make cheques payable to: **The Medaille Trust**

I do not require an acknowledgement for this donation

Regular Giving

By completing the following section, your bank will pay us automatically.
You can donate monthly, quarterly or annually.

Please pay to: **The Medaille Trust Limited**

Account No. 43966674 Sort Code: 20-25-29

Barclays Bank plc, 31 High Row Darlington, Co Durham DL3 7QS

The sum of: £ _____

Each month / Quarter / Year (please circle)

until further notice and debit my account

Acc No: _____

Sort Code: _____

Starting on: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

To the Manager of (bank name and address)

_____ Postcode: _____

Gift Aid

Declaration Form for Past, Present and Future Donations

Today In the past 4 years In the future

Please tick all boxes that apply

I confirm I have paid or will pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax for the current year (6th April to 5th April) that is at least equal to the amount of tax that all the charities and Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASCs) that I donate to will reclaim on my gifts for that tax year. I understand that other taxes such as VAT and Council Tax do not qualify. I understand the Charity will reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 that I give on or after 6th April 2008.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Please notify the Charity if you:

- Want to cancel this declaration
- Change your name or address
- No longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains

Further Information

Please tick if:

You would like to receive regular (free) copies of the Trusts newsletter.

You would like to receive information about leaving a legacy to the Trust in your will.

You would like to be removed from the mailing list.

Alternatively you can donate on line via our website:

www.medaille.co.uk

**Thank you for your kind donations and continued support.
Every £ makes a difference.**

Please return this form to: Medaille Trust, Cathedral Centre, 3 Ford Street, Salford, M3 6DP



The Medaille Trust is a Charity founded by Catholic religious congregations to work for the **eradication of human trafficking** and to offer **support** to those who have been trafficked.

Believing in the **intrinsic dignity** and **worth** of every individual we provide **safe housing** and **specialist services** for rehabilitation and **raise awareness** of these modern forms of slavery.

The Medaille Trust is a member of **RENATE**, **COATNET**, **Your Catholic Legacy** and **CSAN**



The Medaille Trust

Medaille Trust, Cathedral Centre, 3 Ford Street, Salford M3 6DP

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