

Elise, one of Project Hannah's intercessors, tells her story at churches and on television in Sweden. Elise was prostituted in Stockholm for many years until she met Jesus 15 years ago. Every Friday night for the last 13 years, Elisa and friends from the Klara Church go to the street where prostituted people gather, and they offer coffee, hot chocolate, sandwiches, clothes, hugs and God's love. Called by God to the women on the street, they invite them to church and offer to help them get needed medical treatment. They also visit women at a prison where they plan to start a prayer group. They hope that they will be allowed to use copies of *Hannas Café (Women of Hope)* in the prison also. Several women have already received Jesus, and many of them are open to know more about Him.

Elise believes that the number of prostitutes has increased, and she's noticed that many are younger girls from abroad. Offering help has become more difficult because of the trafficking business. Elise has been threatened with knives and other weapons. However, she knows God is her protector.

Trafficking people is a multi-billion dollar business that is an inhuman exploitation of the world's poor. Families trying to escape poverty become enslaved by vicious criminals who abuse them for profit and men who use them for their secret perversions. World leaders are working together to fight this modern-day slavery.

Through Project Hannah's ministry, thousands have become more aware of women and girls who have been caught up in this trafficking/prostitution "business", and they see these women very differently now. Many are now informed of what to look for and how to approach women who may be trapped in an abusive relationship. Thousands are also passionately praying for these victims, the men who use them, those who sell them and the authorities who arrest them.

JUNE 2010

## Praying for Victims of Trafficking



A MINISTRY OF TWR

### *Please pray for...*

1. Women and young girls who are lured into the illegal and highly profitable industry of transporting and selling human beings for the purpose of sex trafficking. Our God can work miracles to rescue them through His people.
2. Little girls who are in danger of being sold or kidnapped and forced to service men's desires. Pray that pimps, clients and family members will be arrested for using and abusing these children.
3. Women caught in poverty and hopelessness to be very cautious of "job offers" that promise them a better life. Many of these jobs are actually traps of sex slavery. As they arrive in the new country, their passports are taken, they are warned that they are in the country illegally, and they are forced to be prostitutes to pay off their travel expenses.
4. Project Hannah's (PH) *Women of Hope* (WoH) production teams as they prepare programs and seminars that help women understand the dangers of seeking jobs away from home. Pray for those who visit centers offering friendship, sisterly advice and God's love as they teach women to read, to sew or other skills for economical opportunities so that they are not forced to work in harmful, demeaning jobs.
5. Safety for people who are trying to rescue girls from prostitution. Criminals are not happy when their lucrative business is hindered. Pray for women who escaped, only to have their children and other family members threatened.
6. The application process to start prayer groups in the prisons in Sweden to be accepted. There are many obstacles against church ministries. Pray also for Elisa, Marie and

Birgitta who work in prisons. They shared their testimonies on Sweden's WoH (Hanna's Café) and mentioned that the hunger for God among the women is huge and that the attitudes of some of the workers are changing. Two of the women came directly to church after their release from prison instead of turning to crime again.

7. South African officials to protect women who have been trafficked there to service men attending the World Cup event June 11 to July 11. Pray that these women will be treated with respect and given opportunities to seek safety from their captors and abusers.

8. The women who are suffering from STDs, AIDS-related diseases, malnourishment, TB and complications from repeated rapes and abortions as a result of forced prostitution.

9. Victims of trafficking who are unlikely to go to authorities for help on their own because often they are undocumented immigrants who fear both the traffickers and law officials.

10. PH-Cambodia's partnerships with other organizations (Hagar, White Lotus Ministries) working together to help women and girls in Cambodia who have been rescued from forced prostitution.

11. The World Evangelical Alliance taskforce on human trafficking and their efforts to raise awareness among 420 million evangelical Christians worldwide. Pray as they develop actions and tools that will help equip local churches and their leaders to become responsive to the victims of trafficking.

12. Young girls and women physically and emotionally traumatized by violent acts to come to know God's restoration and healing through Jesus Christ. Many are in despair



*Women of Hope* broadcasts in 56 languages. Monthly prayer calendars are used in more than 40 languages. ([www.projecthannah.org](http://www.projecthannah.org))

and consider suicide as an escape from the torment of being locked away, beaten, starved and raped when they resist their pimps.

13. Awareness campaigns and volunteers in various countries who distribute leaflets and posters to inform women of the dangers of accepting work from strangers. Pray that government agencies will use the media to reveal the truth behind these fake job offers and promises of a better life.

14. Tourists, construction and oil field workers, students, military personnel and businessmen who hire prostitutes to understand that many of these women are forced to serve them. Pray that these people will turn from their evil ways and offer to help women escape their captors (Ezekiel 33:11).

15. Women who work as prostitutes because they cannot get other employment. “Defend the cause of the weak and fatherless; maintain the rights of the poor and oppressed. Rescue the weak and needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked” (Psalm 82:3-4).

16. Mothers to value their daughters and not encourage them to choose prostitution to escape poverty.

17. Illiterate women who cannot read about God to hear about His love and plan for their lives. Sixty-six percent of illiterate adults are women. Many of them live in areas where they do not have someone to tell them face-to-face about God’s love, but they can hear and learn by radio.

18. The education of law enforcement officers concerning the sex trade and the punishment of those who support it. Many

government personnel are not clear on the laws of their country. Pray for corrupt officials who are accepting bribes, leading organized crime and “looking the other way” concerning prostitution.

19. Little girls who are victims of incest and rape, or who are forced into early marriages or sold by their parents.

20. South Africa’s leaders to courageously stand up to the criminals who are trafficking thousands of women for financial gain during the World Cup soccer games. Pray that women worldwide will find refuge and a way of escape from their dreadful exploiters.

21. Poor immigrant sex workers in the EU to find dignified work that would not require them to live as prostitutes in order to provide for their families back home. In many EU countries, poor immigrants comprise 70 to 90 percent of the prostitute population (BBC News). Pray that governments would do more to educate and train the poor for honourable work.

22. Zimbabwe’s more than one million children who have lost their parents to HIV/AIDS and are now vulnerable to child trafficking as they search for ways to survive. Pray for TWR’s children’s radio drama, Witness at the Water.

23. The church and family members not to shun young pregnant women who need love and help to provide for their children.

24. Christian women who do not have Bibles because of their financial situations or government restrictions, such as in China, Cuba, North Korea and Vietnam.

25. Women who are suffering from abuse, infidelity or abandonment by their husbands. Pray for Valentine, a woman in Kenya who is raising 5 children and has received love and prayers from her PH prayer group.

26. Christian organizations providing safe homes and job training to young girls vulnerable to sex trafficking. Pray that they will be “steadfast, immovable and abounding in the Lord’s work, knowing that their labour in the Lord is not in vain” (1 Corinthians 15:58).

27. Vulnerable children who are left with relatives, neighbours or home alone by their parents who work and live in other cities or countries.

28. Women from Russia, Moldova and Ukraine who are desperate to escape poverty. Many travel to Sweden, Finland, Norway and other countries to sell their bodies to men at border gas stations, camp grounds and other locations in order to provide for their families. Pray that governments would do more to care for their poor by creating jobs and training.

29. Christians to be channels of God’s love and compassion to women and girls who have been deeply wounded by physical and sexual abuse. Pray that in their broken lives they will come to know God’s transforming and healing work so that trust and dignity can be restored.

30. Health care providers, neighbours and law enforcement agencies to learn how to identify victims of human trafficking (someone whose communication is restricted, who is rarely seen outside the residence, who lacks travel

documents or who lives in a building that is frequently visited by men) so that they can help these women escape.

