Survivor Voices of Human Trafficking Biography Barbara Amaya

Barbara Amaya is an award-winning advocate, speaker, human trafficking consultant, mentor, trainer, and survivor leader in the movement to finally end human trafficking and child exploitation.

Barbara experienced first-hand the juvenile justice and child welfare systems. Then as a vulnerable child runaway, she experienced the horrific extremes of violence, child abuse, human trafficking, drug addiction, and prison when she was trafficked on the streets of Washington D.C. and New York City for over a decade.

As a survivor of such trauma and adversity, she feels called to share her story and has dedicated her life to combating and educating the public about trafficking and modern-day slavery. Barbara has been actively raising awareness of the exploitation of children and domestic sex trafficking since 2012. She has a background in education (including a credential in early childhood development), and holds a PhD in psychology.