

Survivor Voices of Human Trafficking
Biography
Desiree Trail

Desiree Trail is a survivor of human trafficking. Her biological father and stepfather both worked for the Department of Defense. After her first year of college she began dancing at a bar that turned out to be owned by a crime network that ran drugs, gambling operations, strip clubs and prostitution rings. Shortly after she began working, she was forced to dance for no pay and then trafficked into prostitution. Over the next 18 years she was trapped in a downward spiral of abuse, drug addiction, and sex trafficking. During that time, she had three children, and it was in an effort to keep her last child and reunite with her first two that she met a pastor of a church who helped her escape her traffickers, and get free of a series of minor legal charges (possession of drug paraphernalia, parole violation, etc.)

Today she is attending college to obtain her degree, speaking and writing about human trafficking, and working to change laws to help other trafficking victims. She was instrumental in the drafting and passage of a new Virginia state law to train health providers to recognize the signs and indicators of human trafficking, and she is working to pass vacatur and expungement laws that will allow victims to have their records expunged of crimes that were the result of having been a victim of human trafficking.