



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FREEKIND RECIEVES \$37,500 FROM SENTARA HEALTH TO SUPPORT THEIR “OFFRAMPS” PROGRAM FOR HUMAN TRAFFICKING SURVIVORS

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Funding supports collaborative partnership with Sentara Health

Hampton, VA., Jan. 31, 2024 – Freekind, a leading nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to preventing human trafficking in our communities and supporting survivors on their journey to freedom, is pleased to announce a generous contribution of \$37,500 from Sentara Health to assist with the expansion of its “Offramps” program for survivors.

Sentara’s donation will be used by Freekind to identify and serve more victims of human trafficking with the goal of reducing harm to criminalized victims who often go unidentified. This funding will improve access to mental health and substance use disorder services for survivors and help to provide life skills training that empowers them to heal from their trauma and experience holistic sufficiency.

“Multiple studies have found that nearly 88% of human trafficking survivors come into contact with a healthcare provider while being trafficked. Sentara’s investment in the health and healing of this largely unseen and underserved population will ensure that survivors are not only seen but transformed through the power of community collaboration,” said Lisa Kersey, Executive Director for Freekind.

This contribution from Sentara reinforces their commitment to creating healthier communities through partnerships with organizations and individuals.

About Freekind - www.freekindva.org

Freekind, exists to prevent human trafficking in our communities and support survivors on their journey to freedom. More than that, we unleash the power of kindness to help restore the humanity stolen from them, offering grace to the most vulnerable in our communities as they regain their freedom, their sense of hope, and their sense of belonging. In addition to our survivor services, we are leaders in prevention education through our Prevention Project program and provide ongoing awareness and training for lay people and professionals throughout the community.

About Sentara Health - www.sentara.com/news

Sentara, an integrated, not-for-profit health care delivery system, celebrates 135 years in pursuit of its mission—“ we improve health every day.” Sentara is one of the largest health systems in the U.S. Mid-Atlantic and Southeast, and among the top 20 largest not-for-profit integrated health systems in the country, with 30,000 employees, 12 hospitals in Virginia and Northeastern North Carolina, and the Sentara Health Plans division which serves more than 1.2 million members in Virginia and Florida. Sentara is recognized nationally for clinical quality and safety and is strategically focused on innovation and creating an extraordinary health care experience for our patients and members. Sentara was named to IBM Watson Health’s “Top 15 Health Systems” (2021, 2018), and was recognized by Forbes as a “Best Employer for New Grads” (2022), “Best Employer for Veterans” (2022), and “Best Employer for Women” (2020).