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FREEKIND PRESENTS VIRGINIA DEBUT OF STAGE PLAY *LIVED THROUGH THIS*

Two performances in Norfolk and Richmond, Virginia; proceeds to assist survivors of human trafficking

HAMPTON, VA – Freekind, a local non-profit dedicated to preventing human trafficking in our communities and restoring freedom to survivors, proudly presents the Virginia debut of the stage play, *Lived Through This*. There are two performances – Wednesday, February 14, 2024 at the Wells Theatre in Norfolk, Virginia; and Thursday, February 15, 2024 at the Perkinson Center for the Arts in Chester, Virginia. Both events begin at 5:30pm and include a pre-performance reception and post-performance book signing.

Freekind is proud to partner with **The Voices and Faces Project** and **The Virginia Stage Company** to bring this powerful performance to Virginia. *Lived Through This*, the theatrical adaptation of Anne K. Ream’s critically acclaimed book of the same name, is a story of truth and hope that will raise awareness of sexual violence in our community, and bring together local nonprofits who are working to restore freedom, hope and belonging to those who have lived through it.

Part narrative about their lives after the trauma, and part exploration of how survivors learn from one another and rebuild their lives, *Lived Through This* is the celebration of a simple belief that those who have survived rape, abuse or exploitation are greater than what has been done to them. *Lived Through This* is a multimedia experience that has been performed in New York and Chicago and is now making its debut in Virginia for two nights only.

“Human trafficking is real, and the survivor stories are heartbreaking, but also inspiring as they allow others to be part of their journey to freedom, refusing to let what happened to them define the rest of their lives”, says, Lisa Kersey, Executive Director of Freekind. “It is our goal to raise awareness and support so we can continue to empower local survivors of human trafficking.”

Proceeds from each event will be invested in Freekind’s programs and services, including awareness and training, prevention education, and survivor restoration.

More information and tickets for both performances are available online at www.freekindva.org/live.

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