

pdxbizwomen
COALITION

EMMA BURKE

MEMBER PROFILE



OWNER, SELUNA DAWN MASSAGE

Licensed Massage Therapist Asks YOU to Help End “Massage Parlor” Human Trafficking

My personal & professional plan as the American Massage Therapy Association’s state chapter President is to help reduce this crime that exploits its victims for financial gain and undermines fundamental principles of freedom and human rights.

Since 2013, I’ve been a Licensed Massage Therapist (LMT). In our state, LMT licensure is regulated by the governor-appointed Oregon Board of Massage Therapy (OBMT), whose function is to protect the public from unsafe massage practitioners.

The OBMT is tasked with investigating reports, and enforcing the established rules to maintain professional conduct in the industry. Part of that includes investigations into the existence of human trafficking occurring through illicit establishments where vulnerable humans are being exploited

for their forced labor, which usually includes sexual activity.

A very tangible way readers can help is to join Business Against Trafficking, a coalition of businesses that support efforts to stop sex trafficking. The funds these businesses provide help to create and maintain homes and services for those who find freedom. These businesses also receive training so they can recognize, and safely assist, trafficking victims.

These companies also have the opportunity to stand up against exploitation through public awareness initiatives that support survivors including Kim’s Place (a house for formerly trafficked women and children in Oregon), the National Trafficking Sheltered Alliance, Shared Hope; and investing in prevention through partnerships with nonprofits like Polaris.

Visit www.BusinessAgainstTrafficking.com to be part of the solution in our communities.

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