

KHALILA RIGA

PROFILE

Khalila Riga is a nationally recognized Subject Matter Expert in human trafficking (youth and familial), author, and anti-trafficking consultant who has dedicated her life to educating and empowering communities across the United States.

A survivor of human trafficking, Khalila uses her lived experience to illuminate the realities of exploitation while advocating for systemic change, trauma-informed care, and survivor inclusion at every level.

Since 2020, Khalila has served in direct care and leadership roles across the anti-trafficking field, including residential technician, case manager, and hotline facilitator with organizations such as Hope Center Indy and The Salvation Army's Greater Cincinnati Anti-Human Trafficking Division.

Khalila is the founder and CEO of Khalila Riga Consulting, providing impactful keynote presentations, survivor-informed training sessions, and strategic consulting to professionals and organizations nationwide. In 2023, she was also a contributing voice in the Federal Human Trafficking Report.

Her story is featured in the Modern-Day Slavery exhibit at the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center and has been shared on numerous podcasts, including Voices of Freedom, Fire Forged Leader, and The Adoption and Foster Care Journey. She is also a contributing author in The Story of Foster Care | Volume 2, a project by Empty Frames Initiative that explores the connection between foster care and human trafficking.

With deep conviction, Khalila believes survivor leadership, collaboration, and are key to ending human trafficking and restoring hope to those impacted by it.

SHE CURRENTLY SERVES ON THE BOARD OF SIDEWALK SOLDIERS AND HOLDS MULTIPLE ADVISORY AND LEADERSHIP ROLES, INCLUDING:

- ❖ Council Member, Ohio Attorney General's Ambassador Advisory Council
- ❖ Consultant, Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services (OCJS)
- ❖ Advisory Council Member, Collaborative to End Human Trafficking
- ❖ Advisory Council Member, Ohio Domestic Violence Network (ODVN)

KHALILA HAS PRESENTED AT MAJOR CONFERENCES SUCH AS:

- ❖ International Human Trafficking & Social Justice Conference (2023, 2024, 2025)
- ❖ Christian Alliance for Orphans Summit (2023)
- ❖ National Association of Counsel for Children (2023)
- ❖ NE Ohio Human Trafficking Summit (2024)
- ❖ Ohio AG Human Trafficking Conference (2024)
- ❖ United Against Human Trafficking Summit (2024)
- ❖ CACI Champions of Children Conference (2025)
- ❖ Ohio START (2025)

KEYNOTES:

- ❖ Come Together; Dear Dinah (2023)
- ❖ Homesafe Inc., Gala (2025)
- ❖ ODVN Program Manager's Retreat (2025)

EDUCATION

Her work is informed by specialized training through Elevate Academy, HEAL Trafficking's Train the Trainer program, and SOAR for health and wellness providers. She is also a fellow with Survivor Alliance's Leadership Academy.