

What You Can Do

If you want to help Nivasa Foundation end modern day slavery in Sri Lanka, you can:

Sponsor a child

For only \$37.50 a month or \$450 a year, you can support all of a child's educational and welfare needs in Sri Lanka.

Sponsoring a child through Nivasa Foundation allows you the opportunity to help a family realize their dreams and avoid enslavement not only for the parents, but potentially for the children as well. Find out how to make a donation that can mean a future for a child and a life of freedom for his or her parents.

Spread the word

Beatrice Fernando, the president of Nivasa Foundation, is a native Sri Lankan. She survived domestic servitude in Lebanon then went on to publish her story and testify before Congress, where she urged US leaders to take action against human trafficking.

Volunteer your skills

Nivasa Foundation is entirely staffed by volunteers. If you have skills you would like to put to use in the fight against modern day slavery, we are always eager to enlist more help. We are particularly in need of help with web design, grant writing, organizational consulting, and accounting. But we can also use people willing to donate their time to other clerical and research projects.

Donate

Contact us to find out how to make a financial contribution which can help Nivasa Foundation end modern day slavery.

Phone **617.996.9050**

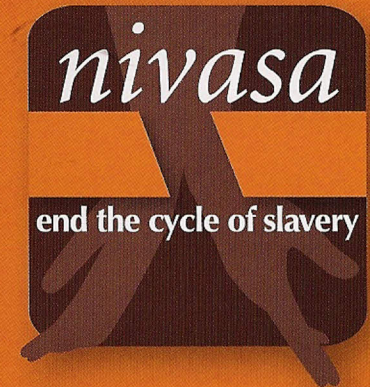
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Our Mission

Nivasa Foundation seeks an end to modern day slavery.

We assist former victims of enslavement in Sri Lanka by supporting their rehabilitation needs and those of their families.

Nivasa Foundation supports the repatriated victims by funding the education and maintenance of their children in order to avoid the cycle of poverty and victimization which occurs to these families.

We provide direct aid grants to organizations in Sri Lanka which provide for the welfare and rehabilitation of Sri Lankans who were enslaved.

Nivasa Foundation also produces educational resources and grass roots advocacy campaigns regarding human trafficking in Sri Lanka and around the world.

Beatrice Fernando Founder of Nivasa Foundation



Beatrice Fernando is a survivor of slavery. After answering an ad for a local agency looking to employ housemaids, she took a job in Lebanon. Her only goal was to make enough money to provide for her young son back home in Sri Lanka.

Unbeknownst to her, the employment agency was running a corrupt scheme to lure young people into slavery.

When Beatrice arrived at the home of her supposed employers, she was forced to surrender her passport. She was compelled to work 20 hour days, and she was never paid. She was forbidden to leave the house where she worked or speak to other people. Not long after Beatrice arrived, the woman of the house began to viciously beat her. She regularly abused her and refused her anything to eat.

www.nivasafoundation.org

To Contact Nivasa Foundation or To Make a Donation

Phone **617.996.9050**

Email info@nivasafoundation.org

Web www.nivasafoundation.org

Beatrice Fernando

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Desperate to escape her captors, Beatrice made a decision she thought might mean the end of her life. She jumped off a fourth floor balcony to try to save herself from the torture she was enduring.

She lived, but she soon realized that she was paralyzed. Today, Beatrice lives in Massachusetts and is able to walk and function normally. But Beatrice realized her story is not unique. Finally able to tell her life's story, she published her memoir in a book entitled, *In Contempt of Fate*. She's also published a chapter in a new anthology of contemporary slave narratives entitled *Enslaved*.

Now, Beatrice has realized that speaking out is not enough. She has founded Nivasa Foundation as a means to putting a stop to the problem of modern day slavery. Beatrice works tirelessly as an activist, trying to help free an estimated 27 million people enslaved around the world.

A Voice for Change

A seasoned speaker, Fernando has moved thousands of Americans at schools, colleges, and religious communities across the country. Beatrice is knowledgeable not only about her own experience and about the details of trafficking in Sri Lanka, but also about all aspects of human trafficking all over the world: sex trafficking, chattel slavery, sweatshop child labor, forced agricultural labor. Speaking on behalf of the millions who still suffer from modern-day slavery, Beatrice inspires her audiences to be concerned about the issue and to become activists in the fight against slavery at most.

Join her fight to abolish the institution of slavery. She is an inspiration to us all, and an empowering speaker, giving voice to those who cannot speak for themselves.

What We Do

Nivasa Foundation supports the children of victims of human trafficking, taking the burden of education off the shoulders of parents who are desperate to provide for their children—so desperate they've previously done work for which they weren't paid and were often abused and mistreated. When you **sponsor a child** through Nivasa Foundation, parents are able to look for work locally in Sri Lanka, and avoid the exploitative labor which perpetuates the cycle of enslavement that is endemic in poor communities.



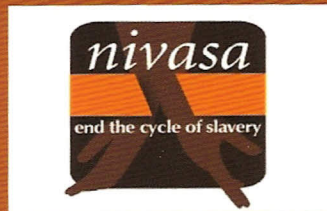
Gloria Steinem
and Beatrice Fernando



BREAKING THE CYCLE
OF SLAVERY
ONE CHILD AT A CHILD

SPONSOR
A
CHILD
TODAY

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