

# RAPHA

INTERNATIONAL MAY 2024



## PREVENTION: PHYSICAL AND EMOTIONAL SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES

Once a month, Rapha staff distributes rice to the families enrolled in our Prevention program in Cambodia. **Helping families meet basic needs and fill gaps in resources is essential to Rapha's work to prevent exploitation and family separation.**

This month at the rice distribution event, Rapha staff turned their attention to another type of basic need- mental health support. Vulnerable families are often impacted by poor mental health, due to untreated trauma, cyclical issues like abuse and alcoholism, and the pervasive stress caused by living in poverty. Parents and caregivers who have untreated mental health issues are less likely to create safe environments for children or to be able to protect them from trafficking or exploitation.



Through a partnership with EMDR Cambodia—an organization providing trauma therapy and training on mental health issues—parents in our Prevention program were educated about the signs and impacts of trauma. Over 100 parents were screened for symptoms of post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and other mental health difficulties.

Heartbreakingly, 40% of the parents screened demonstrated symptoms of PTSD. Rapha staff are working together with therapists from EMDR Cambodia to provide group and individual therapy for those individuals, to promote healing for parents and safety for children.

**HEATHER NOZEA**

Rapha International | Programs Director



[SUPPORT THIS IMPORTANT WORK - RAPHA.ORG/PARTNER](https://RAPHA.ORG/PARTNER)

## **NATIONAL TRAFFICKING SHELTERED ALLIANCE**

Rapha's CEO, Stephanie Freed, and Development Officer, Aryn Tanksley, visited Pleasant Grove, UT for the Sheltered Conference- a yearly conference hosted by the National Trafficking Sheltered Alliance. As attendees and speakers, they had an excellent time sharing ideas and perspectives with people serving survivors all over the country.

Rapha is committed to learning and growing. Conferences like these help remind us we are part of a diverse community that is providing holistic care for survivors.

[RAPHA.ORG](https://RAPHA.ORG)

*Aryn Tanksley and Stephanie Freed at the  
NTSA Sheltered Conference*





**CHANGING  
THE WORLD**

ONE CHILD, ONE FAMILY, AND  
ONE COMMUNITY AT A TIME.



RAPHA INTERNATIONAL

**FREEDOM  
KIDS**

[RAPHA.ORG/FREEDOM-KIDS](https://RAPHA.ORG/FREEDOM-KIDS)

**FREEDOM KIDS  
COMING SOON**

We are excited to offer a new resource for you or your church! *Freedom Kids* is a curriculum with messaging, graphics, video, and activities to help you share about Rapha International with your children or student ministries.

*Freedom Kids* is designed to empower kids and students to show radical generosity in ways that are unique to them by partnering with Rapha International.

Check out this [promo video](#) and keep Rapha in mind when you are planning your missions time for VBS or camps this summer or next!

If you'd like more information about Freedom Kids and how your church can partner with Rapha please email me at [bjohnson@rapha.org](mailto:bjohnson@rapha.org).

**BETHANY JOHNSON**

Rapha International | Communications Director





## MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

Join us this May as we shed light on the intersection of mental health and trauma recovery for survivors of trafficking and sexual abuse. Rapha International is committed to supporting survivors.

Follow along as we share stories of resilience, offer resources for mental health support, and advocate for greater awareness and understanding.

Read more about mental health awareness month:  
[rapha.org/blog/mental-health-awareness](https://rapha.org/blog/mental-health-awareness)

## NEW SPRING COLLECTION

Have you seen our new Spring Collection?

Head to the Freedom Store to pick up some new merch and come alongside survivors in their journey to find healing, hope, and freedom this spring!

Go to [rapha.org/store](https://rapha.org/store) to get yours today!



## PRAYER PROMPTS

- Please pray for the ongoing crisis in Haiti. To learn more go [here](#).
- Pray for safe travels, rest, and encouragement during a retreat in Cambodia next month.
- Pray for more therapists to be trained in trauma therapy and walk alongside survivors as they heal.
- Pray for the hundreds of kids and students who will learn about Rapha International for the very first time this summer, through Freedom Kids.

Rapha team praying together

Download our prayer guide here: [rapha.org/prayer-guide](https://rapha.org/prayer-guide)



Ladies Night Out event | Vernal, UT

## GRATEFUL FOR OUR PARTNERS

We are continually grateful for the creativity and generosity of our church and community partners. They work diligently to bring awareness and raise support to end the trafficking and sexual abuse of children—one child, one family, and one community at a time.

This spring our church partners hosted creative events, auctions, and even an entire Rapha month to raise hundreds of thousands of dollars to come alongside child survivors in their journey to find healing, hope, and freedom. Thank you to New Life Christian Church at the Villages, Greentree Christian Church in Rolla, MO, Ladies Night Out in Vernal, UT and all of our other wonderful partners.

## THE FREEDOM BOX

The Freedom Box is a digital resource that will equip you to share about Rapha with your friends, family, and community!

This Google Drive folder is full of documents, presentations, videos, and pictures to help you communicate about the mission and vision of Rapha.

Questions? Email: [bjohnson@rapha.org](mailto:bjohnson@rapha.org)

