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# The White Umbrella: Walking With Survivors Of Sex Trafficking



## **Synopsis**

Stories of survivors of sex-trafficking. Sex trafficking. We hear about it on the nightly news and in special interest stories from around the world, but it occurs daily in communities all around us. Every year, thousands of young women are forced into sexual exploitation. Most are under the age of 18. The damage this causes to their emotions and souls is immeasurable. But they are not without hope. The White Umbrella tells stories of survivors as well as those who came alongside to help them to recovery. It describes the pain and the strength of these young women and those who held the "white umbrella" of protection and purity over them on the road to restoration. This book offers principles and guidance to anyone with a heart for these hurting young women and a desire to help. It is an ideal resource for individuals or organizations seeking to learn what they can do to assist these victims in becoming whole again.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

Wellspring Living is an organization leading the way when it comes to survivors of human trafficking. Their true compassion and excellence in care is life changing, not just for the girls they serve, but for those of us who help survivors out along the way. This book is one of the most practical resources I have read on the subject. Other resources have talked about the problem, but this one helps to put feet to a solution. I have seen first hand the lives that have been changed through doing ministry this way -- respecting the dignity of a human being and loving them toward wholeness. I cannot say enough about how wonderful this ministry is and how helpful and practical this book is. Also, they share their best practices through an organizational mentorship program that helps organizations

around the nation and internationally get started. Keep up the great work! And God bless anyone who is starting out on this journey to help human trafficking survivors.

The White Umbrella is a much needed piece of work in the fight against sex trafficking. It not only gives insight into the life of a survivor, but also gives great examples of how to get involved through volunteering and praying. Additionally, it gives wonderful examples of those using their own gifts and skills to help raise awareness. I highly recommend reading.

Just received my copy last week. This book is both very well written and very informative without the gaudy sensationalism of some works. Found it hard to put it down... inspired me to live the purpose-driven life in more diverse ways... ordered additional copies for family, Church members, friends and co-workers.

This "no frills," book tells the unvarnished story of sex trafficking victims from different perspectives, including: the victims themselves, counselors, teachers, support personnel, and volunteers. It is a quick read that is meant to inform and engage people. Through the book, you realize that there are lots of opportunities for service to this population, even for those who may think, "I'm not qualified to help with this issue." You'll realize that everyone can do SOMETHING, and little things mean a lot to victims of childhood sexual trauma. Strategic partnerships with other organizations enable Wellspring to attack trafficking on many levels: through the courts, through education and advocacy, and on the streets. Wellspring's work with girls and women, for over eleven years, makes the organization one of the oldest, and most effective, in the country. (I recently stepped down after serving on the Wellspring Board for over ten years, and have seen, firsthand, many stories similar to those in the book.) CAUTION: Don't read the book unless you want your life to change as you become involved. Once you know about childhood sex trafficking, it's almost impossible for you to ignore the issue and simply "do nothing."

What a gift to have the experiences of the Wellspring journey recorded. The book is indeed eye opening; illustrating that the problems we are up against are not easily solved and the early woundedness of young women as children impact their adulthood. As I read the book, my emotions ran the gamut from anger, deep sadness, discomfort to joy in restoration. The stories are authentic and don't sugar coat what we are up against, as a society. If you want the real story, this book gives the reader just that.

So many times we wonder "how?", "Why?", "What can I do?" Mary Frances Bowley's new book helps answer some of those questions...the how and why of so many stories, the how and why of healing and recovery and how we as a community and individuals can be a part of walking with survivors and making an impact.

I thought this book would be about survivors of childhood sexual abuse and sex trafficking, but it definitely was not. It was mostly about Wellspring which is a place where young girls and women who have been sexually abused and trafficked, go to get help. It was more so about the people who work there as well. There were a few times when the people who worked there would go totally off topic and talk about their own personal lives instead of talking about the courageous young girls and women who go to Wellspring. Overall, I think this book is just promoting Wellspring. I applaud what they are doing for young girls and women, but they should have used a different title for this book because it is not about survivors. It is about Wellspring and its employees.

congratulations Wellspring and Mary Frances.. I am proud to be a part of an excellent organization of women helping to heal women and young girls that have been victimized. Well done on the book!! You are an organization of principles, truth and integrity. Keep up the good work.

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