

Women's Fund El Dorado Site-Visit Committee Report

3Strands Global

On February 10, 2017, the WFED Site-Visit Committee met with Ashlie Bryant, Co-Founder and President of 3Strands Global, Inc., and a few of her staff members at their office for an on-site orientation to their programs; specifically, the Break Free Education program which was awarded a \$7,500 Focus Grant for 2016/2017.

Ms. Bryant gave Committee Chair Claudia Taylor and members Carolyn Mansfield, Martha Hom, Helen Walsh, Paula Grady, and Emogene Haller background information on the 3Strands Global nonprofit organization. The organization was founded in 2011 to help provide prevention training for students and reintegration assistance for victims of human trafficking.

Human trafficking is rapidly growing and is happening in our own community. In the United States human trafficking is a 9.8 billion dollar industry affecting an estimated 100,000 children. The crime is not well known to parents and children.

The Break Free Education program provides a basic overview of human trafficking, trauma impacts, red flags and protocols as well as a curriculum for educators to deliver directly to students. This program is presented to county leadership, educators, and in school health classes by trained 3Strands staff. The school program is generally presented to 9th graders with an expansion program in the works for grades 5, 7, and 11 for 2017. Break Free Education has been presented to 765 students so far with an estimated 265 more planned. The presentations are interactive, run about 90 minutes and cost approximately \$8.98 per student. Students are provided with pre and post surveys, tip cards with the National Trafficking Hotline, an education fact sheet, and a Survey Monkey subscription to aggregate the pre and post survey results into usable data.

Our committee members felt that the grant money was being used responsibly and effectively. We were very impressed with this organization and the valuable work they are doing for El Dorado County.

Claudia Taylor
WFED Site-Visit Committee