

staff, who will ensure that Be a STAR's lesson plans are integrated effectively into the program's workshops.

Blue Star Families, Inc., Falls Church, VA: Blue Star serves more than 10,000 military families in 70 locations around the world by supporting, connecting and empowering families through chapter-based programs. The Be a STAR grant will help fund MiKidz Clubs, which connects military kids—regardless of rank, branch of service or military installation—and provides them the resources, mentoring and opportunity to become the next wave of leaders in their communities. Approximately 1.5 million military children are enrolled in United States schools with the average military family moving about every two years. As a result, approximately 750,000 children of military families are the “new kid” each year in their school. In order to help these children, MiKidz will integrate Be a STAR resources into its after-school activities and incorporate Be a STAR's nine lesson plans, including Courage, Responsibility, Dignity, Friendship, Advocacy, Resiliency, Empathy, Identity and Morality into its monthly meetings.

Do Something, New York, NY: Do Something is one of the largest non-profit organizations in the United States that creates opportunities for young people to participate in causes that combat bullying, animal cruelty, homelessness and cancer. The Be a STAR grant will be used to help fund Do Something's “Bully Text” mobile platform. “Bully Text” is a digital experience where kids encounter different bullying scenarios and learn how to respond in various ways. According to Do Something's 2012 “The Bully Report”, cyber bullying is the most pervasive type of bullying with 70 percent of students reporting frequent bullying online and 35 percent reporting bullying through texting.

East LA Boys & Girls Club (BGCELA), Los Angeles, CA: The mission of BGCELA is to enable all young people and their families to realize their full potential as productive, healthy, caring and responsible individuals through life-enhancing programs. The Be a STAR grant will support and fund parent workshops and training taught by local anti-bullying experts during National Bullying Prevention Month. Videos from the Be a STAR resource guide will be shown and discussed using the Be a STAR Student Activity Sheets and students will be taught Be a STAR's nine lesson plans.

National Voices for Equality, Education and Enlightenment (NVEEE), Fort Lauderdale, FL: NVEEE is a community-based non-profit whose mission is to prevent bullying, violence and suicide among youth, families and communities through direct service, mentoring and prevention education. The Be a STAR grant will fund the Peace Ambassadors program, which serves approximately 7,000 students in Ft. Lauderdale who will participate in tailored workshops that have integrated Be a STAR resources and training. The Peace Ambassador program is a leadership program comprised of students who serve as advocates and leaders to prevent bullying, suicide and violence in their schools and communities. Additionally, through the support of the Be a STAR grant, NVEEE will provide parents and students with information and resources from Be a STAR alliance members.

On behalf of the Congressional Anti-Bullying Caucus, I congratulate The Creative Coalition, WWE, Be a STAR, and the grant winners.

INTERNATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING AT MAJOR SPORTING EVENTS INCLUDING THE 2014 SUPER BOWL

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2014

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, a hearing that I held yesterday focused on the preparations for the upcoming Super Bowl to prevent human trafficking and strategies employed by airlines, busses, trains, and hotels designed to mitigate human trafficking.

In less than a week, New Jersey will be hosting the Super Bowl, and along with welcoming enthusiastic fans, the state also is preparing for a likely influx of both domestic and international traffickers.

Sadly, but almost certainly, they will bring with them sexually exploited trafficking victims—many of them from abroad—in an attempt to cash in on the Super Bowl crowds. We know from the past that any large sporting event—especially the Super Bowl—acts as a sex trafficking magnet. The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children reports that more than 10,000 exploited women and girls were trafficked to Miami for the Super Bowl in 2010.

This must not happen again. New Jersey Governor Chris Christie has put in place a robust anti-human trafficking plan. For example, his Department of Homeland Security and Preparedness has stepped-up efforts to combat trafficking at the Super Bowl, distributing flyers to emergency medical services, fire department, law enforcement, and other emergency care professions so that these front line professionals will know when to be concerned that someone is a trafficking victim and how to respond appropriately. The transportation and hospitality training concept has proven straightforward, effective—and it is catching on.

On her way to yet another assembly and community awareness conference at St. Elizabeth's College in Morristown, NJ Assistant Attorney General Tracy Thompson, who is spearheading the Christie administration's anti-human trafficking effort, told me that they have trained 10,000 people, including a train-the-trainer initiative. She noted that the Super Bowl creates an increased “breeding ground” for sex trafficking.

She said, “Today's victims can be any race, age or gender. Victims are exploited for prostitution, pornography and forced labor.

Traffickers control victims through force and fraud utilizing physical and psychological abuse, threats and isolation.

Know it. See it. Report it.”

According to Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott, the Super Bowl can be described as “the single largest human trafficking incident in the United States.” Capt. Doug Cain, Louisiana State Police spokesman, said after the 2013 Super Bowl in New Orleans, “Any time you have a large influx of tourists in town and they're spending a lot of money, there's a criminal element that moves in to take advantage of that.”

Greece, which hosted the Olympics in 2004, saw a 95% increase in trafficking victims in the months leading up to and including the Olympics. Next month, Russia—a country

ranked at the lowest Tier by the annual U.S. State Department's Trafficking in Persons Report—will host the winter Olympic Games. Since Russia does not have in place any formal national procedures to guide law enforcement in the identification of sex trafficking victims and does not fund trafficking victim care, I am very concerned that the 2014 Winter Olympics may turn out to be a trafficking nightmare.

Later this year, Brazil will host the 2014 World Cup and then the 2016 Summer Olympics. Although Brazil has improved their anti-trafficking laws and is taking steps to mitigate trafficking risks, the fact remains that Brazil will have to do much more if they want to protect their children from sex tourism. Numbers from Brazil's Federal Police indicate that between 250,000 and 400,000 children are forcibly prostituted.

Worldwide, the best estimates are that 600,000 to 800,000 trafficking victims are moved across international borders every year. Millions more victims are moved within national borders. But anti-trafficking efforts have only recently turned to equipping transportation employees to identify victims in transit. The training is easy, inexpensive, and is already saving lives.

In July of 2010, I chaired a conference in Washington, DC, to bring together the relevant U.S. agencies, such as the Customs and Border Patrol, various U.S. airlines, and non-governmental organizations to focus on interdicting traffickers by training commercial transportation employees to recognize the indicators for trafficking. Speakers, including Deborah Sigmund, founder of a non-government organization called Innocents at Risk, explained how flight attendants were the “first line of defense” in the fight against human trafficking.

Flight attendants are in the unique position to observe a potential trafficking in progress and then call a trafficking hotline or inform the pilot to radio ahead so that the proper authorities can intervene.

Former flight attendant Nancy Rivard, President of Airline Ambassadors International and one of today's witnesses, told us how she and other flight attendants compared notes one day and were shocked and dismayed at how often they had noticed what they suspected was a trafficked woman or child on their flight, but had no training or protocol to do something about it. Nancy has been doing a great deal about it ever since, training airline employees around the United States and world. Last year I joined Ms. Rivard at a training seminar in Kiev, Ukraine.

One of the earliest successes of the program was a call Ms. Rivard placed to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security regarding a child she had observed on her flight from the Dominican Republic to Boston. That tip led to the break-up of a trafficking ring that had transported more than 80 children to the United States.

Just this year, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) released a similar training initiative, the Blue Lightning program, to domestic U.S. airlines—so far, Delta, JetBlue, Allegiant, and North American Airlines are on board. With minimal modifications, the training is also easily adaptable to bus drivers, station operators, train conductors, trucking associations, and other transportation industry professionals.

The New Jersey Human Trafficking Task Force, which was originally started with seed

money from a law I authored—the Trafficking Victim's Protection Act of 2000—is working overtime to mitigate sex trafficking and has released anti-trafficking brochures to bus and train employees in New Jersey, as well as reached out to another major industry on the front lines of spotting traffickers and victims: the hotels.

We had with us yesterday the NGO End Child Prostitution and Trafficking, or ECPAT-USA, which has been conducting hotel training on behalf of the task force in the lead-up to the Super Bowl. Hyatt, Hilton, Wyndham, Carlson, and Accor hotels have been establishing a new industry standard to ensure that their properties are not used for human trafficking.

In addition to reaching out to transportation employees and hotels, the New Jersey Human Trafficking Task Force has increased print and electronic public service announcements and training programs for law enforcement officials, health care workers, lawyers, and others on the front lines of potential interactions with trafficking victims.

In December, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe OSCE, which comprises 57 countries from Europe and North America, endorsed my plan to make anti-trafficking training for airline employees, other public and commercial carriers, as well as hotel employees, a primary goal in the international strategy to combat human trafficking. In an earlier session, the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly adopted my resolution to implement such training in each member country.

Any country that competes to host a major sporting event must be fully aware of the human trafficking vulnerabilities associated with such events and the best practices for protecting and rescuing the victims. In fact, the International Olympic Committee and the Fédération Internationale de Football Association, or FIFA, should take into consideration a country's anti-trafficking commitment and ability when awarding games. Standard anti-trafficking measures should be included along with the required security measures and stadium specifications.

Finally, the only standard that fits the crime of human trafficking—zero tolerance—must be rigorously and faithfully enforced by arrests of those engaged in this nefarious trade—modern-day slavery. And there can be no higher priority than the liberation and protection of the victims. Combating human trafficking must be continuously prioritized at all levels of government, the faith community, civil society and corporations, including the National Football League. All of us must do our part to protect the women and girls.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF BLACK
JANUARY

HON. ED PASTOR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2014

Mr. PASTOR of Arizona. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my condolences to the people of Azerbaijan who, on January 20, remember "Black January."

On January 19, 1990, the Soviet Union declared a "State of Emergency" in Baku and other parts of Azerbaijan, in an attempt to suppress further movements towards independ-

ence. In the middle of the night and into January 20, some 26,000 Soviet troops moved into Baku brutalizing and randomly killing the civilian population as they proceeded. Over one hundred Azeris were killed and up to 800 were injured. This brutality, far from crushing the Azerbaijani spirit, steered their resolve and on October 18, 1991, the Azerbaijan Parliament declared the country's independence, which it retains today.

Azerbaijan had always shown a special desire to be independent. With the fall of the Russian Empire in 1918, Azerbaijan declared its independence and granted voting rights for women, a full year before American women were enfranchised. Today, Azerbaijan is the only former Russian Republic which does not have foreign troops stationed on its soil.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the events of "Black January" and the Azeri determination that led to the independent Republic of Azerbaijan we know today.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE
OF CONGRESSMAN VICENTE
"BEN" GARRIDO BLAZ

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2014

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of my good friend, the late Vicente "Ben" Tomas Garrido Blaz, a retired Brigadier General in the United States Marine Corps and former Member of Congress who represented the people of Guam. Congressman Blaz was a hero and leader who inspired generations on Guam. He passed away on January 8, 2014 at the age of 85.

Congressman Blaz was born on February 14, 1928 to Vicente Cruz Blaz and Rita Garrido Blaz from the village of Ordot, Guam, and he was the third of eight children. He married his late wife, Ann Evers Blaz, in 1953, and they had two sons, Thomas and Michael and five grandchildren. Congressman Blaz was predeceased by his wife and parents, and his siblings and in-laws: Rosario and Pedro Cruz, Maria Blaz, Emilia and Alfred Rios, Brigida Blaz, and Alfred Blaz. He is survived by his sons, Tom and Mike, and their spouses, Shelane and Barbara; his five grandchildren; and his siblings and in-laws: Joaquin Blaz, Patricia and Jose Borja, and Frank and Julie Blaz.

On December 8, 1941, Ben was 13 when Guam was invaded by enemy forces during World War II. He endured the hardships of the 32 months of enemy occupation, and was among those conscripted into forced labor. As a survivor of the occupation, General Blaz had a strong sense of patriotism and duty to our country. He never forgot these experiences and they helped to inspire him to serve in the U.S. Marine Corps and to continue a life of service as a Congressman.

After the war, Ben graduated from George Washington High School and was awarded an academic scholarship to attend the University of Notre Dame in South Bend, Indiana. Ben was a patriot, and when war broke out in Korea, he joined the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve and attended Officer Candidate School.

In 1951, Ben graduated from the University of Notre Dame with a Bachelor of Science degree and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Marine Corps. He continued his professional education and earned a Master of Arts degree from the George Washington University in 1963 and graduated from the Naval War College in 1970. General Blaz was bestowed an honorary Doctors of Laws from the University of Guam in 1974; in 1988 he was recognized as a distinguished alumnus of the University of Notre Dame, where he was conferred the Rev. William Corby Award for his notable military service.

As an officer in the U.S. Marine Corps, Brigadier General Blaz served our nation with honor and distinction. He served three overseas tours in Vietnam; Okinawa, Japan; and Osaka, Japan. He was appointed as the Commanding Officer of the 9th Marines, and had the honor of commanding one of the Marine Corps regiments which liberated Guam during World War II. In 1977, Ben was promoted to Brigadier General, becoming the first Chamorro to attain flag officer rank. He retired in 1980 after 30 years of distinguished service in the Marine Corps. During his service, his awards and decorations included the Legion of Merit (twice awarded); Bronze Star (with Combat V); Navy Commendation Medal (twice awarded); Combat Action Ribbon; and Vietnam Cross of Gallantry (Gold Star).

Following his military retirement, General Blaz ran unsuccessfully for Congress in 1982. He was successful in 1984 when he was elected to the 99th Congress, and he served in the House of Representatives for four terms from 1985 to 1993. At the start of his first term, Congressman Blaz was elected by his peers to serve as the president of his freshman class. Congressman Blaz worked to improve the relationship between the federal government and Guam. As a member of the Armed Services, Natural Resources, and Foreign Affairs Committees, he worked to address Guam's issues, national security issues and Asia-Pacific issues. He promoted improving Guam's political status, advocated for war reparations for Guam, worked to improve education and health programs, and sought the return of excess federal lands to the people of Guam.

Ben never truly retired from public service, and after he left Congress, he became Guam's senior statesman. He was an invaluable mentor to Congressman Robert Underwood and myself, and I would often look to him for counsel and support on issues important to Guam. During his time in Congress, Congressman Blaz often remarked of the territories, "We are equal in war but not in peace," recognizing the inequality between U.S. citizens residing in the territories and those living in the 50 states. During my time in Congress, I too have recognized the sentiment behind this profound statement, and I kept a plaque of Ben's quote on my desk when I first took office. Congressman Blaz was also a strong supporter of the events held in Washington to commemorate the Liberation of Guam. He faithfully attended the wreath laying ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery and the receptions on Capitol Hill that are held every year.

Throughout his life, Ben worked to promote and preserve the Chamorro culture, language, and history. He produced two television series *Nihi Ta Bisita* (Let Us Visit) which centered on