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Contact Person: Betsy Danforth, 994.3836, [danforth@montana.edu](mailto:danforth@montana.edu)

**Press Release**

For Immediate Release

**Fighting Human Trafficking in Your Own Backyard**

The HEART Initiative at MSU, MSU Women's Center, Office of the Dean of Students and the Norm Asbjornson College of Engineering (NACOE) invite you to attend a free presentation on how to fight human trafficking in your community on Wednesday, Sept. 27 at 6 p.m. in Inspiration Hall, NACOE.

Dean Key, a professional truck driver and Truckers Against Trafficking (TAT) Ambassador, will define human trafficking and share information on the scope of the crime, as well as identify intersections human trafficking has with the transportation industry. He will share more about the work of TAT and his experience as a driver, and leave attendees with action steps they can take in their own communities to help combat trafficking. Key will also be screening TAT's human trafficking training for local drivers, how it can appear in a local context and what anyone — professional drivers and general public alike — can look for and do to help combat the issue.

A driver with Ruan Transportation Management Systems, Key has been a professional truck driver for 38 years with 900,000 accident-free miles. TAT's industry-specific training empowers drivers to recognize and report cases of suspected trafficking to law enforcement to aid in the recovery of victims and arrest of perpetrators. Since its creation in 2009, TAT has trained more than 1.5 million people in the trucking, bus and energy industries to fight human trafficking, who, in turn, have made thousands of calls resulting in the recoveries of hundreds of victims and the arrests of hundreds of perpetrators around the country.

Being trained to identify this crime — and safely intervene simply by making a phone call — is invaluable and has saved many survivors from further enslavement.

For more information on Truckers Against Trafficking, visit [www.truckersagainstafficking.org](http://www.truckersagainstafficking.org).