

CASA ACT + RED SAND PROJECT

STATEWIDE SIDEWALK INSTALLATION PROJECT TO PREVENT TRAFFICKING

ABOUT

Red Sand Project is a participatory artwork installation created by Molly Gochman that uses sidewalk cracks to create opportunities for people to question, connect and take action against vulnerabilities that can lead to human trafficking and exploitation. Today, Red Sand Project actions have been done in all 50 states and in 70 countries, with more than one million participants.

Children and youth in foster care are at a heightened risk of trafficking and exploitation. According to the National Human Trafficking Hotline, some of the risk factors include recent migration relocation, substance use, mental health concerns, involvement with the child welfare system, running away and experiencing homelessness. Every child in the foster care system possesses at least one of these risk factors—and the fact is most of them grapple with many. It is up to all of us to be vigilant and help keep these children safe.

CASA ACT (Anti-Child Trafficking) is a call to action for the CASA network to do more than "see something, say something" (a common phrase in the anti-trafficking movement), and to ACT. From identification of children and youth who are at risk to advocacy, CASA programs and volunteers can ACT.

To help spread awareness and show CASA's role in identifying and preventing trafficking, we're encouraging local programs to bring the Red Sand Project movement to their communities. By filling in sidewalk cracks with red sand and documenting the sidewalk transformation on social media, we can make a strong impact locally and statewide.

PARTICIPATE

STEP 1: SET A DATE & LOCATION

Between now and January 2023, CASA programs are encouraged to set up their own Red Sand Project using the supplies provided by Texas CASA.

Where should you set up? Anywhere there is a crack in a sidewalk or on the street! Public places are fair game, but make sure to ask for permission if you want to use private property. You often don't need a permit to do it in public spaces, but certain colleges and parks might require additional permission. You can also easily add Red Sand Project into an already existing event. Planning to have a booth at an event? Bring the sand!

This is a great opportunity to collaborate with other organizations in your area. Visit the DFPS Human Trafficking Resources website to identify local and statewide anti-trafficking organizations to see if they are interested in partnering. Resources are categorized by DFPS Regions. Internet searches for "anti-trafficking resources in [city]" could also help find local partners.

PARTICIPATE

STEP 2: SPREAD THE WORD & GET PEOPLE INVOLVED

Red Sand Project is a way for people to come together and connect, raising awareness about human trafficking. You can do Red Sand Project with your CASA staff and volunteers, friends, family, community partners... anyone and everyone! Red Sand Project recommends having a group of at least 15 people.

Need more sand? You can order directly from Red Sand Project at RedSandProject.org, free of charge. They only ask that you pay for shipping.

STEP 3: CREATE YOUR SIDEWALK INSTALLATION

Find a location to pour the sand, gather any materials you might need (cups, sidewalk chalk, posters, etc.), and then you're all set to do your Red Sand Project event. As a group, pour the red sand in sidewalk cracks and highlight the ways people are vulnerable to exploitation.

For more ideas, check out [#RedSandProject](#) on Facebook and Instagram to see how other organizations have participated.

Check out the FAQ section (<https://redsandproject.org/sidewalk-installations/>) for information on cleanup and to get answers to other common questions potential partners and participants may have.

STEP 4: SHARE ONLINE & WITH TEXAS CASA

Make sure to take photos and videos of your sidewalk transformation, and share them on social media using [#RedSandProject](#) and [#CASA ACT](#). Your event will be connected to the thousands of other Red Sand Project events worldwide, expanding the movement to end human trafficking.

Also share your photos and videos with us at casaacts@texascasa.org! Please send any photos or videos by **Friday, Jan. 13, 2023**.

Texas CASA will be compiling videos and photos to share all month long during January 2023, and we want to make sure to feature your work!

RESOURCES

- https://www.dfps.state.tx.us/Investigations/Human_Trafficking/resources.asp
- <https://redsandproject.org/>
- <https://texascasa.org/csec/>

[#RedSandProject](#) [#CASA ACT](#)

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