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For More Information:
Michelle Bardini
3Strands Global Foundation
916-365-2606
michelleb@3sgf.org

American River Bank Foundation Funds 3Strands Global Foundation's Reintegration Program: Employ + Empower

El Dorado Hills, CA (January 16, 2018) – During Human Trafficking Awareness Month, American River Bank Foundation showed support of local anti-human trafficking efforts by funding 3Strands Global Foundation's reintegration program Employ + Empower, a program providing sustainable employment opportunities for survivors of human trafficking and at-risk youth in the Sacramento area.

As economic insecurity is one of the main vulnerabilities exploited by traffickers, 3Strands Global places survivors and at-risk youth into trauma-informed jobs, teaches transferable job skills, and connects survivors with behavioral health services to prevent them from returning to a life of exploitation. With the support of the American River Bank Foundation, 3Strands Global will be able to expand the reintegration program to employ and empower an additional 20 survivors and at-risk youth and provide the necessary services to enhance their emotional well-being, making a profound impact in their lives. When reflecting on his experience in the program last year, one foster youth said, "I've loved the entire job experience, especially helping customers and seeing their smiles on their faces. This job was a great starting point to begin my career, have a consistent income, and develop the job skills I need to succeed."

"Human trafficking is not just an issue in developing countries or in large cities; it is everywhere, and it is occurring locally. This program serves the most vulnerable youth in the Sacramento region: survivors of human trafficking, homeless women and children, and foster youth. To date, we have placed 79 survivors and at-risk youth into jobs," said Ashlie Bryant, President of 3Strands Global Foundation. "We are pleased to fund organizations like 3Strands Global Foundation that support our local communities with programs that enhance self-esteem, create opportunity and provide physical and emotional well-being for the most vulnerable women and children" said David E. Ritchie, Jr., President of the Foundation and American River Bank. 3Strands Global's reintegration program is crucial to further develop the resiliency of survivors and at-risk youth and to further support their capacity to create a better future.

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ABOUT 3STRANDS GLOBAL FOUNDATION:

3Strands Global Foundation is a California-based nonprofit with the mission to mobilize communities to combat human trafficking through prevention education programs in schools and reintegration job programs for survivors and at-risk youth.

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