

## *Standing with survivors of sexual harm*

In 2015, CAASE's legal services provided free legal assistance to 164 survivors of sexual violence, with 95 clients receiving comprehensive legal representation by CAASE's attorneys in many areas, including victims' rights advocacy, protective order litigation, and assistance with employment and educational rights. As part of CAASE's Pro Bono Project, we trained 56 local attorneys empowering them to vindicate the civil rights of survivors of sexual assault and sex trafficking.



## *Ending demand in Illinois*

Our End Demand Illinois campaign passed SB1588, its sixth law in six years. This legislative initiative creates an affirmative defense for people charged with prostitution, allowing them to avoid a prostitution conviction upon proof that they engaged in prostitution as a result of human trafficking. Because of concerns and feedback from survivors, it also creates a procedure for courts to follow if the defendant is concerned about the safety of raising the affirmative defense in open court. This safety procedure is the first of its kind in the nation for people raising the affirmative defense.



## *Shaping allies against sexual exploitation*

In 2015, the prevention team worked with nearly 2,000 students, 677 of whom completed our 4-session Empowering Youth program. After working with CAASE's educators, students were significantly more likely to identify prostitution as a serious problem and indicate that it is never acceptable for a man to purchase sex. The majority of young men, who completed the 4-session EYM, said they would never patronize a strip club and would discourage their friends from doing so too.



## *Cultivating a community that cares*

Community engagement increased significantly in 2015. Our social media campaign on Giving Tuesday reached over 6,000 people with messages inspiring people to champion survivors of sexual exploitation. We participated in over 65 presentations and panels reaching a total of 4,220 audience members. At our annual fundraiser, we had the pleasure of honoring two incredible survivor leaders at our Champions of Change event where guests learned about the realities and lives of people impacted by prostitution and sexual violence. We also had our most successful Race for CAASE to date, raising over \$25,000 with a team of 50 runners.

