



Bloom Advocates for Survivors at Pennsylvania Hill Day

By Bloom

HARRISBURG - Last week, members of the Bloom team joined advocates, service providers, survivors, and community partners in Harrisburg for Pennsylvania's Anti-Human Trafficking Advocacy Day. The day began with a press conference with Bloom's Barrier Wall Project as the background at the Capitol, where participants gathered to raise awareness about human trafficking and the need for continued support for survivors across the Commonwealth.

Bloom's Director of Programs, Alyssa Almonti, spoke during the press conference hosted by the Pennsylvania's Anti-Human Trafficking Advocacy Work Group (PAHTAWG), sharing insights on the realities survivors face and the importance of comprehensive, survivor-centered services. Her remarks highlighted the critical role that safe housing, workforce development, and long-term support play in helping survivors heal and build independent futures.

Throughout the day, Bloom staff met with legislators and their teams to discuss the realities of trafficking and exploitation, the importance of survivor-centered services, and the need for policies that support prevention, protection, and long-term recovery. These conversations provided an opportunity to share the experiences and needs of survivors in our community and highlight the impact of programs that provide safe housing, workforce development, outreach, and advocacy.

Advocacy plays a critical role in creating lasting change. We are grateful to PAHTAWG and all of the organizations, survivors, and advocates who came together to ensure that the voices of survivors are heard and that the fight against trafficking remains a priority.

Together, we can continue building a future where survivors have access to the resources, support, and opportunities they need to heal and thrive.



250  **DAVE McCORMICK**
U.S. SENATOR for PENNSYLVANIA

Pennsylvania Youth Essay Contest

CELEBRATING AMERICA'S 250TH ANNIVERSARY

THE WINNERS WILL:

- ★ Have their essays entered into the Congressional Record
- ★ Meet with Senator McCormick in Washington, DC

WHO CAN ENTER?

All PA high school students grade 9-12

SUBMISSION DETAILS

Essay length: 600-800 words

Deadline: July 4, 2026

Email submissions to:

pa250@mccormick.senate.gov

Subject line: "250th Essay — [Name, Grade, School, City]"

CHOOSE ONE PROMPT

- 1 Choose a Pennsylvanian—from any era, any walk of life—whose story you believe every American should know. Who were they, what did they do, and what does their life reveal about what America is capable of at its best?
- 2 The Founders didn't just celebrate 1776—they built something. As America turns 250, what is the one challenge you believe the next generation must solve to make America stronger at 300? What would you do about it?



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The authors of winning essays should be comfortable with having their essay, name, grade, and school identified publicly. Runners up and other submissions will not be made public.