



## Timea E. Nagy-Payne Biography

Human trafficking survivor, author, speaker and social advocate. Timea Nagy, immigrated to Canada in 1998. Her nightmare unfolded in Toronto in that same year after arriving from Budapest, Hungary in the hopes of finding meaningful employment.

The daughter of a Hungarian policewoman, Timea was held hostage (FOR THREE TERRIFYING MONTHS) at the hands of traffickers and was forced to work in the sex industry. Thankfully, she escaped and started life anew.

Ten years later, Ms. Nagy founded 'Walk with Me', a non-profit organization to assist victims of human trafficking and law enforcement agencies. Between 2009 and 2015, her organization helped over 300 victims and over 500 human trafficking-related investigations throughout Canada. In fact, Ms. Nagy played a key role in Canada's largest human trafficking investigation led by the Canadian Federal Police (RCMP Niagara Falls Detachment) known as project OPAPA.

Ms. Nagy has provided training to numerous agencies in Canada, the U.S. and Europe – reaching over 10,000 law enforcement officers within sex crime units and the Federal Bureau of Investigations. Ms. Nagy's journey was chronicled at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights in the Turning Point Exhibition in 2014, and her many acknowledgments for outstanding service include Prime Minister's Volunteer Award, Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee Medal, and the International Freedom Award by Free the Slaves. She was the first survivor to teach financial institutions in North America about the importance of joining the fight. As a result, she was invited to join as part of the United Nations, Financial Taskforce to end Human Trafficking otherwise known as the Liechtenstein Initiative, in fighting human trafficking around the world.

In January 2021, Ms. Nagy was appointed to the International Survivors of Trafficking Advisory Council by the OSCE (Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe). Ms. Nagy is a Social Entrepreneur as Founder and CEO of Timea's Cause. Timea's Cause Inc. is an international for-profit company that educates, unites and mobilizes communities on a grass root level while employing victims of human trafficking. Ms. Nagy's work and story have been featured in Forbes Magazine, CNN, NBC, Fox News, The Social, and all other major Canadian media outlets. Her memoir, *Out of the Shadows*, was released in May 2019 and became a national bestseller within 6 days of release.