The New York State Office of Victim Services will host a screening of “Sands of Silence: Waves of Courage,” an award-winning documentary about human trafficking, as part of an event marking Human Trafficking Awareness Month on Thursday, Jan. 25, in Albany.

The event is free and begins at 3 p.m., at Page Hall, 135 Western Ave, on the University at Albany Downtown Campus. Victim advocates, service providers, law enforcement professionals and members of the public and the University at Albany community are invited to attend to learn more about the role they can play in the worldwide effort to end human trafficking.

In addition to a Q&A with “Sands of Silence” filmmaker Chelo Alvarez-Stehle and Virginia Isaias, a survivor who is featured in the film, the event will include a discussion of the state’s response to human trafficking, its support for victims, and training and resources available for law enforcement.

“Sands of Silence” has been an official selection to numerous film festivals throughout the United States, Latin America, Europe and Africa and was screened at the United Nations last summer. This event is supported by the state Division of Criminal Justice Services and the New York State Interagency Task Force on Human Trafficking.

For questions or to RSVP, please contact Helen Hines at helen.hines@ovs.ny.gov or 518-485-0462.

I look forward to seeing you at this event.

Elizabeth Cronin
Director