

LAURA PARKER

CEO & Co-Founder, The Exodus Road / Leadership Speaker / Author

Leadership lessons from 15 years on the front lines of the fight against human trafficking.



Laura Parker doesn't speak from research or theory. She speaks from the front lines. In 2012, she and her husband, Matt, launched The Exodus Road from a kitchen table in Thailand with no funding and no roadmap. For the next 15 years she helped build it into a global anti-trafficking organization while sending Matt undercover into some of the world's most dangerous places, sitting across from survivors, battling criminal networks, and raising three kids overseas. Those years pressure-tested everything she thought she knew about leadership.

When Laura stepped into the CEO role in 2021, the organization was facing a financial and cultural crisis. She made psychological safety and a healthy culture the priority, and in four years led The Exodus Road to 86% financial growth while securing congressional support for its federally funded digital safety program, Influenced. She and Matt were named Person of the Year by Colorado Media Group in 2025, and she was recently featured on CNN and in the Newsmax documentary *Stolen Lives*.

Today Laura brings those firsthand stories, both shocking and deeply relatable, to corporate leadership events, women's conferences, nonprofit gatherings, and motivational events. She speaks on human-centered leadership, healthy culture, and showing up fully at work, at home, and for yourself. She also brings frontline expertise on human trafficking and online child safety, drawing on The Exodus Road's work in 20+ countries that has helped free 6,300+ survivors, supported 2,700+ survivors with aftercare, and trained 65,000+ officers, citizens, and youth.

AS FEATURED ON CNN

Laura and The Exodus Road were featured in CNN's 10th-anniversary *My Freedom Day* special (2026), spotlighting the work she leads and the critical role of aftercare in helping survivors rebuild their lives.

AS FEATURED ON NEWSMAX

Laura was featured in the Newsmax documentary *Stolen Lives: America's Human Trafficking Crisis* (2026), alongside The Exodus Road's work to combat human trafficking.

SIGNATURE KEYNOTES: LEADERSHIP & CULTURE

Healthy Culture Starts Here: The Leader's Greatest Competitive Advantage

How psychological safety and a healthy culture turned a frontline organization in crisis into a global success story, and why culture isn't a nice-to-have. It's a vital advantage, and it starts with the leader.

Ideal for: corporate leadership events, HR and culture initiatives, women's leadership conferences

Against Every Odd: Leadership Lessons from the Front Lines

The true story of building a global anti-trafficking organization from the ground up with no funding, no roadmap, and no guarantees, and what risk, grit, and trauma teach us about human-centered leadership.

Ideal for: corporate and motivational events, entrepreneurship and business conferences, nonprofit leadership events

Everyone Wins: A New Model for Leadership and Life

For driven leaders whose ladder may be leaning against the wrong wall. What it actually looks like to lead well at work and live well at home, at the same time.

Ideal for: company-wide motivational events, women's leadership conferences, working parent programs

ALSO AVAILABLE: HUMAN TRAFFICKING & CHILD SAFETY

- **The Greatest Threat Facing Children Today.** Current online exploitation trends and practical tools for parents and educators, with insights from Influenced.
- **Human Trafficking 101.** Real stories and myth-busting on how trafficking works, plus a clear call to action.
- **Technology and Human Trafficking.** How technology is weaponized to exploit the vulnerable, and how it's becoming a powerful tool for freedom.

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MEDIA, RECOGNITION & SPEAKING

Media & Recognition

- **CNN:** Featured in the 10th-anniversary *My Freedom Day* special (2026)
- **Newsmax:** Featured in the documentary *Stolen Lives: America's Human Trafficking Crisis* (2026)
- **ABC News (Australia):** Quoted as CEO of The Exodus Road on child sexual exploitation in Thailand (2026)
- **The Denver VOICE:** Featured in a profile of The Exodus Road (2021)
- **RELEVANT Magazine:** Contributing writer
- **Colorado Media Group:** Person of the Year (2025), with Matt Parker
- **U.S. Congress:** Federal funding secured for Influenced, a digital safety program

Conferences

- **Dallas Crimes Against Children Conference:** Speaker
- **International Social Justice and Human Trafficking Conference:** Speaker
- **Summit to Protect Kids Online:** Keynote speaker, Colorado

Podcasts

- **Catalytic Leadership:** Guest, on leadership, burnout, and healthy culture
- **Eyes Wide Open with Nick Thompson:** Guest, on human trafficking and the warning signs people miss
- **We Are For Good:** Guest, on strategically fighting human trafficking
- **Nonprofit Leadership Podcast:** Guest, on grit and positivity in leadership
- **TrueNorth (Colorado Media Group):** Guest, on the front lines of human trafficking

AUTHOR

The Exodus Road: One Wife's Journey into Sex Trafficking and Rescue is Laura's first-person account of the founding years of The Exodus Road, tracing the personal and marital cost of frontline anti-trafficking work and how two ordinary people became the leaders of a global justice organization.

INTRODUCTIONS FOR HOSTS & EVENT PROGRAMS

Short (about 50 words)

Laura Parker is CEO and Co-Founder of The Exodus Road and has spent 15 years on the front lines of the fight against human trafficking. A story-driven speaker on healthy culture and human-centered leadership, she led the organization out of crisis by putting psychological safety first. She was recently featured on CNN.

Medium (about 100 words)

Laura Parker is CEO and Co-Founder of The Exodus Road, one of the world's leading anti-trafficking organizations. She co-built it from Thailand while raising three kids overseas and sending her husband, Matt, undercover into some of the world's most dangerous places. When she became CEO in 2021 during a financial and cultural crisis, she made psychological safety and healthy culture the priority and led the organization back to strength. Laura and Matt were named Colorado Media Group's 2025 Person of the Year, and she was recently featured in CNN's *My Freedom Day* special. She brings frontline stories to the stage on healthy culture, human-centered leadership, and leading well at work and at home.