



# 2019 Annual Report

Bringing freedom, justice and restoration to those suffering from human trafficking and other forms of extreme injustice.

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#### Dear Friends,

Thank you for joining with Justice Ventures International (JVI) in 2019 to secure freedom, justice, and restoration for the poor and oppressed. We believe that justice is sustainable only if it is embraced and led by individuals in the communities where injustices occur. JVI builds the capacity of local nonprofits, businesses and other organizations engaged in the work of justice by coming alongside, joining together as partners and bolstering their effectiveness.

The year began with JVI's largest bonded labor rescue to date! In January, JVI, along with one of our local partners, government officials and Bihar police rescued 293 bonded labor victims from agricultural bondage in Bihar, India. An oppressive mixture of extreme poverty, forefathers' debt, an illegal feudal system and generational practice had forced the survivors to become bonded by landlords of the village. They were exploited by the owners and enslaved for 3–5 generations. The laborers shared the extent of their physical, economic and mental exploitation by the perpetrators on several fronts.





They were not allowed to leave the village without permission. They worked long hours and were paid barely enough to survive. Several of the children were also forced into labor alongside their parents. Some victims stated they were beaten and verbally abused. They did not receive adequate food and had no access to bathroom facilities. During the rescue intervention, all laborers gave very strong and cogent statements and expressed their desire to be free from the bondage. The owner was removed from the site and the survivors immediately began to receive aftercare services.

In 2019, our justice initiatives directly impacted over 10,000 lives for the better while strengthening the ability of local justice organizations to serve thousands more on an ongoing basis. As a result, men, women and children who were once suffering abuse and oppression are now enjoying sustained freedom and a more abundant life.

We are grateful for your support and hope you will continue to stand with us as we expand our delivery of vital services to those in need.

Together, we can transform lives and change oppressed communities for good.



Jeffrey Pankratz, President & CEO



Thomas Kim, Board Chair

### Justice Ventures International

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Globally, one billion people live in oppressive slums, surrounded by severe desperation and crime. Over 40 million are trapped in slavery. They are forced into sex slavery, bonded labor, child slavery and other forms of extreme injustice.

We bring freedom, justice & restoration to people suffering from human trafficking and other forms of extreme injustice.

#### Our Model



Securing Justice for Individuals

Facilitate joint rescue operations to free thousands of oppressed children, women and men.



**Empowering Local Partners** 

Equip and strengthen local nonprofit organizations and businesses to fight injustice through human rights training, legal services and funding.



Improving Justice Systems

Conduct research, advocate for changes in policies and laws, and build justice networks.

## Partnership is the heart of JVI



#### Partnering is effective

by partnering, we combine greater skills, innovation and cultural understanding to design justice solutions that work.

#### Partnering is efficient

by partnering, we reduce costs and redundancy in fighting injustice.

#### Partnering is sustainable

by partnering with existing local organizations, justice initiatives have greater staying power.

#### Partnering is scalable

by linking together with others, more lives can be reached for maximum justice impact.

Through partnership with JVI and other effective, dedicated anti-slavery organizations, this allows the fight against slavery to actually be effective and sustainable over time.

Gary Haugen, CEO, International Justice Mission

JVI has more than a decade's experience in providing victim-centered psychosocial support and counseling, legal assistance and services to strengthen economic resilience. Our team has visited JVI's aftercare work in the rural communities of Bihar and are convinced of their passion and professionalism in providing assistance to victims of trafficking and bonded labour and their families.

Michelle Mendonca, Program Officer, The Freedom Fund

It's been an incredible journey for us to work hand in hand with JVI.

Dr. Alexander Philip, Executive Director, New India Evangelistic Association

Business in itself doesn't provide holistic freedom. We need JVI's help. They provide a lot of services that, when you put them together with Freeset, there are wonderful opportunities for freedom.

Kerry Hilton, Co-Founder, Freeset

# Fighting Child Slavery

In the world's poorest countries, more than 1 in 4 children are engaged in child slave labor. **UNICEF Data\*** 

Mahir\* and 14 other boys were trapped in a dilapidated building in southern Delhi where they were forced to live and work in an overcrowded room on the fourth floor engaged in zari (traditional embroidery work). Only 14 years old, he was trafficked from a rural village in the eastern state of Bihar. Mahir's parents worked hard to provide for the family, but finances were lacking. When a trafficker came calling, promising good jobs and new opportunities, the parents agreed to let their son go with him to Delhi.

Contrary to the trafficker's promise of a well-paying job and safe working conditions, Mahir was forced to squat on the floor stitching patterns for at least 15 hours a day where he suffered ongoing abuse and was paid barely enough to survive in violation of multiple laws. Through investigations in the area, JVI and its local partner, EFICOR, uncovered Mahir's situation and filed a complaint with the local authorities.

On August 8, 2019, JVI and EFICOR conducted a rescue intervention with the police. Once the boys were removed, the room was sealed to prevent further entry. The boys were escorted by the rescue team to the police station where they were given food and immediate medical attention. The medical examiners found that due to the nature of their work, the victims were susceptible to health issues – especially those affecting their eyes and spine. The boys

were provided immediate aftercare services through local partners, including counseling, education and family reunification where possible.

JVI and one of its local partners assisted members of the Labour Department and Child Welfare Committee in documentation and verification of each victim's account. JVI lawyers assisted the police in filing the First Information Report under relevant provisions of the Child Labour Act, Bonded Labour Act, Juvenile Justice Act and Indian Penal Code.

Most importantly, Mahir and the boys received something they thought they had lost - another chance at childhood.



- \* Names have been changed to protect the identity of the victims
- \* https://data.unicef.org/topic/child-protection/child-labour/

## Fighting Bonded Slave Labor

It is estimated that 40.3 million individuals are currently trapped in modern day slavery. The Global Slavery Index of 2018\*

On February 28, 2019, JVI and one of its local partners collaborated with government authorities to rescue 64 victims (21 families) from forced labor slavery in a brick kiln in the northern India state of Uttar Pradesh. The manager of the brick kiln brutally abused the victims both physically and verbally. Victims were not allowed to leave. An entire household was given a mere \$2.80 a week for working 11-12 hours each day. Children under the age of 10 were forced to work by the brick kiln manager who would hurl insults and beat the parents with sticks if they refused to send their children to work. Large families lived in extremely unhealthy conditions in small, dirty, smoke-filled huts far from any medical facilities. One child died from a treatable illness after the manager did not allow the family to access medical attention.

Another child who became paralyzed on one side of his body while at the kiln was released along with his parents but his siblings (aged 13 and 9) were forced to stay behind and continue working.

On the day of the rescue, the brick kiln manager and another trafficker were arrested. The victims were all released and transported back to their native homes in the state of Bihar where they began a new life of freedom. JVI and its local partners have continued working with the survivors to secure access to government rehabilitation assistance and aftercare services, while JVI lawyers are working to ensure the perpetrators are prosecuted.





# Fighting Sex Trafficking

There are an estimated 3.8 million adults and 1 million children who have been forced into sex trafficking around the world. **United Nations' International Labour Organization, 2016 Study\*** 

On July 4, 2019, a team consisting of JVI, local partner Adithi, and police officials rescued 11 female victims, including four minors, from sex trafficking in Bettiah, Bihar. In addition, 15 traffickers and customers were arrested and six brothels were closed. This was a groundbreaking rescue operation, leading to the disruption of sex trafficking in a high prevalence area in northern India.

JVI and Adithi worked closely with police, including female constables, independent witnesses and additional police officers from the Quick Response Unit. They arrived at the red-light area at 7 pm, blocking off potential exit routes. The team found the victims in filthy, extremely unhygienic living conditions. The rescue operation lasted nearly five hours as police seized evidence and made multiple arrests.

One victim, Kamya\*, grew up in the red-light district in Bettiah, where many other young girls are trafficked for commercial sexual exploitation. Kamya said she was forced to service 5-6 clients every day for which she did not receive any money and was only given minimal food and clothes. She recalled being only five years old when her sister was left with a brothel madam and was never seen again. Young girls like Kamya and her sister are often lured into this business with the promise of well-paying jobs and, over time, are groomed and eventually forced into sexual exploitation.

Following the raid, the survivors and accused were transported to the police station. The survivors gave their initial statements,

were provided with professional counseling, and then were transported to the hospital for medical exams. A police complaint was lodged against the accused under relevant sections of the Indian Penal Code, the Immoral Traffic Prevention Act, Protection of Children From Sexual Offences Act and Juvenile Justice Act.

JVI and partner Adithi have continued to work for the welfare of the survivors and reunite them with their families where appropriate. Over the next two years, JVI staff will work closely with each victim to ensure they have access to education and other resources to start a new life filled with hope, dignity and respect.

The following week, residents of Bettiah took to the streets demanding the closure of all of the brothels in the area. The arrest of traffickers and customers during the raid served notice that no one is above the law. Locals were encouraged by the rescue operations and are now taking initiative to bring such crimes to a complete halt.

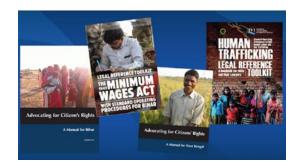




 $<sup>\</sup>mbox{\ensuremath{\star}}$  Names have been changed to protect the identity of the victims

## Fighting Extreme Injustice - An Integral Part Of JVI's DNA

A continuum of injustice continues across Asia and other parts of the world because of complex factors such as poverty, social prejudice, gender discrimination, lack of education, and more.



At JVI, we know just how integral access to justice is in transforming a community for good. Without a fair and effective justice system, communities struggle, criminals walk the streets with impunity, benefits and services are distributed with bias and disarray, and the voices of individuals who most need to be heard will never be carried to their leaders.



JVI believes that the pursuit of justice is the shared responsibility of all those with the ability to help. We collaborate with justice partners, volunteers, donors, investors and like-minded organizations through shared networks enabled by an increasingly interconnected world.



JVI promotes healthy communities by advocating for positive changes in law, policy and practices to key stakeholders on issues of extreme injustice. JVI has developed a variety of toolkits, advocacy manuals, training programs and technology platforms to deliver support to local justice efforts on behalf of those suffering abuse and oppression.

JVI is called to serve the poor and oppressed, believing in the uniqueness, dignity and intrinsic worth of every person. True social justice means not only seeking better opportunities for all economically and educationally but also spiritually.

JVI maintains our Christian identity while respecting the rights of others to hold different beliefs. We seek to partner with both Christians and non-Christians in the common cause of justice. We celebrate diversity in our relationships and the rich contributions of different cultures in society. We pursue justice for all individuals, regardless of religious belief, race, ethnicity or gender.

## JVI's Justice Solution & Expansion

In 2019, JVI began developing and executing a strategy to go deeper into vulnerable communities and achieve wider reach through new justice partnerships developed in connection with two new programs:

#### 1. Nyay Kendras

Strategically placed Nyay Kendras (Hindi for "Justice Hubs") established in high prevalence areas for human trafficking in Northern India allow us to go deeper to root out systemic injustice. Justice Hubs serve as resource centers where the vulnerable, NGOs and lawyers can access resources to prevent trafficking and other extreme injustice, protecting victims and prosecuting perpetrators. They are equipped with advanced technology and staffed so that disenfranchised and impoverished citizens and their advocates can access the legal information/resources needed to secure government benefits and entitlements.

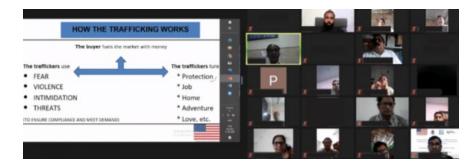
Justice Hubs provide a network of protection for those vulnerable to injustice. Justice Hubs rescue hundreds, protect thousands and transform communities bringing sustained freedom for generations.

#### 2. e-Justice Resource Center

Online technology platform allows JVI staff and partners to receive advocacy manuals, legal resources, professional development training and access to holistic care providers for counseling and other support. In addition, this platform will increase JVI's ability to serve new regions and provide a

system for rapid dissemination of information throughout our network of existing and new partners.

As we've grown and continue to grow, it's imperative our team and local partners continue on a trajectory of being equipped professionally, spiritually and emotionally. Through JVI's e-Justice Resource Center, we will have a greater opportunity to expand our training offerings, reach more partners with the online format and provide a scalable solution as we leverage technology to maximize impact.





## 2019 Life Impact Metrics

We directly impacted 9,429 lives and thousands more were indirectly impacted through the ongoing work of our justice partners and advocacy initiatives



700
Human Trafficking
Victims Rescued



**35** Rescue Operations



**4,310**Survivors Represented Through Legal Aid/Aftercare



**4,791**Empowered Through
Human Rights Training



Human Trafficking Cases
Under Prosecution



**222**Human Trafficking Victims
Intercepted in Transit



**657**Perpetrators Undergoing Investigations & Prosecution



Five Brothels Raided & Seven Minor Girls Rescued



161 Rescued From Slavery in Brick Kiln



293 Bonded Labor Victims Freed From Agricultural Work



Five Boys Saved From Slavery in Bottle Manufacturing Factory



64 Rescued From Slavery in Brick Kiln



17-Year-Old Female Freed From Sex Trafficking



38 Boys Saved From Slavery in Sewing Factory



29 Rescued From Slavery in Brick Kiln



Five Minors Freed From Sex Trafficking



59 Boys Saved From Slavery in Brick Kiln



Six Women Rescued From Sex Trafficking



Seven Boys Saved From Slavery in Steel Wire Manufacturing Factory



11 Females Rescued From Sex Trafficking, 6 Brothels Closed & 15 Accused Arrested



15 Boys Rescued From Slavery in Garment Making Factory



Three Minor Females and One Adult Female Rescued From Brothels



11 Females Freed From Sex Trafficking & 16 Perpetrators Arrested



8 Boys Rescued From Slavery in Biscuit Making Factory



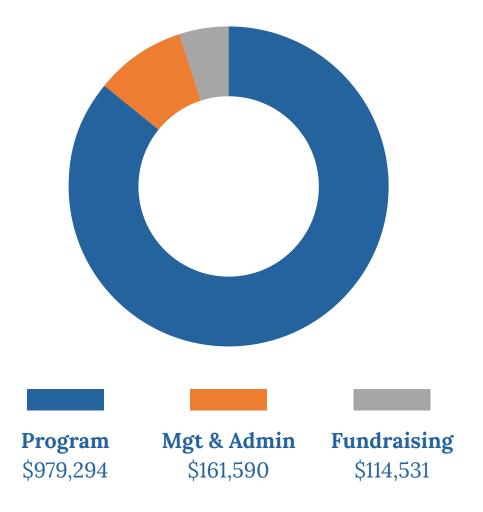
Minor Freed From Sex Trafficking in Brothel

## 2019 Financial Overview

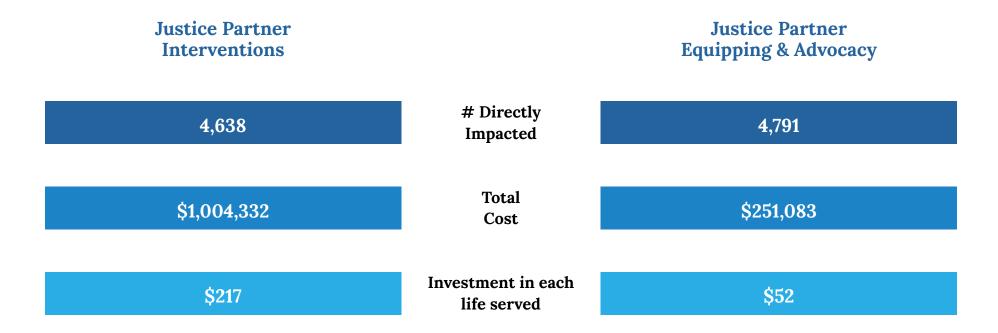
Total Revenue \$1,242,338

Total Expenses \$1,255,415

For a complete financial summary, please refer to the audited financials and Form 990.



#### Investment in Lives Served



Justice Partner Interventions includes all the work done by our team of investigators, lawyers, aftercare workers and others to secure justice for men, women and children through mentoring and working shoulder-to-shoulder with our local partners to investigate and document cases of injustice, file complaints or other legal action with local authorities, represent victims in court proceedings, and provide survivors with restoration services to ensure they remain free from slavery or other injustice.

Justice Partner Equipping and Advocacy includes all the work our team does in conducting training sessions and a range of other government relations activities with judges, prosecutors, police, labor officials, government administrators, government legal aid programs and other officials. It also includes training that we do for NGOs and businesses on effectively carrying out anti-trafficking and other justice programs and training sessions we conduct for vulnerable populations working in collaboration with government officials and/or NGO partners.



# Join us to transform unjust communities for good!

#### Contact Us

(202) 657-5225 info@justiceventures.org P.O. Box 2834 Washington, D.C. 20013-2834 www.justiceventures.org