

LIFT
INTERNATIONAL

**FREEDOM
THROUGH
JUSTICE**

IMPACT REPORT 2017



Hi friends,



As I reflect back over the last year, it is encouraging to see the progress both within our organisation and the anti-trafficking sector generally. While the nature of this work can be dark, I am inspired by hope and see significant changes and improvements being made. I believe that we will see even greater progress in the next five years. Human trafficking will not be tolerated, and we will see it being effectively addressed.

In 2017, our investigation team continued to have excellent success and provide support to law enforcement agencies. We received the **Model NGO Award** from the Department of Special Investigations for our work on a case that led to the arrest of a man accused of abusing children. In addition, our Investigations Director was recently recognised by the Ministry of Interior for serving the country in the area of anti-human trafficking. We have also seen significant progress made in the support of victims—**increases in victim compensation** and the **expansion of our aftercare team**. We will continue to grow these support services as they are crucial in helping to protect victims so that they can become free and flourishing survivors.

As I look to the future, I am excited by the opportunities to continue to impact human trafficking. There is a lot of work to be done but this work is about **Lifting survivors, Lifting standards and Lifting Justice**. It is a privilege to be part of this work, and I thank all of you supporters who are partnering with us on the journey.

Thank you,
Justin Boswell
CEO

OUR VISION

Freedom for the exploited. Justice that protects. A world in which human trafficking is not tolerated.

LIFT International works to strengthen justice systems, support survivors and hold offenders accountable for crimes of human trafficking and sexual exploitation.

LIFT survivors.
LIFT standards.
LIFT justice.



ปราบปรามการค้ามนุษย์

WHO WE ARE

OUR MISSION

Prosecute and prevent human trafficking by strengthening justice systems.



“Proactive, intelligence-led investigations are an essential part of disrupting trafficking and smuggling networks.”

— UNODC

“Identification: The network of brokers and handlers can be disrupted by sharing intelligence, which can lead to the identification of trafficking victims as well as brokers. These rings can then be deterred by imprisonment of peers.”

— SAFE CHILD THAILAND





We IDENTIFY

We assist law enforcement in intelligence-led investigations to identify perpetrators and victims of human trafficking.



We PROTECT

We protect and support survivors to ensure that their rights are upheld and that they are cared for throughout the justice process.



We PROSECUTE

We aid in prosecutions of offenders and represent survivors in court to seek compensation for crimes against them.

OUR VALUES

1. Impact:

LIFT International was founded to make a significant impact on human trafficking. Our work must be strategic, effective and efficient.

2. Professionalism:

We uphold the highest standards of professionalism and act responsibly and with integrity. We are strong stewards of money and communicate what we do truthfully.

3. Continuous Improvement:

We aim for best practice and excellence.
We strive to continually develop and improve.

4. Diversity:

We respect the cultures, customs and faiths of our staff and clients. We value and strive for gender equality. And we seek to include diverse voices in our decision making.

5. Humility:

LIFT is a quiet achiever. We celebrate and are generous with praise to others but will not seek self-promotion. We are one team and all roles are essential to our success.

6. Partnership:

We cannot do this work alone; the complex problem of human trafficking demands many types of responses. We partner with government agencies, NGOs and within legal systems to achieve our objectives.

7. People:

We believe we have a responsibility to uphold human rights and ensure all people—staff, survivors and partners—are treated with dignity and respect. The greatest of care and the very best human resource support will be provided to the staff and survivors we support.

8. God Expectant:

We believe this is God's work and we have the privilege to partner with Him in it. We expect to see God at work within our organisation and through our efforts to combat trafficking.

IMPACT

67 survivors secured or provided with material assistance

Our survivor clients' stories remind us every day of the seriousness and urgency of our work. Last year, we were a co-plaintiff on a case representing a female trafficking victim, Noor.* When she was only 15, Noor was trafficked from the south of Thailand to a karaoke bar and forced to have sex with at least three customers a day. She worked there for eight months until she became pregnant. A police operation freed her and several other victims, at which point we were referred to the case. We funded counseling for the survivors, all of them severely traumatized by their ordeal. In addition, our lawyer represented Noor in court and secured **THB 3 million (US \$96,135)** in compensation for her from her offenders. She now lives with her daughter whom she named Patience. The lives of our clients and their families are forever impacted by the trauma of exploitation, but we have found that the financial and emotional significance of compensation helps them begin to heal and rightfully creates criminal deterrence. Trafficking should never be profitable or tolerated.

*Noor is not her real name.

48

convictions



\$5.4 Million US

of assets seized *

* by the Thai Anti-Money Laundering Office

\$154,000 US

of fines from offenders

539

aggregate years of jail time for perpetrators

41 suspects arrested / charged

We supported a public prosecutor on a massive case involving an organized network of brothels. LIFT's team assisted victims to give their evidence at trial and represented one group of victims to seek compensation on their behalf. Despite the six offenders receiving combined sentences of 145 years, they were only put on two years probation. Our lawyer Pik said, "Appeals of light sentences are important because cases like this shouldn't be allowed to become a standard. I will do my best to object to and appeal this sentence. The people who benefit from the exploitation of other's lives should not be granted absolution." At the end of the year, we began the appeal process. On a positive note, fines of **THB 2,290,000 (US \$73,383)** were imposed and compensation of **THB 2,070,060 (US \$66,335)** was awarded to victims.

\$96,000 US in victim compensation

LIFT's lawyer played a central role in the investigation of a foreign man arrested and charged with sexual exploitation of several Thai boys. Our lawyer appeared as counsel for the victims at trial. The defendant pled guilty to raping and sexually assaulting the victims, and received **50 years of imprisonment** without probation. This is a hopeful sign that the Thai judicial system and judges are beginning to understand the significant effects of trauma on child victims. Additionally, the victims were each awarded **THB 25,000 (US \$800)** compensation.



2017

MODEL NGO

Award from the Department of Special Investigation

Received a special

THANK YOU

from the Department of Special Investigation for our assistance with a case of child sexual exploitation

In 2017, our team participated in collaborative efforts with the goal of sharing information and elevating standards and practices that serve survivors of exploitation.

Intelligence Training / Capacity Building

Our team held trainings with other service providing NGOs on the gathering of intelligence into suspected cases of human trafficking.

Freedom Collaborative Webinar and Code of Conduct Plan

80 participants around the world tuned in to this webinar. A code of conduct was then drafted for foreign NGOs engaging in investigative work in SE Asia.

Advocacy on Child Begging as a form of Trafficking

As a direct result of our work on a case, a trusted police colleague worked to lift the profile of child begging trafficking through the Thai Parliamentary Senate Committee.

Asia Region Anti Trafficking Conference

In partnership with Chab Dai and Stop The Traffik Australia, we helped host the first-ever regional conference on trafficking to promote learning, best practice and collaboration in Bangkok with over 200 practitioners in attendance.

Trainings

Our aftercare team provided training to over 400 professionals and students on topics including trauma, child rights, legal rights and attachment.

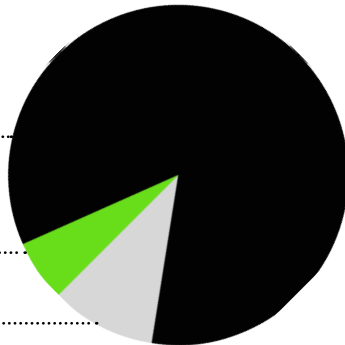
Human trafficking is a global problem that demands a worldwide response. As a charitable trust, we partner with individuals and institutional funders to accomplish our work. Our fiscal partners in the UK, US and NZ ensure that donations there are tax deductible.

INCOME

Individual donations through Tearfund New Zealand [83.5%]

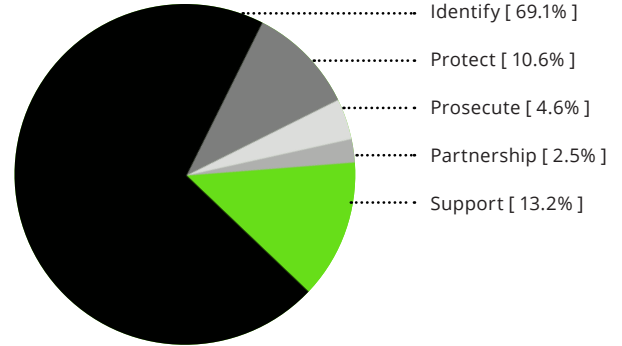
Individual donations [6.6%]

Grants [9.9%]



TOTAL USD
\$848,511.67

EXPENSES




TOTAL USD
\$845,073

Thanks to our partners

Tearfund New Zealand
Cedarfund
Anonymous Grantmaker
Ping-Pong-A-Thon



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