



**IJM**

**INTERNATIONAL  
JUSTICE MISSION**

# **2017 ANNUAL REPORT**

# WE ARE INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE MISSION

WE HAVE SPENT MORE THAN 20 YEARS ON THE FRONT LINES FIGHTING SOME OF THE WORST FORMS OF VIOLENCE.

We work in communities in Africa, Latin America, South Asia and Southeast Asia. Through our unique Justice System Transformation model, we help victims of violence secure justice and partner with key authorities to fix broken justice systems in the countries where we work.

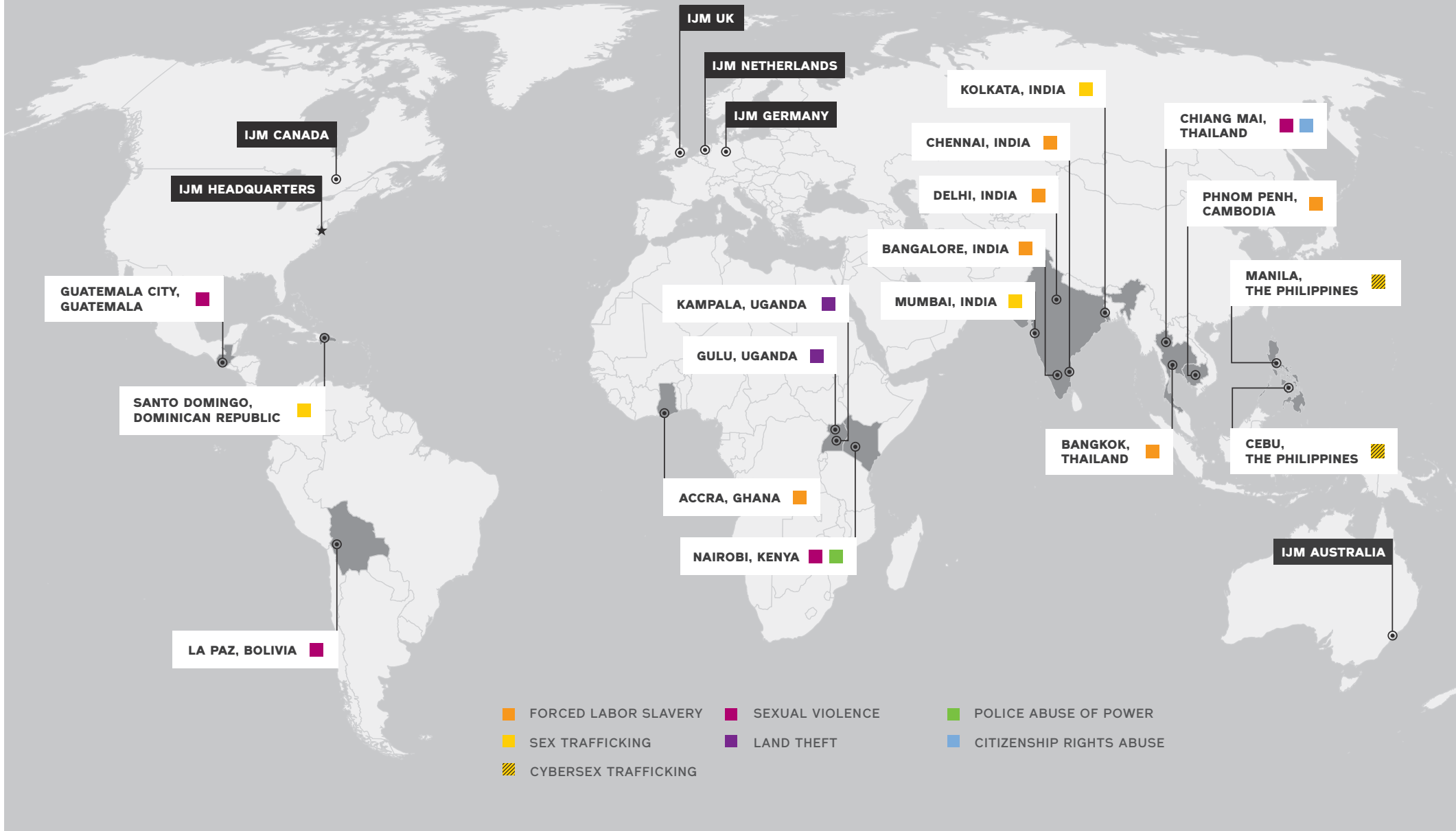
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**RESCUE**  
We collaborate with local police to rescue victims from ongoing violence and bring them to safety.
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**RESTRAIN**  
We partner with police to restrain criminals, traffickers and slave owners from hurting others.
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**RESTORE**  
We join with social workers to restore survivors to safety through counseling, education and skills training.
- 

**REPAIR**  
We identify gaps in the systems that do not protect the poor, and then work with police and courts to address these challenges.



## OUR IMPACT IN 2017

4,616

VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE AND OPPRESSION RESCUED BY IJM AND IJM-TRAINED PARTNERS

271

CRIMINALS RESTRAINED THROUGH COURT-ORDERED DETENTION OR CONVICTIONS

3,000+

SURVIVORS AND FAMILY MEMBERS CURRENTLY RECEIVING AFTERCARE

27,000+

PEOPLE TRAINED, INCLUDING LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS, JUDGES, COMMUNITY MEMBERS, PROSECUTORS AND SOCIAL SERVICES PROFESSIONALS.



FOLI, GHANA

OVER 100 CHILDREN  
HAVE BEEN RESCUED  
FROM LAKE VOLTA.  
THIS IS ONE  
BOY'S STORY.

Thousands of children slave away on Lake Volta, a massive manmade lake in Ghana. Children as young as three spend up to 18-hour days diving underwater, fishing and untangling nets for their abusive boatmasters.

Every morning they wake up wondering if they will drown.

IJM began operations in Ghana in 2014 to stop that from happening. In 2017, we rescued our 100th child.

Foli\* is one of the boys we've rescued. His story starts with an innocent childhood.

Foli loved playing soccer, kicking the ball with his friends on the dirt fields near his home. Soon, however, Foli was forced to trade the soccer ball for a fishing net.

Foli had been living with his grandparents. One day, his grandfather had an accident that prevented him from being able to watch over Foli. A relative volunteered to take care of him.

He drove Foli to a lake far from home. Instead of offering a safe home, he forced Foli to fish. Foli didn't even know how to swim. But he did start to understand he could not escape.

Like so many other children on Lake Volta, every day, Foli would dive into the water to untangle nets. He prayed he would not die in the water.

Finally, one day, an unfamiliar boat pulled near his. It carried IJM and local officials and their mission was to rescue children like him.



Foli was brought to an aftercare shelter where he received food, medical care and a soft bed to sleep on. He received counseling to help him process the trauma of being a slave. When Foli finally reunited with his family, joy erupted.

"That day, people were celebrating all over the community because Foli was lost but now was found," his grandmother said.

Foli is now 17. He's living with his grandparents and attending school (one of his favorite subjects is religion). Foli is also playing soccer again.

You can watch Foli's story, "The Deep Place," at: [www.ijm.org/where-we-work/ghana](http://www.ijm.org/where-we-work/ghana)

\*A pseudonym

ROOPA, BANGALORE

SLAVERY SURVIVOR GIVES BIRTH TO  
HER FIRST CHILD BORN IN FREEDOM



It was the best kind of birth announcement. Bhoomika was Roopa's third child—but her first one born in freedom.

Roopa's first two pregnancies had occurred while she was a slave.

From when she was 6 to 19, Roopa worked in a south Indian brick kiln, where she endured back-breaking labor, degradation, sexual violence and the heartbreaking loss of a child.

Her first child had died in her womb after an accident in the kiln. The kiln owner had refused to let her go to a hospital.

Her second child was born healthy, partly because her husband, Banaiah, took on her work for her. Banaiah decided to make thousands of bricks by himself every day so Roopa could rest. He had told the kiln owner, "Even if you physically beat me, I will not allow my wife to move a stick..."

Looking into their baby boy's eyes, the couple decided they no longer could stay in slavery. He deserved a better

life. It was time to escape. They knew the risks, but ran into the forest in desperation. Their escape eventually led to a rescue by police and IJM.

For the first time in 13 years, Roopa tasted freedom. IJM helped the family get the food, medical care and shelter they desperately needed.

In June of 2017, they had their third child.

This time, Banaiah's employer (a small manufacturing plant) gave him a month off to take care of Roopa and his new daughter. The couple was able to rest after returning from the hospital with their newborn. They were free to enjoy holding baby Bhoomika in their arms.

This birth felt so different from the last two. In the best way possible.

Said Banaiah, "I could not contain my joy."





NESSA, PHILIPPINES



SEX TRAFFICKING SURVIVOR  
BLOSSOMS IN HER NEW LIFE

Nessa\* was 16 when she was trapped in a brothel, on an island far from home. Run by an intimidating woman, the brothel was filled with girls who were lined up every evening for a night of abuse. Nessa said all the girls knew that the brothel owner had a gun.

IJM helped police rescue Nessa and 8 other young women on December 4, 2008.

**In March 2017—more than eight years after rescue—that scary brothel owner pled guilty.** She faces 35 years of prison.

IJM persevered with Nessa for those eight years. We stood by her through the disappointments and victories, through delayed trials, judge reassignments and lawyer changes before Nessa heard the verdict.

Nessa’s story of change mirrors a beautiful transformation taking place across her country.

In those same eight years, IJM also walked alongside the fragile Philippine justice system and advocated for change. Today, the country has a much stronger anti-trafficking law. **In addition, 80% fewer minors are being sold for sex where IJM has worked with authorities.**

Nessa’s family, including her son born in 2016, live in a humble but happy home in a country that is now safer for children and women.

She said, “I could compare my life before at the brothel to a withered flower, a tree with falling leaves. However, today I am a colorful blooming flower, in a beautiful garden. I am a bountiful tree with many leaves and branches. All the leaves and branches are the people around me who are continually encouraging me and supporting me. The darkness has passed away, and my life today is colorful.”

\*A pseudonym



HELVIA, GUATEMALA

SENDING A STRONG SIGNAL  
TO CHILD PREDATORS:  
YOU WON'T GET AWAY

Helvia\* encountered a man outside of her school; he would drop off his niece there every day. He seemed very friendly at first. He would smile and make small talk with Helvia. This 25-year-old man gained Helvia's trust. But soon, he took her to an empty lot near the school. For several weeks, he kept taking her to that lot and raped her, again and again. Helvia became pregnant. She was only 12.

Not long ago, there was a good chance Helvia's rapist could get away without consequence. Due to challenges in Guatemala's forensic labs, courts and police, it was common for criminals to remain in society and possibly hurt even more children.

But not today. With the help of IJM, Guatemala's justice system has made significant progress over the last decade. And as a result, Helvia's story turned out very differently.

**In January 2017, following three years of work between IJM and the Guatemala government, Helvia's abuser was convicted and sent to jail for 16 years.** Meanwhile, IJM provided care for her and her baby and helped her heal through therapy.

This conviction sent a strong message to everyone involved. To Helvia (and her baby)—that she mattered, that what was done to her was a crime and that she and others like her would be protected. To her rapist—that he could not get away with hurting children and youth. And to Guatemala—that justice for the poorest and most vulnerable among them was not only possible, but will soon be the norm.







## GROUNDBREAKING CONFERENCE IN MUMBAI ACCELERATES THE MOVEMENT TO END SLAVERY

Sadhna\*, a sex trafficking survivor rescued by IJM, stood before the crowd of world leaders and dignitaries and recounted her story. Some had tears in their eyes as she talked about her journey from the brothel to her new life studying to become a social worker.

This incredible moment showed just how far India had come in recognizing survivors and fighting slavery. It happened during the inaugural International Conference on Women Trafficking in July. Organized by IJM and the Maharashtra State Commission for Women (MSCW), leaders from 13 countries, including the Second Lady of Ghana, weighed in how they could help end human trafficking.

The first conference of its kind in India, it signaled incredible momentum and collaboration on ending trafficking worldwide.

The conference also positioned IJM as a key partner to governments; leaders acknowledged that IJM’s model of transforming justice systems is instrumental

in eradicating slavery. Leaders discussed how law enforcement is the missing piece in ending slavery—slave owners and traffickers must know they will be held accountable. Strengthened police, courts and governments are the answer.

MSCW Chairperson Vijaya Rahatkar said, “The desire to bring people from various nations to this conference is not only to see the roots of the issue, but to seek a solution—to set the scene for collaboration on anti-trafficking. This conference can be a new beginning for the cause.”



\*A pseudonym

## 3,400 CHURCHES AROUND THE WORLD STAND TOGETHER FOR JUSTICE



On Sunday, September 24, 2017, over half a million people around the world went to church and heard about the reality of injustice. Churches from Asia to Europe to Africa to North America devoted their Sunday services to the second annual Freedom Sunday—rallying together to send rescue to every child, woman and man living under oppression.

Freedom Sunday originated in the United States in 2016 and caught fire abroad in 2017.

In San Francisco, renowned pastor, Francis Chan, preached on God’s heart for justice to We Are Church—a network of 15 house churches—in an outside amphitheater. On the other coast, Haley Recer, an IJM volunteer and supporter, shared her passion for ending slavery at Redeemer Presbyterian Church Downtown in New York City.

These are just two examples of the hundreds of sermons, testimonies, seminars, prayer nights and concerts dedicated to Freedom Sunday. The goal is to ensure all of God’s people hear about slavery—and understand that the church can end it.

Haley said, “I have certain resources at my disposal—I have my network, my passion, and my voice. And Freedom Sunday was the right opportunity to use all of those things to fight against human trafficking.”



In 2017, Freedom Sunday went global.

In Ghana alone, over 275 churches participated. Many of these churches are near the massive Lake Volta, where we rescue children enslaved in the fishing industry.

Earlier in the summer, one Ghanaian reverend challenged fellow church leaders to speak up through Freedom Sunday saying, “You all now know that you should rebuke the traffickers in your congregation, but you are afraid because they are the most influential members of your congregation. Well, you have a choice... do you want to be a faithful pastor or a popular pastor?”

God is calling his people to hear the cry of the oppressed and act on it. We believe the church is slavery’s end—and this year we got closer.

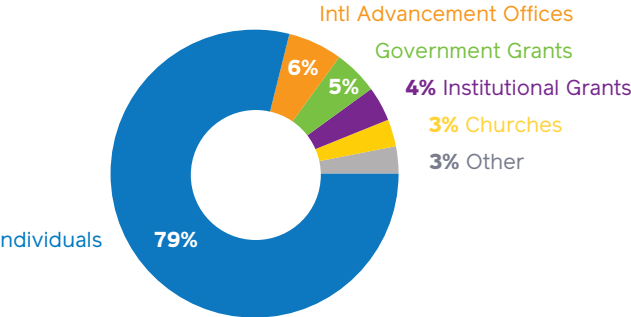
**THE NEXT FREEDOM SUNDAY IS ON  
SEPTEMBER 23, 2018.**

To find out how your church can join the fight, visit [www.ijm.org/freedom-sunday-2018](http://www.ijm.org/freedom-sunday-2018).

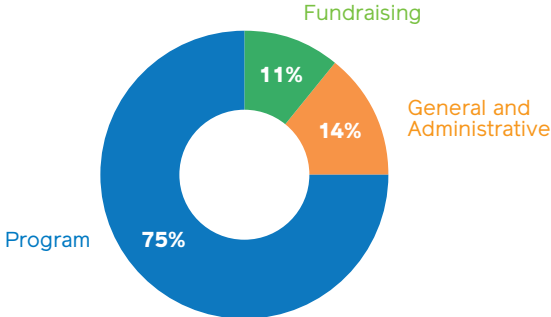


2017 FINANCIAL INFORMATION

2017  
FUNDING SOURCES



2017  
EXPENSE MIX



Statement of Activities (Audited)

SUPPORT & REVENUE	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	2017 Total	2016 Total
Contributions & Grants	47,508,994	23,753,433	71,262,427	53,363,146
In-Kind Support	2,269,830	–	2,269,830	1,066,542
Rental Income	102,399	–	102,399	250,489
Other Income	374,062	–	374,062	714,245
Net Assets Released from Restrictions	15,240,538	(15,240,538)	–	–
<b>Total Revenue &amp; Support</b>	<b>\$65,495,823</b>	<b>\$8,512,895</b>	<b>\$74,008,718</b>	<b>\$55,394,422</b>

EXPENSES

Program Services				
Justice System Transformation	37,236,834	–	37,236,834	35,364,542
Mobilization	12,613,543	–	12,613,543	8,632,278
<b>Total Program Services</b>	<b>49,850,377</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>49,850,377</b>	<b>43,996,820</b>
Supporting Services				
Fund Development	7,180,809	–	7,180,809	7,949,001
General & Administrative	9,507,991	–	9,507,991	7,811,233
<b>Total Supporting Services</b>	<b>16,688,800</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>16,688,800</b>	<b>15,760,234</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$66,539,177</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>\$66,539,177</b>	<b>\$59,757,054</b>
<b>Change in Net Assets</b>	<b>(\$1,043,354)</b>	<b>\$8,512,895</b>	<b>\$7,469,541</b>	<b>(\$4,362,632)</b>

NET ASSETS

Beginning of Year	\$14,286,165	\$1,386,268	\$15,672,433	\$20,035,065
End of Year	\$13,242,811	\$9,899,163	\$23,141,974	\$15,672,433

Statement of Financial Position (Audited)

ASSETS	2017	2016
Cash & Cash Equivalents	25,718,997	20,059,678
Investments	995,000	996,403
Receivables, Net	1,885,638	617,515
Promises to Give, Net	3,403,466	1,084,358
Prepaid Expenses & Other Assets	1,429,421	1,693,994
Property & Equipment, Net	3,264,504	3,045,862
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$36,697,026</b>	<b>\$27,497,810</b>

LIABILITIES

Accounts Payable & Accrued Expenses	3,517,178	2,182,440
Refundable Advances	2,433,971	2,363,009
Accrued Severance & Retirement for National Staff	1,766,327	993,383
Deferred Rent & Tenant Improvements	5,837,576	6,286,545
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$13,555,052</b>	<b>\$11,825,377</b>

NET ASSETS

Unrestricted	13,242,811	14,286,165
Temporarily Restricted	9,899,163	1,386,268
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>\$23,141,974</b>	<b>\$15,672,433</b>
<b>Total Liabilities &amp; Net Assets</b>	<b>\$36,697,026</b>	<b>\$27,497,810</b>

IJM is committed to modeling and maintaining the highest standards in our work, including our commitment to financial integrity.

IJM is recognized by Charity Navigator, Guidestar and BBB for our exceptional commitment to financial responsibility, accountability and transparency.

You may view our full audited financial statements at [www.ijm.org/get-to-know-us/financials](http://www.ijm.org/get-to-know-us/financials)



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IJM

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**INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE MISSION** is a global organization that protects the poor from violence throughout the developing world. IJM partners with local authorities to rescue victims of violence, bring criminals to justice, restore survivors, and strengthen justice systems.

IJM is committed to modeling and maintaining the highest standards in our work, including our commitment to financial integrity. IJM is recognized by Charity Navigator, Guidestar and BBB for our exceptional commitment to financial responsibility, accountability and transparency. You may view our full audited financial statements at [www.ijm.org/get-to-know-us/financials](http://www.ijm.org/get-to-know-us/financials).

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\*Pseudonyms have been used and images have been blurred for the protection of these IJM clients.

