



**IJM**

**INTERNATIONAL  
JUSTICE MISSION**

# 2019 Year in Review

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See how you made  
rescue possible  
in South Asia on  
page 4.







# Thank You!

As we enter this new decade and face unprecedented challenges both at home and around the globe, we look back with joy and gratitude for the many powerful miracles of rescue and transformation made possible in 2019 because of your generosity.

In the following pages, you will see how your gifts helped rescue victims, restore survivors, restrain criminals and repair broken justice systems around the world in 2019.

This year, as always, we are praying for you, and we hope that 2020 is a healthy, life-giving and joyful year for you and your loved ones. Thank you for your continued dedication to seek justice for the vulnerable of the world!



# You sent freedom to people in slavery



After years under the cruel gaze of a slave owner, Kasi found himself kneeling in the dust at the feet of a group of strangers. He knew this was his one shot at freedom. But the 70-year-old man didn't know the people in front of him were survivors of slavery. And they were there to rescue him.

The Released Bonded Laborers' Association (RBLA) is a network of survivors dedicated to ending slavery in their community. With your support, IJM helped the RBLA get its start, and they are now a trusted casework partner.

All across South Asia, slavery traps millions of children, women and men in a relentless cycle of brutal assault, starvation and exploitation. Some are born into slavery, while others are trapped and forced to repay false debts.

Sums as small as \$15 have trapped laborers like Kasi for up to 15 years.

**Your support made it possible to work directly with government officials and partner organizations like the RBLA to send freedom and lasting restoration to people just like Kasi across South Asia.**

On the day of their rescue, Kasi and 41 other survivors were set free and invited to share their experience with authorities. But they worried that speaking up would lead to more violence from the owner.

Just then, an RBLA leader named Kalpana encouraged them, saying, "You must not be afraid of the owner. The owner must be afraid of you. Walk with your head held up high."



In 2019, you helped:







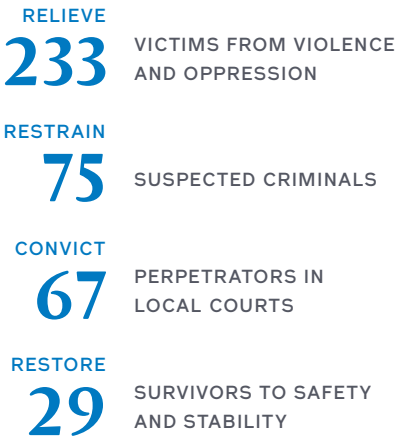
# You protected children from violence and abuse

As a young girl growing up in Guatemala City, Jakelin had a happy childhood. She loved school, music and playing with her brothers. Jakelin's father wasn't in the picture, but her mother, Catarina\*, worked as a janitor to support their family. Jakelin's father returned to their lives when she was 12, beating Catarina and forcing the children to cut and sell wood. Then he began to sexually abuse young Jakelin in secret. Jakelin's story is devastating, but it isn't unique. In some Guatemalan neighborhoods, 1 in 4 adolescent girls is a victim of sexual violence. And in the countries where IJM works across Latin America, far too many women and children live each day in fear of brutal violence, sex trafficking and sexual assault.

But your support brings rescue and safety to vulnerable people and completely transforms the way nations address this type of violence. You have helped train tens of thousands of police and government officials, rescue hundreds of children and women from trafficking and abuse, and restored hundreds of survivors to health and safety. **When you sent IJM to represent Jakelin in court, her father was convicted for his crimes.** And just a few months ago, Jakelin joined IJM supporters in Washington, DC to advocate for life-saving funding to help protect even more women and children in Central America.



In 2019, you helped:





# You fought trafficking of all kinds

Dom\* was living in poverty and looking for a way out when he was approached by a man from Thailand. He promised to take Dom from his rural Cambodian village and give him a well-paying job on a fishing boat.

It wasn't until he was on the boat that he realized he had been trafficked to a boat captain who would abuse and exploit him for years.



Across Southeast Asia, children, women and men living in poverty are vulnerable to traffickers who lure them with promises of jobs, schooling and a better future. Vast networks of traffickers are thriving in a region with a broken justice system that is unable to effectively combat their crimes.

**With your help, open markets where children were once sold for sex have been shut down.** Police and authorities are receiving training on how to proactively combat physical and online sex trafficking. And in 2019, you helped us expand our operations to fight labor trafficking so people like Dom can be free to return home safely to their families.

Today, after six excruciating years in slavery, Dom is back at home and looking forward to his future. He says, "I want to see my children get married. I want them to have a better life. I want to see them well and healthy."

In 2019, you helped:

- RELIEVE  
1,387 VICTIMS FROM VIOLENCE AND OPPRESSION
- RESTRAIN  
60 SUSPECTED CRIMINALS
- CONVICT  
47 PERPETRATORS IN LOCAL COURTS
- RESTORE  
66 SURVIVORS TO SAFETY AND STABILITY



# You protect the innocent

On Christmas day in 2015, Patrick Kabuchi was brutally assaulted by a senior police officer, who then falsely accused him of illegally possessing a gun. Patrick's life was turned upside down in an instant, and he could have been put in prison for years for a crime he didn't commit.

For years, we have seen the many ways that corrupt or ineffective justice systems have harmed the innocent and protected the guilty. Authorities pin crimes on innocent people like Patrick, or demand bribes for service, or simply deny a crime has even taken place.

All too often, the people who suffer from this corruption are without status, money or influence. However, your support is providing legal aid, counseling and support to those very same people.

In Uganda, children are protected from sexual assault and widows and orphans have protection from relatives trying to steal their land. In Ghana, young children suffering as slaves are being found and brought to safety. And in Kenya, people just like Patrick have a strong defense against police who abuse their power.

In 2019, a Chief Magistrate in the Kenyan court acquitted Patrick of all charges, saying, "In my view, it will be a travesty of justice if he is convicted based on what the police officers claim."

**Thanks to you, Patrick has his life back and is finally free to follow his dreams.**



In 2019, you helped:

|          |                                      |
|----------|--------------------------------------|
| RELIEVE  |                                      |
| 141      | VICTIMS FROM VIOLENCE AND OPPRESSION |
| RESTRAIN |                                      |
| 74       | SUSPECTED CRIMINALS                  |
| CONVICT  |                                      |
| 29       | PERPETRATORS IN LOCAL COURTS         |
| RESTORE  |                                      |
| 211      | SURVIVORS TO SAFETY AND STABILITY    |





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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/financials](http://www.ijm.org/financials).

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

