Restoring Lives
broken by sexual slavery

RESCUE:FREEDOM INTERNATIONAL
2013 ANNUAL REPORT
Looking back on 2013, our hearts are full of gratitude, enthusiasm, and optimism. Women and children who were once cast off, sold, raped, abused, and forgotten have been given a new life. They are experiencing true freedom and, with freedom, they accomplish incredible things. We are humbled by the opportunity to walk alongside them, and to play a part in their stories. To us, the survivors we work to empower, and our local partners who walk alongside of them everyday, are heroes. They fill us with courage and determination.

We believe that the most effective way we can end modern-day slavery is to rescue, support, and empower a generation of survivors. Most of the major strides our society has made in the fight against human trafficking, whether in policy, awareness, law enforcement, or direct services, are the result of survivors who have chosen to speak up and challenge the system. We can't end human trafficking without them.

In a very real sense, our donors are saving lives. We are deeply grateful for the generous friends, foundations, and corporations who make our work possible, and we hope you’ll take a moment to celebrate 2013 with us. We also want to recognize our local partners who make our work possible, and we hope you’ll take a moment to celebrate 2013 with us. We also want to recognize our local partners who make sacrifices everyday to serve exploited women and children in their communities. None of this work would be possible without them. Here are a few of the ways we were able to help bring rescue, restoration, and freedom to women and children in sexual slavery in 2013:

• Helped launch and furnish 2 new aftercare homes for children rescued out of sexual slavery.
• Expand income generation projects as well as vocational training for survivors, allowing them to provide for themselves, and promoting positive self-efficacy, while creating sustainable funding channels to support the local work.
• Sponsored a training workshop for aftercare providers from throughout Europe.
• Participated in National Women’s Day in India, and led an initiative to provide new clothes for over 100 victims and survivors of sexual exploitation.
• Launched our first two domestic partnerships:
  o Supported a non-profit organization that imports and distributes products made by survivors in our partner homes around the world.
  o Partnered with Arts Aftercare to expand the reach of their revolutionary arts-based trauma therapy toolkit, empowering caregivers of trafficking survivors.
• Invited to the White House where we participated in discussions on human trafficking.
• Raised over $85,000 through a successful Climb for Captives expedition up Mt Rainier.
• Launched a Rescue:Freedom community chapter in Napa Valley, CA with a successful event hosted by Luna Vineyards.

Thank you again for joining us in the fight against slavery and human trafficking. None of our work is possible without the generous support of donors like you. We hope this glimpse back at 2013 is encouraging, and reflects our diligence in using resources well and maximizing the impact of every dollar and every donation.

For Freedom,

Jeremy Vallerand, President
Overview

2013 was a landmark year with 80% of each dollar going towards programs that save lives and set people free. At the same time, donations grew by 32% which allowed for expansion of both infrastructure and programming.

We are thankful for our donors who continue to give sacrificially to support this important work. We are seeing an increase of individuals creating their own campaigns to advance the cause of freedom. Climb for Captives, in July of 2013, brought together a team of 14 climbers who reached the summit of Mount Rainier and raised over $80,000. A college student who loves art coordinated an art auction that benefited RFI; more and more people are donating their birthdays with our “Birthday for Freedom” campaign; and various groups around the country are working together to plan dinners and events to spread the word about the work of restoring lives broken by sexual slavery.

2013 Financial Results

Donations: Rescue:Freedom International (RFI) ended the fiscal year with 32% growth in income over the prior year. This represents a significant surge forward as we combine the benefits of a 20 year history of the work of our founders with the energy of a new organization. Donations grew steadily through the year, but saw strong growth particularly in the third and fourth quarters due largely to the addition of a new fundraising dinner in Napa Valley California in September, and the continued success of our Seattle fundraising dinner.

New friends continue to join the movement and we are seeing a steady growth of donors choosing to partner with us on a monthly basis, as well as business leaders engaging in our community of support.

Allocation of Expenses: Our donors have a growing interest in how much of the organization’s expenses are used for programs, administrative costs, and fundraising efforts. As a younger organization, we are still building the infrastructure necessary for our work to become more efficient in the long run which will cause administrative costs to decrease over time. Even with that, 80% of expenses in 2013 went towards programming. RFI is proud that our expense ratios are considered extremely healthy compared to our peers, but we continue to strive for even greater efficiencies and best practices.

Out of these expenses, 86% of funds were used for international efforts and 14% were used for domestic work. Our funding has historically been focused on international efforts, but 2013 saw the launch of funding our first domestic partners—an effort we are really excited about.

Financial Transparency

At RFI we take great care to ensure that the funds our donors entrust us with are used with the greatest effectiveness and efficiency. We have a highly engaged board of directors, with great diversity of backgrounds and expertise, who review the financial records on a quarterly basis. We make sure that every dollar is stretched as far as it can go to help restore lives broken by sexual slavery.

Clark Nuber, P.S. serves as the accounting firm for RFI. Clark Nuber accountants thoroughly review RFI finances and procedures as they prepare our form 990 and carefully review our financial statements as part of this process. Bowman’s Accounting Report and Inside Public Accounting have selected Clark Nuber as one of the top 25 accounting firms in America, seven of the past fourteen years. Clark Nuber is particularly well known for their expertise in non-profit accounting; and the Northwest’s most respected not-for-profit organizations turn to them for their tax, audit, accounting, and consulting needs.

RFI is not only an industry leader in the work of restoring the lives of those broken by sexual slavery, we also do it efficiently and effectively. You can donate with confidence that your funds will be stewarded wisely and carefully to have the maximum impact on the very lives you hope to see changed.

Sincerely,

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