



FREE THE SLAVES

2014



Empowering Communities for Freedom

2014

freetheslaves.net

Empowering Communities for Freedom

2014 in Review



Our 2014 annual report is entitled *Empowering Communities for Freedom* because Free the Slaves employs a distinctive approach to eradicating slavery. Slavery is a crime that afflicts entire communities. In small, impoverished villages, false promises of employment lead job hunters to brothels and slave

labor camps, loans to those facing economic hardships turn into debt bondage, and the lure of education for children becomes a path to child servitude. Women, men and children are all targeted by slaveholders and traffickers.

Our strategy moves communities from prey to powerful. It's easy to pick on those with limited understanding of their legal rights, but much harder when people are educated and mobilized. A well-trained and managed anti-slavery organization protects everyone in a village from predators. An awakened community linked to capable police is a menace to traffickers. Better access to schools, health care and credit reduces the vulnerabilities that can be exploited.

This is our great insight: the power of an aroused and enlightened community to protect itself and defeat human traffickers. Empowering communities leads to the liberation of the enslaved and immunization against further trafficking.

In 2014 we worked in almost 2,000 communities across six countries. Skill, tenacity and resources are needed to navigate the amazing path from slavery to freedom. I have seen the stunning transformation of communities from fearful to emboldened. Achieving sustained liberation is a testament to the courage of the people in these communities and the reward for those who support our work. To both, we are deeply grateful.

Maurice Middleberg
Executive Director

A handwritten signature in orange ink that reads "Maurice Middleberg".



As this report goes to press, the United Nations is announcing its Sustainable Development Goals—an ambitious global mandate for alleviating poverty and human suffering worldwide. This U.N. call to action explicitly includes ending slavery. In addressing economic wellbeing the text reads:

"Take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labor, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labor, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labor in all its forms."

Free the Slaves celebrates this milestone. As the commitment to end slavery arises from more voices and institutions, FTS is seeking opportunities for our community-based model to be implemented more broadly. We are challenged to build on the successes reported here so that our efforts make the greatest possible contribution to ending slavery in a changing global context.

You will read in this report not only of on-the-ground results of our work, but how we are evaluating our methods so that we can confidently spread that which is proven to be effective. We are also incubating collective learning and action among our peers, and advocating for needed governmental change.

We share this report with deep gratitude to all who are winning human freedom every day, and for those whose support enables their success.

It is my honor and privilege to walk this path with you.

Jane Covey
Board Chair

A handwritten signature in orange ink that reads "Jane".

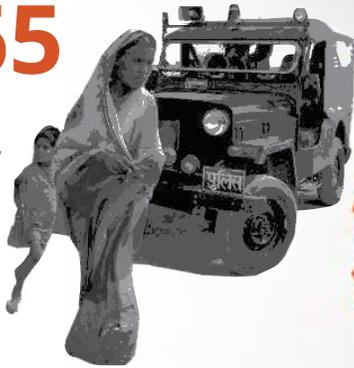
Empowering Communities for Freedom

2014 by the Numbers



2,265

people freed from slavery



1,977

villages and neighborhoods supported to protect their communities from slavery



82,583

villagers educated to protect their families from traffickers



163

traffickers and slaveholders arrested

1,281

government officials trained on how to fight slavery



Empowering Communities for Freedom

Where We Work

AMERICAS: HAITI & BRAZIL

Impoverished children are forced to leave home and toil as domestic servants in Haiti. Desperate men migrating for work in Brazil fall prey to traffickers at remote work camps.

AMERICAS

ASIA: INDIA & NEPAL

More people are in slavery in South Asia than anywhere else. Illegal debts plague the poor and marginalized in rural India—entire families are enslaved for borrowing small sums in emergencies. In Nepal, thousands must head overseas each year to find work because there are no jobs at home. They are easy prey for traffickers.

ASIA

AFRICA

AFRICA: CONGO & GHANA

Africa's wealth of natural resources creates opportunities for slave holders to ensnare the vulnerable in mining and fishing regions. Poverty, armed conflict, and weak legal protections push women and girls into prostitution and men and boys into forced labor.

Where Slavery Strikes

Slavery overwhelmingly affects vulnerable communities. While no group is immune, slaves usually come from the poor, the desperate, the uneducated, the marginalized, and the unprotected.

Often people do not know their rights and accept forced labor. Many are unaware of risks, and they believe promises made by traffickers offering jobs far from home. In many communities people lack adequate income, education, health care, and housing—as well as effective local organizations that can advocate for social benefits and legal protection.

Our Model: Strengthening Communities

Our Community Based Model



Conduct Contextual Research

SUBJECTS:

- Causes of Slavery
- Interventions Needed



Increase Organizational Capacity

TARGETS:

- NGOs
- Government
- Media
- Advocacy Coalitions
- International Orgs



Foster Community Resistance and Resilience

OUTCOMES:

- Behavior Change
- CBO Capacity Increased
- Household Security Increased
- Survivor Security Increased
- Legal/Police Protection Increased



Sustained Reduction in Slavery

RESULTS:

- Slaves Freed
- Freed Slaves Reintegrated
- New Cases of Slavery Decrease
- % of the Population in Slavery Decreases



Free the Slaves focuses on strengthening entire communities. That way, people who break free won't fall back into slavery and traffickers won't enslave others to take their place. By helping communities chart their own path based on their unique needs and circumstances, we build sustainable systems of freedom. Our model for freedom focuses on identifying at-risk communities and then developing the intellectual, organizational, legal, political, and physical assets needed to liberate the enslaved and overcome fundamental vulnerabilities to slavery.

Free the Slaves helps communities overcome these vulnerabilities by:

- Helping people understand and exercise their rights
- Freeing enslaved people and advocating for the provision of basic needs for food, shelter, and safety
- Strengthening household security by addressing deficiencies of income, schooling, and health
- Organizing community groups against slavery
- Educating people on the risks of migrating for work
- Providing access to adequate legal protection
- Increasing the cost and consequences to perpetrators of slavery
- Dismantling the systems that allow slavery to flourish, and creating others that support former slaves learning to live in freedom

Empowering Communities for Freedom

Evidence for Accountability & Learning

Eight New Tools Now Gauging Front-line Results

Our monitoring and evaluation techniques evaluate changes in the organizational strength of our front-line partners, track the ability of communities to confront traffickers and overcome slavery over time, and cultivate a reduction in slavery in the communities we help. Our grassroots partners receive specialized training to use the appropriate indicators.



<p>1. SLAVERY PREVALENCE SURVEY</p>	<p>Measures the percent of the population in slavery and key variables that affect the vulnerability of communities to slavery</p>
<p>2. COMMUNITY MATURITY TOOL</p>	<p>A self-assessment used by community groups and partner organizations to measure the capacity of the community to sustainably resist slavery</p>
<p>3. ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY ASSESSMENT TOOL</p>	<p>Used to measure partner organizational capacity and create capacity building action plans for program quality, governance, human resources, finances and communication</p>
<p>4. SURVIVOR REGISTRY</p>	<p>Used to track freed slaves and their reintegration</p>
<p>5. REINTEGRATION CHECKLIST</p>	<p>Used to measure survivors' level of self-sustained independence based on an assessment of progress in the following areas: housing and accommodations; health care; legal status & rights; education & vocational training; employment & income; savings; physical protection; community support; and spiritual support</p>
<p>6. MEDIA EFFECTIVENESS CHECKLIST</p>	<p>Used to measure whether media stories effectively communicate about the slavery situation and/or solutions relevant to national or local context</p>
<p>7. ADVOCACY MILESTONE TRACKER</p>	<p>Tracks progress towards desired policy changes</p>
<p>8. PARTNER QUARTERLY REPORTING TEMPLATE</p>	<p>Tracks the implementation, outputs and outcomes of activities</p>

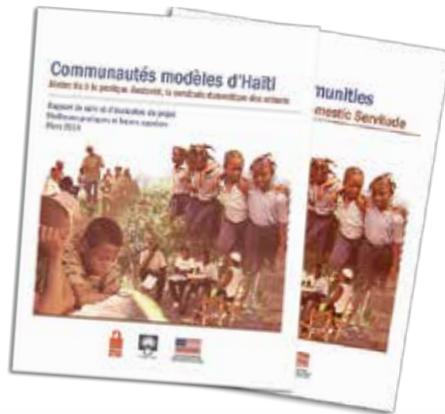
Empowering Communities for Freedom

Evidence for Accountability & Learning



Evaluation Report Chronicles Pilot Project Success in Haiti

BACKGROUND: *Restavèk* is a traditional system in which Haitian children are sent to live with other families and work as domestic servants. The expectation is for the host family to provide schooling, food, and shelter. Yet many children are abused and enslaved instead. The Model Communities project is based on the premise that building community consensus against *restavèk* is a strong strategy to prevent and reverse the flow of children into domestic servitude.



RESULTS: An estimated 27 percent of the children in villages reached by the project who were initially identified as being in *restavèk* are now back home. Returned children reported overwhelmingly that they feel happier to be home with their families, feel freedom that they didn't experience when they were in *restavèk*, and are glad to be in school. The sending of children into *restavèk* has decreased.



Empowering Communities for Freedom

Global Advocacy

Haiti Passes World's Newest Anti-Trafficking Law



Slavery has been illegal in Haiti longer than anywhere else. Yet the enslavement of children as domestic servants through the *restavèk* system of child trafficking continues to plague the nation. In 2014, thanks to advocacy efforts by Free the Slaves and our front-line partners, Haiti's parliament and president enacted a new anti-trafficking law. It outlaws forced labor or servitude, exploitation or prostitution of others by pimping, pornography or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced marriage, forced begging, collecting organs or tissue by force, and adoption for the purpose of exploitation. The new law recognizes that children are inherently vulnerable and are unable to voluntarily consent to exploitative labor, including domestic service.

Free the Slaves Advises USAID on Mainstreaming Anti-trafficking Work

The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) is working to integrate anti-trafficking efforts into America's development projects around the globe. That's because eliminating modern-day slavery can increase the success of other types of international development efforts. USAID officials in Washington turned to Free the Slaves in 2014 to learn if



our programs to combat child slavery in Haiti and Ghana might provide examples of successful anti-slavery work that could be duplicated worldwide. The Free the Slaves team outlined how the use of picture books and community dialogue sessions helped parents realize what was happening to their children in slavery, and how child protection committees were formed to rally parents around respecting child rights.

Brazil's President Takes Anti-Slavery Pledge during Campaign

Political candidates are often asked to take pledges to win votes. In Brazil, one of our front-line partner organizations has been asking politicians to promise that they'll fight modern-day slavery. For Dilma Rousseff, taking the pledge in 2014 was a winning commitment.

The pledge includes these commitments: The candidate will resign if there is evidence of involvement in employing slave labor; All politically appointed advisors will be fired if there is evidence of involvement in slave labor; Candidates will stand by the current legal definition of modern slave labor; Candidates will not promote businesses that use slave labor or child labor inside and

outside Brazil; Candidates will provide protection to human rights defenders and activists working to combat slave labor.

Activists are closely monitoring the winning candidates to ensure they remain committed to their pledge.



Empowering Communities for Freedom

Building Awareness



Freedom from Slavery Forum

THE ELKES
FOUNDATION

FREEDOM FROM SLAVERY FORUM

Free the Slaves serves as the secretariat for the annual Freedom from Slavery Forum. This gathering of anti-slavery leaders from around the world is designed to create a collegial space where leaders can coalesce, create partnerships, discuss promising practices and develop a shared agenda for action.

In 2014 more than 40 leaders from 11 countries participated in the forum. Participants built relationships and prioritized actions in areas such as advocacy, monitoring and evaluation, and collaboration with other sectors.

Broward College Helps Build the Movement

A day-long symposium in South Florida marked 2014's National Anti-Slavery and Human Trafficking Awareness Month. Broward College partnered with Free the Slaves for the event, "Human Trafficking: Exposing the Crisis, Devising Strategies and Solutions." The gathering raised awareness of the magnitude of human trafficking inside Florida, throughout the United States, and around the world, while promoting discussion on effective responses and encouraging participants to join the anti-slavery movement. The conference made headlines with a video message from Sen. Marco Rubio calling on Congress to increase funding for programs that serve child trafficking victims.

Brooklyn Concert Links Slavery Past and Present



It happened on hallowed ground, Plymouth Church in Brooklyn, a sanctuary that helped slaves escape in the 1800s via the Underground Railroad. In 2014, hundreds gathered at the church to learn about modern-day slavery and attend a benefit concert for Free the Slaves headlined by The Impressions. The extraordinary combination of reflection, song and prayer demonstrated that our movement is just as resolute as it was during the days of the Civil War. The concert – and a panel discussion the night before at the Brooklyn Historical Society, moderated by Loretta Lynch (now the U.S. Attorney General) – stressed our connections to the past, and our commitment to finish the job that our predecessors started.



Empowering Communities for Freedom

Honoring Anti-Slavery Heroes

Freeing people from slavery requires courage and resourcefulness, as well as boundless energy and dedication. Three heroes of the modern abolition movement were recognized in 2014 for their vital contributions in the global fight to eradicate slavery forever.

India Partner Honored as Global Hero

The director of our partner organization MSEMVS in India, **BHANUJA SHARAN LAL**, was honored in 2014 at the U.S. State Department as one of the year's anti-slavery heroes in the annual Trafficking in Persons Report. His team of more than 75 front-line anti-slavery activists has been progressively dismantling entrenched systems of slavery at brick kilns, farms and quarries. They have transformed hundreds of communities into no-go zones for traffickers, fully eradicating slavery in more than 130 villages. His transformative leadership is focused on a straightforward premise: "to bring human dignity" to those in slavery.



Anti-slavery Leaders in Brazil and Canada Receive Free the Slaves Freedom Awards

Free the Slaves has periodically honored survivors, activists, and organizations that demonstrate outstanding courage, innovation, and dedication in the fight to end slavery. Our award winners are setting the standard for successful, sustainable anti-slavery initiatives. By generating public recognition for outstanding achievement, the awards offer inspiration and boost resources for the movement.

TIMEA NAGY is a sex slavery survivor in Canada who escaped and founded Walk With Me, a group that rescues sex trafficking victims, provides immediate support to survivors, and trains Canadian police to recognize and respond to sex slavery. She knows firsthand the physical and psychological toll that sex slavery can take.



RUTH VILELA was Brazil's secretary of labor inspection, and created the world's most innovative anti-slavery SWAT squad. The unit raids farms and sweatshops, freeing thousands of slaves each year. She also created Brazil's Dirty List, which quarantines businesses where slavery is found. And she created the National Pact, prompting major companies to pledge that they will root-out slavery in their product supply chains.

Empowering Communities for Freedom Success Stories



Entire Family Rescued from Brick Kiln Slavery in India



It started with a simple loan to pay for a wedding. It turned into brutal enslavement for an entire family. It wound up as a triumphant victory over bondage, thanks to Free the Slaves and one of our frontline partner groups in India.

Five years ago, Jaswant borrowed \$167 from a farm and factory owner to finance the wedding of his eldest daughter. The interest rate was outrageous—and illegal—and it quickly became impossible to repay the debt. It's clear the lender was after something more when he lent the money: slave laborers for his brick factory. Even though debt bondage slavery is illegal in India, Jaswant and his entire family were forced onto trucks and taken to a sweltering brick kiln 35 miles away. Family members were forced to work 14-hour days, including the children, and they were locked-up at night to prevent escape. Jaswant was beaten when he asked to be paid.

Fortunately, activists trained by Free the Slaves had been working to organize and liberate enslaved villagers in the nearby community of Garai. After a particularly severe beating, Jaswant managed to escape and make it to Garai to seek help. Thanks to their training, villagers knew just what to do. Soon a police rescue team headed to the kiln. A legal case was opened against the slaveholder. Jaswant's family has been relocated to a safe location, and his children are now in school.

Child Rights Clubs in Ghana Help Kids Help Themselves

Many children in Ghana are forced to work in mines under dangerous conditions: carrying heavy loads and handling mercury to extract gold from ore. Young girls who go to these mining communities to sell food and water are often sexually exploited during the night. Free the Slaves is working with adults to build awareness about ways to protect their children. But how can kids protect themselves?

Free the Slaves partnered with local activists to launch child rights clubs. In these child-led in-school organizations, kids learn about their rights, the risks and dangers around their communities, and whom they can contact if they or their peers ever need help.

During the launch process, teachers selected student child rights ambassadors to lead the clubs within their schools and encourage their peers to join. The clubs have been meeting once a week and they're creating a ripple effect. They are all making an impact: increasing children's knowledge of their rights and how they can be protected.



Empowering Communities for Freedom

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Empowering Communities for Freedom

Freeing Slaves, Ending Slavery



Free the Slaves liberates slaves, helps them rebuild their lives, and transforms the social, economic and political conditions that allow slavery to persist. We support community-driven interventions in partnership with local groups that help people to sustainable freedom and dismantle a region's system of slavery. We convince governments, international development organizations and businesses to implement key changes required for global eradication. We document and disseminate leading-edge practices to help the anti-slavery movement work more effectively. We raise awareness and promote action by opinion leaders, decision makers and the public. Free the Slaves is showing the world that ending slavery is possible.

Balanced Revenue *and* Efficient Expenditures



2014 Revenue

- 59.9% Foundations
- 18.2% Individuals
- 17.5% U.S. Government
- 4.4% Other



2014 Expenditures

- 75.7% Programs & Services
- 9.7% Fundraising
- 14.6% Administration



Statements of Activities *and* Financial Position



Statement of Activities

	2014	2013
SUPPORT & REVENUE		
Contributions & Grants	\$2,675,174	\$2,215,576
Government Grants	599,524	451,453
In-Kind Contributions	137,470	49,288
Product Sales & Other Income	11,723	15,817
Total Support & Revenue	\$3,423,891	\$2,732,134
EXPENSES		
Program Services	\$2,413,159	\$2,096,479
Management Services	465,930	231,027
Fundraising	308,396	273,760
Total Expenses	\$3,187,483	\$2,601,266
Change in Net Assets	\$236,408	\$130,868
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	1,538,679	1,407,811
Net Assets at End of Year	\$1,775,087	\$1,538,679

Years ended December 31, 2014 and December 31, 2013.
Complete audited financial reports and IRS filings are available on
our website: freetheslaves.net/donate.

Statement of Financial Position

	2014	2013
ASSETS		
Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$1,068,377	\$862,848
Grants & Pledges Receivable	650,795	481,134
Partner Advances	66,392	190,408
Other Receivables	19,309	21,422
Inventory	30,400	31,198
Prepaid Expenses	27,472	15,416
Security Deposit	8,447	8,447
Total Assets	\$1,871,192	\$1,610,873
LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities	\$38,470	\$72,194
Deferred Rent	\$57,635	0
Total Liabilities	\$96,105	\$72,194
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted	649,406	903,496
Temporarily Restricted	1,125,681	635,183
Total Net Assets	\$1,775,087	\$1,538,679
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$1,871,192	\$1,610,873



FREE THE SLAVES

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