

# LIFE IMPACT

FROM DARKNESS TO

# LIGHT



ANNUAL REPORT 2024



**LIFE IMPACT**  
INTERNATIONAL

A smiling woman with dark hair is hugging four children in a field. The children are wearing colorful traditional clothing. The background is a grassy field with trees in the distance.

# MISSION AND VISION



**Mission:** Prevent, Rescue, Heal.  
Prevent child exploitation.  
Rescue those caught in it.  
Heal those harmed by it.

**Vision:** Protect the vulnerable, fight for  
the exploited, and change the world  
one life at a time.



# MESSAGE FROM LANA

**What a year we experienced as God's light shined into the darkness in 2024!**

We rescued more children, expanded into more territory, and witnessed greater impact than ever before! So much so that now we are preparing to build more safe homes to hold the growth of 2024. We worked tirelessly to get final government approval for our very first safe home in Brazil. **We increased the number of children and families we reach** in all three countries where we serve—pushing back the darkness and shining the light of Jesus, the Greatest Rescuer of all.

Because of your faithfulness and generosity, we are equipped with more weapons to fight against the darkness that these children face. We fight because we know you are fighting alongside us, and we are fighting for those who cannot fight for themselves. **Your prayers and support sustain the work that has begun for the least of these and carry us forward to what God has next for them.**

We now have over 120 team members across the globe, working tirelessly day and night to prevent, rescue, and heal these precious ones. Many risk their own lives because they know this is a calling, not just a job. They are dedicated and committed and make this work possible—the front line, boots on the ground, ready to run into the unknown, and the darkest places, to rescue that next child and bring them into the light.

I'm truly so very thankful for all the people around the world God has called to this mission and for each and every one of you!

In the following pages, you'll see how we are bringing light into the darkness together!

With a heart full of thanksgiving,



Founder and President



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The photos and images in this publication are produced by Life Impact International, showing children from our prevention projects and outreach programs. We will never show the faces of rescued children. All images used in this report have been obtained with proper consent to show the impact of the donations we receive.

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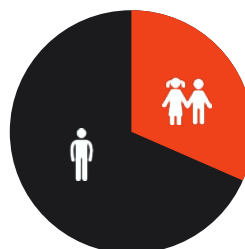


# FROM DARKNESS

UNODC 2024 GLOBAL REPORT ON TRAFFICKING

## 25%

increase in human trafficking worldwide



## 31%

increase in child victims of trafficking



## 1 in 3

victims of human trafficking are children

## THAILAND

Thailand is notorious for trafficking children into prostitution. Some parents do it for drug money, while others are deceived by false promises of a better future for their child in the city, only to realize too late they've been lured into exploitation.



## BURMA

Burma is still ranked among other countries that do not meet basic anti-trafficking standards. With the ongoing civil war, many families are fleeing to Thailand, but without resources or support, some parents sell their children into prostitution and forced labor.

## BRAZIL

Organized crime in Brazil continues growing, exposing more children to violence, drug trafficking, and exploitation. Many are recruited by cartels or trafficked into forced labor and the sex trade. With little hope for escape, some see becoming a trafficker as their biggest dream.



## Prevent

To prevent child exploitation, we build relationships in the villages and communities we serve. Our outreaches in Thailand and Burma allow us to identify at-risk children to provide food, tuition, and other support. In our Brazil prevention projects in three locations, we provide counseling, awareness, tutoring, mentoring, vocational training, and activities to keep children away from danger.

**100K+**  
**LBS**

Food distributed

**700+**

Families in our  
Prevention Projects

**118**

Outreaches



## Rescue

When prevention is no longer an option, we work with government agencies to rescue children. In Thailand, we are part of a Multi-Disciplinary Task Force. Rescued children stay in our transitional safe home until we can place them in a family-style safe home on the Promise Land. With loving house parents, they can live a life of freedom, playing, and just being a kid.

**24**

Children rescued

**8**

Children safe at  
our House of Hope  
Boarding Home

Final government  
approval of our  
safe home in the  
Amazon

## Heal

We believe healing comes through the true Rescuer, Jesus. The children learn about His love and how He can change their lives. Many of our second-generation rescued children have experienced that transformation and work in our prevent, rescue, and heal departments as daycare teachers, interpreters, outreach coordinators, worship leaders, Sunday School teachers, house parents, and caretakers of the Promise Land and its farm.

**97**

Children living on  
the Promise Land

**21**

Children at House  
of Hope in Burma

**3800+**

Salvations





# THAILAND

Because of you,  
we've rescued more  
than ever before!

24

**Children**  
rescued

25+

**Families**  
supported  
each month

460

**Children**  
supported in  
schools and  
homes

45K+

**LBS of Food**  
distributed

**We bring the light of prevention in Thailand through outreaches and building relationships with families.** This allows us to identify at-risk children and provide food, tuition, and other forms of support to keep families together. Half of the food we distributed went to “supported families,” many of whom are single moms who no longer feel forced to sell their children.



***We support families by providing them with food and supplies so that they do not resort to selling their children.***

We also provide families with the tools to protect their children from exploitation. Our education and skill-building initiatives empower parents and youth to become self-sufficient, breaking the cycle of vulnerability.

**We brought 24 children into the light in 2024, a record number of rescues.** Life Impact only rescues when prevention isn't enough, working with government agencies to bring vulnerable and at-risk children out of darkness. Once rescued, the children spend time in our transitional home and are eventually placed within a loving family on the Promise Land. In our 16 family-style safe homes, they are receiving the love, protection, and stability they need to rebuild their lives and embrace a future filled with hope. We also conducted 39 investigations to identify and reach at-risk children before traffickers could.

The light of healing comes through counseling, vocational training, and, most importantly, the message of Jesus, the Greatest Rescuer of all. Many of our second-generation rescued children are also involved in prevention, rescue, and healing by working at the Promise Land, leading worship or Sunday School, and helping maintain Life Impact's farm.

*The light of healing comes through the message of Jesus...*



## Twins Rescued

**Twin siblings San San Myint and San Min Aung, just two years old, were rescued in September from being sold along the Thai-Burma border for \$300.** After losing their mother, they suffered neglect and violence under their father, who struggled with addiction. Their older sisters, rescued in March, had already endured a life without education and constant danger in a region known for child trafficking.

When their grandmother tried to protect them, her failing health left them vulnerable once again. Their father passed away, followed by their grandmother, leaving the twins completely alone.

**Today, because of you, they are safe at Life Impact.** No longer trapped in fear, they are now surrounded by love, care, and a future filled with hope.





# BURMA

With your help, we are bringing light into the war zone.

8

**Children**  
safe from war

13

**Rescued**  
children at House  
of Hope

1,190

**People**  
reached  
weekly

With your help, we are bringing light into Burma's war zone. For nearly 75 years, Burma has been in civil war, leaving countless children, women, and families devastated. **In 2024, because of the war, we brought eight children to the House of Hope who were displaced by violence, poverty, and the risk of being forced to fight or become errand-runners for the military junta.** Burma has one of the highest numbers of child soldiers in the world. The young girls are even at risk of being taken as child-arranged wives for soldiers. When we bring these children to the House of Hope, it ensures they get an education, meals, and emotional support while we work to keep them safe and eventually reunite them with their families.

With 13 rescued children already living in the House of Hope, eight more separated from their families, and many more at risk, we are running out of room to house all of them,

which is why we have begun building another safe home to house 20 more children. Also, as the bombings and violence come closer to us, we have built a bunker to keep the children safe.





In addition, we walk alongside Burmese communities, providing food, supplies, and support—meeting immediate needs while addressing deeper struggles. **Most importantly, we are sharing the unwavering hope of the Gospel, reminding these families they are not forgotten.**



## Safe from War

Lue Kue would likely be forced to serve the military junta if he didn't find safety at the **House of Hope in Burma**. At nine years old, he's one of the eight children we are sheltering until they can be reunited with their families.

His family lives in a village that is extremely close to the fighting. When he was with his family, they were forced to flee quickly into the forest when they heard the sounds of bombs and gunfire. His older brother is already fighting with an ethnic armed group opposing the military regime. His family has become an enemy of the state because they are fighting for their freedom.

Lue Kue had only attended school through 1st grade, but since we rescued him in May, he can attend school with the other children at the House of Hope. He is safe and has food to eat and medical care if he needs it. **His future is brighter because of those who partner with us to bring light into the darkness of war.**





# BRAZIL

From darkness to light,  
hope is breaking through.

140K+

**Meals**  
provided

1000+

**Children**  
reached weekly

700+

**Families**  
assisted

Hope is rising from the city to the rainforest, and lives are being changed in Brazil because of your support. The light shines in the darkness through our prevention projects in three locations: Rio de Janeiro, Ceará, and the Amazon. **These projects are thriving as we**

**reach over a thousand children every week!**

Children whose future was to become drug dealers or be involved in sex trafficking find other options for a brighter future through vocational training, playing soccer, and learning ballet.

## Finding the Light of Hope

At just six years old, Mariana carried more than a child should—forced to do chores and beaten by her brothers when she didn't; exhausted from fighting with her mother and living with deep sadness, she needed a place to escape the darkness.

When she arrived at the Life Impact Prevention Project, she was quiet and unsure. But during a devotional time, something inside her broke open. With tears in her eyes, she whispered, "God is touching me." For the first time, she felt seen and heard.



Mariana slowly began to open up through prayer, care, and creative activities like art and English. No longer standing on the sidelines, she found family in those around her. One day, she told a teacher, "If my mom is not with me one day, I know I have many moms here."

**Now, she knows what love feels like. She knows she is not alone. And that has made all the difference.**

## Amazon

Deep in the Amazon, where many children face exploitation and drug abuse, we are expanding our prevention efforts. On a new piece of property, we can grow from serving 90 children to nearly 300 weekly. Our Safe Home is now legally established, and rescue efforts have begun.



## Ceará

In Ceará, what began with just 70 to 80 children gathering under a tree has become a bright lighthouse beacon. From a small house serving 120 children to an old flip-flop factory turned into a beautifully remodeled building, over 400 children find hope in our prevention project.

*The light shines in the darkness through our prevention projects in three locations: Rio de Janeiro, Ceará, and the Amazon.*



## Rio de Janeiro

In Rio de Janeiro's most dangerous neighborhoods, we provide education, mentorship, and meals to 340 children weekly. We are creating pathways out of poverty through church services and skills training like ballet, computer skills, and woodworking. From darkness to light, hope is breaking through.





# Amazon Rescue

While the Prevention Projects are a key part of our work in Brazil, we know there is an urgent need to provide safe homes for at-risk children who have no hope due to absent parents or unstable family situations and are vulnerable to trafficking.

We focused our efforts on the Amazon region first, as the cries of the children there have been resounding, and the situation is considered an epidemic. In this area, children as young as ten are being sent to tourist boats for “parties.”

**We also knew we needed to act after meeting Bruna and her little brother. Carlos.**



**Their mother was trafficking them for as little as \$1.** Tragically, after drug traffickers killed Bruna, we worked to ensure Carlos’s safety, as his life was also in danger.

In July of 2023, we began the government approval process. We never anticipated it would take a year to receive official recognition. Once we reached that milestone, we had to obtain certification from two key government agencies. After months of waiting, we finally received both certifications in December of 2024. **In January 2025, we officially inaugurated our first safe home in the Amazon, welcoming our first two children in February.**



# 24 more than ever before I N T H A I L A N D

We didn't plan it this way, rescuing 24 children in 2024, but we DID plan to rescue as many children as possible. It turns out 24 children needed to be pulled from the darkness and brought into the light of the Promise Land: 12 girls and 12 boys ranging in age from one to 13. We even rescued twins who would bring a high price if sold along the border. 2024's rescues were a record number for Life Impact, and our rescue team is not stopping as they take rescue to the next level, ensuring children along the Thai-Burma border are safe.

*24 children are  
experiencing what it  
means to be a child.* ”

These are vulnerable children pulled from some of the world's darkest and most dangerous situations. The girls have faced sexual abuse, abandonment by their own families, no education or medical care, and are at constant risk of being sold into sex trafficking. It's the same for the boys, but they can also end up with drug traffickers or forced to work and not attend school.

Now, these 24 children are experiencing a childhood they've never known. They are in school, have full bellies, and can run and play like all children should. They have loving house parents who teach and train them in what it means to walk in the light with the Greatest Rescuer of all, Jesus.





# Changed Lives, Changing the World

## A Life Transformed

When Knot was only 7 years old, her world was forever changed when her mother died. Left in the care of her father, Knot and her three brothers grew up in a household that struggled to survive. At times, her father barely had enough money to feed them. She remembers hearing about God when her parents took her to church, and she would pray for money just so she could buy snacks. She says sometimes she would stumble upon a lost coin, and she knew it was God providing for her.



*I don't have a mother,  
and you don't have a  
daughter. I will be your  
daughter, and you will  
be my mother.*

Knot - Accounting and  
Office Director in Thailand



As she got older, she struggled in school with teasing from other students and academic challenges. Eventually, her father could no longer afford to send her to school. During this difficult season, she heard about a woman who had a Christian home where she could also attend school. A local pastor, recognizing her desperate situation, brought her an application. She begged her Dad to sign the papers, but he refused. **Not one to lose hope, Knot prayed to the God she was taught about and was eventually able to go to the home and the school. There, she met Lana, a woman who would change her life forever.**

Through Lana's teaching, she learned about God's love and saw how much Lana loved her. One day, Knot told Lana, "I don't have a mother, and you don't have a daughter. I will be your daughter, and you will be my mother." **She says God sent Lana as an answer to her prayers.**

Knot says that, as a young woman, she had a dream about working with children, especially those who are forgotten and unloved. After Knot graduated from school, Lana invited Knot to work with her to rescue children. She told her yes! Initially, it was outreaches to children at risk of exploitation, but eventually, Knot helped her as she began rescuing children trapped in darkness, starting with their first 8 year old girl for \$24. She was by Lana's side as her "daughter" and helped establish the Promise Land, and, to this very day, is still by Lana's side, 24 years later. Knot does anything and everything, but in Thailand, she oversees Life Impact's accounting department and is the Office Director. **A life transformed that will continue to transform the children of Thailand.**

## Empowered to Rescue

Another of Lana's "daughters" from her first home in Thailand has a similar story of a life forever changed. Now, Mink is also changing lives as Life Impact's Rescue and Operations Director. **In fact, she's one of only a few people in Thailand who carry a card allowing them to legally rescue children, no questions asked.**

Mink has come a long way since she left the village where she grew up in poverty and escaped certain exploitation because of her family's problems. She says she didn't know God, but she knew she wanted a better life than her parents. In 4th grade, she had the

opportunity to go to Lana's safe home, but her father refused to let her go because it was a Christian place. Instead, he made a deal with her. If her mother would return to him after nearly getting divorced, she could go and live with Lana. Her mother returned, and Mink was allowed to go. **Mink says if it were not for the love and mercy of God, she would not be here today.**

That love and mercy propelled her to go to college and get a social work degree, allowing her to obtain the child protection card from the Thai government to legally rescue children from some of the darkest and most dangerous situations. **Mink, along with her husband PiBi, also rescued by Life Impact, act as our liaisons with the Thai government. Their hard work allows us to rescue even more at-risk children.** They want the children to know God's love as they do, to understand what it is to experience that love in a stable family with loving house mothers and fathers.

*The Thai government's child protection card gives me the authority to rescue children, no questions asked.*

Mink - Rescue Operations  
Director in Thailand





# The Ultimate “Girl Dad”

**Pa Redet and Mae Getu have faithfully served at Life Impact for over 13 years as house parents in our girls’ zone, bringing so much light to the children in their care.** However, serving in that role wasn’t what brought them to the Promise Land. Pa Redet originally came as a builder, helping construct the first safe home. While working, God stirred his heart for the rescued children, leading him and his wife to join Life Impact full-time.

They moved in with their three daughters, but their family quickly grew to include eight daughters and one son. Known as the ultimate “girl dad,” Pa Redet brings humor, grace, and protective guidance, while Mae Getu empowers the girls with boldness and strength.



*Known as the ultimate ‘girl dad,’ Pa Redet brings humor, grace, and protective guidance.* ”

Their ministry goes far beyond parenting. Pa Redet and Mae Getu serve as leaders, mentors, and caretakers, guiding rescued children through faith, education, and daily support. Two of their daughters, Sunida and Welipaun, have followed their path—Welipaun as a nurse caring for medical needs and Sunida as a translator and youth mentor.

**Together, this family is dedicated to transforming lives and ensuring the next generation has hope, opportunity, and a future.**



# Witnessing God's Goodness in Brazil

**Jessica Walker's life was forever changed after hearing about Life Impact's work in Brazil and then seeing it for herself.** Not only has she witnessed our prevention work there, but she has also had a front-row seat to the transformation of our Prevention Project in Juazeiro do Norte.

Jessica joined a mission team to Brazil from Life in Christ Church in Marion, Kentucky in 2023. While there, she visited our prevention project in Juazeiro in a small house with barely enough room for the children who came there to escape the danger of the streets and the poverty they lived in every day. She also saw the old flip-flop factory Life Impact wanted to purchase to provide more space for our children. In fact, Jessica helped us document that facility by taking pictures inside. **Jessica says the building was full of barrels and needed a lot of work.**

Then, in 2024, Jessica returned to Juazeiro to again minister to children and families alongside our Life Impact prevention team. **Instead of barrels and filth, she saw a transformed building with the sounds of children playing and being transformed themselves.** "I had prayed and believed for this building," Jessica says. "But here I was actually standing in the middle of my answered prayer,



*Prevent. Rescue. Heal.  
It's not just a cute  
slogan, Life Impact  
is really making a  
difference.*

Jessica Walker



seeing the transformation from an idea into a reality."

Jessica says when you go on missions with Life Impact, your life and the lives of children will be impacted. She says she truly saw our mission to Prevent, Rescue, and Heal in action. She says, "It's not just a cute slogan, Life Impact is really making a difference."



If you or your church are interested in short-term mission opportunities with Life Impact, scan this QR code to complete an application.





# Million Dollar God Dream

Everything changed in 2010 when the Lord gave Lana **a promise during a really tough time that she would never lack again.** Babies were being sold for as little as \$15 (500 Baht), and Lana didn't know how she would feed the 60 children she had, let alone the new babies that the clinics were trying to send to her. "Is there anywhere else these babies can go? I can barely feed the children we already have," Lana asked the clinic. The lady on the other line said, "If you don't take these babies, they will end up in the hands of a trafficker within 24-72 hours."

At the same time, Lana had to make an emergency trip to Tulsa, and while staying at a friend's house, he asked her about her million-dollar God dream. She was so desperate to get enough money to buy rice to feed the children that she couldn't even think of a dream, but then, **in her heart, she said, "I need land," land where the children can run freely and stay in family-style safe homes, giving them back the childhood being taken away from them.** Lana went to bed that night discouraged, not knowing how she would feed the children when she returned to Thailand. She woke up the next morning to the news that her friend, a successful businessman, had secured a meeting with other successful businessmen who would come alongside her and help bring

the dreams in Lana's heart for these children to reality in the years to come. **God told Lana that morning, "And I did it all while you were sleeping. I don't need you to figure out how you are going to feed my children and reach my world. All I need you to do is trust and obey me."** (Psalm 127:1-3)

That year, God changed everything for Lana and the children through these three Tulsa-area businessmen. Life Impact went from 60 children in a five-bedroom, two-bathroom concrete jungle children's home to 27 acres now affectionately called "The Promise Land," a safe haven for rescued children.



*Glenn Shaw and Paul Tims  
Life Impact Board Members*

We currently have 16 family-style safe homes and around 100 children living there with loving house parents. These business leaders still serve as Life Impact board members today.

Glenn Shaw, owner of one of the largest custom home builders in Tulsa, Oklahoma, and Paul Tims, owner of Imperial Coffee Company, a successful vending business, are two of those businessmen. Glenn and Paul, along with their

families, went to Thailand, and when Lana took them to the land, they knew that it was Life Impact's land.

**These men have been trusted advisors to Lana through the years and continue holding the ministry to the highest standards of stewardship and trust. We are grateful for them and all those who serve Life Impact.**

## 17 Years of Partnership

*By Pastors Brian and Jessi Gibson  
HIS Church  
Life Impact Board Members*

**Almost 17 years ago, we first heard about Lana Vasquez and her heart for rescuing children.** Some dear missionary friends of ours, Rand and Nikki Montgomery, shared with us the incredible things God was doing through her in Thailand.

Six months passed, and we hadn't taken any action—until one day, as I stood in my bathroom, the Spirit of God spoke clearly: **“Go help that girl.”** I walked out of the bathroom and got into the car with my wife, Jessi. Before I could say a word, she looked at me and said, “Brian, the Spirit of God spoke to me this morning.” I looked at her and said, “Did He tell you to go help that girl that Rand and Nikki told us about?” Her eyes widened, and she said, “That's exactly what He said.” We bought two plane tickets and flew to Thailand. The rest is history.

***From the moment we met Lana, we saw her passion for children, for rescue, and for justice—and we knew we wanted to spend part of our lives helping her fulfill that mission.***

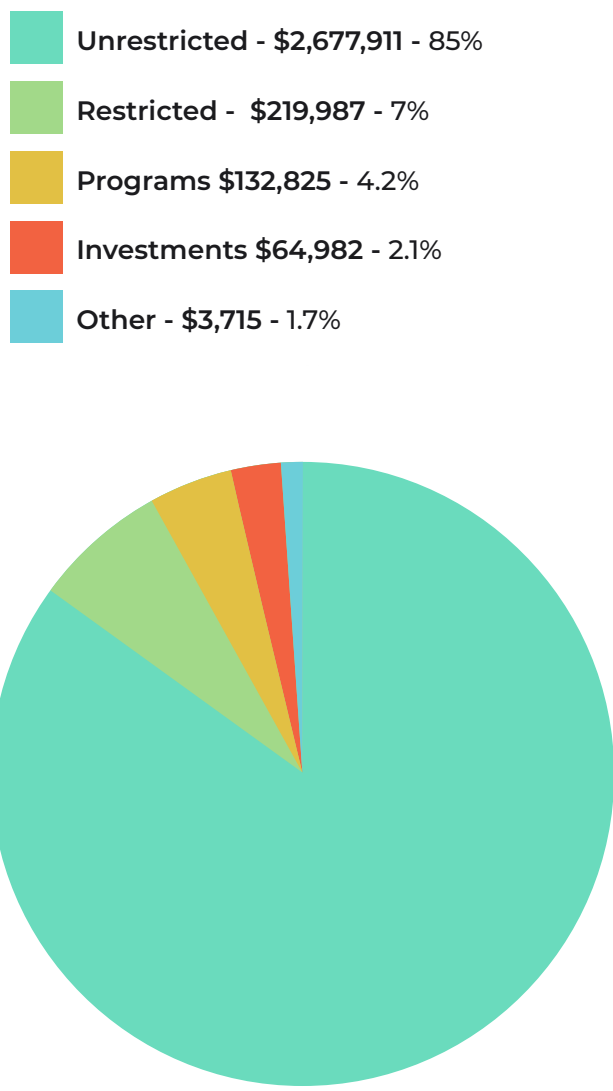


**Now, 17 years later, we've watched Life Impact grow from a vision into a global movement.** This past year alone, we've returned to the land twice, and our hearts were filled with joy as we saw what's been built, the lives transformed, and the children—rescued to rescue—who are now impacting a new generation.

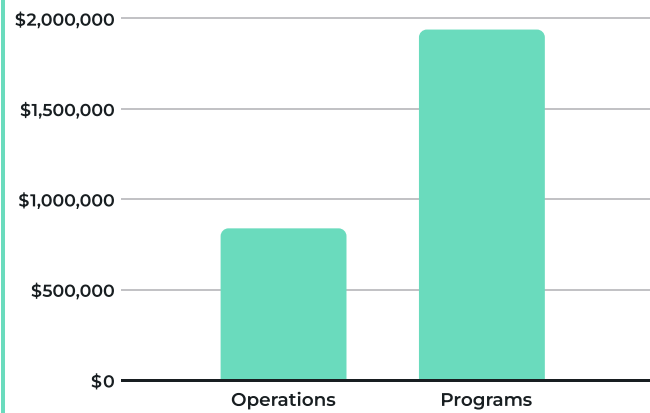
**We look forward to many more years of service with Life impact.**

# Financial Accountability

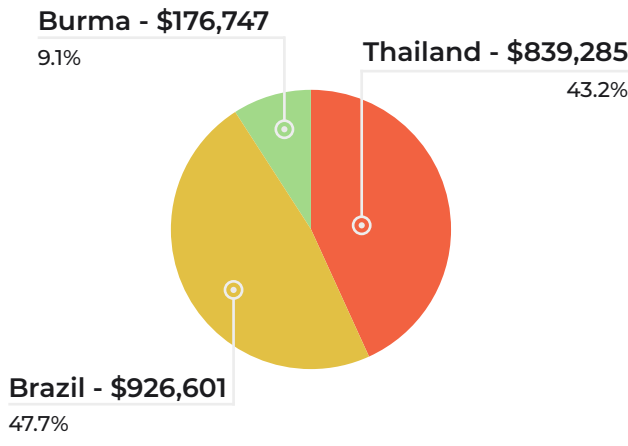
## Revenue



## Expenses



## Expenses by Country



The \$2,897,898 you gave in 2024 went toward our programs to Prevent, Rescue, and Heal trafficked and exploited children in Thailand, Burma, and Brazil.

Life Impact is honored to be a rated charity and is regularly reviewed by independent third-party organizations.



We earned the Gold Star of Transparency.

**Your unwavering support is the lifeline that allows us to continue this vital work.** Because of your generosity, children trapped in unimaginable darkness now walk in light. You have given them safety, healing, and hope for a brighter future.

Your partnership empowers us to prevent exploitation, rescue the vulnerable, and bring lasting healing and transformation to children and their families. **Every life we touch is a testament to your compassion and commitment to making a difference and shining the light of Jesus in Thailand, Burma, and Brazil.**

“**The light shines**  
in the darkness, and  
the darkness can never  
extinguish it. John 1:5





## LEADERSHIP

### Board Members

Glenn Shaw  
Shaw's Development Owner

Paul Tims  
Imperial Coffee Company Owner

Brian and Jessi Gibson  
Pastors HIS Church Amarillo,  
Henderson, Owensboro

Mike and Janet Rovner  
MRC Construction/Business Owners

Aaron Antis  
Kingdom Builders Consulting Group

Kim Mora  
HR Director - Interface Child  
& Family Services

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Joe Antis  
Kingdom Builders Consulting Group

Diego Mesa  
Patria Church

### Finance Committee

Laura Straub  
Systems Consultant

Stacey Mapes  
Financial Consultant

Robert Johnson  
Finance Manager

## TEXT

Text **IMPACT** to 28950

For example to give \$100,  
Text: **IMPACT100**

## SCAN



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