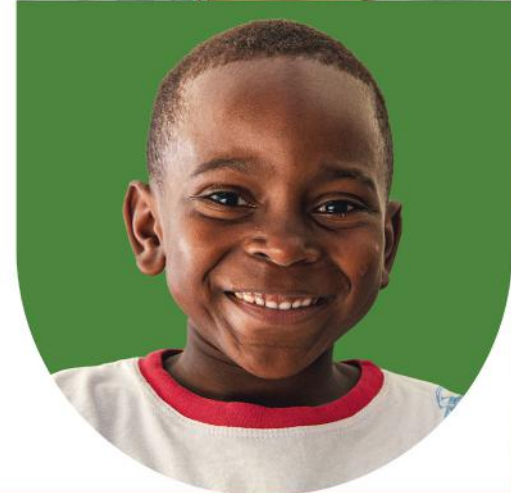




25 years of
Freedom

ANNUAL REPORT 2025



Burma 2002

MESSAGE FROM LANA



In over 25 Years of Freedom, we have witnessed the impossible—and the unimaginable—while fighting for those who can't fight for themselves and protecting innocent and vulnerable children around the world.

Our heart as you read through this report is that you would see the faces and the lives you have helped change, and truly feel the weight and gravity of the impact we have made together. Inside these pages are stories of children and families in every nation, every city, every town, and every village — each one a testimony to your faithful partnership and unwavering hope. You will see the marks of redemption, rescue, and restoration made possible through our collective effort and belief that we can truly **Change Lives and Change the World**.

For 25 years, through our mission to Prevent, Rescue, and Heal, we have served the innocent, the vulnerable, the broken, the at-risk, the unseen, the abandoned, and the unheard. **Lives have been changed as we've rewritten the endings of countless stories together.**

Today, these children have been seen. They have been heard. They have been valued. They have been reached, rescued, restored, and raised up across nations and within a generation. ***As you read the stories throughout this report, may you see the lives forever changed through faithful partnership over these 25 years.***

Thank you for walking this journey with us through your generosity, your prayers, and your belief that every child matters. With all of our love, gratitude, and prayers, we thank you.

Here's to the next 25 years,

Lana
Founder,
Life Impact
International



Scan to watch a powerful video of Lana reading a support letter from 25 years ago.



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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. Children's names have also been changed to protect them.







When Lana arrived in Thailand in 2001, she saw firsthand the challenges children in Southeast Asia faced,

from Bangkok's red light district to hundreds of miles away along the Thailand and war-torn Burma border, where poverty, false promises, and desperation have left families vulnerable and children exploited.

Thailand is notorious for having some of the highest rates of child trafficking and exploitation, and its red light districts are often referred to as the "armpit of the world!"

Armed with a mission to Prevent, Rescue, and Heal, the first phase was prevention: a home for 52 children, and Lana became momma at 24.

Strategically, we began with what we knew to do, and prevention would be the first step to ending exploitation in some of the darkest places for children in Thailand.



Prevent

Throughout the years, Life Impact has continued reaching into remote border villages, slums, and other “pools” where traffickers target vulnerable children, meeting the families at their most desperate times, getting to them before the “bad guys.” *We help parents choose protection over desperation to sell their own children!*

Life Impact achieves this by providing other options such as food, education, and practical support.

Prevention works when families are strengthened, and children can stay safely at home, fed, in school, and full of hope.

In 2025:

50+

families
supported
each month

880

children
supported
in 6 schools
and homes

102k+

lbs of food
distributed



Rescue

Our first rescue was an 8-year-old girl. Through the generations, her family had been involved in prostitution, drug trafficking, drug addiction, and child trafficking. Her mother had sold her to the red light district in Bangkok for just \$24. After pleading with her mother to let her take the child instead, Lana rescued the little girl just in time, passing the traffickers on their way to pick her up.

From that first rescue, Life Impact has intervened and brought hundreds more to safety. *They've grown up on the Promise Land in one of our 18 family-style safe homes, cared for by house parents who love them as their own, giving them the chance to be children again—laughing and playing, attending school, and dreaming about their future.*

We work with community leaders and the multi-disciplinary government task force, investigating and networking along the Thai-Burma border to identify that "next child" in line for exploitation or danger. Our Rescue Operations Director carries one of the few government-issued cards that allows us to legally rescue children, at any time, in any situation, no questions asked.

Once rescued, they are brought to our Transition Home for anywhere from 6-12 months. During this critical time, they receive the medical, judicial, and mental health care and attention they so desperately need, proving to them we are the "good guys," not the "bad guys," and we are here to help, not to hurt them. This special place is where the healing process begins, eventually placing them in a family-style safe home on the Promise Land.

Currently, we are busting at the seams in our transition emergency shelter and have expanded the building capacity to keep up with the number of new rescued children coming through our doors!

In 2025:

32

**children
rescued**

40

**cases
investigated**



Heal

Through 25 years of prevention and rescue, we've witnessed God bring healing to children from some of the most desperate circumstances and difficult stories. While true healing only comes from the Greatest Rescuer of all, Jesus, each child also receives education, counseling, discipleship, and vocational training. *Healing takes place not only from past traumas but in their hearts, minds, and bodies!*



Paul* is a beautiful picture of that healing. While his father was in prison, his mother placed a debt bondage of \$175 on her own children—her 7-year-old daughter and 1-year-old Paul—so she could travel to work as a prostitute. The children were forced to beg each day to pay off that debt bondage, and beaten when they didn't meet quota.

Living in no man's land along the Thai/Burma border, they had no way to buy food and literally picked up noodles off the floor to eat. When our team found them wandering the streets, Paul was just eighteen months old. He was so severely malnourished that his skin hung loosely on his tiny frame. Without immediate rescue, he would not have survived.

Within two months, Paul gained weight, began walking, and radiated joy. His sister also began to heal. Twelve years later, Paul is full of life—top of his class, passionate about art, and loves to dance.



Scan to watch
Lana share Paul's
remarkable story



In 2025:

92

children
lived at the
Promise Land

3

generations
of rescued
children

87

national
staff

11

rescued
children who
are now staff



It was a devastating cyclone in 2008 that first brought Life Impact into Burma.

In the storm's aftermath, countless children were left orphaned or separated from their families. We also heard that just days after, the military junta was going village to village, taking children to be child soldiers, land mine sweepers, or child brides for the junta. So of course, we had to act! We also went village to village gathering the vulnerable orphaned children that were left alone and prey for the junta.

Five years later, we would be confronted with another heartbreaking fact: three Burmese children could be trafficked for the price of one Thai child, and the face of child trafficking had set its eyes on Burma because of the desperation, poverty, and corruption of a war-torn nation! So with new problems came a new strategy. We strengthened our prevention efforts by opening a feeding center to reach the exploited, vulnerable street kids who were being sold and trafficked daily! And from prevention came Rescue! House of Hope, our first rescue safe house and our 3rd home in Burma, was born.



Prevent

Today, the greatest threat to children is the ongoing civil war. Children are separated from their families, at risk of being forced to fight for the military junta, or taken to be sex slaves or child brides for the soldiers. Prevention means raising awareness of the dangers of trafficking in Thailand, helping vulnerable families, and *providing practical support so children are protected before exploitation begins.*

In 2025:

1100

adults and
children
reached

970

lbs of food
distributed



Cyclone Nargis 2008



Feeding Center 2013

Rescue

In the face of civil war, rescue in Burma looks a little different. Some of the children at our Houses of Hope (HOH) were originally rescued from trafficking and begging rings near the Burma border. Others are orphans because of the war. We also care for children who are staying with us for safety. These children will be reunited with their families when it is safe for them to return to their villages without the threat of being kidnapped.

When a child arrives at the House of Hope, they receive daily meals, education, and the emotional support they need. *In the middle of instability and conflict, rescue means creating a place of safety, stability, and belonging.*

In 2025, we completed construction of our second House of Hope, allowing us to welcome even more children who urgently need a safe place to call home.

In 2025:

8

children

brought to safety at our
HOH boarding home



Heal

In Burma, everything we do through prevention and rescue leads to healing for children impacted by war.

Healing is more than safety. It looks like education that restores opportunity. It looks like shared meals and laughter over board games. It looks like daily routines and consistent care that create stability. ***But most importantly, healing looks like daily devotions, reminding them of the one who never leaves them and is always with them—Jesus, the One who restores what conflict has tried to steal.***

In 2025:

28

children
under the care
of HOH

19

children
received educational
support in two
boarding schools





Although Life Impact's work in Brazil officially began in 2020, this vast nation had been on Lana's heart from the very beginning.

In a support letter 25 years ago, Lana wrote, "We will start in Thailand, and duplicate this plan in... Brazil..."

In 2019, Lana and a select team traveled from one end of Brazil to the other, listening to stories and identifying where children were most vulnerable to exploitation. The need was overwhelming. Every story she heard was worse than the last. She settled on three locations: Juazeiro do Norte, Rio de Janeiro, and the Amazon to open our prevention projects.



LIFE IMPACT

INTERNACIONAL | BRAZIL



Prevent

From small beginnings under a tree and in someone's home, the work has grown quickly into something far greater, now occupying a former crackhouse in Rio and an old flip-flop factory in Juazeiro. We welcome around 1000 children each week, serving in two of Rio's most dangerous favelas, where gun battles are common, the interior of the Amazon, where sex tourism is a constant threat, and in Northeast Brazil, where we encounter some of the country's most severe cases of child exploitation.

Life Impact's Prevention Centers have become lighthouses for children in some of the darkest regions of Brazil.

In these spaces, each child receives two meals a day, educational and vocational support, opportunities like ballet and soccer, counseling, and most importantly, hope for a new life in Jesus.

In 2025:

180,500

meals
provided

851

children
reached
weekly

630

families
supported

33,450

lbs of food
given





Rescue

In Brazil, prevention looks like rescue—keeping children off the streets and away from those who would exploit them. But we also knew we needed safe homes in Brazil for children who had already been harmed.

The Brazilian Government wanted to see us in action for two years before we took the next step to rescue. Two years went quickly, and rescue was always in our hearts!

After 18 months of intensive work to receive government approval, we opened our first safe home in the Interior of the Amazon in January of 2025.

Hearing the cries of the children in the Amazon, we welcomed 16 children in 2025, including four sisters. All 16 had already experienced exploitation and desperately needed a place of safety, love, stability, and protection. In Brazil, the government prioritizes family reunification whenever it is safe, and some children have been restored to their relatives. For those with no safe home to return to, *Life Impact remains their refuge.*

In 2025:

16

children
rescued in the Amazon



Heal

Healing in Brazil happens every day in our projects and safe home. We are not only rescuing children from something, we are rescuing them for a purpose. Many describe our projects as a second home, a place where they belong, a refuge from abuse and neglect. Along with a hot meal each day, they gain life skills that we believe will give them hope for a future that they never had before, as well as a safe place to find healing from the atrocities that have already happened.

In 2025:

59

national staff

328

volunteers



Felipe* is one example. He has been part of our project in Juazeiro do Norte since the earliest days, when we first gathered under a tree. Over time, the pull of drug trafficking within his family drew him away, and he drifted from the safety of the community our team had built.

Recently, Felipe returned. During our Biblical Values workshop, he prayed and confessed Jesus as his Savior. He still faces pressures at home, but we believe that through consistent support, care, discipleship, and prayer, Felipe will continue walking a path of healing and hope, and his Life Impact Family will be right there to help him.



PREVENT

136,930
lbs of food

158
outreaches

RESCUE

32
children rescued
in Thailand

16
children rescued
in Brazil

8
children brought to
safety at our HOH
boarding home

HEAL

128
rescued children
living on the
Promise Land

28
children safe at
House of Hope
in Burma

13
children at
Casa de Vida
in the Amazon

Scan here
to see the
power of
your impact
on vulnerable
children.



4,430
salvations

More *Rescues.* More *Freedom.*

In this 25th year of Freedom, our Rescue Department in Thailand reached further than ever before. Not only did our team rescue 32 children, but we also investigated 8 other potential cases. That's up from 24 rescues in 2024.

Every report of a child at-risk begins with an investigation. Whenever possible, we fight for prevention first, strengthening families with food support, education assistance, and basic necessities so desperation never turns into exploitation.

When prevention is not possible, we act quickly. Along the Thai/Burma border, babies can be sold for as little as \$18. We have even encountered cases where unborn children were promised to traffickers before they were born.

Rescued children do not go directly to the Promise Land. Their first stop is a secure Emergency Transitional Home, a critical bridge between rescue and healing. Because many of these children have experienced so much trauma, they either want to fight, run away, or shut down. Trust has been shattered by the

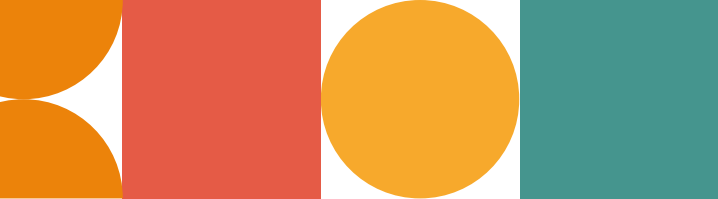


very people meant to protect them. Their parents, the police, and those in authority end up being the ones who exploit and abuse them. These children have to learn to trust again.

Because rescues are increasing, we are expanding the Emergency Transitional Home to welcome 12 more children and 4 additional trained caregivers. We are also trusting God to open the door for additional property surrounding the Transitional Home, creating space for even more children to grow, heal, and dream again.

For 25 years, freedom has grown one child at a time. As we look ahead, we are preparing for even greater rescue to change generations and nations.





Hope in the Heart of the Amazon

By Brook Ciprian

Life Impact Donor Relations Manager

I'll never forget the moment I stepped into our first safe home in the interior of the Amazon in September. It was full of laughter and joy. I had traveled across Brazil with our Operations Manager to meet our amazing team and better understand the daily sacrifices they make, but nothing prepared me for what I felt inside those walls.

This home officially opened in January 2025 after 18 long months of government approvals. It's located in one of the poorest regions of Brazil — a place where sex tourism and exploitation are part of the daily reality. And by the end of 2025, 16 children had already come through those doors.

One of the first children I met was Mateus.* Mateus had been living on the streets because his mother couldn't care for him. His sister had been murdered by drug traffickers, and he witnessed more violence than any child should. When he first came, he wouldn't make eye contact and often lashed out in anger.



"... his mother had already trafficked his 12 siblings. He was next."

But our team didn't give up on him. They stayed patient. Steady. Present.

Little by little, love began to break through. Today, Mateus is curious, talkative, and full of joy. Now, he is in school learning to read and write for the first time, receiving medical care and counseling, and proudly showing visitors the chicken coop he helped build and the chickens he cares for— proof that he is now living out a childhood and that his life has purpose and value.

Then there was baby Fiel.* Our team shared that ***his mother had already trafficked his 12 siblings. He was next.***

When he arrived, he was desperately hungry and neglected. But when I held him months later, I held a different baby — safe, bright-eyed, with chubby cheeks. I couldn't stop my tears. Not tears of heartbreak, but tears of gratitude that this little life had been saved.

The work our team does is not easy. But standing in that house, hearing children laugh in a region where their cries were once ignored, I was reminded why this mission matters so much.

Light is shining in one of the darkest regions of Brazil.



One Yes Becomes One Million Dollars

Giving a million dollars to fight child trafficking sounds impossible until you decide to get creative and say yes to God.

For nearly 20 years, Sandy Schmid and her husband, Ted, have faithfully supported Life Impact. But in 2014, Sandy had a dream that would change everything, not only for her, but for the children we serve.

Even though Sandy was ready to retire and her husband, Ted, was already retired, she felt that the next season of her life was just beginning. She had dreamed of opening a business that would directly fund the fight against human trafficking. After convincing her husband she would need his help, that dream became reality when she opened Second Story - A Thrifty Boutique in Simi Valley, California.

Every item in the store is donated. Every staff member is a volunteer. And 100% of the net profits go toward the fight against child trafficking. What began as a step of faith has now grown into an extraordinary legacy of freedom and generosity. This year, Second Story's giving to Life Impact has surpassed \$1 million!

In just the first two years of business, the boutique funded the complete restoration of a dilapidated home on the Promise Land, quite literally giving the building a "Second Story" that would also provide a "Second Story" for generations to come!

Sandy and Ted's obedience proves that when you place what's in your hands into God's, He multiplies it. And that it's never too late to give God your "yes". When you think you are finished with one season, God has only just begun. Their generosity hasn't just supported Life Impact, it has helped us build more safe homes and rescue even more vulnerable children. They haven't just changed one life; they've changed a generation—and even a nation.

One dream. One store. One million dollars. Countless lives given a "second story"!





Christmas in Their Hands, Heaven in Their Hearts

When Lana first went to Thailand, she wrote in that first letter that she wanted to bring the love of Jesus to the people there, instilling "God and greatness into the hearts of children." She quoted Matthew 10:42: "And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones... that person will certainly not lose their reward."

But Lana carried another dream too, one that began when she was just 10 years old and wanted to give her Barbies to children in Africa. Three years after arriving in Thailand, that dream came to life when she launched the first *Christmas in their Hands, Heaven in their Hearts* outreach in a remote hill tribe village, where orphaned refugee children experienced Christmas for the very first time.



Burma 2006



Brazil 2020

Since then, these outreaches have become one of Life Impact's most meaningful ways of reaching the lost and hurting.

Every December, our teams travel into remote villages and favelas in Thailand, Burma, and Brazil to share the message of Christmas with children and families who have never heard it before.

In 2025, we reached more than 4,600 people through 13 outreaches, distributing over 20,000 pounds of food, along with toys, blankets, clothing, educational supplies, and other essentials. But more importantly, families living in darkness saw the light and love of Jesus—many for the first time.

In 2025:



One of those sharing that hope in 2025 was Dow Ruang, who was rescued by Life Impact at just 14 years old after enduring severe abuse and exploitation. Her family would chain her up, beat and abuse her because they thought she brought bad luck to her family. Before she ever knew the name of Jesus, she cried out to God for help and He answered. Dow Ruang says her first Christmas after rescue changed her life. **More than gifts, she remembers the love, warmth and freedom she felt for the very first time.**

Scan here to watch Dow Ruang share what Christmas means to her.



Thailand 2025

Today, our teams work tirelessly to bring that same freedom to others, preparing gifts, meals, games, skits, and Gospel presentations for every outreach.

Countless miracles take place and the love of Jesus is spread to every hand and heart!

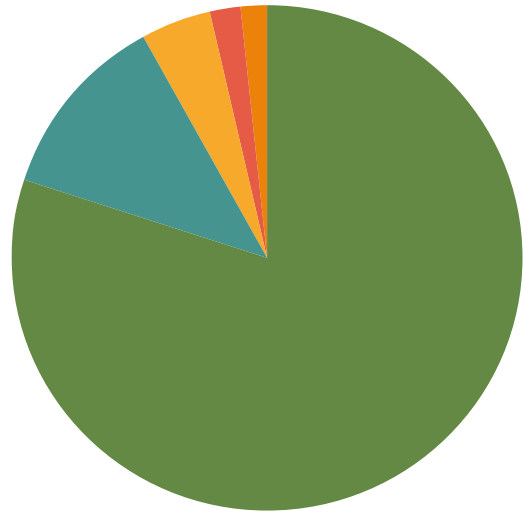


Financial Accountability

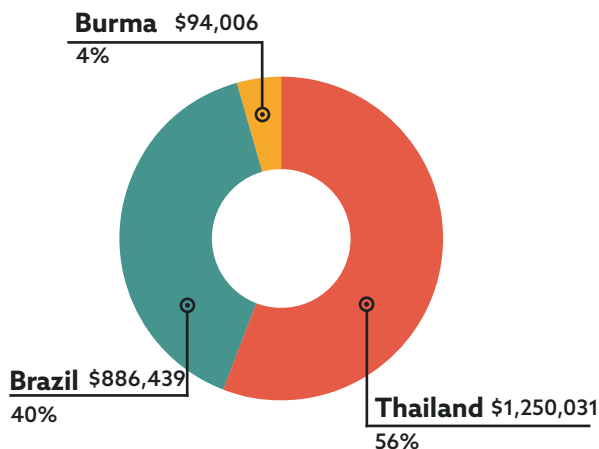
The \$3,230,518 you gave in 2025 went toward our programs to Prevent, Rescue, and Heal trafficked and exploited children in Thailand, Burma, and Brazil.

Revenue

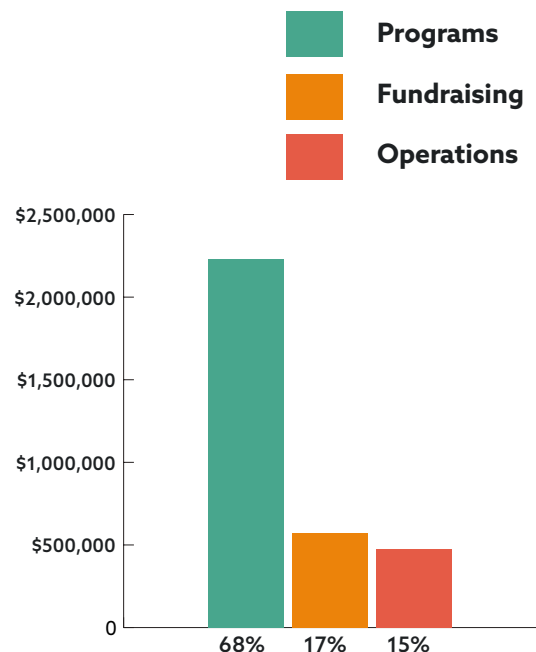
Unrestricted	\$2,816,416	80%
Restricted	\$414,100	12%
Programs	\$157,823	5%
Investments	\$72,941	2%
Other	\$49,343	1%



Expenses by Country



Expenses



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

Gold
Transparency
2025

Candid.



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 & Euodia Salon
and Day Spa Owners

Aaron Antis

Kingdom Builders Consulting Group

Kim Mora

HR Director - Interface Child
& Family Services

Advisory Committee

Joe Antis

Kingdom Builders Consulting Group

Diego Mesa

Founding Pastor Abundant Living Family
Church currently Patria

Finance Committee

Laura Straub

Systems Consultant

Stacey Mapes

Financial Consultant

Robert Johnson

Finance Manager

An aerial photograph of a rural area with several small houses with brown roofs, a large green field, and a pond. The area is surrounded by trees and a dirt road.

Girls' Promise Land 2025

*Dream with us for
the next 25 years!*

An aerial photograph of a rural area with several small houses with white roofs, a large green field, and a pond. The area is surrounded by trees and a dirt road.

Boys' Promise Land 2025

Ways to Change a *Life*

The next 25 years of impact begin today.

The possibilities are endless over the next 25 years through the power of partnerships.

Because of faithful partners, vulnerable children have found safety, healing, and hope. Together, we can reach even more children in more nations in the years to come!

Please consider a one-time gift or become a Freedom Partner by giving monthly. Every gift helps prevent exploitation, rescue at-risk children, and heal those harmed by trauma.



Give Today

Scan the QR code to make your gift.
lifeimpactintl.org/give



Give by Mail

Make checks payable to
Life Impact International
P.O. Box 1984
Broken Arrow, OK 74013



Give by Text

Text **IMPACT** to **28950**
To give \$100, text **IMPACT 100**

Thank you for dreaming with us and for helping write the next chapter of freedom for children around the world!

LIFE IMPACT INTERNATIONAL
PO Box 1984
Broken Arrow, OK
74013 USA



lifeimpactintl.org



Scan the QR Code to **Take Action**. Sign up for our newsletters, learn how you can host a fundraiser, or invite Lana to speak at your event. Your prayers are also a powerful way to Change a Child's Life and Change the World!

LIFE IMPACT
INTERNATIONAL 
25 YEARS OF FREEDOM

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