

A close-up photograph of a person's hands and arms using a shovel to dig in dark, wet mud. The person is wearing blue shorts and is barefoot. The background is a shallow, muddy stream or pond with some greenery in the distance. The lighting is natural, suggesting an outdoor setting.

Annual Report

2017

COMMUNITIES | COUNTERPARTS | COALITIONS

Building Slavery Resistance
from the Ground Up

The logo for Free the Slaves, featuring a stylized orange padlock with a white outline. The padlock is open, and the words "FREE THE SLAVES" are written in a bold, orange, sans-serif font to its right.

**FREE THE
SLAVES**
FREEING SLAVES • ENDING SLAVERY

 | **Communities** | **Counterparts** | **Coalitions**

Dear friends and supporters:

The heart and soul of Free the Slaves remains our support to **communities** struggling for freedom. Years of experience and rigorous assessment have shown that our Community Liberation Model yields sustained community resistance to slavery. We are pleased to share the results of the investment made by our supporters.

With a tested model in hand, we are forging partnerships with a new generation of **counterparts** who can achieve impact at large scale. We are thrilled by the Community Liberation Toolkit, which is capturing many years of experience and learning that we can now readily share with other organizations.

Ending slavery will require a vibrant movement that knits together organizations around the world. In that spirit, Free the Slaves is catalyzing and supporting **coalitions** that can amplify advocacy and accelerate learning.

As always, we are deeply grateful for our supporters, who make all this work possible.



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Executive Director



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Communities | Counterparts | Coalitions

Free the Slaves = Results

Mission

We liberate the enslaved and change the conditions that allow slavery to persist.

Model

Our community-based strategy is targeted, empowering, collaborative and holistic. We go where slavery flourishes, research what makes people vulnerable – then strengthen communities and local organizations to combat slavery at its roots.

Impact

When community members learn about their rights to freedom and dignity – and then collectively map out a plan to break free and stay free – they become remarkably powerful. The Free the Slaves model helps people harness this power of collective community action.

+13,000

People Freed from Slavery



+450,000

People Reached in Trafficking Hot Spots Through Awareness Raising & Rights Education



+200

Traffickers and Slaveholders Arrested



Growing our Global Footprint

Challenge

There's compelling evidence that the Free the Slaves strategy works: we liberate entire communities and leave them slavery resistant. Our challenge now is to scale-up from pilot projects to achieve true global reach: bringing freedom to thousands of communities every year and returning dignity to people currently trapped in dehumanizing brutality.

Response

Our goal is to enlist large international development organizations in the fight against modern slavery, persuading them to integrate anti-trafficking work into their existing projects to improve health care, child education, food security, microenterprise growth and gender equality.



Free the Slaves Now

PILOT SCALE

Working in hundreds of communities per year in partnership with local grassroots organizations.



Free the Slaves New

GLOBAL IMPACT

Working in thousands of communities per year in partnership with large international development organizations and their networks of grassroots groups.



Communities | Counterparts | Coalitions

Our Latest Innovation: Community Liberation Toolkit



Teaching

Our five-volume set of training manuals is designed to transfer the knowledge, skills and norms needed for high-impact international development organizations to integrate anti-trafficking strategies and activities into other community-level interventions. Combined with technical assistance from embedded Free the Slaves experts, the toolkit goal is to improve the reach of development programs by removing modern slavery as a barrier that prevents full community participation – while eradicating human trafficking at the same time.

Testing

Module 1 – Educating and Mobilizing Vulnerable Communities – was completed in 2017 and beta tested with the Salvation Army in India and READ Nepal in Nepal. Module 2 will focus on Victim Liberation and Survivor Rehabilitation and Reintegration. Module 3 will focus on Strengthening the Rule of Law. Module 4 will focus on Improving Access to Socioeconomic Services. Module 5 will focus on Monitoring & Evaluating Integrated Anti-trafficking Projects.



Beta testing Module 1 with Salvation Army in India in 2017

Safeguarding Children

Inspiring rescues and rigorous evaluations – they prove that FTS protects children and underscore the persistent need for our child-focused anti-slavery work.

Senegal

In rural Senegal, FTS-supported child protection committees teach villagers the risks of sending children to far-away cities seemingly for religious instruction. One committee's president traveled 500 miles and found his own nephew begging barefoot on the street. He rescued the boy and now spreads an invaluable anti-slavery message to his community. Our "Protect Our Children" project directs targeted education and outreach. Through FTS partner ENDA, a Senegalese religious leader learned real-life examples of local children trapped in begging street gangs. That very day he returned three boys he had previously recruited to their family, and now supports local anti-slavery efforts.

Ghana

Groundbreaking 2017 research for our "Growing Up Free" program in Ghana revealed widespread trafficking in the 34 communities where FTS works. In one village every household reported at least one child subjected to trafficking or exploitation. The report also outlined our plans to raise awareness, address vulnerabilities, and fight for slavery's littlest victims.



Senegal



Ghana



25%

of modern slavery victims are children under age 18

Protecting Women & Girls

Empowerment is essential to sustainable freedom, especially for women and girls. Survivors who lack education and skills are particularly vulnerable to re-enslavement. FTS initiatives offer grassroots support and livelihood training to ensure survivors who break free stay free.

Congo

A young Congolese woman, Benita Furaha, transformed herself from slave to seamstress. She was trapped in the mineral mines and a victim of sexual violence. Fieldworkers helped her join a dressmaking center. She mastered the craft, became literate and now earns an honest living in freedom teaching other survivors to sew.



Benita Furaha

India

An Indian family trapped in slavery at a brick kiln broke the bonds of slavery bit by bit. Our partner MSEMVS sent fieldworkers to their village to talk about their rights, patiently convincing the hesitant mother to join a self-help group. She learned to sew and save a little money. Today her young daughter, Pooja, goes to school. As role models for their community, they support themselves in freedom.



Pooja

71%
of modern slavery victims are women and girls

New Films Show Slavery is Alive



"Eighteen hours a day we worked. We would have guys coming in... and just help themselves with our bodies. Eventually you lose your mind."

—Timea Nagy



"The slave owner hired men armed with guns and axes. They guarded us the entire day."

—Veero



"Working like this, there is no difference between an animal and a human being."

—Shivanna Puttaiah

A 2017 report on modern slavery, unveiled at the U.N. General Assembly, revealed shocking statistics. The estimated number of slaves worldwide was higher than many experts predicted.



40 million
people are enslaved worldwide



50%
in labor slavery

 | Communities | Counterparts | Coalitions

The Human Face of Slavery: In a two-part series premiered by FTS in 2017, survivors recount the brutality of slavery and express its human toll in their own words – powerful testaments to their struggle, their dignity and our work. (visit www.freetheslaves.net/videos)



“They told my mom they would send me to school. I left home thinking I would be sent to school. It was a lie.”

—Natacha Bernoit



“A man came into our village and told us there was good work available, and we’d be paid well. All we got were beatings. We were beaten all the time.”

—Ashok Kumar



“I was kept in chains. That was the most fearful part for me. We were dragged around by the chains.”

—Tario



37.5%
in forced marriage slavery



12.5%
in sex slavery

Grassroots Advocacy

We bring slavery to light where it hides, advocating for tougher laws and stronger social services. A victim-centered view – in which survivors get strong psychological, social, educational, economic, medical and vocational support – is essential to sustainable freedom.

Haiti

In partnership with Beyond Borders, our “United to End Child Slavery” program in Haiti encourages adult survivors of child restavèk slavery to speak out on the taboo topic, delivering powerful testimonies in churches and at public gatherings. Their authority and bravery inspire more people to join the network of survivor “brigades” and more villagers to resist restavèk slavery. The brigades started in Port-au-Prince and now our innovative technique is spreading to rural areas.



Nepal

Our Nepalese partner AATWIN successfully lobbied for provisions in the national anti-trafficking law that support survivor rights. The new federal regulation is currently being drafted. It is another anti-slavery milestone for a country that has already made trafficking illegal in its constitution.



Global Leadership to Fight Slavery Worldwide

Free the Slaves has been chosen by our colleagues in the anti-trafficking movement to serve in key leadership positions at both the national and international levels. We are honored that our peers view Free the Slaves as a convening organization that believes in harnessing the power of partnership.



Alliance 8.7: Free the Slaves Executive Director Maurice Middleberg serves on the global coordinating group of Alliance 8.7, a coalition of U.N. agencies, businesses, governments, academics and civil society organizations dedicated to achieving U.N. Sustainable Development Goal 8.7, the end of modern slavery, human trafficking and child labor.



ATEST Coalition: Free the Slaves serves as the secretariat, fiscal sponsor and steering committee co-chair of the Alliance to End Slavery and Trafficking. ATEST is a U.S. based coalition of 11 human rights organizations who work together to advocate for stronger laws, increased funding and a holistic victim-centered approach for U.S. government counter-trafficking programs.



Freedom from Slavery Forum: Free the Slaves also serves as the secretariat for the Freedom from Slavery Forum, which is a global annual convening of movement leaders to map out a coordinated and cohesive civil society agenda for confronting modern slavery. In 2018 the forum is growing in size and moving from the U.S. to Thailand.

Free the Slaves also participates in many other human rights coalitions. Learn more about our advocacy philosophy on the Free the Slaves website at www.freetheslaves.net/thought-leadership/coalitions-affiliations/.

Building Awareness



Free the Slaves is committed to helping the world's news media tell the story of slavery and the battle to end it.

Expertise

Our staffers help journalists communicate the human tragedy of bondage and the joyous triumph of freedom. We are frequently on the front lines when



slaves are rescued, and often speak in the halls of power to advocate for stronger governmental action.

Reach

In 2017, Free the Slaves was mentioned 305 times in global media, reaching 524 million people, including influential op-eds for CNN and Reuters. See our "Free the Slaves in the News" webpage for highlights: freetheslaves.net/press-room.



Thought Leadership

Philanthropists, social activists and scholars support FTS because we are one of the world's leading anti-trafficking organizations, with a global reputation for trailblazing work that delivers real results.

Field Visits

In February, Cindy McCain visited FTS and our Congolese partners in Goma on behalf of the McCain Institute for International Leadership. Together we reaffirmed our commitment to grassroots activism and a holistic approach. "Congratulations on your very fine work," she said.

Freedom Ambassadors

In August, renowned humanitarian photographer and FTS supporter Lisa Kristine gave the keynote address at Hong Kong's Anti-Slavery Summit. As her powerful exhibit, "Enslaved," travels the world, it promotes our vital work, grows global awareness and strengthens public resolve.

Technical Conferences



At November's prestigious American Evaluation Association conference, FTS showcased the importance of monitoring and evaluation. Our

model demands rigorous M&E – you can't cure what you can't count. We identify slavery hot spots and causes then follow up to record results and improve our methods. We pioneer the science of liberation.



Cindy McCain
in the Congo



Lisa Kristine in
Hong Kong

Sponsors & Donors

We thank the wide range of institutions who made our work possible in 2017 through their generous grants, donations and in-kind contributions. Free the Slaves is a bridge between communities that need help and communities with the resources to provide it. We don't free slaves, you do!

Amazon Smile
Deloitte
Elkes Foundation
Freedom Fund
Google
Harman Family Foundation
Humanity United
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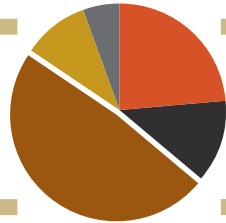
AND YOU...

We receive more than 1,000 contributions from individuals every year. Thanks!



Balanced Revenue

- 53% U.S. Government
- 26% Foundations
- 14% Individuals
- 6% In-Kind Donations
- 1% Other



Statement of Activities

2017

2016

SUPPORT & REVENUE

Contributions & Grants	\$994,330	\$3,075,953
Government Grants	\$1,320,756	641,842
In-Kind Contributions	156,908	96,323
Product Sales & Other Income	16,850	16,714
Total Support & Revenue	\$2,488,844	\$3,830,832

EXPENSES

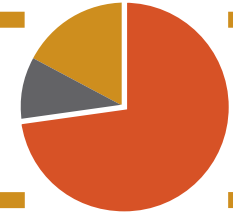
Program Services	\$2,357,703	\$2,212,579
Management Services	569,543	507,470
Fundraising	316,655	367,151
Total Expenses	\$3,243,901	\$3,087,200
Change in Net Assets	(\$755,057)	\$743,632
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	2,242,054	1,498,422
Net Assets at End of Year	\$1,486,997	\$2,242,054

Years ended December 31, 2017 and December 31, 2016. Complete audited financial reports and IRS filings are available on our website: freetheslaves.net/reports.



Efficient Expenditures

- 73% Programs and Services
- 17% Administration
- 10% Fundraising



Statement of Financial Position

2017

2016

ASSETS

Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$366,550	\$553,156
Grants & Pledges Receivable	684,157	733,166
Partner Advances	28,338	76,985
Other Receivables	9,469	32,916
Inventory	25,666	29,137
Prepaid Expenses	1,987	15,469
Net Property & Equipment	30,017	38,317
Grants and pledges receivable, net of current portion and present value discount	587,122	907,951
Security Deposit	8,447	8,447
Total Assets	\$1,741,753	\$2,395,544

LIABILITIES

Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities	\$162,434	\$53,476
Deferred Rent	\$92,322	\$100,014
Total Liabilities	\$254,756	\$153,490

NET ASSETS

Unrestricted	120,154	297,827
Temporarily Restricted	1,366,843	1,944,227
Total Net Assets	\$1,486,997	\$2,242,054
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$1,741,753	\$2,395,544

3 Things Anyone Can Do:



Spread the word at home, work, church or school



Finance freedom by donating today



Be a conscientious consumer: buy ethically-made goods

Visit freetheslaves.net/how-to-take-action



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