

#### Dear Friends,

As I walked my daughter down the aisle on her wedding day, my heart was filled with so much joy! I knew she was marrying a man who would love her and provide for her. I had full confidence that my daughter would have a bright future filled with love. I also had a sadness in my heart. I thought about our daughters. These young girls and women trusted people who promised them love and a better life. Instead, they were deceived, taken captive, abused, and sold.

But then I thought about the ODI family and the committed teams that work tirelessly to help bring an end to this evil of human trafficking. There is such Hope because there is such great Love.

As I look back on this past year, I am overwhelmed... The ODI family has given so generously of their time, talent, and treasure and the impact has been incredible on the daughters' lives. Here are just a few highlights:

- 18,060 girls and women were counseled at the border.
- The second Safe Home is now open! Capacity has tripled!
- 80 daughters received vocational skills training.
- New Electrician Training skills track was added.
- U.S. teams led **Cosmetology, Leadership Development** and **Trauma Counseling training.**
- 40 girls are receiving education support at all-new Tutoring Center.

In 2023 we will continue to build upon the work that has been established, while giving emphasis to business development. We will be launching a Business Incubator Team that will walk alongside daughters to help ensure the successful start-ups and growth of their businesses. With this team in place, 30 new businesses will be established, and many more communities will be transformed!

While the invitation to come to Nepal is always open to our ODI family, we know not everyone can make the journey. This booklet was designed as **an invitation for you to come and see** what has been done.

**Thank you for your support and love for our daughters.** It is truly transforming lives and communities for generations to come.

Ramesh Sapkota
ODI Founder & President

# THE ISSUE:



Data collected from a 2021 report from the International Labor Organization (ILO).

#### Human trafficking is modern day slavery.

It is one of the world's most complex crimes.

It is the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of people through force, fraud, or deception with the aim of exploiting them for profit.



### **49.6 MILLION PEOPLE**

are living in modern-day slavery.



### **27.6 MILLION PEOPLE**

are in forced labor.



33 MILLION of them

•••••0

## **6.3 MILLION PEOPLE**

are exploited for sex.



4 out of 5 are girls or women.

1.6 million are children.



# THE ISSUE: HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN NEPAL

# 25,000 TO 35,000

**girls and young women** are trafficked to India from Nepal every year.

Once there, **they are taken captive and sold as slaves** – many times in auction blocks with other girls – to the highest bidders from India or the Middle East.

#### Nepal is a source country for traffickers.

#### **Extreme Poverty**

Girls, young women and families in remote villages are targeted with false promises of a better life, financial stability and love.

#### **Open Border**

**Girls are easily transported across the border to India** because there are no border checkpoints for identification or reasons for travel.

#### **Patriarchal Society**

Women are thought to be **inferior and treated as secondclass citizens.** Many feel they are unworthy of living, respect, or love.







## OUR **MISSION**



**Our Daughters International** and our partners exist to **BRING AN END TO HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND TO SEE LIVES AND COMMUNITIES** TRANSFORMED.

### SINCE 2009

171,660 girls and women

have been counseled at the border stations.

13,000 trafficking victims

were rescued and have become overcomers.

**1,724** overcomers have become our daughters at the Safe Home.

**310** businesses

have been started by our daughters.

120 Community Empowerment Groups

have been started with 5,906 members.

## OUR SOLUTION: THE FREEDOM PATHWAY



# THE STRATEGY: BORDER STATIONS & INDIA RESCUES







#### **Border Stations**

**10 Border Stations** and **two Train Depots** span the entire India-Nepal border from east to west.

At each station, there is also a **Transit Home** that provides emergency shelter for identified victims.

**Border Counselors,** many who were once victims themselves, monitor traffic at the border.

Potential victims are stopped and interviewed.

If a victim is identified, they are **rescued** and **taken to the Transit Home** where they stay two-three days.

During their stay, teams walk alongside the survivor, and partner with local law enforcement and government officials to determine next steps.

90% of the time, a survivor is able to be **reunited with her family.** At this time, the family is educated about the dangers of human trafficking.

If safety, trauma, or other issues prevent her from being reunited, she is given the opportunity to be **welcomed as "our daughter"** at the Safe Home.

#### **India Rescues**

While the goal is to **stop every victim before they reach India,** this isn't always possible.

The **rescue and repatriation team** in India works closely with the government, local law enforcement and various organizations. Information is provided to the team that leads them to identify girls who are at risk or have been reported missing. The team may also **conduct raids** to rescue Nepali airls.

If a victim is identified, the same next steps are taken to **ensure** the safety of the survivor.

## 2022 **IMPACT**

#### **BORDER STATIONS**

18,060 girls and women were counseled at the border.

**770** victims were rescued and became overcomers.

### **NEW BORDER STATION** added at **Janakpur Train Depot.**

#### **INDIA RESCUES**

 $125_{\ victims}$  were rescued and repatriated to Nepal.



# "IF IT WASN'T FOR ODI, MAYBE I WOULDN'T STILL BE ALIVE."

Click or scan the QR code below to watch Sushila's story.





Sushila was in eleventh grade when she received a marriage proposal. She agreed to the marriage with one condition: that she could continue her education.

Sushila's soon-to-be husband ran a business in Delhi, India. After they were married, they left Nepal to settle in their new home. Upon arriving, **Sushila learned that the business her husband ran was a prostitution ring,** and that is when her hell began. He forced Sushila, his own wife, into becoming a call girl for his business.

Sushila was rescued and brought to our partner's Safe Home where she received

care and counseling.

Days and months of agony followed the marriage. Sushila's husband not only forced her into sexual slavery, but he also abused and tortured her. He locked Sushila in a bathroom for four days without food or water. To survive, she drank water from the toilet. A nearby neighbor became aware of Sushila's imprisonment and contacted her father who then contacted our partners.

Sushila was rescued and brought to our partner's Safe Home where she received care and counseling. She now works for our partner as a Border Counselor to help rescue other girls and women that are vulnerable to the evil schemes of traffickers. With encouragement and support from our partners' leadership team, she worked with law enforcement to bring down her husband's trafficking ring.

"Until my last breath I will continue to work to make our society free from human-trafficking."



# THE STRATEGY: SAFE HOMES

Click or scan the QR code below to take a guided tour of the newest Safe Home!





Safe Homes (lovingly known as the Dream Homes by the daughters)

When a survivor arrives at one of the **two Safe Homes**, she is welcomed as "our daughter" by a loving house mother and staff.

First, the teams **ensure that her basic needs are met.** She receives a warm bed with a place to put her belongings, additional clothing, personal products, nutritious meals, and **a loving, caring environment.** 

Knowing that the majority of girls who arrive have experienced great trauma or neglect, intensive one-on-one trauma counseling is started right away.

At the same time, the daughter participates in peer-to-peer counseling as it's important for her to know she is **not alone on her pathway to freedom.** 

After the daughter is ready, she is matched to a counselor who will walk alongside of her to help her **dream about the future.** 

Together, they begin to **develop a plan** that will help her realize her dreams of completing her education or learning a vocational skill at the Training Center that will lead to a bright future.

The daughter stays at the Safe Homes between **two and three months.** 

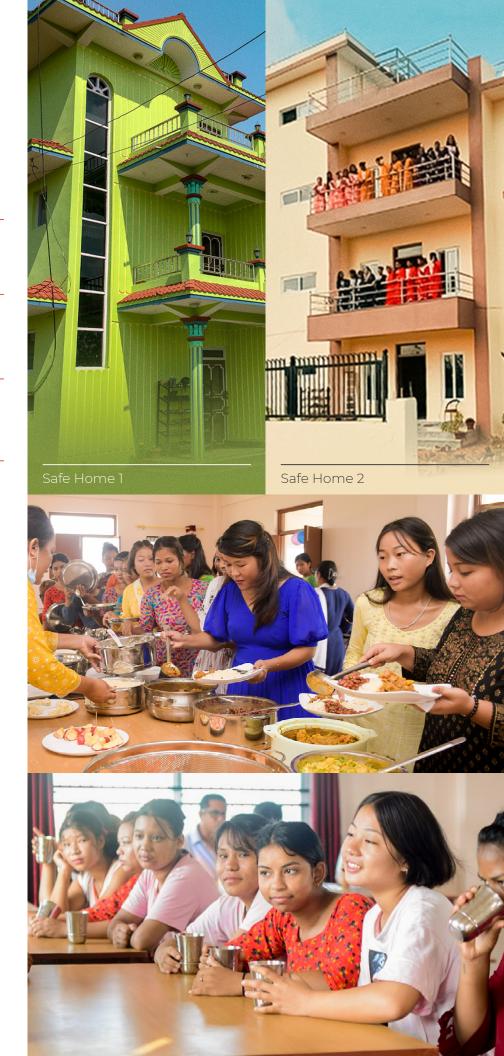
# 2022 IMPACT

**218** daughters received services.

**74** overcomers were welcomed as daughters to the Safe Home.

**61** daughters graduated from the Safe Home.

19 daughters reintegrated into their families and communities.



# NEW SAFE HOME TRIPLES CAPACITY!

As our partners increased their effectiveness in rescuing victims at the border, the first Safe Home was consistently at, or at times, over capacity. It became evident that additional space was needed to be able to care for the number of survivors who were being rescued. Thanks to the generosity of the ODI family, this year a new Safe Home was constructed and opened in early September! Combined with our partners' original Safe Home, up to 60 daughters now have a place to call home at any one time. It's anticipated that every year, 250 daughters will now be able to begin their process of restoration on their pathway to freedom.



# "THEY NEVER STOPPED PURSUING ME."

"My name is Rama. I was recently rescued from the Sunauli border station. My rescue was the lowest point of my life because I realized the man I loved and was ready to marry did not in fact love me as he said. He had lied to me and was ready to trade my life for a profit. I was filled with sadness and shame. My family had tried to tell me I was being foolish, but I didn't listen. I didn't want to believe them. When I first arrived at the Safe Home, I used to yell and curse at the staff, but even so they never stopped pursuing me. I finally realized these were people that truly cared about me. Now, I'm no longer Rama – aggressive, liar, dull. I am Rama - grateful, thankful, and renewed."





# THE STRATEGY: TRAINING CENTER

#### **Vocational Skills Training**

The daughters are referred to the Training Center from the Safe Home.

Upon entering the Training Center program, the daughters are given the opportunity to enroll in **one of four vocational skills training tracks:** 

COSMETOLOGY

TAILORING

**FAST FOOD** 

ELECTRICAL

All of these tracks are designed to meet the needs of people in the community, hence giving the daughters the greatest opportunity to launch and maintain a successful business. These areas also challenge gender stereotypes and will hopefully inspire other women in the community to pursue their dreams.



#### Social Leadership Development Training

While at the Training Center, daughters can develop their skills in **public speaking**, **professionalism**, and **societal understanding**. These daughters will also be equipped to share information about human trafficking in Nepal along with their own personal stories.

# 2022 IMPACT

**80** daughters received vocational training.

45 daughters graduated from Social Leadership Training.

**55** daughters participated in Enhanced Leadership Training.



# "I WILL BE THE FIRST & ONLY FEMALE ELECTRICIAN IN MY VILLAGE!"

Click or Scan the QR code below to watch Puja's story.





There are currently three other daughters training along with Puja, and together, the cohort wired the entire new Safe Home!

They are well on their way to bringing a shining light into their communities.

Growing up, she had to forgo her education to stay home and care for her elderly parents. With the goal of earning an income for her family, **Puja left for a job in India believing there she would find better opportunities.** When she arrived at the

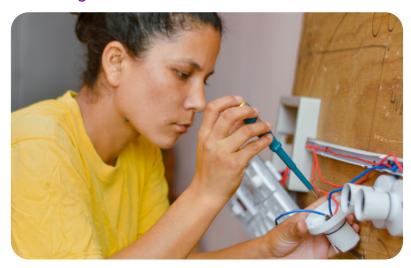
Puja was from a poor farming community in West Nepal.

Krishnanagar border, she was counseled by our partners' border counselors about the dangers of human-trafficking. Puja was encouraged to enroll at the Training Center and learn a skill that would help her to get a job that would provide a sustainable living in Nepal.

When Puja arrived, she was given the opportunity to study one of the four tracks. One option that had been recently introduced was Electrician Training. Even though no other daughters had expressed interest in learning these skills, Puja thought it would be the perfect fit and jumped at the opportunity.

"When I was young, the lights went out in our house. I waited all day for an electrician to come, and when he did, he told me it would be 500 rupees to change one fuse. Such a small object, but so very expensive. My family could not afford this amount. When I heard there was an opportunity to train as an electrician, I knew I wanted to become part of it so I could go back into the community and help others who came from small means. I would be the only female in my village to have such a skill and to be depended on would be very fulfilling!"

Puja was the first daughter to say yes to a male-dominated career track in Nepal. She will also be one of the first who will break gender stereotypes that will open the door for many other daughters to follow her lead.





# THE STRATEGY: BUSINESSES AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Once a daughter graduates from the Training Center, she is empowered as a leader for community change.

#### **BUSINESSES**

Earning a sustainable income is a key to breaking the cycle of poverty and helping to eradicate human trafficking. Over the years, hundreds of businesses have been launched by the daughters and they are able to provide for themselves and their families.

#### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

#### **Empowerment Groups**

Transformation starts at the grassroots level. When a daughter returns to her community, she will look for ways to **engage** as many people as possible in helping her fight against human trafficking.

**Women -** Rallying other women from her community, she will start a **Community Empowerment Group.** Together, these women start businesses, establish micro-savings groups, and raise awareness surrounding the issues of human trafficking, gender-based violence and child marriage.

**Adolescents -** Peer-to-peer influence is also key in helping combat trafficking. **Daughters identify young leaders in their communities** who they can partner with and host awareness activities.

Men - Perhaps the most powerful way to break the cycle of human trafficking is to **challenge the cultural view of women.** When a daughter returns to her community, "real men" are identified who will start **Man Up Defender groups** and commit to fighting against human trafficking and gender-based violence.

#### **Education**

When a girl completes her education it **dramatically decreases the risk of her being trafficked.** Through the NoChild Education Sponsorship Program, hundreds of girls are given the opportunity to graduate and pursue their dreams of attending university and going on to have successful careers.

## 2022 IMPACT

#### BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

10 new businesses were started.

# **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

120 Community
Empowerment Groups are
established, reaching over 5,900
girls and women.

15 Adolescent Groups are established, reaching 570 girls

13 Man Up Defender Groups are established, with 173 members

#### **EDUCATION**

**172** girls received scholarships through the NoChild Sponsorship Education Program.



# OUR PARTNERS ANSWER THE CALL









Madi is a poor community with little industry, minimal education, early marriages, and high rates of reproductive health issues. It is a target-rich community for traffickers not only because of its low socio-economic status, but because girls and women possess attractive physical features that turn greater profits. It's with this understanding, that the Deputy Mayor reached out to our partners to help develop a plan that would prevent girls in the community from being trafficked.

As a first line of defense, a surveillance booth has been strategically placed at Madi's local bus stop. Trained daughter counselors operate the booth and interview villagers traveling by bus to Birgunj, the nearest border crossing point to India. If the daughter counselors suspect a girl is in danger of being trafficked, they can intervene before she is transported to the border.

Knowing ultimately that education is empowerment and a key factor in mitigating human trafficking, our partners decided to provide education scholarships to 50 school-aged girls in the community. They are also planning on opening a new Tutoring Center for these girls to receive daily, additional academic support.

Education is empowerment, and a key factor in mitigating human trafficking

Our partners have also helped to start numerous Community Empowerment Groups. There are now 17 women's groups that discuss issues of gender-based violence and human-trafficking, as well as establish micro-savings groups to eventually become recognized as federal banks. In addition, several large-scale awareness conferences have been hosted by our partners in the village including one campaign where stickers were posted on buildings and vehicles with numbers to call if someone suspected trafficking may be involved.

Our partners' plan is to continue to infiltrate this community and saturate it with resources to fight against the trafficking issues they face. It is our hope and expectation that our partners will have great success.

Stay tuned...we will keep you updated!

## 2023: COME AND SEE WHAT'S NEXT!

# RESCUE VICTIMS

#### GOALS

**30,000 girls and women** will be counseled at the border

**1,080 girls and women** will be rescued as victims but will be overcomers.

# RESTORE DAUGHTERS

#### GOAL

**250 survivors** will be welcomed at the Safe Homes.

As you have read through these pages, we hope you have been able to see and celebrate all that has been done this past year.

As we look ahead to next year, we know there is more for us to do. **Your** partnership with us will help bring an end to human-trafficking. Lives and communities will continue to be transformed!

## 2023 INVESTMENT GOAL: \$1,450,000

# EMPOWER LEADERS

#### GOALS

**80 daughters** will receive vocational skills training.

**50 daughters** will graduate from Social Leadership Training.

**75 daughters** will participate in Enhanced Leadership Training.

# TRANSFORM COMMUNITIES

#### GOALS

Launch Business
Incubator Team to
support new businesses

Deploy **additional anti-trafficking strategies** in the Madi community.

**30 new businesses** will be launched.

**21 Adolescent Groups** will reach 675 young girls.

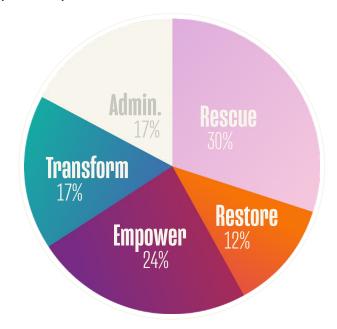
**15 Man Up Defender Groups** will mobilize 210 members.

**50 new girls** will receive scholarships through **NoChild sponsorship program.** 

**125 Community Mobilization Groups**will reach 6,735 girls and women.

# THE INVESTMENT BREAKDOWN

The support of the ODI family transforms hundreds of daughters lives every year as they journey on the Freedom Pathway. Here is a breakdown of how your investment will support our partners.



Rescue

30%

10 Border Stations, 2 Train Depots, Emergency Shelter at 10 Transit Homes, Staff Members, Rescue + Repatriation, Pre-border Awareness Activities

Restore

12%

Two Safe Homes, Staff Members



**Empower** 

24%

Training Center, Staff Members, Vocational Skills Training, Social Leadership Development Training, Education Development

**Transform** 

17%

Business Start-Ups, Business Support, Community Engagement Programs, Advocacy + Lobbying, Empowerment Groups, ESL, Community Awareness Events



ODI Admin, Marketing & Fundraising

1/%

# OUR FAMILY OF SUPPORTERS

Churches

25%

**8 churches** located in **the United States** and **Sweden** are partners of ODI.



#### Foundations & Donor Advised Funds

33%

**16 foundations** and **donor advised funds** allocate funds to support ODI.

#### **Businesses & Individuals**

25%

447 businesses and individuals provided financial support.



#### Non-profits

17%

**4 other non-profit organizations** have rallied their donors to provide support for ODI.



## **5 COUNTRIES**



Canada

**England** 

Nepal

Sweden

**United States** 

# LET'S SEE LIVES AND COMMUNITIES TRANSFORMED TOGETHER!



#### **GIVE ONLINE:**

ourdaughtersinternational.org/donate or click or scan the OR code.

#### **MAIL DONATION:**

Our Daughters International P.O. Box 70228 Rochester Hills, MI 48307

Please make checks payable to Our Daughters International.

#### TRANSFER APPRECIATED STOCK:

Please contact Executive Director, Kristi Kirschmann, for more information. kristi@ourdaughtersinternational.org 248.761.9228

Our Daughters International is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization. EIN 45-4171638.



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