Our Mission is to prevent child trafficking and exploitation through culturally relevant programs for vulnerable children and to share their stories to inspire creative, compassionate people to act.
Scholarships
An estimated 60,000 children are involved in the Thai sex trade each year. Most are girls who come from the northern region of Thailand, where poverty forces many to drop out of school while young. Uneducated, yet expected to help provide, these children are easily lured into the sex trade. Educational scholarships reverse this trend—opening opportunities and empowering at-risk children and youth to escape exploitation. We provide scholarships for 110-140 students annually.

Resources
The Bong Prae Resource Center is the hub of our work. In a rural area of the Chiang Rai Region, it offers educational resources, art supplies, tutoring, career counseling, math and English classes, trafficking awareness programs and human rights trainings, a safe and positive environment, and mentorship from staff and volunteers. In 2016, we opened our second Resource Center in Chiang Rai City, expanding our resources to the thousands of students in the bustling city of Chiang Rai. We also hold English camps each year, with around 400 participants attending.

Mentorship
Statistics show that at-risk children and youth with mentors are more likely to aspire to attend and graduate from college; to participate in sports and other extracurricular activities; to take leadership roles in school and outside activities; and to regularly volunteer in their communities. All of our students are mentored by our staff through daily interaction and intentional activities at our resource centers, regular home visits, and attendance at important events.
We intentionally invest in relationships with our scholars and other children, our community and investors, our staff and volunteers.

We practice transparency with our finances and needs, our successes and challenges.

We hold the dignity of the children and communities we serve and of those who support us at the forefront of our minds in all we do.

We provide sustainable educational and economic opportunities to the children and communities we serve, recognizing that long-term change is an on-going, collective effort.

We represent and share positivity and hope amidst the harsh realities our students face.

We are inclusive of all people; our help is neither based on nor restricted by gender, religion, race, nationality, etc.

With a posture of listening and learning, we remain adaptable and open to the needs of the children and communities we serve.

**OUR PROGRAMS**

**AWARENESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS**

Our awareness programing is designed to facilitate social, sexual, and self-awareness through our 3-3-5 program, counseling, and camps. Our legal rights programing teaches students and community members about the Thai law as well as their legal and human rights.

**SUSTAINABILITY**

The Freedom Story's Sustainability Programs utilize local resources and build upon the existing skills of the families we work with to empower communities by preventing the flight of talent, raising living standards, and reducing the lure of traffickers. We have served over 300 direct beneficiaries since 2015. In 2017, we launched Seri – our first sustainable and equitable product line.

**ETHICAL STORYTELLING**

We identify stories of beauty and hope arising from adverse circumstances and tell these stories through photography and film for two purposes. First, to provide healing and dignity to the communities we serve. Second, to expand awareness of the power of prevention and invite others into this work. Our CEO, Rachel Goble, launched Ethical Story Telling this year!

**OUR VALUES**

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**JANUARY**
Re-branded to The Freedom Story (formerly The SOLD Project)

**FEBRUARY**
Sustainability Project’s Eco Agricultural Learning Center became fully operational for the community

**MARCH**
Celebrated graduation for dozens of students in Thailand

**APRIL**
High School and University students from our Resource Centers built a playground and led a two day workshop for a hilltribe village as part of our giving back program

**JUNE**
NBA player Jeremy Lin of the Brooklyn Nets participated in our learning trip with the JLin Foundation and One Day’s Wages

**AUGUST**
Launched Ethical Storytelling, a community of non-profit practitioners and storytellers learning to integrate a new standard of storytelling

**SEPTEMBER**
Students from the Institute of South East Asian Affairs visited The Freedom Story in Thailand

**OCTOBER**
Our youth leaders ran a human rights outreach training for 63 of their peers

**NOVEMBER**
8 members of our team, including our CEO, attended the first ever Asia Regional Anti-Trafficking Conference

**DECEMBER**
End of Year campaign raised more than $100K to invest in prevention

**DECEMBER**
Launched ‘Shop Seri’ to prevent human exploitation through sustainable products

**OUR MISSION**

Our mission is to empower individuals and communities to end exploitation and take ownership of their future.
At least 189 students, parents, and organizational leaders have gone through our awareness trainings.

At least 2,500 students have used our Bong Prae Resource Center over 2,500 times this year.

At least 89 students have accessed counseling. Ran counseling trainings for over 60 university and health care staff.

At least 126 people have participated in our human rights classes.

383 students participated in our English Camp.

26 students graduated from University. Six students continued on from High School to pursue an Associate's or Bachelors Degree.

At least 87 villagers, 3 student interns, and 2 district officers have participated in our Sustainability Programs.

383 students participated in our English Camp.
CASE STUDIES

Kla opens up

A few months back, Kla*, a scholarship student who faces incredible obstacles, came to a staff run day-camp that builds emotional awareness, relational health, and communication techniques – one facet of our human rights and awareness programs. During the first half of the camp, Kla was aloof and uninterested, ignoring staff directions and even distracting other students.

But during the mandala activity – an art activity we use to help students connect to their inner lives – things changed. Absorbed, Kla neither talked with nor distracted others but drew silently to the music. Staff were surprised to see the dramatic shift. At the end, Kla was excited to share his drawing: a heart monster.

He hoped it would send love to others and help free their emotions. When the activity was over, Kla remained engaged for the rest of the day.

Two weeks later, our team member Lux followed up.

While Kla is usually reserved and guarded, he opened up to her about how the issues he faces at home cause him to feel isolated, afraid, and confused. He told her that while he still feels terrible at times, he has begun to focus on the future and not the past.

Over the last month, Kla has taken on a leadership role with Lux, helping her run the emotional awareness event at a local primary school. While Kla still faces many obstacles in life, he is beginning to recognize that his pain can be transformed into space for others to heal as he serves and opens himself to them.

This is resilience in action, and this is the reason we invest in human rights and awareness programs.

Dao leans into her future

Dao* is a soft-spoken and shy scholarship student who was living with her aunt when family problems erupted. When seventeen-year-old Dao decided to drop-out of high school and told her family she was leaving to live with friends but not where she was headed, they didn’t try to stop her.

When her mentor, TFS staff member Lux, called Dao’s home to check in and arrange a routine home visit, Dao’s family told Lux she was gone. Despite an unclear path, Lux was able to locate Dao.

When she found her, Lux encouraged Dao to return home, but Dao refused to go back to the dysfunction. Fearing for her safety and knowing she had no way to make money, Tawee offered Dao a two-month trainee position at TFS’s Chiang Rai City Center. This gave Dao the opportunity to learn about working life and revealed the importance of finishing her education to have more opportunities in the future.

Eventually, Dao shared with Lux that she wanted to study to be a nursing assistant but her family refused to support her. With the help of her scholarship, Dao took a six-month course to study to be a nursing assistant. She also worked in Bangkok for three months, completing a residency. She now lives and works in Chiang Mai at a hospital while finishing her GED.

*RNames changed to protect identity

OUR MISSION

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Dr. Melissa Cianfrini, a postdoctoral researcher at The University of Western Australia (UWA), visited our programs in Thailand to design a study. Working with Worn Donchai, our Sustainability Director, and Lisa Winterfeldt, our (previous) International Liaison, Dr. Cianfrini developed a study aimed to (a) evaluate the Eri Silkworm Farm program and (b) offer a lessons learned approach to inform future evidence-based practice.

Dr. Cianfrini writes:

"From the data analysis, it appears the program is providing benefits to the community, empowering farmers with knowledge on sericulture and income to supplement everyday living expenses and education. The program set out to support women and elderly members of the community, and this is evident in the demographics of the participants. Furthermore, the program gave a sense of purpose and achievement for participants, illuminating an affinity with the silkworms.

“A pertinent call to action from the participants was to increase trainers and further career training programs. Participants struggled with the silkworms at the commencement of the program, which was portrayed in the data as a lack of knowledge. A second call emerged in the data, with participants interested in witnessing a working farm which included the production of dyes, soaps, and fertilizers."
This year, we launched our first sustainable and ethical product line: Seri – Thai for freedom.

Because of a bitter cycle of poverty and exploitation, freedom is not a reality for many in rural Thailand. In 2013, we began our Sustainability Project to change this. Headed by Worn Donchai, our Sustainability Project’s programs harness the passion and skills of community members interested in learning more about and practicing sustainable development. This project seeks to not only improve the region’s environment but also the lives of the people the environment supports.

A couple of years after beginning our Sustainability Project, we began asking how to break the cycle of poverty and exploitation without increasing dependency, and the idea for Seri was born.

Seri’s mission is to increase Thai farmers’ understanding of organic farming and empower them to create marketable goods through sustainable and equitable production. Seri is a collective undertaking, providing stable careers, new opportunities, and sustainable living for Thai families.
FREEDOM FAMILY
Collaborating with and learning from other organizations is essential to our work. Our partnerships and relationships in the anti-trafficking world extend far beyond those on this page. We can’t highlight them all here. But we want to give a special shout-out to the organizations we regularly visit during our Field Learning Trips, collaborate with on programing, and partner with to achieve our shared goal of ending modern day slavery. Their dedication to educating and inspiring future activists and their commitment to collaboration make them essential partners in our work.

**PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS**

- HUG Project
- Home of New Beginnings
- Liberty Asia
- Golden Triangle Asian Elephant Foundation
- www.helpingelephants.org
- ecpat
- Dton Naam
- Ping Pong-a-thon
- One Day's Wages
- IL

**LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES**

- **BUNTY DREWITT**
  Santa Barbara, CA
- **GRETCHEN RADOMSKI**
  Bend, OR
- **MARGARETT HANSEN**
  Okinawa, Japan
- **SHANNON O’MALLEY**
  Portland, OR
- **BILL STAUFFER**
  Portland, ME
- **BRIAN WHITE**
  Los Angeles, CA
- **SHANNON GRIESSER**
  Boston, MA
INCOME AND DONATIONS

TOTAL INCOME: $693,084

- Individual Donors: $495,976 (72%)
- Grants: $133,905 (19%)
- Online Fundraising Platforms: $29,163 (4%)
- Company Matching Gifts: $19,743 (3%)
- Special Events: $9,081 (1%)
- Other Revenue: $5,216 (1%)

FINANCIAL GROWTH OVER TIME

2017 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

7¢
Our cost to raise $1

15%
Increase in support for our programs from 2016
### EXPENSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Resource Centers, Scholarships, Sustainability &amp; other Program Initiatives</td>
<td>$298,486</td>
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<tr>
<td>Program Salaries, Travel &amp; Overhead</td>
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<tr>
<td>ADMIN SALARIES, RESEARCH &amp; OVERHEAD</td>
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<td>Fundraising Salaries &amp; Overhead</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fundraising &amp; Marketing Initiatives</td>
<td>$12,393</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Total Expenses: $597,013**

PROGRAM SERVICES TOTAL: $400,860 (68%)

FUNDRAISING TOTAL: $45,133 (7%)

**FINANCIALS**
WITH GRATITUDE

We couldn’t be more grateful for each person who has so generously invested in The Freedom Story in 2017.

All Investors $500+

Ping Pong A Thon
Servantworks
Goble Property Management
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Girls Rights Project
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Ben and Sandra Blanton
Beth and Mike and Beth Williams
Westwood International
Michelle Dickinson
Craig Renton
Joseph Grieser
Ping Li
Betty Kochpatcharin

FINANCIALS

FINANCIALS

FINANCIALS
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Boa Ventura De Caires Winery
Roy and D’Aun Goble
Sam Hara
Livermore Valley Wine Trolley
Mitchell Katz Winery
Emily and Gregg Nelson
Jen Weaver
Kevin Bixler
Retzlaff Winery
SandSilkSky
The Taylor Family Foundation
Westover Vineyards
Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco
San Francisco Ballet
Oakland Zoo
Causegear
Bay Area Discovery Museum
1: Face Watch
31 Bits
Akola
Winchester Mystery House
Jeremy Lin
San Francisco Giants
Wente Vineyards
D’Oliva Olive Oil
Sunol Ranch Honey

Event Volunteers

Trevor Cecil
Greg Steward
Peggy Fiedler
Dan Olson
Sarann Olson
Sam Hara
Chris Scott
Alie Scott
Rich Morrow
Tracy Schroeder
Lisa Marie Johnston
Kyle Hara
Sika Gasinu
Emily Gustafson
Katie Hara
Madelynn Emmerich
Brittney Jones

Photography and Film

Benjamin Edwards Photography
Kevin Kubota Photography
Kelly Marie Photography
The Freedom Story
337 17th Street Suite 102
Oakland, CA 94612

www.thefreedomstory.org