

HUMAN
TRAFFICKING
INSTITUTE

2021

ANNUAL REPORT

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A Message from Our CEO

Dear Friends,

Despite significant COVID-19-related lockdowns and disruptions to everyday work, we have seen yet another year of immense progress in stopping traffickers and protecting victims in our Partner Countries.

In the last year, ***we helped protect more than double the number of victims*** (a 159% increase) and arrest almost twice the suspected traffickers (a 122% increase) compared to the prior year.

This year of doubled impact comes on the heels of a very successful prior year in our Country Programs. Our 2-year results are astounding, showing our model is working. In Uganda alone, we saw a 435% increase in human trafficking prosecutions compared to the two years prior. **In total, we have seen 1400 victims protected and over 1000 traffickers arrested in our global programs since January 2020.**



61% of these victims were children in 2021. Each trafficker stopped represents not only freedom for these survivors, but also a future stream of potential victims that never has to endure the trauma of trafficking in the first place.

Throughout this report, you will read not only about these larger trends, but also key cases like the first life sentence for a trafficker in Uganda. As a result of landmark convictions like this, word is spreading quickly among traffickers that they can no longer operate with impunity because the costs they face for their crimes have skyrocketed.

The families, communities, and now countries protected through this work simply would not be possible without your partnership with us. We are excited to see even more victims protected and traffickers stopped with your support as we scale our work.

With Gratitude,
Victor Boutros
Chief Executive Officer

Our MISSION

We combat trafficking at its source by empowering justice systems to stop traffickers. When justice systems have the tools and training to effectively stop traffickers, they protect the vulnerable and prevent potential victims from being trafficked in the first place.

OUR APPROACH

Our three-pronged approach combines technical training with day-to-day, on-the-ground expert guidance to ensure prosecutors and investigators are well-equipped to decimate trafficking.



SPECIALIZED TEAMS

We help our Partner Countries build specialized anti-trafficking teams of police, prosecutors, and victim specialists who focus on human trafficking cases. We ensure these teams are equipped with specialized investigative and prosecutorial techniques to arrest and charge suspected traffickers.



TARGETED TRAININGS

Our experts, including law enforcement specialists, prosecution experts, and victim service professionals, provide hands-on training and real-time guidance as they investigate and prosecute cases in the field. Our model is unique because we do not stop at training, but also prioritize real-time assistance as trainees take their new skills to the field.



EMBEDDED EXPERTS

In cooperation with our Partner Countries, we place enforcement experts inside prosecutors' offices and police departments. Our experts help support prosecutors and investigators as they pursue trafficking cases, from the identification and removal of victims from the hands of their trafficker to the end of a trafficking trial.



Our PROGRESS

For HTI, success looks like our Partner Countries stopping more suspected traffickers and protecting more victims than ever before. *We saw this unprecedented progress in our global programs last year!*

Over the years, we have seen that as we make strides towards fully implementing our model in our Country Programs, the results are astounding. In this year alone, we saw a 123% increase in suspected traffickers charged and a 233% increase in convictions. Learn more about our impact on the next page.

THIS YEAR
ALONE:

123%
INCREASE
IN SUSPECTED
TRAFFICKERS CHARGED

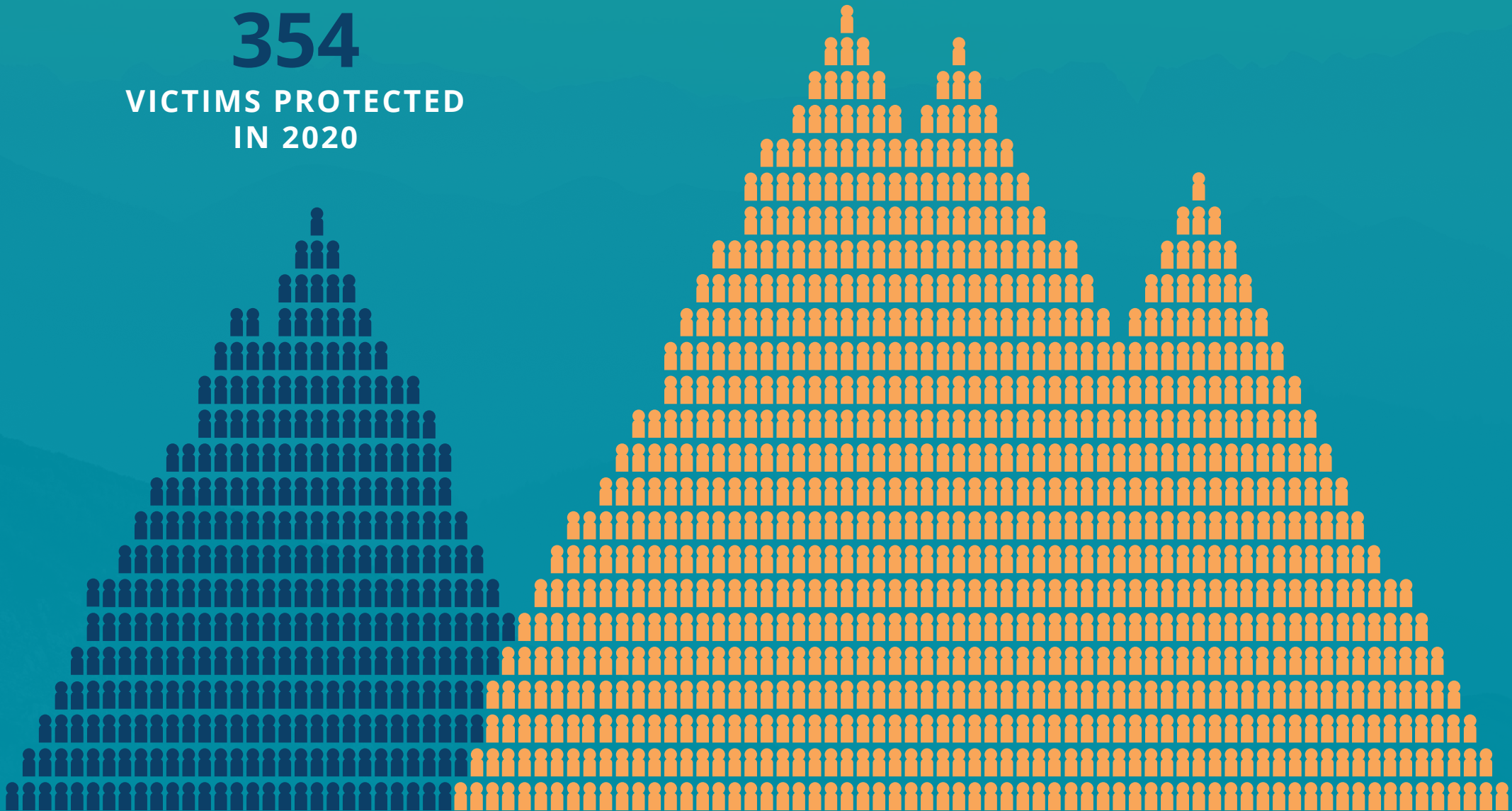
233%
INCREASE
IN CONVICTIONS



Our Unprecedented
IMPACT

918
VICTIMS PROTECTED
IN 2021

354
VICTIMS PROTECTED
IN 2020



ARRESTS



INVESTIGATIONS



“From the start of investigations to the end of trials, we have seen an unprecedented growth in our impact. From a 159% increase in victims protected to a 122% increase in traffickers arrested, our Partner Countries are learning from our experts and putting those skills into practice to take impressive steps towards decimating human trafficking.”
– VICTOR BOUTROS, CEO

Your Support Caused Great Strides in UGANDA

OUR WORK IN UGANDA

We saw immense progress in Uganda this year. Despite continued hurdles presented by the COVID-19 pandemic, the **number of victims protected increased by 167%, and suspected traffickers arrested by 122%** since FY2020.

Our team partners with the Ugandan Government to provide hands-on guidance, intensive training, and technical assistance to dedicated investigators and prosecutors throughout the country. We prepare criminal justice system officials to properly try cases and conduct victim-centered investigations through daily support and mentorship.

TECH TOOLS FOR PROSECUTORS

In partnership with another anti-trafficking NGO, we developed an exciting tool to make it easier for prosecutors in Uganda to collaborate on human trafficking cases. The **Trafficking in Persons Mobile App Platform (TIPMAP)** is Uganda's first database designed to collect and share data about human trafficking investigations and prosecutions.

Ensuring prosecutors and investigators are able to share what they have learned across regions in a country as big as Uganda can be a challenge. Not all officers and prosecutors have consistent access to a computer where they can report valuable data. TIPMAP helps alleviate this problem by allowing investigators and prosecutors to input data directly from their cellphones. TIPMAP's release is a huge milestone in the Ugandan fight against human trafficking, facilitating a level of collaboration that seriously jeopardizes traffickers' ability to exploit vulnerable people without consequence. *Without our dedicated supporters, this would not be possible!*

RECOGNITION FROM THE U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT

Our efforts to adapt to the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic were recognized by the U.S. State Department in its annual Trafficking in Persons Report. We are honored to be recognized by the State Department for our efforts in the global fight against trafficking.



TWO VEHICLES DONATED TO INVESTIGATORS

Thanks to the generous support of our donors, we donated two vehicles to the Uganda Police Force Criminal Investigations Directorate (CID). We purchased the vehicles after investigators expressed a need for a truck to travel to rural areas of the country to gather case evidence, arrest suspects, and transport survivors to partner services organizations.

Both vehicles have been used extensively since we handed the keys to CID leaders in August. The van has been utilized as a part of our victim services coordination efforts all over the country, ensuring survivors are taken away from sites of exploitation and to safe places where they can receive restorative care.

FIRST LIFE SENTENCE FOR A CHILD TRAFFICKER

In October we celebrated a huge accomplishment for Ugandan prosecutors: *the first-ever life sentence for a trafficker in Uganda*. The convicted trafficker was the headmaster of a boarding school where he promised scholarships to young boys who he then sexually abused and exploited while in his care.

Due to our unique position working within the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP), our team was able to provide technical expertise for the investigation and prosecution of the case, including real-time recommendations to prosecutors as the trial took place. By enforcing Uganda's human trafficking laws effectively, **fewer children will face the abuse of traffickers** and, instead, be able to attend safe schools where they can thrive.

"It was a great honor to work alongside the Ugandan prosecutor in this important child trafficking case. The result of a life sentence without the possibility of parole for this trafficker sent shockwaves throughout Uganda. This is what we needed to put other traffickers on notice that there will be serious consequences for exploiting children in Uganda. The outcome of this case will have positive and lasting effects for many years to come as we continue our work here."

— TYLER DUNMAN, SPECIAL COUNSEL, UGANDA





You Make Progress Possible in BELIZE

OUR WORK IN BELIZE

We grew our team and our impact in Belize in 2021. We increased our staff on the ground and have seen effective collaboration with investigators that is producing incredible results.

Our team works within the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Unit of the Belize Police Department to provide daily guidance as investigators pursue human trafficking cases and identify victims. We help investigators conduct investigations centered on victim needs and coordinate services for survivors as they are removed from sites of exploitation.

TWO CHILD TRAFFICKERS CONVICTED

Last October, Belize convicted 2 traffickers for the first time under its Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children Act of 2013. Our team provided assistance to Belizean social workers during trial preparation to ensure the victim was safe and prepared to testify at trial. The COVID-19 pandemic created many challenges with court closures and delays. The prosecutors and investigators worked tirelessly to bring these traffickers to justice, where they can no longer harm this survivor or any other.

We are honored to be a part of this major milestone in Belize as the justice system ramps up its capabilities to obtain successful convictions. **Each trafficker convicted and sentenced sends a message to other traffickers that their crime is not worth the risk.**

“The collaborative effort within the Government of Belize to bring justice to this survivor was monumental and HTI was honored to have played a part. It is these types of events that send a clear signal that trafficking will not be tolerated and justice will be aggressively pursued.”

— CHRIS LICK,
LAW ENFORCEMENT
ADVISOR, BELIZE



BUILDING GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIPS

In November, our investigation, prosecution, and victim services experts traveled to Belize to conduct a workshop with the heads of the government’s Anti-Trafficking in Persons Council. At the meeting, our team provided training on holistic approaches to fighting human trafficking and the importance of partnership among government agencies. The Council decided on ambitious goals to work together to decimate trafficking across Belize.

EMPOWERING THE NEXT GENERATION OF INVESTIGATORS

In an exciting step forward, new officers were added to the specialized anti-trafficking investigation unit in Belize. Our experts provided intensive training to the investigators on effective investigative techniques, preparing for trials, and ensuring victims have everything they need once identified.

Our Law Enforcement Advisor will work alongside these new additions to the unit, providing guidance and advice as they investigate human trafficking cases. The growth of the unit will allow Belize to investigate many more cases across the country effectively and increase the number of traffickers brought to trial.





Our Impact in the UNITED STATES

FEDERAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING REPORT

Our biggest **Federal Human Trafficking Report** yet was released in June 2021. For the first time, the Report compiled case data from every federal criminal human trafficking prosecution since 2000, the year the landmark Trafficking Victims Protection Act became law. The Report is now an even more invaluable tool for federal prosecutors, lawmakers, and advocates and we are thrilled to offer such an extensive resource to the greater anti-trafficking community.

The 2020 Report was cited in 93 news articles, including major news sources such as Marketplace Tech (NPR), Business Insider, and CBS News. It was also presented in targeted briefings to 208 officials from 5 U.S. government agencies, as well as U.S. Attorney's Offices across the country and Thomson Reuters. The Report is not only a reliable source of information on the federal enforcement of trafficking laws, but also offers a wealth of information about the emerging trends in human trafficking cases.

The next Federal Human Trafficking Report, expected to be released in Summer 2022, will increase its focus on the survivors involved in these cases by including more information on vulnerabilities to trafficking and demographics of victims. Alongside the new Report, we will release a website dedicated to making the Report's data easily accessible for researchers and legal scholars writing on human trafficking in the United States.



“The reliability and depth of our data is incredibly unique with exponential potential for growth. I look forward to watching the report continue to grow from a resource of data points into an essential tool for practitioners that both shapes and strengthens anti-trafficking efforts.”

– LINDSEY LANE, SENIOR LEGAL COUNSEL

DOUGLASS FELLOWSHIP

We welcomed our fifth class of Douglass Fellows from top law schools, including George Washington University Law School, University of California Irvine School of Law, Boston University School of Law, and University of Southern California Gould School of Law. Inspired by Frederick Douglass's commitment to freedom, education, and advocacy, we provide this fellowship for third-year law students to develop future anti-human trafficking leaders. This year, each fellow set up a strategic engagement event or program to engage and learn from experts in the anti-trafficking field and, with an HTI team member, co-authored a publishable piece of scholarship.



“The Douglass Fellowship is a special and unique opportunity to collaborate with other like-minded students and professionals, while working on projects that are specifically tailored to your interests in the trafficking field. The fellowship provides incredible flexibility in allowing a student to work on projects they are particularly interested in, while having the opportunity to network and meet professionals in various anti-trafficking spaces.”

– NATALIE ASSAAD,
2021-22 DOUGLASS FELLOW

INFLUENCING U.S. POLICY

This year, HTI met with members of U.S. Congressional offices to advocate for increased resources for the U.S. Department of Justice's (DOJ) Human Trafficking Prosecution Unit. We were excited to see that the unit more than doubled the number of prosecutors on staff. This means more specialized prosecutors are available to ensure human trafficking prosecutions are successful.

“Increased investment in effective anti-trafficking prosecutions in the U.S. is critical as we ask other governments to follow our lead and support embedded experts and training to increase accountability for traffickers globally.”

– ANNICK FEBREY, DIRECTOR OF GOVERNMENT AND CORPORATE RELATIONS

Meet Our New Special Counsel in Uganda, **GABRIELLE MASSEY**

With the growth of our global programs, we are thrilled to bring in new experts to embed in our Partner Countries' justice systems. As we enter our next year in Uganda, we are welcoming a new prosecution expert to join our Uganda team. Gabrielle Massey is moving to Uganda in June 2022 to work within the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, alongside Tyler Dunman who has been there since 2019.



As Special Counsel, Gabrielle will provide real-time expertise to Ugandan investigators and prosecutors as they pursue human trafficking investigations and prosecutions. She will work alongside the specialized anti-human trafficking teams to ensure they have access to advice and training to build specialized skills to stop traffickers. Gabrielle's presence in the public prosecutions' office will allow her to make a significant impact on human trafficking cases as they are being prosecuted and promote collaboration between investigators and prosecutors.

"We are thrilled to welcome Gabby to the team in such a pivotal role," said Victor Boutros, CEO. "Drawing on her extensive experience as a human trafficking prosecutor, she will work directly with police and prosecutors to build strong cases against traffickers. I know Gabby will be a powerful force in decimating trafficking in Uganda."

Before joining HTI, Gabrielle was a prosecutor focused on gender-based violence and sexual abuse crimes. She created the first Special Victims Unit for McLennan County, Texas, and was the chief prosecutor there. She was one of two primary prosecutors handling all human trafficking cases in the county for four years. As an Assistant Attorney General for Texas, she led extensive trainings for prosecutors and investigators across Texas and in Mongolia, preparing her well to share her skills from within the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions in Uganda.



"We are thrilled to welcome Gabby to the team in such a pivotal role," said Victor Boutros, CEO. "Drawing on her extensive experience as a human trafficking prosecutor, she will work directly with police and prosecutors to build strong cases against traffickers. I know Gabby will be a powerful force in decimating trafficking in Uganda."

Q: What led you to anti-trafficking work?

A: My entire career I have been focused on prosecuting physical and sexually violent crimes against women and children, and when my first human trafficking case came across my desk I saw how human trafficking cases encompass many of the same dynamics of physical and sexual abuse cases, and I felt called to work with human trafficking survivors as well. Human trafficking cases are some of the most challenging, and rewarding, cases that I have handled during my career, and helping the survivors navigate the legal system, as well as, hopefully, instilling in them that their lives have worth and that they can move past the trauma of their past and go on to be healthy humans in the world.

Q: What is the most important lesson you learned over the years that informs your work?

A: That no matter what a person has been through in their life, or what decisions they have made when they feel there are no other options, each human deserves our time and respect, especially when they have been victimized by others.

Q: What motivates you to keep working in the anti-trafficking space?

A: Seeing the long-term impact of survivors of trafficking moving on with their lives and becoming whole adults with full lives. Seeing these survivors flourish in their lives is not guaranteed, but when they do, it is the most beautiful thing.

Q: What are you most looking forward to about working in Uganda?

A: I am looking forward to the challenge of learning to navigate an entirely different legal system from ours, and hopefully to take my empathy and compassion for these survivors and use that to help the trafficking survivors in Uganda.

An Interview with Senior Legal Counsel, **LINDSEY LANE**

We welcomed our new Senior Legal Counsel, Lindsey Lane, in December 2021. In her role, Lindsey is the lead architect and author of the Federal Human Trafficking Report and provides legal support for our Thought Leadership and Country Programs teams. Lindsey provides a wealth of expertise on human trafficking prosecutions in the United States from her years as a human trafficking prosecutor.

Our Federal Human Trafficking Report is an objective and exhaustive review of every human trafficking case filed each year in the federal courts. The Report serves as an essential tool for policymakers, prosecutors, law enforcement, and advocates to understand the current landscape of human trafficking prosecution in the United States. As the architect of the Report, Lindsey is leading the way to a valuable piece of research that acts as a model for data collection and analysis of prosecutions for any country looking to improve its enforcement of trafficking laws.

Before coming to HTI, Lindsey spent 2 years as a Human Trafficking Prosecutor for North Carolina, where she handled hundreds of human trafficking cases from the start of an investigation through the end of the trial. Prior to that, she was an Assistant District Attorney for both North Carolina and Tennessee. Lindsey is an expert in prosecutor-led, trauma-informed, and victim-centered approaches to investigations and prosecutions, a key component of the HTI strategy for decimating human trafficking.

“Lindsey’s expertise from her years as a human trafficking prosecutor make her ideally suited to harness the two decades of data on trafficking that we have mined over the last 5 years,” said CEO Victor Boutros. “Under Lindsey’s leadership, we will transform HTI’s data into powerful tools and trends for prosecutors and policymakers to stop more traffickers.”

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Q: What led you to anti-trafficking work?

A: In 2001, I spent some time working with abused and exploited children in Guatemala. My time in Central America led me to volunteer in the vulnerable migrant community when I returned to the United States. It was there, in 2003, that I had my first opportunity to work with victims of human trafficking. The stories of struggle and survival that the victims shared with me changed me. Little did I know, it also planted a seed inside me that would later shape my work as a prosecutor. In 2017, I received the opportunity to prosecute human trafficking cases exclusively in the State of North Carolina. What I quickly realized was that the stories I heard from the survivors I worked with while prosecuting commercial sex trafficking cases were incredibly similar to the horrific stories I had heard nearly 20 years earlier from the migrant community. It reaffirmed my passion and commitment to prosecuting the traffickers who exploited these vulnerable victims.

Q: What drew you to HTI’s mission?

A: Impact. Human trafficking prosecutions are incredibly tough. I was fortunate that early on in my career, I had the opportunity to learn from others who were experts in the field. They shared their knowledge and expertise in an area that is incredibly nuanced, and as a result, they empowered me to be an effective prosecutor and advocate. After several years in the field, I saw the importance of empowering others to do the same. I was immediately drawn to HTI because of its mission of empowering investigators and prosecutors to stop traffickers and the amazing impact the team is having in its work. I recognized that I am only one person, but if I can use the knowledge and experience I have to empower others through HTI, I can make a much larger impact in combating trafficking.

Q: What motivates you to keep working in the anti-trafficking space?

A: As anyone who has worked in the anti-trafficking field knows, this work is HARD! But seeing a victim take those first steps towards freedom makes it completely worthwhile. Giving them the reassurance that their trafficker is off the streets, and being held accountable for what they did to them is one of the most rewarding feelings I’ve ever had as a practitioner. I love helping others find that same meaningfulness in their work.

Q: What are you most looking forward to with the Federal Human Trafficking Report?

A: I am incredibly excited to build upon the amazing foundation that has been created by my predecessors at HTI. Last year, we were able to capture twenty years of federal human trafficking prosecution data. Now that we have such a vast data set, I look forward to using that data, with the addition of new data points, to help develop the report as a more meaningful tool for practitioners.



Celebrating You, OUR PARTNERS

Dear friends,

We had our most exciting year yet in 2021 and ***we are so grateful to you, our supporters*** for making all of this possible. It is difficult to put so many successes into a brief report, so I wanted to share a story of impact that shows you just how important your support is to our work.

My favorite story from our Country Programs this year came from Uganda, where we have seen a ***245% increase in traffickers convicted*** over the last year. There, we celebrated the first conviction ever for a child trafficker in Uganda, a huge achievement that sends a message to all potential traffickers in the country that their crime is not worth the risk.

This case exemplifies the value of our model in truly empowering investigators and prosecutors to stop traffickers. When we first heard of a boarding school headmaster potentially trafficking six children, our team jumped in to support the investigation and prosecution of this trafficker. We learned he had promised families facing the financial hardships of COVID-19 scholarships and safety for their sons at his school using his status as a headmaster and pastor to convince them the children would be safe. Instead, he sexually abused the boys in his care and allowed others to do the same.

Our unique position working within the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions allowed us to provide guidance as investigators collected evidence and prosecutors charged the trafficker. As the trial took place, we provided insights and feedback to help ensure this trafficker would never be able to harm another child. We advocated for the victims to testify virtually so they would not be retraumatized by testifying in the same room as their trafficker.

Your partnership made this happen and allowed these child survivors to never have to face their trafficker again. They are safe at home with their families, as every child deserves to be, joining the other 908 victims protected in Uganda last year. ***Because of YOU and your support***, there is tangible hope for vulnerable children and families throughout Uganda. Imagine what we can accomplish together over the next five years by building off the success of this year!

Together, we can help ensure more victims become survivors. We are so grateful for you and your support, and that you stand with us in this fight to decimate trafficking! Our work is not done, and we hope that we can count on you and your continued partnership as we protect more people and free more victims.

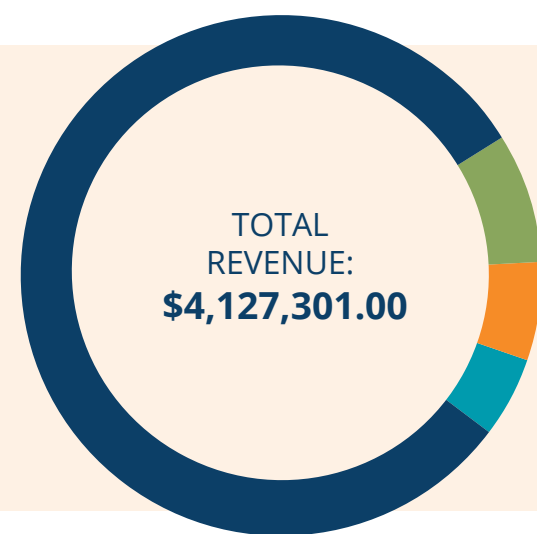
Gratefully,
Kim Thompson
Director of Advancement

*“...we celebrated
the first
conviction
ever for a child
trafficker in
Uganda, a huge
achievement that
sends a message
to all potential
traffickers in the
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crime is not worth
the risk.”*



Financial STATEMENT

Human Trafficking Institute is a 501(c)(3) registered charity and is committed to modeling and maintaining the highest standards in our work, including our commitment to financial integrity. Our 2022 fiscal year covered April 2021–March 2022.



BREAKDOWN OF REVENUE

- INDIVIDUALS/FOUNDATIONS **\$3,324,978.49** (81%)
- CORPORATIONS **\$320,858.51** (8%)
- PPP FUNDING **\$259,412.00** (6%)
- GOVERNMENT **\$222,052.00** (5%)

EXPENSES BY FUNCTIONAL CLASS

- PROGRAM **\$2,612,223.91** (81%)
- GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE **\$412,299.32** (13%)
- FUNDRAISING **\$217,322.77** (7%)



THE FIGHT AGAINST TRAFFICKING STARTS WITH YOU!



At HTI, we believe that human trafficking *can be decimated globally*. Justice Partners see the same vision and support our mission. They generously sacrifice their valuable resources monthly to make justice and restoration a reality for survivors around the world. For the last five years, Justice Partners have contributed significantly to the overall work and mission of our organization!

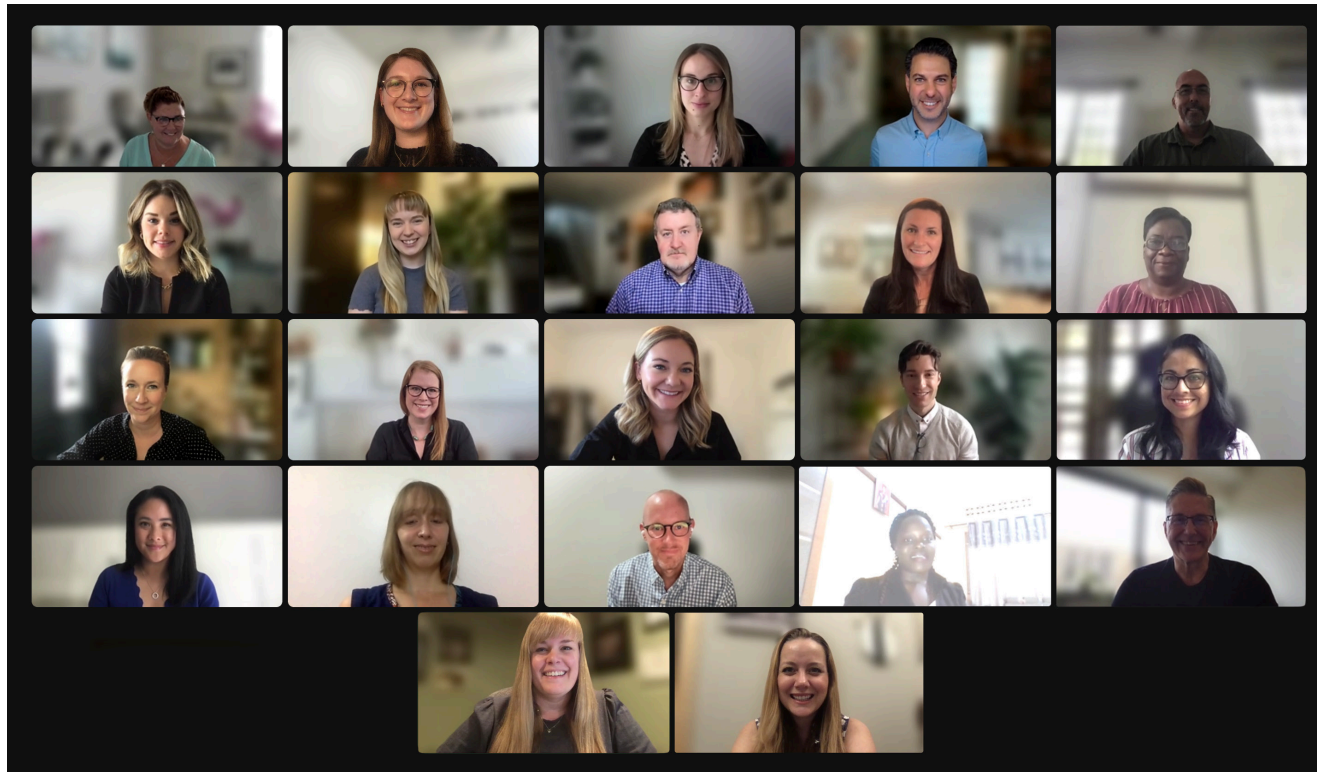
Our Justice Partner community is the lifeblood of our work. These individuals make it possible for us to show up, make a lasting impact on the ground, provide justice for survivors, and help prosecute traffickers in our Partner Countries. Recurring donations enable us to strategically expand our work and stop more traffickers around the world.

As we continue to grow, we want to invite YOU to play a part in multiplying our reach as a Justice Partner. Your commitment to our mission allows us to scale our efforts to stop more traffickers and protect more victims. Would you join us to help us grow our impact?

Visit JUSTICEPARTNER.ORG to take part in decimating trafficking around the globe!



Meet Our TEAM



OUR LEADERSHIP

Victor Boutros, *Chief Executive Officer*

Kim Thompson, *Director of Advancement*

John Freeman, *Director of Law Enforcement Operations*

Donna Hamilton, *Director of Finance and Operations*

Annick Febrey, *Director of Government and Corporate Relations*

Brianna Gehring, *Director of Grants and Partnerships*

Marie Martinez Israelite, *Director of Victim Services*

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Eric Ha (Chair), *Chief Administrative Officer, International Justice Mission (IJM)*

Lenny Moon (Treasurer and Secretary), *CFO of a travel rewards technology company*

Stewart Bertron, *Partner, Murray Bertron LLC*

Victor Boutros, *HTI CEO*

Caroline Stevens, *Investor, MPK Equity Partners*

Ted Haddock, *Executive Director, The Edward E. Haddock Jr. Family Foundation*

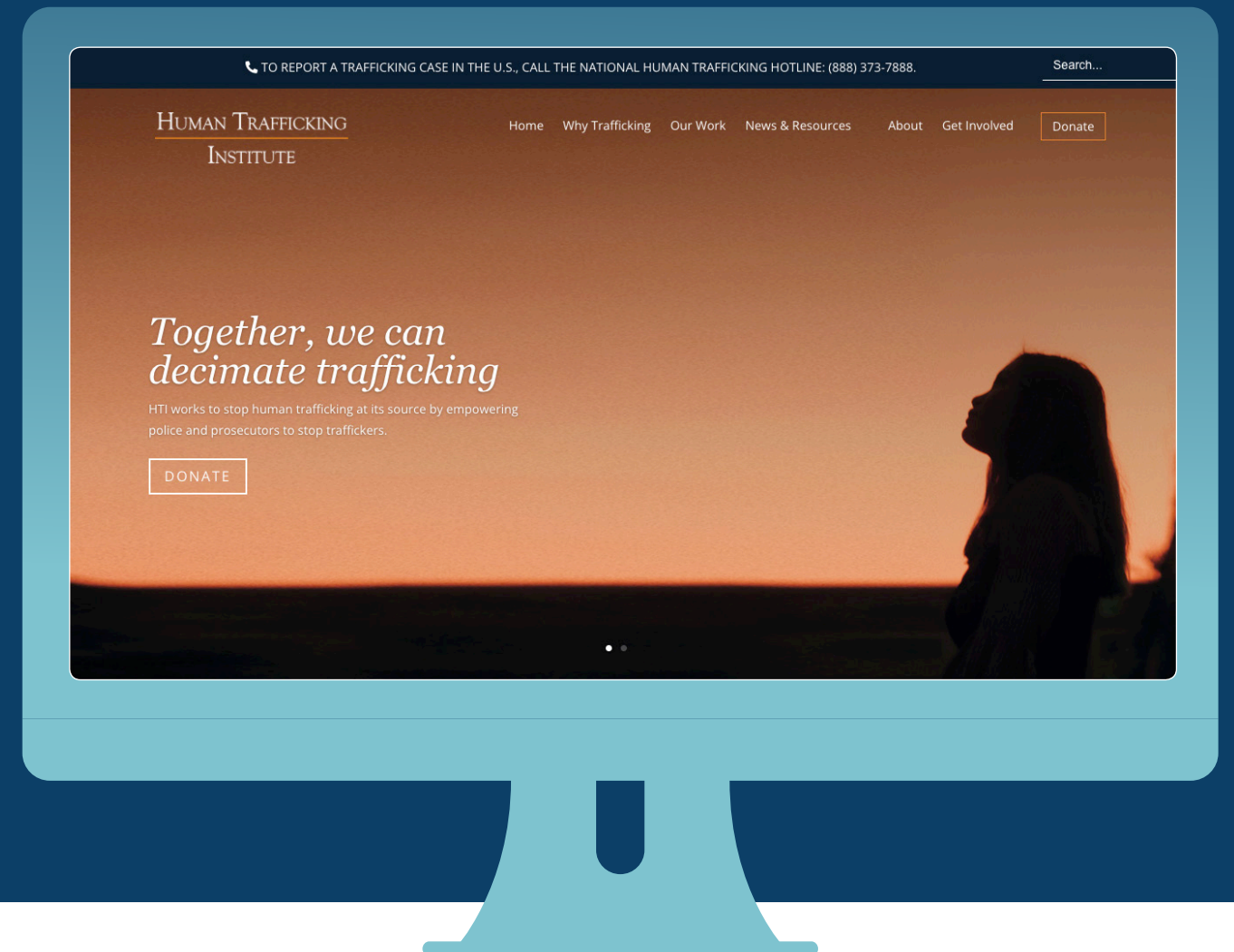
WE HAVE A NEW LOOK!



We were excited to launch our new website in January 2022! Our website now has an updated look and fresh information about our impact, thanks to our partners at Ellington Digital. You can now:

- Learn about our work in our Partner Countries
- Read our stories of impact on our new-and-improved blog
- See the Federal Human Trafficking Report in a new light
- Discover new ways to get involved with our work

Check out our new look by heading to [TRAFFICKINGINSTITUTE.ORG](https://traffickinginstitute.org) or follow the QR code!





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