

20 YEARS OF
Wonder



Dear Friends,

2025 is our 20 year anniversary. It has been a wild and wonderful journey, full of joys and challenges, smashing success stories and some painful failures (aka important lessons). When I was first exposed to the issue of child sex trafficking through a documentary film, I was compelled to dedicate my life to working on this issue. Two years later, HFC was born. At first I had no idea what it would take to help girls recover from the trauma of sexual violence. I was afraid that their trauma would be insurmountable, but I was wrong. I hoped we would find people to help, and we did. Inspiring local leaders were creating effective solutions from within their communities. We came alongside them, and together enabled those solutions to grow and flourish.

As we mark this milestone, we continue to invest long term in survivors and high risk girls, believing that they will change their societies from within. We are striving to put more power into their hands - to advocate for themselves and others. Some are still vulnerable and healing, but they are also resilient and hopeful. It's the greatest joy and privilege to serve them, envelope them in love, and to do whatever it takes to help them move forward. We're going into our third decade stronger than ever, with new ideas, new programs and partners, and tons of energy to walk with girls from oppression to freedom, from despair to joy. Please walk with us. There is more joyful and hard work to do!

Sarah

HFC Founder & Executive Director Sarah Symons



OUR MISSION TO PREVENT SEXUAL AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE, GIVING SURVIVORS AND VULNERABLE GIRLS THE TOOLS TO BECOME AND REMAIN FREE FOREVER

WE WORK IN THE PLACES WHERE GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE IS THE MOST SEVERE - the poorest, most vulnerable areas of India, Nepal, and Kenya. We serve survivors of gender violence, and girls growing up in red light areas, slum communities, nomadic and indigenous communities, and villages with a high incidence of trafficking and child marriage.

APPROACH: LONG TERM, INTENSIVE, COMMUNITY CENTERED PROGRAMS WHICH ADDRESS ROOT CAUSES

PROGRAM PILLARS: SHELTER, EDUCATION, ECONOMIC INDEPENDENCE, HEALTH & WELLBEING

A CULTURE OF KINSHIP, RESPECT & LOVE

Shelter

Safe Homes

When a girl is rescued from trafficking or any harmful situation, she needs a safe place to heal and build a future. Some girls are able to return to their families within a few months of rescue. Others may need shelter care for many years, if their families do not accept them back, were involved in the abuse, or cannot be found.

Her Future works with local partners to build, expand and maintain shelters for rescued girls, and to support food, clothing, medical care and counseling. Some girls are rescued as children and need shelter care until they reach adulthood.

Red Light Area Resource Centers

Working closely with local partners and community members, HFC operates five Resource Centers for children growing up in three Red light areas of Kolkata, and their mothers. The Resource Centers offer a safe space, and holistic services to kids. We provide counseling and vocational programs for moms, many of whom were trafficked into the area as children.

Children growing up in the red light area are highly vulnerable to sexual assault by their mothers' clients or by groups of men who crowd the streets of the red light area at night. 90% of girls and 75% of boys in Kolkata red light areas have been sexually abused by the age of eight. Without intervention, girls often end up trafficked alongside their mothers. The Resource Centers help families break intergenerational cycles of exploitation and poverty and stay together.



2024-25 Shelter Programs

Jalpaiguri Shelter, West Bengal

HFC built the shelter in 2015 with Women's Interlink Foundation. Jalpaiguri is a highly trafficked rural area near the borders of Nepal & Bangladesh. Tea growing is a major industry and many girls are trafficked on tea farms

Samburu Girls Foundation, Kenya

Providing shelter for survivors of child marriage, FGM, trafficking & rape. This new partnership launched in 2023 and has a strong focus on survivor leadership and community advocacy

Nijoloy Shelter, Kolkata

One of our first shelter projects, since 2010, a safe home for 150 girls rescued from trafficking and other forms of gender-based violence

Rescue Foundation Shelter, Delhi

Shelter for girls rescued from sex trafficking and domestic labor trafficking

Jeevan Aadhar Homes, Mumbai

Residential program for survivors wishing to pursue higher education

Red Light Resource Centers, Kolkata

Freedom School Residential Care



2400
GIRLS
sheltered
8 SHELTERS
built or
expanded



Education

HER FUTURE provides education to over 1000 survivors and high risk girls. Many have never been to school before, or their education was interrupted. Education breaks the cycles of poverty and slavery, and gives girls the tools to discover and follow their individual goals and dreams. Among the graduates of our education programs, we have nurses, doctors, lawyers, engineers, teachers, social workers, IT professionals, businesswomen, pharmacists, accountants, police officers, and many other professions.

For girls growing up in red light areas, slums, or communities that engage in harmful practices (child marriage, trafficking, FGM), the percentage completing high school, or even primary school, is exceptionally low. For women trafficked into red light areas, 98% are illiterate, which is unsurprising given that 49% are trafficked before age 16. The majority of girls in these situations who attended school at all drop out before the age of 12.

HFC Education Programs include: entire schools, education and college sponsorships, computer, STEM and English courses, adult literacy, remedial education, virtual classes and tutoring, and mobile schools, libraries, and teacher training.



2024-25 Education Programs

Nabadisha Street Child Project

After school care, mentorship and education for 300 slum and street children at 11 Centers in Kolkata

Her Future Middle School x EkTara

Freedom School, Nuwakot, Nepal

Life Bloom Leadership & Sponsorship, Kenya

The Apple of God's Eyes, Nepal

Primary, secondary and college education for survivors and high risk kids. Apple has been a partner since 2008!

Suchana

A mobile school and remedial education project serving marginalized indigenous children in rural West Bengal

Mustard Seeds

Classes, workshops, arts and library programming for children in a slum community of Kolkata

School & College Sponsorship

Education support and mentorship for survivors and vulnerable girls at multiple locations in India, Kenya & Nepal.

FREEDOM SCHOOL

The Freedom School launched in 2021 in the Nuwakot District of Nepal. The majority of Nepali trafficking victims come from rural indigenous communities such as this. Before the school came to the village, over 50% of girls were being trafficked or forced into child marriage. Almost every family had daughters, sisters of mothers in the red light areas of India.

The Freedom School was a long time dream for its leader, survivor-activist Anjali Tamang. Anjali was an HFC beneficiary for many years and co-wrote a book with HFC founder Sarah Symons.

The school is now educating over 150 kids, including 35 girls at highest risk living in our dormitories. Through quality education and community awareness, Anjali is determined to change the mindset of her people, and change the story for the next generation of girls.

Health & Wellbeing



Most girls come to HFC with significant trauma and little or no support network. Girls that have been trafficked have been robbed of bodily and personal autonomy. For many girls, abuse, neglect and betrayal has happened many times throughout their young lives. Suicidal thoughts, depression, disconnection from their bodies, and anxiety are common.

Ongoing mental health services are essential - in order for any other services to be successful. Mental health services are offered to all participants in all HFC programs, whether they are living in a rescue shelter, growing up in a red light area, or taking a computer or baking course. Services include group and individual counseling, therapeutic arts, leadership training, yoga and mindbody wellness.

Solutions are rooted in a larger human rights framework: teaching people their rights and applicable laws so that they are able to protect themselves and others. All services are offered in a trauma-informed and strength-based context - building on the girls' innate resilience and individual gifts. Perhaps most important of all, girls are surrounded by a supportive community of kinship and love, vital to their healing.



Economic Independence

Economic Independence enables women to rise out of extreme poverty and makes them - and their children - less vulnerable to trafficking, child marriage and other forms of exploitation. Vocational training - combined with life skills, job placement support, and financial literacy training - gives women a pathway to become financially independent. They gain power in their family and community - and the freedom to make choices for their lives.

89% of 2024 trainees successfully completed their courses

79% increased their income

The average income increase was over **600%**

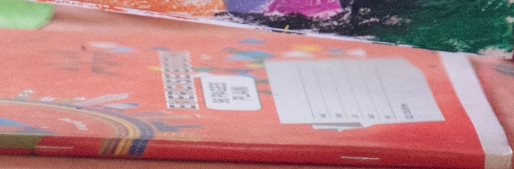
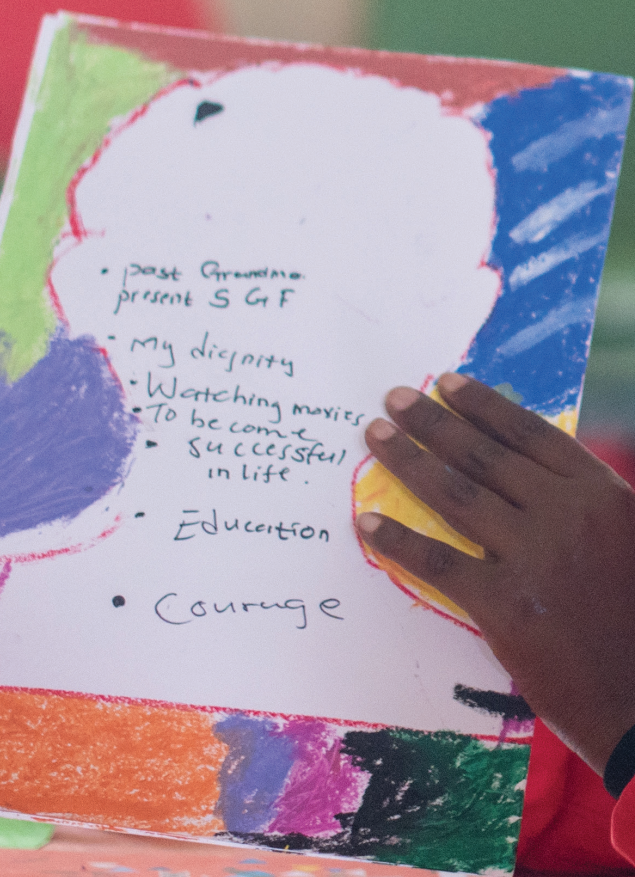


2024-25 Vocational Programs

Beautician and Henna Arts
Textile Printing
Retail (Thrift Store, Marketing)
Bookkeeping & Accountancy
Home Health Care

Computers and Spoken English
Bakery & Cafe Management
Home Health Aide
Sewing & Tailoring
Counseling & Community Advocacy
Beaded Jewelry & Entrepreneurship

**1950
WOMEN**
Trained



FINANCIALS & PARTNERSHIP

2024 INCOME

Donations & Grants	\$1,440,030
Investment Income	\$58,050
Sale of Products Made by Survivors	\$46,020
Total Income	\$1,544,100

2024 EXPENSES

Education	\$612,728
Shelter	\$530,825
Economic Independence	\$335,872
Fundraising Expenses	\$67,958
Admin/Overhead	\$72,051
Total Expenses	\$1,619,434

2022 Income	\$1,238,812
2023 Income	\$1,979,099
2025 Budget	\$1,677,000

IN 2024:

910

children supported in **Education**

850

girls enjoyed safe & loving **Shelter**

325

women given tools for **Economic Independence**

<9%

of expenses used for fundraising & overhead

Education & College sponsorship	\$163,545
School Construction - Nepal	\$65,000
Learning Center	\$81,053
Middle School	\$60,000
Freedom School	\$94,717
Street Child Project	\$35,000
Computer/STEM Education	\$38,000
Other Education Programs/Staff	\$75,413

NEW & UPCOMING

We are excited about growing the programs in Kenya, while deepening the work in India and Nepal. In late 2025, we plan to purchase a building in the Bowbazar red light area for one of our Resource Centers.

We are adding another floor at the Freedom School (pictured at left) so we can add more grades (the school is currently at full capacity, with 150 students). Along with the building expansion, we are growing our trafficking awareness programs to reach thousands of girls at the highest risk in the mountain villages.

In fall 2025, we will be launching a new Leadership Program in Kolkata, and adding computer and English intensives at many project sites. Join our January 2026 India Immersion trip to see these new programs in action!





Maura Hurley
Education
Program Director



Wanjiru Wahome
Kenya Regional Lead



Amanda Cunningham
Managing Director



John Das
Country Director, India

OUR TEAM



Kajal Patra
Learning Center
Associate Director



Anjali Tamang
Nepal Regional Lead



Sarah Symons
Founder &
Executive Director



Moumita Halder
Computer Training
Program Director



Catherine Wanjohi
Senior Strategic
Advisor



Soma Seal
Program Director



John Berger
Co-Founder &
Senior Advisor



Tish Roy
Mental Health &
HR Director



Srabani Sarkar
Senior Strategic
Advisor



Breanna Tivvis
Institutional Giving

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2024-25 OPERATING PARTNERS

INDIA

SOUTH KOLKATA HAMARI MUSKAN
EK TARA SUCHANA
CALCUTTA FOUNDATION
UDDAMI INDIA FOUNDATION
WOMEN'S INTERLINK FOUNDATION
JEEVHAN AADHAR

NEPAL

THE APPLE OF GOD'S EYES
FREEDOM & HOPE NEPAL
SAATHI

KENYA

SAMBURU GIRLS FOUNDATION
LIFE BLOOM SERVICES INTERNATIONAL

Teamwork makes the Dream Work!

2024-25 FOUNDATION & CORPORATE PARTNERS

Yoga Medicine SEVA Foundation
Ashmore Foundation
Henry Niles Foundation
Crossroads
Coastal Wealth Management, Charleston

i=change
Miss Amara
Circle of Sisterhood Foundation
Rotary Clubs of Falmouth MA & Madison, WI
Maune, Raichle, Hartley, French & Mudd Law

Meldrum Family Foundation
Guru Krupa Foundation
Gupta Family Foundation
Impact Assets

We are proud members and collaborators of Michelle Obama's Girls Opportunity Alliance

Layla was trafficked with her mother in a roadside hotel

Now she's in college, pursuing a degree in social work

Joy was married at age 8

Now she's an engineer

Priyanka was born into a red light area, sharing one room with her family of 5, and abused by her mothers clients

Now she's a baker in a cafe

Saba grew up in a slum community. Her family struggled for basic needs

Now she's the first female gynecologist in her community

20 YEARS OF

Dolly was trafficked into a circus as a young child

Now she's a nurse

Dreams Restored

Patience was forced to sell her body for food as a young girl

Now she owns her own business

Tania's family lived under a bridge. She didn't start school until age 12

Now she's at the top of her high school class

Sitamaya was abandoned in a red light area as a toddler

Now she leads a program for street children

Asha was trafficked as a maid in a private home, enduring physical and sexual abuse

Now she's an IT professional

Ruth was forced to marry a 50 year old man when she was 10

Now she's in college, studying international business

HERFUTURECOALITION.ORG
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Photography by Sarah Annay & Sarah Symons