

2023 IMPACT REPORT
HAGAR INTERNATIONAL

HAGAR



Our Vision:
Communities free and healed from the trauma of trafficking, slavery, and abuse.

Our Mission:
We walk the whole journey of restoration with each survivor, we empower communities to prevent exploitation, and we strengthen systems to protect the vulnerable.

WELCOME TO HAGAR'S 2023 IMPACT REPORT

It is a great privilege to lead an organisation that is singularly focused on preventing exploitation and on the restoration and healing of individuals who have suffered the trauma of trafficking, slavery, and abuse.

We hope this report will inspire you. Because change does happen in the lives of survivors when we do 'whatever it takes, for as long as it takes' to see lives transformed.

As you will witness in the following pages, your support enabled Hagar's operations around the world to go from *strength to strength.*

Last year, despite the global economic and geopolitical environment, and challenging country contexts, **Hagar and our partners reached 957,495 individuals through our programs.**

Our team in Afghanistan showed incredible fortitude and resilience in the face of extreme difficulty. Their tenacity in supporting the most vulnerable women and children is *Hagar's mission in action.*

The commitment and dedication of our donors and partners also empowered us to take strategic *steps forward to help more people.*

We extended our work into Thailand with the integration of LIFT International into the Hagar family. As LIFT joins Hagar, we will expand our capacity to support more survivors on their journey to healing, restoration, and justice.

In October, Hagar's global executive teams gathered in Cambodia with our partner Deloitte D2i to strategize the most efficient and effective approaches to increase our reach and impact through a growing Hagar family.

None of this is possible without the generous, loyal support of our partners and donors. *You are the lifeblood of Hagar.* Your steady, unflinching commitment gives us the confidence to grow and is a clarion call to all who serve within the Hagar family.

Together, we keep striving forward to support more survivors, and to be part of God's work of healing and restoration.

Thank you for the part you play in creating a world where communities are free and healed from slavery, abuse, and human trafficking.





Peter Baynard-Smith
Hagar International
Interim CEO

Phil Badger
Hagar International
Board Chair

GLOBAL IMPACT IN 2023

- Support Offices
- Program Offices
- Partner Organizations

In 2023, you helped Hagar and its partners:

EMPOWER **384** survivors to lead and advocate for change in their communities.

CONVICT **94** criminals for their crimes.

EQUIP **2,400** partner organization staff, law enforcement officers, and judges to identify human trafficking victims, support survivors, and uphold policies and laws.

TRAIN **18,000** vulnerable and at-risk individuals to spot the signs of human trafficking and prevent exploitation before it starts.

SERVE **180,122** beneficaries across seven Asia-Pacific countries.

Total Global Reach: 957,495 people impacted by Hagar's work in 2023.

Highlights

AFGHANISTAN

300 women in the Restoring Lives through Livelihood program sewed clothing for families affected by the Herat earthquake.

SINGAPORE

632 women migrant workers were supported with trauma recovery care, food and shelter, healthcare services, skills-building programmes, job placements and reintegration assistance.

MYANMAR

610 community members in two rural townships were trained to prevent gender-based violence and uphold child rights.

VIETNAM

316 women became economically self-sufficient , breaking the cycle of poverty and exploitation for their children.

THAILAND

194 victims of human trafficking and exploitation were removed from harm and referred to local shelters through LIFT's investigative work.

CAMBODIA

299 partner organization staff were trained to deliver trama-informed care, expanding high quality survivor care across the nation.

SOLOMON ISLANDS

HOPE Trust filed the first human trafficking case with the local police.

SURVIVOR CARE

Your support enabled thousands of women and children to overcome trauma, rebuild their lives, and reintegrate successfully into community.



2,859
survivors were supported in residential or community-based care.



6,359
counselling sessions with women, children and their families



1,488
survivors economically self-sufficient



1,233
survivors and dependents received education assistance



2,511
survivors participated in skills training



1,024
survivors successfully reintegrated into community

HEALING STARTS WITH A HOME OF LOVE

CAMBODIA

Down a narrow, potholed road on the outskirts of Phnom Penh, Cambodia, sits the Home of Love. It's not fancy, it doesn't need to be. Because, for the women and girls who find refuge here every year, this is where miracles begin.

The Home of Love opened in 2021 at the height of the Covid-19 pandemic. As neighbouring countries closed their borders, Cambodian women who had been working abroad were forced to return home. And come home they did, bearing the marks of trafficking, enslavement and abuse. But there was no place for the women to heal, grow in financial stability, or be supported to reintegrate into community. Riddled with the shame of failure and the physical and emotional scars of abuse, they were at risk for further exploitation.

When MOSAVY (Cambodia's Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans, and Youth) asked if Hagar could help these women, we agreed, and the Home of Love was born. The pandemic may be behind us, but trafficking to China is not.

The stories of women trafficked to China carry a thread of similarity. They come from impoverished Cambodian families and are lured with the promise of a good-paying job. Each woman believes **with all her heart that this opportunity will help her family escape their devastating poverty.** Some go willingly, the dream of creating a better life before them. Others are tricked, or horrifyingly, sold by their own family members. In the end, hundreds of them take the risky overland journey from Cambodia to China every year.

But what they find is rarely the golden story they were promised.

With no passport or identity documents, nor a valid visa to be working in the country, the women are at the mercy of their broker. When they are told they need a marriage certificate to qualify for a good job, they agree to marry a local man. More often than not, they're despised by their husband and his family, locked in the house, and cut off from the outside world. Many women are sexually assaulted – sometimes multiple times a day – with the hope they'll become pregnant with a son.

If they do finally escape to the local police, they are stripped of their savings and personal belongings and thrown in a detention centre for illegal immigrants.

When Hagar gets the phone call from MOSAVY that a new group of women have been extradited from China, they race to the airport to meet them.

The women, some as young as 14 or 15, walk off the plane with nothing but the clothes on their backs and a haunted look in their eyes. They've endured so much. Their self-esteem is at an all-time low. Most are depressed and overcome with panic and sadness. Some are suicidal.

How do they walk through the trauma and get to the other side? How do they find hope for the future? How do they reclaim their dignity and value and rebuild their lives?

For Hagar, the answer is love.

At the Home of Love, women who have experienced the unimaginable find a haven of freedom and warmth. It feels like family. The normalcy of daily routines – household chores, cooking and eating meals together - help each survivor regain equilibrium. The house mother treats each young woman like her own beloved daughter. These are the building blocks of restoration.

While this is happening, Hagar's case work team kicks into action. They trace the women's families. They train parents and siblings and the wider community in trauma-informed care. They teach trafficking prevention strategies, and help each woman's family to welcome her home with open arms. When a woman returns home, Hagar's support continues. Each survivor, her family and her community continue to receive follow-up care until they are resilient.

"The family and community over time sustains the health and well-being of the client," says Sam Sreyna, Hagar Cambodia Country Director.



Hagar's holistic approach at the Home of Love is mirrored across our global survivor care programmes. From Afghanistan's protection shelters to Vietnam's community-based restoration projects, Hagar provides professional, individualized care that is underpinned by love.

Forging freedom in a high-conflict region

AFGHANISTAN

Every day, Hagar's team in Afghanistan braves security risks, government-mandated restrictions, and intimidation and threats. Yet they prevail in their dedication to help survivors and advocate for change.

You enabled 1,396 women and children to be cared for, allowed the only girls' protection shelter in the country to run and equipped 300 community leaders to prevent exploitation.

"The support we received has not only brought us safety and a sense of belonging, but has empowered us to build a better future for ourselves."

– Mahdi, boys recovery shelter, Kabul

PREVENTION

You helped equip thousands of survivors and their communities to prevent exploitation before it starts.

3,774 community leaders and family members were trained to understand vulnerability and the tactics traffickers use.

777,363 people were reached via prevention messages through television and social media campaigns.



"I didn't know the meaning of modern slavery and how to help our community members reduce their vulnerability. Through this training, I now know how to protect my community members."

Community Leader, Cambodia

Photograph by Erika Pineros



Harnessing the power of survivor voice and social media to prevent exploitation

VIETNAM

Hagar harnessed the power of people's stories and social media to spread awareness about violence and abuse. The public was invited to create prevention messages using their own stories for an online campaign. More than 200 messages were submitted and the campaign reached 253,541 people. By hearing real experiences and stories, the audience gained a deeper understanding of how people come to be exploited.

"Every poem delves into a unique situation, revealing raw, authentic emotions to the reader."

– Hagar Vietnam Facebook follower.

Preventing human trafficking among migrant workers

SINGAPORE

Partnering with the Singapore authorities, Hagar interviewed women migrant workers in vulnerable industries. These screening interviews revealed the plights of exploited women. With Hagar's help, the women received support and care, and employers violating laws were held accountable. Plans are underway to continue this successful partnership in 2024.

Hagar reduces gender-based violence

MYANMAR

Through implementing partner, Yangon Kayin Baptist Women's Association (YKBWA), dozens of women were empowered with education on gender-based violence, child rights and managing stress and trauma.

Through peer-led groups and community-based training sessions, an estimated 600 individuals learned how to keep their families safe from abuse and exploitation.

80% of women participants said they felt more confident and safe in their closest relationships.

STRENGTHENING SYSTEMS

You helped Hagar transform communities by investing in local leaders, partnering with governments, and equipping the non-government sector to protect those vulnerable to human trafficking, slavery, and abuse.

Minea spent time at Hagar's Home of Love after being trafficked to China by her best friend. She chose to take legal action against her trafficker. In early 2023, Minea won her court case. Her trafficker was arrested and sentenced to seven years in prison.

"Now I fight for justice and to prevent other young women from becoming victims of human trafficking like me. Without Hagar's support, I would not have been able to get justice and become the strong confident woman I am today. I have my life back and I have hope for my new life."

Minea

892
leaders across dozens of partner organizations implemented Hagar's trauma-informed care practices with their clientele.

19
human trafficking cases were filed with local police.

$85,650
in compensation was won for victims through legal support.



HAGAR EXPANDS TO THAILAND

In February, Hagar expanded into Thailand through a strategic integration with LIFT International.

144
years of jail time sentenced

18
human trafficking cases opened

570
follow-up sessions with survivors were carried out by the social work team

For 12 years LIFT has worked in Thailand building the capacity of law enforcement agencies in investigating human trafficking cases, prosecuting perpetrators and supporting survivors. Thousands of individuals have found freedom through justice with LIFT's assistance.

By joining forces, we extended Hagar's holistic survivor care to include multi-disciplinary investigation and prosecution.

This was evident in our work in the Solomons; Hagar continued to train staff in survivor care and exploitation prevention, while LIFT taught the team to run investigations and collaborate with law enforcement.



Building capability expands impact

SOLOMON ISLANDS

This year marked the halfway point of a five-year capacity building partnership with the Hope Trust.

6 **community-based Crime Prevention Committees launched to protect women and children from exploitation.**

610 **community leaders were trained to deliver trauma-informed care. Often the first place victims of trafficking and abuse go for support, these leaders are now able to provide psychological first aid and refer cases to Hope Trust's professional team.**

Hope Trust joined the Solomon Islands' national referral system for abuse cases, enabling advocacy alongside other national organizations.

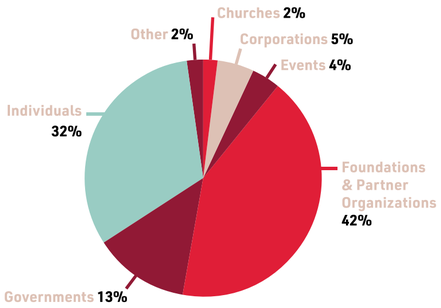
FINANCIALS

Finances 2023 Fiscal Year

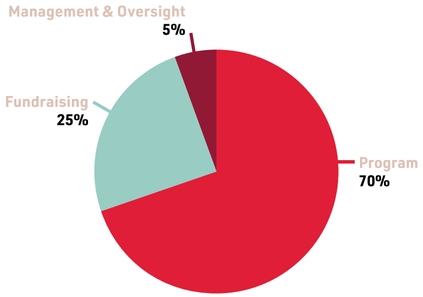
Total Revenue (USD): **$5,931,000**

Total Expenses (USD): **$6,088,000**

Source of funds:



Use of funds:



In 2023 we increased support to our program activity and invested in future growth by adding capability both in fundraising and capacity building. This was partially funded by a drawdown from reserves.

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Photograph by Erika Pineros