



Freedom 8848 Justice Society 2025 in Review: Annual Report

March 2026

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Letter from Leadership

“Being part of Freedom 8848 through the years has been both an honour and truly humbling at the same time. It’s an honour to be invited to walk (literally and figuratively) with some truly amazing people, but humbling to witness the selflessness, grit, strength and talent they bring to all they do.

The generosity of our donors is truly astounding. Our climbers battle physical and emotional challenges, choosing to embrace discomfort for the sake of freedom. Our diverse crew of volunteers selflessly donate their time and talents year round to make this mission happen. And of course our partners. Each one has an impressive resume and an incredible work ethic but they have each chosen service over personal gain. Everyone we have the pleasure of working with is a model of what being a follower of Christ is supposed to be, inspiring us all to do better. For that I’m truly grateful.”

~ Rembrandt Vlasblom, Freedom 8848 President and Founding Member

Our Mission: To equip people to fight sex trafficking through awareness and by fundraising to tangibly support our partner organizations.

Our Vision: *Imagine a groundswell of people standing together, moving mountains for justice.*

Finalized Independence as Organization

The origin of Freedom 8848 can be traced back to the 4th Musketeer's Xtreme Character Challenge (XCC). Since 2020 we have operated under the wing of 4th Musketeer, but as our organization has matured and developed its own unique needs we felt led to pursue independence. We are grateful for all the support, collaboration, and friendships we have enjoyed over the past years.

2025 was our first year operating as an independent charitable organization, officially registered as Freedom 8848 Justice Society. We chose to partner with the Great Commission Foundation to provide us with administrative assistance and oversight so that we can focus on educating our communities about sex trafficking and help to relieve poverty by tangibly supporting our partner organizations.

Community and Educational Events

Gala Fundraising Evening

We hosted a dessert and silent auction gala on March 23rd, the purpose of which was to spread awareness of sex trafficking through various speeches, to fundraise for our efforts, and to share fellowship with other individuals motivated by justice. We sold out our tickets with over 100 attendees plus volunteers and raised over \$8,000 through the silent auction. These funds will help to cover the administrative burden of running our volunteer-driven organization. We are so grateful to all the local businesses and individuals who donated prizes to our auction, Cochrane Alliance Church for sharing their space, all our supporters who attended, and the many volunteers who made it such an enjoyable and successful evening.

Presentation to women's ministry conference at CAC

Cochrane Alliance Church's Women's Ministry graciously dedicated their conference evening to Freedom 8848. We were given the opportunity to share about the problem of sex trafficking and what it looks like to seek justice with action. Two inspiring climbers who previously participated in the Everest Freedom Challenge also shared their experiences and encouraged others that we can all make a difference if we are willing.

Partner Seminar: HER Victory

We hosted a seminar led by our local partner HER Victory, where attendees learned about the community and support HER Victory provides to the thousands of women in Calgary trapped in a life of sex trafficking and exploitation. HER Victory (Healing, Exit, Restoration) changes lives by meeting women where they are at but not leaving them there, walking right beside them as

they regain their identity. HER Victory is positioned along Calgary's last prostitution stroll and their resources include shower facilities, free clothing and toiletries, social workers and counsellors, and access to medical assistance. By attending to their basic needs the servant-hearted love of Christ is shown to these women so that they realize their worth and dignity.

This year HER Victory also celebrated the opening of HER Home, which provides safe housing and programming for women ready to take the next steps towards regaining independence. The program provides trauma-informed counselling, peer-support groups, life skills and employment training, financial literacy, and a network of supportive mentors, staff, and fellow survivors.



We also organized a partner hike where participants were able to engage further with HER Victory staff and learn more while enjoying the mountains.



Partner Seminar: Ally Global Foundation

Freedom 8848 formed a relationship with Ally Global Foundation last year and we are so excited to officially welcome them as a partner in 2025. Ally Global is a Canadian organization that aims to protect children from sex trafficking and exploitation. They have several programs including safe homes for trafficking survivors in Cambodia and Nepal, a [prevention educational program](#) geared to youth, and a prevention program called Makwa Dodem specific to Indigenous communities here in Canada. We are excited to work alongside them to amplify their impact.

At our Ally Global seminar, Makwa Dodem founders Jackie and Jaiden presented their partnership with safe houses for trafficking survivors in Cambodia and Nepal, where restoration is a long-game requiring endurance, hope, and love from all staff members. They also shared about projects in Alberta and Saskatchewan that collaborate with Indigenous peoples who are disproportionately represented among sex trafficking victims. The founders of Makwa Dodem,

which means "Bear Clan" in Ojibwe, are proudly from the Bear Clan themselves and see the importance of including multi-generational partners, cultural values, and heritage in order to empower youth at risk with a sense of identity, worth, and value. Recognizing the unique needs in each Indigenous community, as well as the strength of their cultural values, resiliency, and identity, Makwa Dodem partners with community members to develop a prevention strategy unique to their context.

Ally Global Foundation team members were also able to get out on our partner hike and share more about their work with climbers in a more informal and beautiful setting.

Partner seminar: IJM Canada

The IJM Canada seminar focused on the online sexual abuse of children in the Phillipines, one of the most prevalent areas in the world where this casework occurs. Robin Padanyi, Director of



Development and Mobilization, shared a prayer request for one of his colleagues from the Phillipines who is working with the regional police to rescue children whose abuse is being directed and paid for by a Canadian online. His presentation truly demonstrated the globally interconnected

nature of this crime and how those in our own communities can be complicit in causing abuse. Canada consistently ranks among the top four countries that are paying to harm children in the Phillipines. But the hope is that most Canadians care to fight this crime as we become aware. We can make a difference through collaboration between law enforcement, non-governmental organizations, and concerned citizens. Robin also shared some super helpful and encouraging fundraising tips for the climbers in attendance.

Everest Freedom Challenge - August 13-17, 2025



The Everest Freedom Challenge is our keystone event, and this year was memorable! The EFC is a five day event in Alberta's Rockies where climbers raise funds for our partners by climbing the height of Mount Everest in Alberta's Rockies, a total of 8,848 metres in elevation. We believe that just as mountains can be conquered one step at a time, the seemingly unconquerable mountain of injustice known as trafficking and sexual exploitation can be conquered.

Altogether the climbers raised \$109,148 for our partner organizations! We made a change to our fundraising structure, allowing climbers to choose the frontline partner for which they would raise support. This allowed climbers more agency in directing their effort to a specific result, choosing to support an organization close to their hearts, and took Freedom 8848 out of the fund-collecting pipeline. Funds collected by climbers went directly to and were managed by our partner organizations, meaning that funds went rapidly where they were most needed to help make a difference.

Not only did the climbers raise tangible funds to stop sexual exploitation and help survivors to heal, the Everest Freedom Challenge also gives climbers a platform, information, and the confidence to raise awareness about sexual exploitation in their communities.



One of the climbers this year shared: "Doing Freedom 8848's EFC for me is about using my capabilities and my ability to choose an uncomfortable task for the sake of those who don't have the freedom to do so. The community of organizations that fight against sex trafficking brings light into the

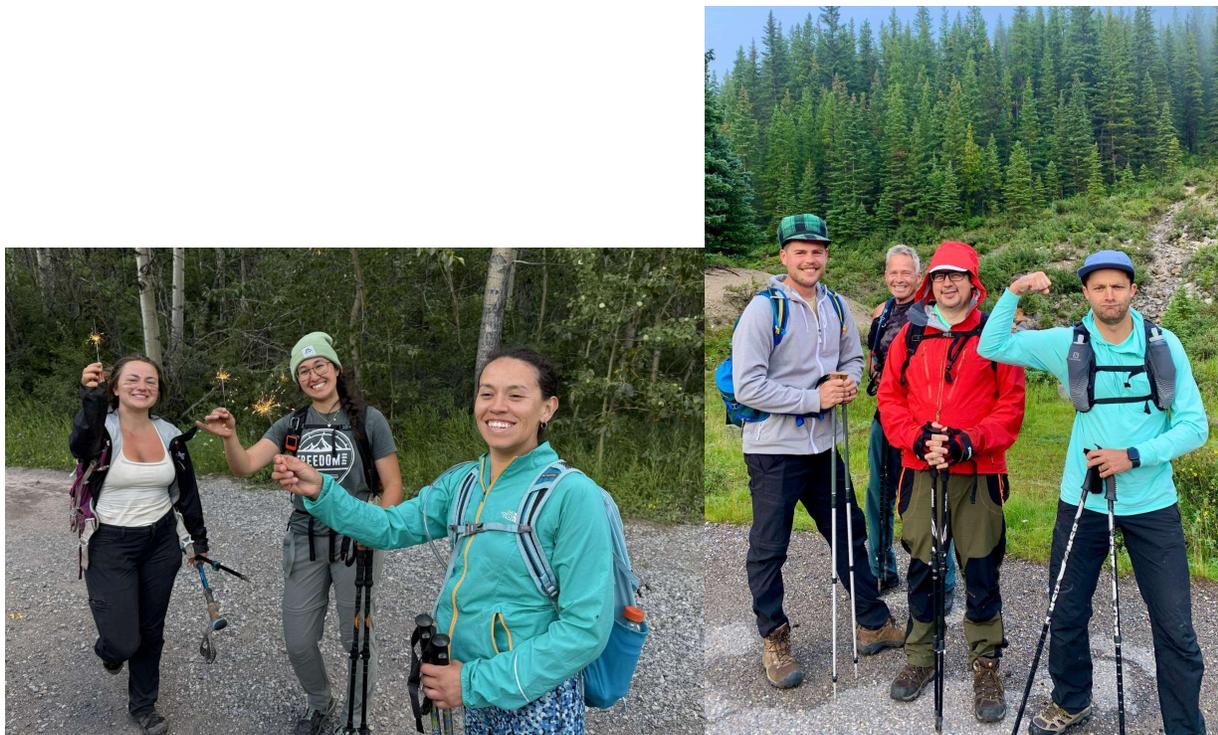
lives of victims and I want to be a part of spreading that hope to everyone." We are so glad we can invite passionate people such as this climber into the fight and allow her to use what she has to make a difference. We hope the opportunity we gave her helps her to see she can continue to spread hope and make change right where she's at.

Here are some memorable moments:



Program participants at HER Victory's safe house *HER Home* painted rocks during art therapy and as a gift for climbers as a tangible symbol of how they were choosing to carry the burden of others up a mountain.





Celebrating at the base of the final peak as climbers completed their goals!



Introducing Scree: our official EFC mascot. The two-headed wonder symbolizes several things at the heart of what we do during EFC: Firstly, we are a two-pronged approach: We work closely with our partner organizations who are on the frontlines fighting sex trafficking. We do what we do to support what they do. We have their back.

Second: nobody climbs alone. This is true from a safety perspective at the EFC, but also true metaphorically. Nobody can

conquer the evil of sex trafficking alone. We can't hope to do any of this without reliance on God to give us strength, wisdom, and hope. But together, and in His might, we can conquer this mountain.



One climber's sister joined her on her final peak. Here they are summiting together!

Our partner organizations joined us each day up on the mountains and back at the camp where they shared about their work, showing climbers exactly how their efforts were making a difference. Their words were so inspiring to the climbers, giving them extra grit and focus to



summit each peak.



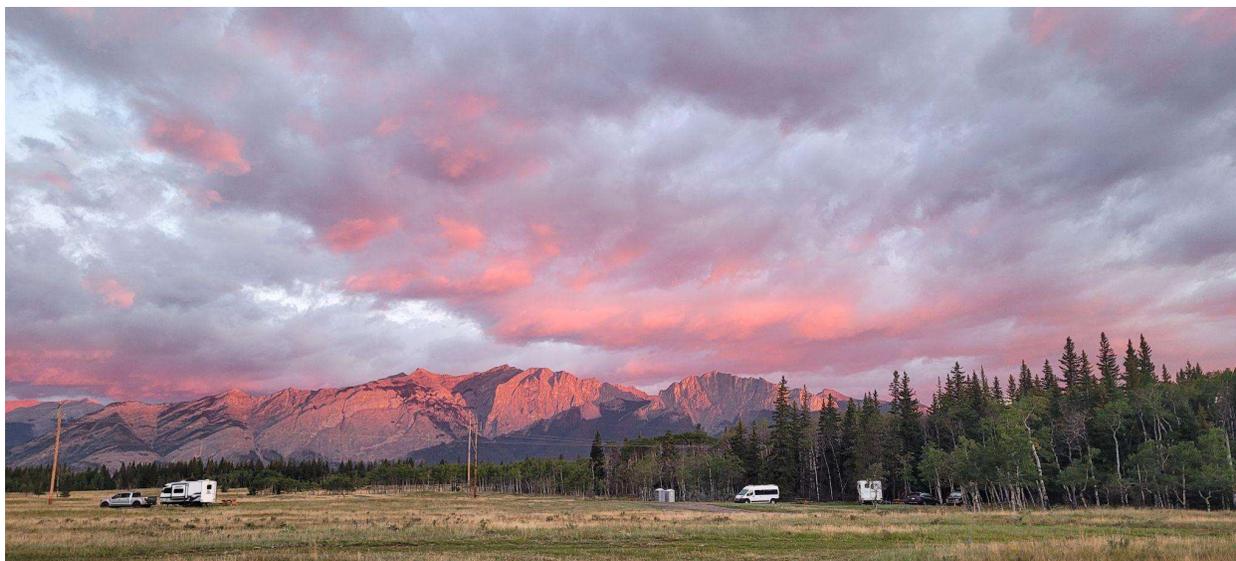


We are incredibly thankful for each member of our crew who volunteer their time and efforts to support the climbers and ensure they have everything they need. Roles that were filled include a logistics and safety coordinator, basecamp coordinator, several basecamp crew members keeping everyone fed with delicious hot meals, climber care team, trailhead hosts, speaker hosts, a media team, worship leaders at camp, and shuttle drivers. Many of our volunteer mountain crew are trained for emergencies including a physiotherapist, medical doctor, and firefighter. Each of these crew members plays

a vital part in building the encouraging and celebratory atmosphere for climbers at the Everest Freedom Challenge. We are so grateful for their care and commitment. Some of our crew members this year were also family members of climbers. Watching proud parents get to provide a meal and a hug for their exhausted daughter after a hard day in the mountains is what makes the EFC such a close-knit community.



We are thankful for Rafter 6 Ranch who hosted us at their group campsite for the Everest Freedom Challenge. It is an ideal location in Kananaskis for getting to our hikes early in the morning and a great home base for tired climbers to return to for dinner and worship later in the evening. Thank you Rafter 6!



Totals raised by Partner: HER Victory: **\$62,201**
 IJM Canada: **\$17,264**
 Ally Global Foundation: **\$29,683**

Continue to read our Impact Summary to gain an understanding of how these numbers are affecting real change.

Impact

Our mission is to equip people to fight sex trafficking through awareness and by fundraising to tangibly support our partner organizations. Not everyone can work on the frontlines rescuing victims, convicting perpetrators, or walking with survivors in restoration and healing, but we can tangibly support those doing this difficult and holy work. Here is a summary of how our efforts this year through the Everest Freedom Challenge has helped our partners, in their own words:



A message from HER Victory:

Together, Freedom 8848 and HER Victory are advancing a shared mission to protect dignity, restore hope, and create pathways to safety for women impacted by exploitation, trafficking, and violence. The impact of partnership is best seen in individual lives. Emily* was a familiar presence at HER Victory before being pulled back into a deeply unsafe situation. After enduring unimaginable harm and being held hostage, she was eventually rescued by police. Today, supported by a coordinated network of case workers, medical professionals, law enforcement,

and mental health providers, Emily is taking courageous steps forward. Her journey is now marked by healing, sobriety, and renewed hope, demonstrating what is possible when organizations like Freedom 8848 and HER Victory commit to long term restoration.

Shannon's* story further reflects this shared impact. She arrived at our outreach location carrying a deep sense of violation, isolation, and abandonment. She met with a HER Victory case worker to share her desire to report the abuse she had been experiencing and the profound violations she endured. Shannon disclosed being drugged, exploited, and harassed. With remarkable courage, Shannon chose to report her experience to the police. After completing her disclosure, she took a deep breath and expressed gratitude to both the case worker and the officer present: *"This allows me to begin to move forward and heal."* Shannon is now on a powerful journey of restoration as she takes brave steps toward securing housing, accessing counselling, and building a supportive community.

Stories like Emily's and Shannon's underscore why partnership matters. Together, Freedom 8848 and HER Victory are not only responding to crisis but building lasting pathways to safety, dignity, and restoration.

**Names changed to protect individuals.*

Here's a summary of HER Victory's impact over the past year:

- 3366 Total # of service interactions with women across teams (stated this way because many women access services repeatedly)
- 2379 women met with in HV space
- 239 Women met with in prison
- 448 women met with on the streets
- 180 women met with in massage parlors
- 744 - number of 1:1 case management sessions with case workers
- 133 # woman assisted with exploitation, trafficking, domestic violence> exits/safety
- 53 volunteers
- 1200+ volunteer hours (not counting our live-in volunteer at the safe house)

A message from IJM Canada



IJM

"If you're like me, you want your giving to be effective. So let me share with you just one example of how your generosity fuels one form of our field work: rescuing children from online sexual exploitation in the Philippines.

It's often called cybersex trafficking of children. And it's a horrific crime.

Perpetrators in western countries like Canada lure Filipinos to sexually abuse children and to offer the images or videos of the exploitation

online. Much of this abuse is live streamed as the perpetrators—sex offenders—direct the crime remotely.

Like I said, horrific. It's also one of the fastest growing crimes our team is tracking. The first cases were reported in 2011. By 2019, a study led by IJM confirmed that the Philippines had become a hotspot of online sexual exploitation of children. Our research showed that the average length of abuse was 2 years. The median age of victims was 11 years old, with some being as young as 3 or younger. We also found that 41% of traffickers were biological parents of the children being trafficked. Another 42% were relatives, like siblings and cousins and aunts.

It's enough to break your heart. But it's also what keeps us going.

Powered by the generosity of Canadians—we've worked closely with the Philippine government to:

- Remove 1,111 victims
- Arrest 348 suspects
- Convict 191 perpetrators
- Help 311 survivors find healing and restoration

And we're only getting started. YOU'RE only getting started. Thank you for being a protector of children. A defender of victims. An ally of survivors.

Your generosity at work-works. It helps find and rescue victims. Provides healing and restoration. Holds slave owners, traffickers, rapists, and criminals accountable in court. And strengthens local justice systems. Together, we're on track to rescue millions, protect half a billion, and make justice for the poor unstoppable. I'm honored to be doing this work with you."

Until all are free,
Anu George Canjanathoppil
Chief Executive Officer
IJM Canada

Here are some incredible measures of success of IJM global throughout the world as recorded in IJM Canada's Impact Report for the fiscal year of 2025:

- Rescued 13,557 children, women, and men from violence
- Restored 258 survivors to safety, stability, and strength (with many more still receiving support in recovery programs)
- Restrained 3,109 suspected perpetrators of violence as a result of strengthened justice systems
- Trained 40,340 justice system officials, NGO staff, and community members to protect their communities and care for survivors



A message from Ally Global Foundation:

Thank you for your generous support in 2025 in protecting childhood. As we start the new year, we want to show the impact of your giving, and share updates from the work your support makes possible. Together, we're able to:

- **Prevent** sex trafficking and exploitation from happening in the first place
- **Provide** survivors with wraparound care, so they can rediscover freedom and reclaim their childhood
- **Prepare** survivors for adulthood through job training, scholarships and guidance, so they can chase their dreams with confidence.

Global Impact

In Nepal and Cambodia, our local partners operate 8 safe homes housing over 280+ survivors of human trafficking/abuse. By partnering with national frontline experts, we're able to provide the highest level of care for every child in our safe homes and facilitate successful prevention programs driven by the unique needs of each community.

Last year we were able to provide:

- **282 survivors** with wrap-around trauma-informed care
- **48 survivors** with reintegration support and long term independence
- **42 university scholarships** awarded
- **406 students** with access to primary and secondary education
- **109 students** enrolled in job training
- **5,737 individuals** reached with prevention resources
- **28 villages** engaged in community-based prevention

After survivors have reintegrated, our local partners remain committed to nurturing these relationships. It doesn't matter how many years have passed, graduates are always welcome at the safe home. This lasting connection ensures that they continue to feel supported and part of a caring community, empowering them to thrive in their newfound lives.

Your support is making a difference in ways beyond what words or numbers can express.

Local Impact

Right here in Calgary, our Makwa Dodem program has been working alongside Indigenous communities to prevent sexual exploitation and raise awareness through an Indigenous-led prevention lens. The team has travelled across Western Canada—from rural Saskatchewan to Prince George B.C., and throughout Southern Alberta—partnering with communities and service providers to support locally led prevention efforts

In 2025, we were able to:

- **Reach 1,506 people** through prevention workshops, community conversations, service provider trainings and meetings, and outreach
- **Deliver 35 prevention and training presentations** to Indigenous communities, organizations, and frontline professionals
- **Engage with 10 Indigenous communities** across Western Canada through meetings, trainings, and prevention efforts
- **Train 4 Indigenous communities**—2 in Saskatchewan and 2 in Alberta—in Makwa Dodem's community prevention curriculum

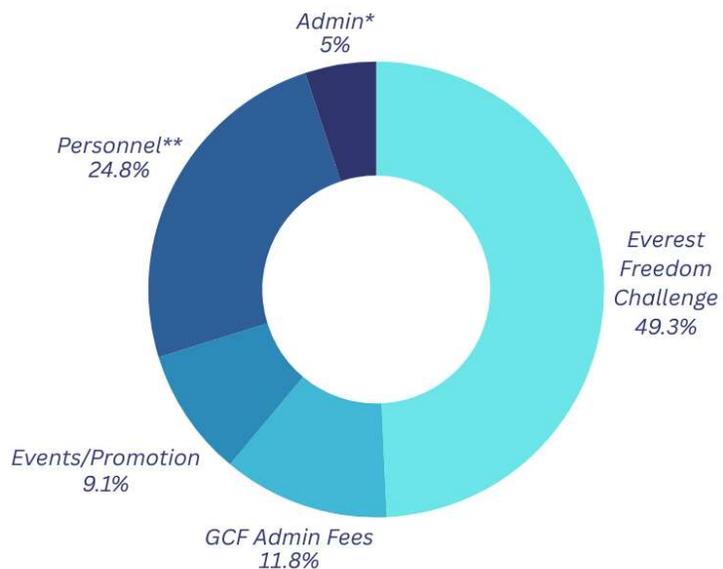
In June, we gathered in person with Ocean Man First Nation in Saskatchewan to celebrate our partnership. During the gathering, we spoke with Carleen, a local team member, who reflected on the impact of Makwa Dodem in her community:

"It doesn't always have to be a negative experience to spur change. . . we don't always have to put out fires. We don't always have to respond in a jolted crisis mode. We can be prepared with the proper information. . . The tools that Makwa Dodem has provided us, with the resources Ally has, will empower our future generations to move forward without having to respond to crisis. . . You might think it's just information. But it saves lives." - Carleen

Your support is helping make that possible.

Financials

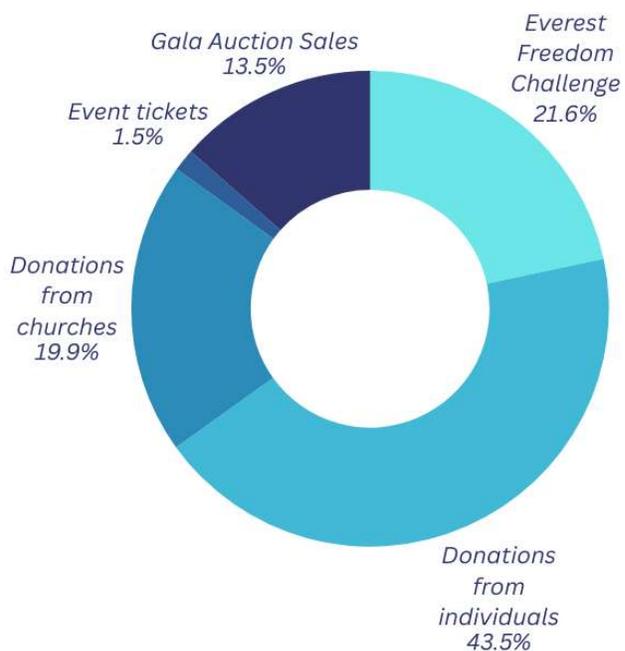
2025 EXPENSES



*Administration includes office software and insurance

**Personnel are team members reimbursed for work done according to contract, and are exclusively sponsored by one individual donor for this purpose

2025 REVENUE SOURCES



Looking Ahead: Goals for 2026

- Increase fundraising targets and participant capacity for the Everest Freedom Challenge.
- Host our first Anti-Trafficking Summit to raise awareness, equip the public with information, and provide our Partners with an opportunity to share
- Expand e-learning and seminar offerings to the wider public, further educating people about sex trafficking.
- Tell hopeful and inspiring stories through impactful video production
- Deepen our relationships with partner organizations to support them in any further areas they may need.
- Strengthen our support for survivors—locally and globally—via strategic collaboration.

Thank you to all supporters, partners, climbers, and volunteers for making 2025 such an impactful year. Together, we are moving closer to a world free from trafficking and exploitation.