



Lift Up the  
**Vulnerable**

2020 IMPACT REPORT





2020 brought many challenges to Lift Up the Vulnerable (LUV)'s anti-trafficking network, but by remaining nimble and embracing creativity, our team and partners have done a wonderful job pivoting to best support the children, women, and men in our network as the world shut down and borders, supply routes, and even schools closed. With your help, we were able to provide COVID-19 response for the wider communities through soap distribution—serving over 300 families near our two locations in South Sudan.

This time of closures and lockdowns also led us to focus on reimagining how our work can empower the vulnerable with a particular focus on long-term self-sustainability initiatives—especially through farming and our exciting new partnership with Rise Against Hunger (find more details on page 9).

Throughout 2020 we saw donors give above and beyond, so much so that we far exceeded our 2020 fundraising goals. This growth enabled us to expand our stateside team and, in September, LUV welcomed Robert Riggs as our new Chief Operations Officer, built new initiatives like The LUV Collective global giving community (see page 10), and hosted our first iteration of The Longest Night Prayer Vigil for trafficking victims. We're excited to have more individuals and churches participate in the vigil, which will happen annually on the winter solstice, December 21st.

Your partnership prepares LUV for a strong 2021 as we launch ambitious program plans that will enable us to reach more vulnerable children and women with Christ's love as we expand the integrated strategies of protection, education, and economic empowerment led by indigenous leaders to transform communities from within.

To follow is a snapshot of the impacts your generosity made possible this past year. We have much we want to accomplish in 2021 and your gifts enable us to protect and empower more lives. Thank you for joining us on this life-transforming mission to prevent human trafficking and empower changemakers in war-torn nations.

With LUV, hope, and gratitude,

Audrey Moore, CEO

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*Preventing Human Trafficking  
Empowering Changemakers*





## OUR MISSION

Lift Up the Vulnerable (LUV) exists to **prevent** the trafficking and oppression of vulnerable children and women and **empower** them to be changemakers in their communities.

## OUR METHOD

LUV is an ecumenical Christian mission organization that prevents the trafficking and oppression of vulnerable children and women in warzones. In conflict zones such as Sudan and South Sudan, which are marked by violence and extreme poverty, the most vulnerable are kidnapped as child soldiers, sold as sex slaves, and trapped in forced labor.

Our solution is a holistic empowerment model that prevents trafficking and empowers children and women to thrive as change agents in their own lives and communities. Since 2005, our leaders have a proven track record of effectively navigating and building partnerships in warzones and lawless lands. Through the only indigenously directed anti-human trafficking network spanning Sudan and South Sudan, LUV provides protection, education, and economic development to eliminate the exploitation of vulnerabilities, provide freedom, and restore hope.

**We envision a world where vulnerable children and women are empowered, and, through them, war-torn nations are transformed.**





# OUR MODEL

Preventing human trafficking in warzones requires an agile, integrative process—addressing extreme poverty, instability, lack of infrastructure and resources, which leave millions in Sudan and South Sudan vulnerable or exploited. Women and children are at the highest risk. Our model takes a holistic approach by extending practical training, tangible support, and spiritual care to empower change agents in their own lives and communities. These essential resources are critical components to addressing vulnerabilities and preventing exploitation and trafficking.



## PROTECTION

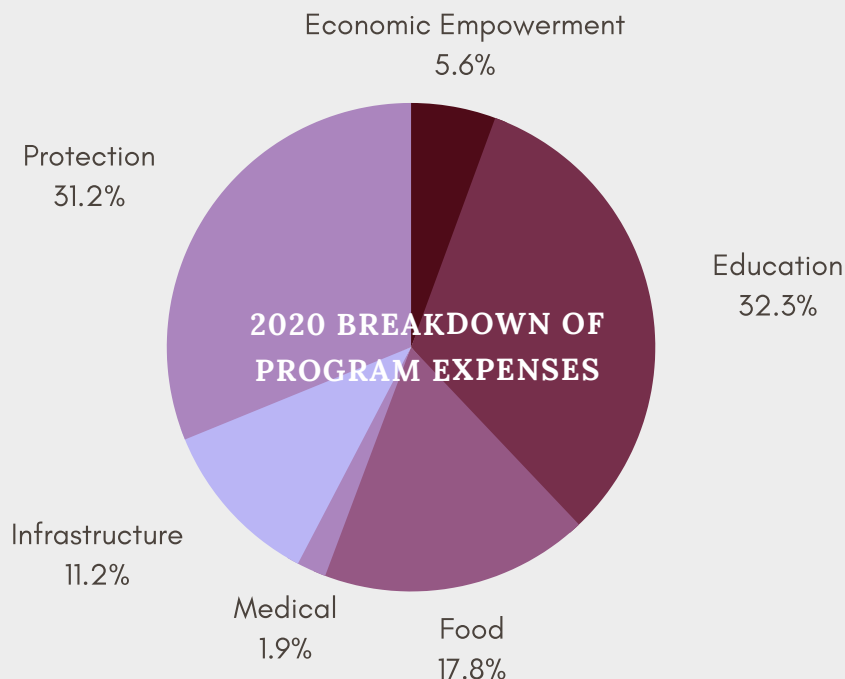
We provide safe housing, nutrition, clean water, and medical care for those who have no other options.

## EDUCATION

We increase the capacity for children and adults to grow academically, emotionally, and spiritually.

## ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

We support local income generation, agribusiness innovation, and other initiatives to ensure self-sustainability.



**83.7% of total organization expenses were used to directly support LUV's anti-trafficking network in Africa; including, protection, education, economic empowerment, food, medical care, and infrastructure development.**

- We received generous donations of Rise Against Hunger rice meals for each of our network locations. These delicious gifts helped decrease our 2020 food expenses.
- In addition, our economic empowerment farming initiatives helped provide new local sources of food to supplement diets!
- Infrastructure development included outfitting new computers for New Life Ministry's high school computer lab and new construction at Hope For South Sudan of a high school block of four classrooms and latrines.



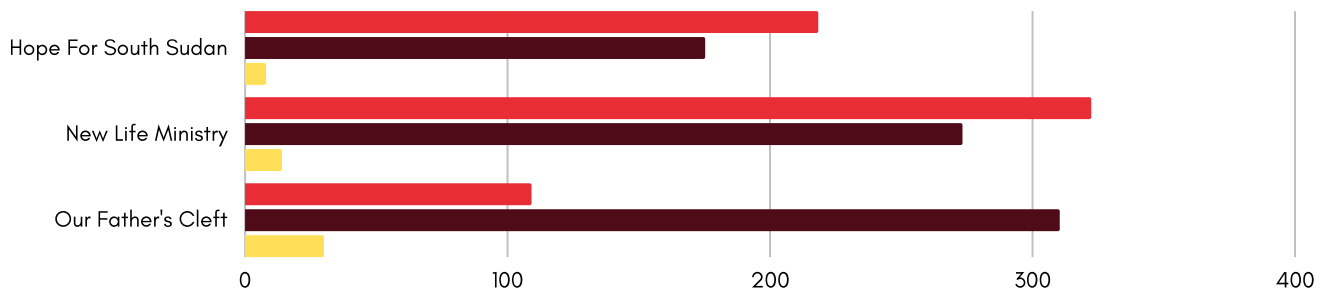
# PROTECTION



Through LUV's protection program, indigenous leaders and their teams offer safe housing, food and nutrition, clean water, and preventative and emergency medical care for vulnerable children and women who have no other options. We began 2020 by providing on-site housing for 653 children and educating 1,463 students. In March 2020, when the world began to enter lockdown, both programs were greatly impacted, causing numbers to fluctuate throughout the rest of 2020.

- **Students Living On Site = 653**
- **Students From The Community = 758**
- **Continuing Education Classes = 52**

## IN THE BEGINNING OF 2020:



### HOPE FOR SOUTH SUDAN (HFSS), along the border of Uganda

- **218** children living on site
- **175** students from the community
- Plus, **7** adults in farm technical training classes and **1** university student in Uganda

### NEW LIFE MINISTRY (NLM), along the border of Darfur

- **322** children living on site
- **273** students from the community
- Plus, **14** university students studying in South Sudan, Sudan, and Morocco

### OUR FATHER'S CLEFT (OFC), in the Nuba Mountains

- **109** children living on site
- **310** students from the community
- Plus, approximately **30** in adult literacy classes

At the start of 2020, **2** children living at the **Kenya Safe House** were studying in primary school and **2** students were enrolled in a boarding high school in **Uganda**.





## FAMILY-BASED CARE

*“The death of my wife shocked me. I do not believe that she is gone. I still have pain in my heart, because she was the manager of the house and she took care of the children. What pains me most is to accept the reality that she is gone.” – Taban John*

South Sudan has one of the highest maternal mortality rates in the world. The country lacks properly equipped hospitals, leaving women with no option but to give birth under the care of traditional midwives who lack the knowledge to handle complicated deliveries. Like many others, Taban John’s wife bled to death soon after delivering their fourth child, leaving him with a newborn baby girl.

When the sad news of the death reached the village elders, the only solution they could think of was to take the newborn and her three other siblings to live at the on-site safe housing at Hope for South Sudan (HFSS). However, during the COVID-19 pandemic, HFSS had not been able to admit any new orphans and the compound was on a total lockdown to avoid the spread of the virus.

**At the same time that John lost his wife, our leadership team had been re-imagining the prevention of trafficking and how to best serve in war-torn and impoverished communities.** Some of the children currently receiving protection through safe housing at HFSS and at our other network locations have family or extended family that is alive, but they have been referred to our centers because extreme poverty in both nations has left many adults unable to provide food, education, or basic care for the children—and therefore increasing their vulnerability to exploitation and trafficking.

**Over the past year, the leadership of LUV and our indigenous partners have been innovating our approach with a focus on systemic transformation of communities by empowering families and children.**

**One model for this is family-based care.**

Our leadership knows that family-based care is an important option to prevent trafficking and empower communities, so our indigenous partners took action to support John and equip him to care for his family. First, we together identified that his greatest immediate concern was providing milk and medicine for the newborn’s survival. HFSS leadership agreed to provide the infant’s food and medication for 3 months. Thereafter, for the following 3 months, John would be given a goat that would provide milk for the baby and the rest of the siblings. The same goat will be bred to reproduce and in a short time John will have a herd of goats to economically support his family.

John wanted to help his family. He just didn’t know how he could do so alone. Today, he is so happy for the support he received from LUV’s anti-trafficking network that kept his family together. He also has begun farming and our team will continue monitoring and helping John in his journey of fatherhood and empowerment. **In 2021, we will deepen our holistic approach to equip single-parent families to support their children while we continue to protect the most vulnerable with little to no other options available.**



# EDUCATION

In our education program, pre-K through high school classes are offered to children that live at our on-site safe housing and from the surrounding communities. Adults are offered continuing opportunities through literacy classes, higher education, and vocational training programs. Spiritual mentoring is available for all, to encourage, support, and inspire. Through each aspect of this educational program, it is our goal to see bodies protected, minds expanded, and hearts transformed.

**The pandemic and subsequent economic crisis disrupted the 2020 school year and in both nations led to higher rates of disease, food insecurity, domestic violence, and human trafficking.** Although the government required schools and some of our on-site safe housing to close, our partners worked overtime to monitor the welfare of every child as they stayed with their extended family members. Our partners also provided opportunities to engage students in our agriculture initiatives.

In December, despite setbacks and delays, our network celebrated because four students—Cecilia, Willis, and Beatrice (pictured below) and Hannan (pictured interning at a state hospital)—who have all come through our anti-trafficking network, graduated from nursing school!

In South Sudan, in a normal year, over 70% of school-age children are not receiving an education, and only 27% of the adult population can read and write. This cohort of university graduates are a testament to the effectiveness of your investment in this mission and the tenacity and determination that they have to continue in their journey for education and career.



***"My sincere congratulations to you and your team for having put me, my colleagues, as well as, South Sudan on the bright side of things... I am lacking a word to appreciate every service you rendered to me since when I was a toddler until now. My promise is to make your name greater and bring up others, just like you did. Keep up the struggle. I choose to care for others just like you did to me. It is unending journey... may God bless us all." -Willis***





### OUR FATHER'S CLEFT (OFC)

OFC had **419 school children enrolled in 2020** with **324 in elementary school** and **95 in high school**. By the end of March, the local government ordered the closure of both the on-site safe housing and school during the pandemic. By July, 47 students in grades 8 and 12 could return to live and study at OFC. In January 2021, all of our students were permitted to return to school and live in our on-site safe housing in order to catch up the missed 2020 school year. It's projected that by April 2021 the new academic year will begin.



### NEW LIFE MINISTRY (NLM)

NLM had **595 school children enrolled in 2020** with **459 in elementary school** and **136 in high school**. By the end of March, the local government ordered the closure of both the on-site safe housing and school during the pandemic. By July, NLM was given special permission to resume day school for all grades. In January 2021, all of our students were permitted to return to school and live in our on-site safe housing in order to catch up the missed 2020 school year. It's projected that by April 2021 the new academic year will begin.



### HOPE FOR SOUTH SUDAN (HFSS)

HFSS had **393 school children enrolled in 2020** with **366 in elementary school** and **27 in high school**. By the end of March, the local government ordered the closure of school, but all 218 children living at HFSS could remain at our on-site safe housing during the pandemic. In October, 22 students in grades 8 and 12 only were permitted by the government to resume their classes. All schools are tentatively set to re-open in April 2021 for the remaining students.

**WHAT'S SO SPECIAL ABOUT 8TH & 12TH GRADERS?** At the end of the 8th and 12th grade, students are required to take a five-day cumulative exit exam that they must pass to graduate from primary and high school. These students were given special permission by the government to resume school and prepare for these exams so that they could stay on track for graduation.



# ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

**144** indigenous  
leaders  
empowered



Grassroots economic development is a game-changer for transitioning aid-dependent and insecure communities toward empowerment. Investing in children, women, and men to be independent and innovative is a key requirement to help transform communities and reduce vulnerabilities.

In 2020, Lift Up the Vulnerable was able to provide year-round support to equip **144 indigenous leaders** at all three centers of our anti-trafficking network plus our team in Kenya.

Many of our partners' staff and students worked side-by-side to invest their time off from school in expanding LUV's agriculture and food independence initiatives. Together, we made significant strides in clearing new land, learning more efficient methods for planting seeds, harvesting crops, investigating alternative economic development opportunities and partnerships to support children in the future, and developing long-term strategies toward achieving food independence and economic stability over the next ten years.

## This first year was a tremendous success!

—**HOPE FOR SOUTH SUDAN** had been farming on a small scale for several years, but in 2020 we began a partnership with Rise Against Hunger that included providing technical training to support the farm team to increase production towards total food independence. In the first season, HFSS more than doubled their cultivation acreage (totaling 40 acres) and harvested 85 (50kg)\* bags of maize (a crop they never planted before) and 15 (50kg) bags of sorghum (a widely consumed grain), in addition to small quantities of leafy green vegetables and an abundance of fruit like mangos and oranges from their orchard—now the largest in the region!

—**OUR FATHER'S CLEFT** initiated farming for the first time this year, preparing an estimated 8 acres of land by hand and in the end harvested 62 (50kg) bags of sorghum plus 150kgs of white beans and 100kgs of sesame seed! Everyone was encouraged by their great success!

—**NEW LIFE MINISTRY** also attempted farming this year but their crops failed due to prolonged drought. Undeterred, they worked with the community and secured 210 (50kg) bags of sorghum which was **donated** from local farmers, some of whom have children that attend classes at NLM—something never achieved before!

\*One 50 kg bag is equivalent to 110 lbs



## RISE AGAINST HUNGER

To assist Hope for South Sudan and the surrounding community in achieving food security, improved nutrition, and economic independence, Rise Against Hunger and Lift Up the Vulnerable are implementing the **Empowering Leaders through Nutrition-Smart Agriculture (ELNA) project**. This five-year initiative aims to build capacity in crop production for consumption and income generation, and increase dietary diversity for improved nutrition among school and community participants. The project focuses on behavior change communication, animal husbandry, conservation agriculture and crop diversification.

### PROJECT STAGES



**2020**

AGRICULTURE TECHNICAL  
TRAINING



**2021-2023**

APPLIED KNOWLEDGE OF  
CONSERVATION  
AGRICULTURE AND  
NUTRITION



**2024-2025**

COMMUNITY FARM  
SCHOOL PROGRAM



### From Bryan Pride, Rise Against Hunger Food Security and Livelihoods Adviser:

"In 2020, Peter and his team at Hope For South Sudan harvested 85 bags of 50kgs worth of maize. This is just over 9,000lbs of food. In years prior, a large harvest was only 150lbs. A 9,000lbs harvest of maize is a 67% yield increase per acre. In March of 2020, I had the privilege of working with the agriculture staff at Hope For South Sudan. While I was there, we focused on conservation agriculture practices that involved rehabilitating soil, compost construction and the making of liquid fertilizer. The leadership from Peter and his staff has been instrumental in the success of the ELNA project thus far and it is their dedication that will continue to grow the success of the project. As the year continues, we plan to increase the amount of land cultivated and expand conservation agriculture training to community members. Including community members is a primary step to establishing the farmer field school that will expand conservation agriculture teaching to individuals outside of the school. Working with community members to establish their own food security will help stabilize the surrounding communities of Torit and Hope For South Sudan. We are well on track of reaching our goal of Hope for South Sudan in becoming food secure by the end of the ELNA project."



# THE LUV COLLECTIVE

At LUV, we KNOW there is tremendous power when each of us takes small simple steps to transform the world—especially when we engage in a ***we-are-in-this-together*** approach, with a heaping dose of faith in a miracle-working God.

For over 15 years, our leaders in the US, Kenya, Sudan and South Sudan have stood witness to the power of **collective impact**, as like-minded partners from across the globe have joined us in the impossible-made-possible work of seeking local solutions together to prevent trafficking and empower the most vulnerable children and women in warzones.



## A GLOBAL GIVING COMMUNITY

In order to continue to expand our ability to serve and support more vulnerable children and women in war-torn nations, we are growing **The LUV Collective: a global giving community** that will be equipped to serve, share, collaborate—and work to prevent trafficking before it starts.

The LUV Collective is made up of a passionate and determined group of monthly and annual givers, *people like you*, from all around the world, linking our lives together to give generously, end exploitation, and prove how united the world can be when we lift up the vulnerable together.

The LUV Collective is a cohesive movement of support with the magnitude to empower children, women and entire communities, and through them, transform nations and the world.

**Visit our website to learn more and join us  
in preventing trafficking and empowering changemakers today!**





## A MESSAGE FROM LONG-TERM PARTNERS JOHN & GINI FLOYD

Orphans and widows. In 2007, that was the impression Gini and I felt as God was putting within our hearts a desire to **“defend the cause of orphans”** and **“fight for the rights of widows”** (Isaiah 1:17).

We had a God-given passion for widows and orphans, and God opened the door for an amazing 13-year+ journey with the anti-human trafficking network that LUV leads. Throughout the years, we’ve been able to sponsor a child, as well as, help with special projects. One of the things we cherish about LUV is that we have a direct impact on children on the other side of the world coming to know Jesus Christ. Without LUV these precious lives may have never heard the gospel and could have easily been trafficked, lost to starvation, or killed by wild animals.

Throughout the years, we’ve had the privilege of seeing LUV expand its impact on the lives of so many orphans and widows. Many of these children are now graduating from high school and college! **Only a God so loving, merciful and powerful could pull this off!**

We’ve had the blessing of meeting many of the field leaders in person while on a trip to Kenya to discuss future medical support for orphanages and their communities. We heard first-hand their passion and love for all the children. I still remember Eugenio telling us why he risks his life so often. He simply said, **“How could I not?”** I think his statement captures the heart of LUV’s leaders.

We’re very excited about LUV’s direction. Under Audrey’s leadership, LUV is expanding its life-skills training to ensure each child can one day successfully move into their community, while being a light for Christ. It’s also wonderful to see LUV expanding its own food production.

**Gini and I continue to pray for and support LUV because we believe in its mission.**

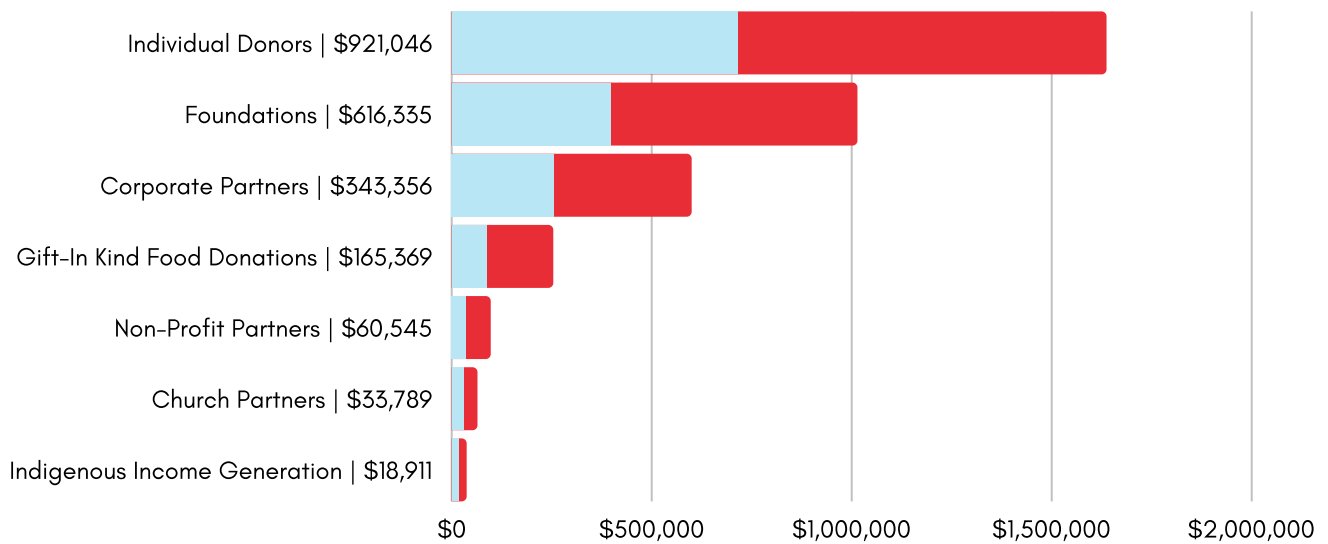
Personally, we have never been more honored and blessed to be associated with an organization that has such a huge impact on the lives of those most vulnerable to exploitation. LUV goes where few others go, and is making a tangible impact on the lives of those the world seems to have forgotten. Our prayer is that these precious lives will never be forgotten. Who knows, maybe our combined support will nurture a wave of new evangelists, apologists, and peacemakers like the world has never seen.

One thing is for sure, whoever gives one of these a **“cup of cold water”** in Jesus’ name will not only be lifting up the vulnerable, but will surely be rewarded.

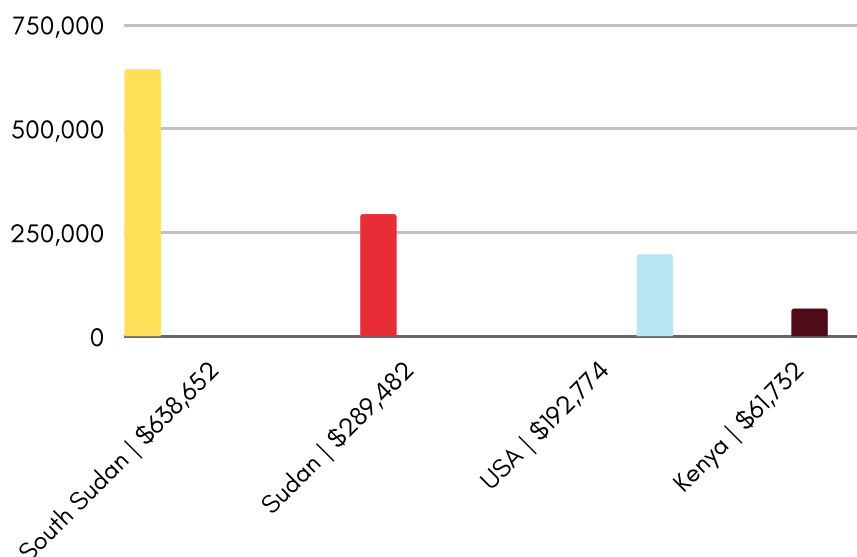
# FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

## 2020 REVENUE SOURCES

Your generosity helped us raise **\$2,140,440** for LUV's programs; an additional **\$18,911** was raised through new indigenous income generation initiatives in Sudan and South Sudan. Our revenue growth is represented in the chart below with blue reflecting 2019 total donations and red representing growth in 2020. This strongly positions us to do much more in 2021—**thank you!**



## 2020 ORGANIZATION EXPENSES



**83.7%** of organization expenses were used to directly support the anti-trafficking network in Africa; including, protection, education, economic empowerment, food, medical care, and infrastructure development.

**16.3%** of organization expenses were used toward administrative costs; including management, development, and financial planning and reporting.



# OUR TEAM

LUV unites indigenous directors, local staff, global partners, corporate sponsors, strategic organizational alliances, foundations, churches, and passionate volunteers to make collective impacts in warzones.

We work within an appropriate cultural context to creatively address the issues affecting the vulnerable and, together, with essential insights from our indigenous partners, we plan and implement specific steps and strategies to provide consistent, sustainable care for the most vulnerable.

Together, we're **building a collective impact network** driven by passionate and determined givers on a mission to prevent human trafficking and empower changemakers.

People like you, from all around the world, linking our lives together to give generously, end exploitation, and prove how united the world can be when we lift up the vulnerable together.

## LUV'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Gustavo Quintero  
*Director*



Joann Hsieh  
*Treasurer*



John Van Rens  
*Secretary & Spiritual Director*



Rev. Lauran Bethell  
*Spiritual Director*



Dr. Linnea Smith  
*Vice Chair*



Louise Coggins  
*Chair*

**"Abused, exploited and otherwise vulnerable women and children, living in one of the most volatile places on earth have the opportunity for protection, healing and thriving through LUV. I'm passionate about serving them in any way I can!"**  
- Rev. Lauran Bethell

LUV'S LEADERSHIP TEAM, PARTNER INDIGENOUS DIRECTORS & YOU



Audrey Moore  
*Chief Executive Officer*



Eugenio Kirima  
*Chief Program Officer*



Ezekiel Ayub  
*Director of Our Father's Cleft*



Francis Spencer  
*Kenyan Logistician*



James Lual Atak  
*Director of New Life Ministry*



Jane Mutua  
*Thrive Coordinator*



Peter Lomago  
*Director of Hope For South Sudan*



Robert Riggs  
*Chief Operations Officer*



Sam Allison  
*Chief Financial Officer*



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AT LUV, WE'RE PROVING  
**HOW UNITED THE WORLD CAN BE**  
WHEN WE LIFT UP THE VULNERABLE  
**TOGETHER**

**Join Us:** [liftupthevulnerable.org](https://liftupthevulnerable.org)