LUV's Theory of Change 2025

Lift Up the Vulnerable's mission is to PREVENT the trafficking and oppression of vulnerable children and women and EMPOWER them to be changemakers* in their communities.

WHO WE SERVE?	HOW WE SERVE IN CORE PROGRAMS?	WHAT IMPACT AND OUTCOMES?
LUV focuses on children and women who are at risk for human trafficking and oppression, specifically in places of extreme poverty and conflict.	LUV provides a holistic, intersectionality approach to empowerment and reducing vulnerability to human trafficking.	LUV measures impact by focusing on how well we achieve empowerment by reducing vulnerabilities to trafficking and increasing the number of changemakers.
LUV partners with directors from 3 community-based organizations that form an indigenously directed anti-trafficking network spanning Sudan & South Sudan.	There are 3 program areas for empowerment: 1. protection 2. education 3. economic development	IMPACT = empowered children and women to be changemakers in their own lives and communities.
From 2005 – 2024, an estimated 3,953 students have been supported, 364 completed high school and 28 graduated college on a LUV scholarship. Additionally, in 2024, 434 women became changemakers* through their leadership roles and employment opportunities.	In 2024, LUV was able to serve 1,429 students (680F/749M) from PreK to university, supporting basic needs of 1,412 (672F/740M), engaging 23 transitioning alumni in internships (7F/16M). In 2024, more than 2,082 people including 1,429 students, 23 interns, 630 community members became changemakers* through their leadership roles and economic empowerment.	*IMPACT of becoming changemaker is measured by any two or more of these factors: Literate^, completed diploma or degree, employed in safe job, inspired by faith to improve community, improved health (emotional, physical), influenced change in profession, culture, economy. ^Passing lower primary level of education (grade 3).

IMPACT for 2025 = Over 1,429 students and 434 women are EMPOWERED AS CHANGEMAKERS (*as per criteria above)

THE CHALLENGES WE FACE?	IMPACT FROM CORE PROGRAMS	INDICATORS OF OUTCOMES FOR 2025
1—Child soldiers, child brides, child labor, unmet basic needs in safe housing, food, water, medical • Factors of insecurity from 5+ decades of conflict, disruption of infrastructure, and unmet basic needs have led to tier 3 levels of trafficking in both South Sudan and Sudan (TIP Report) • In Sudan, 54% of women living in Sudan's poorest households and 52% of girls in South Sudan (Girls Not Brides) married before the age of 18. • 45.6 % of children in South Sudan between 10 –14 are working (Bureau of Int'l Labor Affairs)	**1—PROTECTION** In 2024 LUV rescued and prevented the trafficking of 184 new children (86F/98M) and provided safe housing for 754 children (370F/384M) who had no other option. Essential food, water and medical care were provided for 1,412 students (672F/740M). 3 students (2F/1M) received life-saving emergency medical evacuations to Kenya, followed by recovery at LUV's Kenya safe-house.	**Short-Term Indicators for 2025:** (PROT) rescued >47 new children (24F/23M). (PROT) life-saving food and medical care for >1,412 students (672F/740M). **Long-Term Outcomes for 2025:** (PROT) >754 children in safe housing (370F/384M). (PROT) >1,412 children (672F/740M) food and water secure.
2—Lack of Education: • 70% of school age children in South Sudan (76% F) do not have access to education (UNICEF) • 90% of school age children in Sudan do not have access to education (World Vision) • Only 27% of the adult population of South Sudan can read and write • Access to education is key to preventing early marriage, child soldier recruitment, high birth rates and poverty (UNESCO)	**2—EDUCATION** In 2024, LUV provided education for 1,412 students (672F/740M) in PreK to High School with 134 achieving literacy (63F/71M). >80% of students passed grade levels (progressed in their education) at the end of the 2024 school year. Trade school/university scholarships were provided for 17 alumni (8F/9M). With >616 changemaker* students (323F/293M) engaged in community service or school and church leadership positions.	**Short-Term Indicators for 2025:** (EDU) >138 achieve literacy (76F/62M). (EDU) >82% of students passed grade levels (progress in their education) at the end of the 2025 school year. **Long-Term Outcomes for 2025:** (EDU) >1,429 students educated (680F/749M); including >24 on LUV's scholarship (8F/16M) in university / trade school and >52 new high school graduates (17F/35M). (EDU) >1,100 changemaker* students (600F/500M) engaged in community service or school and church leadership positions.
3—Economic Poverty: • South Sudan has lowest HDI with 70% living in extreme poverty (South Sudan Poverty) • Sudan has highest poverty in N. Africa with 32% who live below poverty line (prior to war erupting in 2023) (Sudan Poverty)	**3—ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** In 2024, LUV created jobs for 653 community members (434F/219M) who support an additional 5,877 people; including 217 with full-time salaries (73F/144M) and 436 on contract for projects (361F/75M). This also included adding 9 new full-time jobs for local leaders to our anti-trafficking network and positions for 23 interns (7F/16M). Farm production increased from 20 acres (in 2020) to 223 acres of expanded agriculture at two school farms (53 OFC/168 HFSS). 85% of all food consumed at one center was grown on their farm.	**Short-Term Indicators for 2025:** (ECDEV) 658 community members (439F/219M) employed in safe jobs. (ECDEV) 240 acres cultivated for food & income. (ECDEV) >103% food production (supporting school needs) from farm in South Sudan and >21% food production (supporting school needs) in Sudan. **Long-Term Outcomes for 2025:** (ECDEV) 658 community members (439F/219M); including 25 interns will be economically empowered impacting an estimated 5,922 additional people. (ECDEV) 439 women out of 658 total adults served in changemaker* roles (as per criteria above). (ECDEV) Two of three school farms are achieving >62% being food secure.