



Lift Up the  
Vulnerable

# 2024 IMPACT REPORT







## MISSION

We exist to prevent the trafficking and oppression of vulnerable children and women and empower them to be change-makers in their communities.

## VISION

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



## A LETTER FROM OUR CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Dear Friends,

At Lift Up the Vulnerable (LUV), we believe that when children and women are empowered, they become the driving force behind lasting change in their communities.

In Sudan and South Sudan, entire communities face extreme poverty, limited infrastructure, and ongoing conflict. Many children are orphaned and at high risk of human trafficking. **No one should ever experience such exploitation.**

That's why LUV is committed to preventing the trafficking and oppression of vulnerable children and women in war zones — tackling the root causes through protection, education, and economic development.

Every day, our programs create lasting transformation from the ground up. Through the dedication of our indigenously directed anti-trafficking network led by inspiring local leaders, we've seen thousands of lives transformed. From 2005 - 2024, an estimated 3,953 students have been supported, 364 completed high school, and 28 graduated college on a scholarship from LUV. Together, we are building a future of safety, opportunity, and resilience.

**Because of you, hope is rising.**

Your generosity in 2024 made a profound impact — helping us protect and equip more than 2,000 children, women, and men. Those once at risk of being kidnapped as child soldiers, trapped in forced labor, or sold into sex slavery are now rewriting their

futures. They are experiencing healing, stepping into leadership, and becoming agents of peace in the harshest corners of the world.

In this impact report, you'll find powerful stories of lives transformed, exciting new initiatives we launched last year, completed projects you helped bring to life, our vision for the future, and a look at our steadfast commitment to the excellent stewardship of your support.

We have much to celebrate, but there is still more work to do. The ongoing war in Sudan has only heightened the risks for vulnerable communities, making your partnership more critical than ever.

I would love the opportunity to connect and explore how you can maximize your impact in 2025 — whether through monthly giving, donating stock, contributing via your Donor-Advised Fund, investing in our reserve fund, or supporting a special project. Please feel free to reach out so we can discuss the best way for you to make a difference.

At a time when violence threatens so many lives, your generosity is disrupting the pipeline to trafficking and restoring hope. Together, we are equipping children and women to rise as changemakers in their communities.

Thank you for standing with us and making this work possible!

**AUDREY MOORE**  
Chief Executive Officer



## A LETTER FROM OUR CHAIR OF THE BOARD

As Chair of the Board of Directors at Lift Up the Vulnerable, I am pleased to present our latest impact report, highlighting the significant progress we have made in preventing human trafficking in warzones over the past year.

My husband, Steve, and I have felt called to this life-saving ministry since 2005 when we first heard about the hundreds of orphans and widows who were living without sustainable food or shelter in Sudan. We have been honored to be a part of the transformation of lives and the building of three different safe havens throughout this war-torn land.

This report showcases the dedication of our incredible staff, the unwavering support of donors like you, and the collaborative efforts of our Indigenous partners in achieving impactful results across our protection, education, and economic development programs.

While we celebrate these accomplishments, we remain committed to strengthening our impact and addressing emerging challenges in effective ways. We are actively exploring opportunities to further expand our reach and further our mission in the war-torn communities that we've been serving for the past two decades.

Thank you for your continued belief in LUV. Your support is essential to our mission as we empower a new generation of changemakers protected from exploitation and leading the way for a better future in their communities.

Sincerely,

**LOUISE COGGINS**

Chair of the Board, Lift Up the Vulnerable



# PROBLEM

At its core, human trafficking is the exploitation of a person's vulnerabilities. In conflict zones like Sudan and South Sudan, children and women are at the highest risk of being exploited through sex trafficking, domestic servitude, labor trafficking, child brides, or as child soldiers. Exploitation is especially prevalent due to the extreme poverty in these nations, which is intensified by rampant orphanhood, civil unrest or war, child marriages, religious persecution, lack of education, lack of access to medical care, and even lack of access to food and clean water.



# SOLUTION

Preventing human trafficking in warzones requires an agile approach capable of addressing the complex issues of extreme poverty, instability, and lack of infrastructure and resources, which leave millions in Sudan and South Sudan vulnerable or exploited. We work with local and international partners to identify and address the root causes of exploitation and build solutions for equipping and driving positive change. Lift Up the Vulnerable extends practical training, tangible support, and spiritual care through protection, education, and economic development through the only indigenously directed anti-trafficking network spanning both nations. These essential resources are critical components to addressing vulnerabilities and preventing exploitation and trafficking before it begins.



# OUR MODEL

**Our model prevents trafficking and empowers children and women to thrive as change agents in their own lives and communities.**



## PROTECTION

Vulnerable children and women are empowered to thrive long-term by receiving safe housing, nutritious meals, clean water, as well as preventative and emergency medical care. These essential foundations alleviate numerous vulnerabilities that lead to exploitation. We offer these vital resources to support individuals on the path to self-sufficiency as we build up people to care for themselves and their communities.



## EDUCATION

Students are equipped to grow intellectually and spiritually in our safe, Christ-centered schools. Children in our protection programs and students from the community are provided with formal education from pre-K through high school, along with nutritious meals and medical services. Graduates are offered continuing education through university scholarships and vocational training. We provide mentoring and leadership development to inspire students for a lifetime of learning and growth.



## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

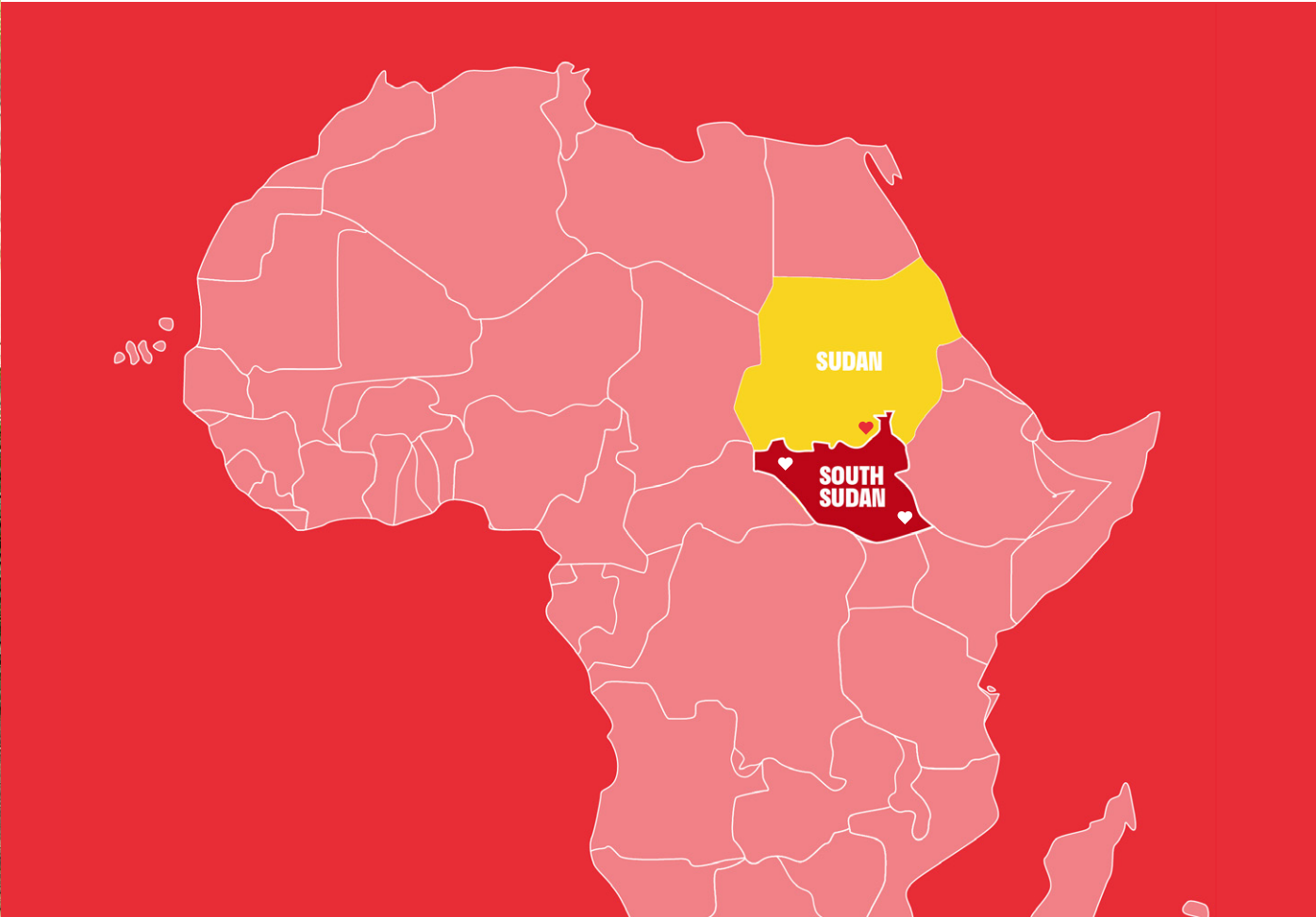
Communities are transformed through grassroots economic development which provides a catalyst to transition from dependency towards self-sufficiency and stability. Our anti-trafficking network indigenous partners and the children and women we serve are equipped to be innovative and self-sufficient. We invest in strategic initiatives such as large-scale farming, small business income generation, and savings groups to create a path towards economic independence and flourishing.

# WHERE WE WORK



**We lead the only indigenously-directed anti-human trafficking network spanning Sudan and South Sudan.**

In 2024, our programs directly empowered over 2,000 people at our three locations, with an estimated 5,877 additional people impacted. This reflects our commitment to protection, education, and economic development.





# PAST YEAR HIGHLIGHTS

## LEADERSHIP AND GROWTH

**2**

new executive leaders joined the LUV team: Chief Operations Officer, Ida Kaastra-Mutoigo and Chief Advancement Officer, Alex Hill.

**1**

new board member was welcomed to strengthen our leadership: Jennifer Ludwick from Birmingham, AL.

**9**

new full-time jobs for local leaders in South Sudan and Sudan, 23 positions for interns in our anti-trafficking network, and 1 new program coordinator in Kenya.

**7**

alumni in nursing school served their community as part of a free clinic.

## SUSTAINABLE FARMING

**168**

acres of successfully farmed land at Hope For South Sudan (HFSS), resulting in the production of 85% of their own food for consumption.

**53**

acres of successfully farmed land at Our Father's Cleft (OFC), including sorghum, maize, cowpeas, and sim-sim.

**18**

full-time farm leaders (2F/16M) and 394 community seasonal workers (352F/42M) were employed and trained in conservation agriculture techniques, impacting an additional 3,708 beneficiaries.

## COMMUNITY IMPACT

**52**

children were rescued from being displaced in war-ravaged Sudan.

**8**

site visits by our Kenya team to strengthen and strategize with our Indigenous partners.

**1,003**

community members served by a four person medical mission team at New Life Ministry (NLM) — including evacuating one boy for heart surgery and one girl for ear surgery.

**20**

local pastors and lay leaders near Darfur trained during a one-year inaugural ecumenical faith development program.

## INFRASTRUCTURE EXPANSION

Two new latrines were erected at HFSS, while renovations were completed on all buildings. Plus, new bedding supplies for all students in the housing program.

Renovations for OFC classrooms began and two new latrines completed.

One new solar-powered well and well repairs at two locations.

New uniforms made by local tailors have been distributed to all students at NLM!

## IMPACT FROM CORE PROGRAMMING

From 2005-2024, an estimated **3,953 students** have been supported, **364 completed high school**, and **28 graduated college** on a scholarship from LUV.

**184**

new children (86F/98M) were rescued and protected from trafficking.

**754**

children (370F/384M) received safe housing when no other options were available.

**1,412**

students (672F/740M) from PreK to High School received an education.

**17**

alumni (8F/9M) were awarded trade school or university scholarships.

**653**

community members (434F/219M) were meaningfully employed.

**85%**

of all food consumed at one center was grown on-site, increasing self-sufficiency.

# IMPACT STORIES

## REFAHAT'S JOURNEY: HOPE AMIDST THE WAR IN SUDAN

When war broke out in Sudan in April 2023, 11-year-old Refahat was living with his family in Khartoum, the epicenter of the conflict. Originally from a small farming village in the Nuba Mountains, his family had moved to the capital in search of better opportunities.

As violence engulfed the city, millions fled the terror and destruction caused by the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) and the Sudan Armed Forces (SAF) in their struggle for power. Among the 15 million people displaced within the nation or seeking refuge elsewhere, Refahat's family desperately searched for a way to escape.

*"I was in Khartoum with my parents when the war erupted. We were completely displaced and scattered. My father and one of my sisters ran in different directions, and we eventually found our way back to the Nuba Mountains on foot. My mother and the rest of my siblings fled elsewhere, and to this day, I don't know whether they are alive or dead."*

In response to the growing crisis, LUV prioritized the protection and support of children affected by the war in Sudan in 2024. **With your help, we opened safe housing and provided education for Refahat and 51 other children at Our Father's Cleft in Sudan.**

For Refahat, this was his first time ever attending school. Today, he loves school so much that he dreams of becoming a teacher in the future.



As the war in Sudan rages on, nearly 25 million people — half the population — are experiencing severe food insecurity. With 19 million children out of school and roughly 90% of classrooms closed, Sudan is facing the largest education crisis in the world.

**Your continued support helps us protect children like Refahat from exploitation and sets them on a path toward hope and healing.**



## MARTHA: FROM STUDENT TO TEACHER, BREAKING BARRIERS



Martha grew up in Sudan's war-torn Nuba Mountains, where over half of girls in the poorest households marry before 18.

Determined to change her future, she became a teacher's aide at Our Father's Cleft (OFC) despite not yet finishing high school.

Her dedication stood out — mentoring girls and leading sports — so when she had the chance to study in Uganda, she embraced it.

In Uganda, Martha experienced many firsts — her first flight, running water, and even pizza — but most importantly, she earned her high school diploma in 2020. She then joined LUV's internship program and later received a scholarship to attend a world-class teacher training college in South Sudan.

In November of 2024, Martha graduated with an education degree and is proud to serve at the start of the 2025 school year teaching at Hope for South Sudan (HFSS). In 2026, she plans to return to OFC, the school where her journey began.

Martha's story is a testament to LUV's impact, **empowering women in the hardest-to-reach places.** Alongside others, she is now a mentor and changemaker, ensuring the next generation has opportunities she once only dreamed of.



## NIGHTY: A LEADER IN AGRICULTURE AND COMMUNITY CHANGE



Nighty is a strong, joyful woman who lives with her husband and seven children in the village near the Hope for South Sudan (HFSS) compound. She and her husband farm together, but before joining the HFSS farmer field school (FFS) in 2024, she had little interaction with neighbors. Initially hesitant, she eventually saw the program's impact and decided to participate.

Through FFS, Nighty learned improved farming techniques, boosting her family's income. She now cultivates maize, tomatoes, sorghum, sesame, and, most notably, okra and pumpkin — crops uncommon in her area that proved to be game-changers. With two of her own acres under cultivation, she employs up to ten women and sells directly to local buyers, reducing costs and increasing profits.

The success allowed her family to start a small livestock farm, expand their home, and send seven children and a younger sister to university — once an impossible dream. Beyond financial gains, Nighty has grown in confidence and leadership. She helps fellow farmers, mediate community conflicts, and inspires other women to take charge of their futures. *"We now decide what we do,"* she says proudly, reflecting on the empowerment she and other women have gained.

Nighty's journey from a cautious observer to a respected leader showcases the profound impact of FFS, not just in agriculture but in strengthening entire communities. **With your support, women like Martha and Nighty are transforming lives and communities.**

# LOOKING AHEAD

## THIS YEAR, LIFT UP THE VULNERABLE IS CELEBRATING A MONUMENTAL MILESTONE — 20 YEARS OF IMPACT

Your support has provided two decades of life-saving work that has empowered and protected children and women in some of the world's most devastated warzones. What began in 2005 with a small, dedicated team from the United States and South Sudan, who shared a vision to help the most vulnerable children, has blossomed into a global network of hundreds of leaders across the US, Kenya, Sudan, and South Sudan.

This anniversary is more than a celebration — it is a testament to faith, resilience, and a deep commitment to those who are most at risk of exploitation in conflict zones. It is a tribute to our shared journey and to the many lives transformed through your unwavering support.

**From day one, our mission was clear — to prevent human trafficking before it begins. We set out with two key goals in mind:**

1. To reach the children and women most vulnerable to trafficking and oppression, and
2. To invest in communities where others would not go due to remoteness, danger, and limited resources.

This vision led us to the war-torn regions of Sudan and South Sudan — countries ravaged by decades of violence and extreme poverty, where vulnerable people, especially children, are kidnapped as soldiers, sold into sex slavery, or trapped in forced labor.

In these countries, where infrastructure is minimal and poverty is widespread, LUV is not simply filling gaps — we are creating entirely new, sustainable structures to provide holistic care. **Our focus is on physical, spiritual, and emotional restoration for those most at risk.**

As you can imagine, none of this would be possible without you — our compassionate partners whose generosity enables us to carry out this critical and life-giving work in some of the most difficult places on earth.

**Over the next five years, we aim to:**

- Finalize all baseline infrastructure needs: offer critical renovations to 18+ year-old buildings, expand infrastructure with more solar-powered pumping stations for clean water distribution, and construct new buildings that will improve services for children and staff in our programs.
- Achieve our economic development and food security goals through the expansion of our school farms.
- Increase the quality of care we offer through our trauma-informed protection, education, and discipleship programs, including launching new adult literacy groups and leadership development opportunities for students.
- Create a sustainable future through selling locally grown food and investing in more income generating programs for our local partners.

Together, we are building something far greater than any of us could have imagined — a lasting, God-sized mission that will continue to touch lives and create change for generations to come.





# 2024 FINANCIALS

**YOUR GENEROSITY HELPED US RAISE \$2,346,791 FOR OUR PROTECTION, EDUCATION, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS.**

## REVENUE

Foundations  
**\$882,165**

Individual Donors  
**\$658,732**

Monthly Donors  
**\$344,966**

Organizational Partners  
**\$195,003**

Corporate Partnerships  
**\$180,811**

Church Partners  
**\$38,902**

Stock Donations  
**\$30,362**

Dividend Income from Reserve Fund  
**\$13,844**

Other Income  
**\$2,005**

## EXPENSES

82% of organization expenses were invested in protection, education, economic development, infrastructure, nutrition, and medical care for programs in Africa. 18% was invested in administrative costs, including management, development, financial planning, and reporting.

 South Sudan  
**\$1,253,369**

 Sudan  
**\$553,304**

 Kenya  
**\$212,765**

 USA  
**\$452,894**

## BREAKDOWN OF PROGRAM EXPENSES

 Protection  
**37%**

 Education  
**46%**

 Economic Development  
**17%**



# STAFF & BOARD

**Our passionate staff, indigenous partners, and board of directors work together to identify and address root causes of exploitation and build solutions for long-lasting, positive change.**

## EXECUTIVE LEADERS

Audrey Moore, Chief Executive Officer

Ida Kaastra Mutoigo, Chief Operations Officer

Eugenio Kirima, Chief Program Officer

Alex Hill, Chief Advancement Officer

James Lual Atak, Executive Director of New Life Ministry (Northern Bahr el Ghazal, South Sudan)

Peter Lomago, Executive Director of Hope For South Sudan (Eastern Equatoria, South Sudan)

Ezekiel Ayub, Executive Director of Our Father's Cleft (Nuba Mountains, Sudan)

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Louise Coggins, Chair

John van Rens, Vice Chair & Spiritual Director

Daniel Prince, Treasurer

Carrie Hadley, Secretary

Rev. Lauran Bethell, Spiritual Director

Mary Boney Clark, Director

Marilyn Dixon, Director

Joann Hsieh, Director

Jennifer Ludwick, Director

Dr. Linnea Smith, Director

Gustavo Quintero, Director





Lift Up the  
**Vulnerable**

**P.O. BOX 22027  
NEW YORK, NY 10087**

**LIFTUPTHEVULNERABLE.ORG**

