



2025 IMPACT REPORT



Lift Up the
Vulnerable



Vision

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

Mission

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

A Letter From OUR CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Dear Friends,

At Lift Up the Vulnerable (LUV), we believe that **love is something we do.**

When we put action behind our compassion, we join God’s radical movement of *agape love* at work — restoring the brokenhearted and uplifting children and women facing oppression and exploitation.

This love is not passive. It’s not theoretical. It protects, nourishes, and shows up in places where others have walked away. And as you partner with us, you step into that love too — becoming a vessel through which God brings healing, hope, and transformation.

In Sudan and South Sudan, ongoing conflict, extreme poverty, and limited infrastructure create conditions where children and women are highly vulnerable to trafficking and exploitation. They are vulnerable to being conscripted as child soldiers, coerced into child marriage, sold into sexual exploitation, or trapped in forced labor.

From day one, our mission has been clear: **to prevent the horror of human trafficking before it begins.** Two guiding commitments have shaped our work over the past **20 years:**

- Reaching children and women most vulnerable to trafficking and oppression, and
- Going where others will not because it is too remote, dangerous, or complex

This vision continues to guide LUV’s holistic approach to prevention. Through protection, education, and economic development, we address the root causes of exploitation alongside

our indigenously directed anti-trafficking network of courageous local leaders.

Agape love doesn’t wait for comfort. It moves toward suffering. It declares, **“Your life matters as much as mine.”** In communities devastated by war, food insecurity, and human trafficking, this kind of love restores dignity and says, unmistakably, you belong.

From 2005–2025, an estimated **4,083 students** have been supported through this love in action. Since 2016, **413 have completed high school**, and **30 have graduated from college** through LUV scholarships, with 25 more graduating soon! Many who were once vulnerable are experiencing healing, stepping into leadership, and becoming agents of peace.

As you’ll see throughout this report, your generosity is disrupting the pipeline to trafficking and building a future of safety, opportunity, resilience, and hope — **one life at a time.**

Thank you for standing with us and making this work possible where few will dare to go.

They will know us by our love,

AUDREY MOORE
Chief Executive Officer

Audrey and James Lual Atak in 2006



A Letter From OUR CHAIR OF THE BOARD

As Chair of the Board of Directors at Lift Up the Vulnerable, I am honored to share our latest impact report, celebrating **20 years of life-changing work** to prevent human trafficking in warzones.

My husband, Steve, and I felt called to this life-saving ministry in 2005, when we first learned of hundreds of orphans and widows living without sustainable food or shelter in Sudan. Over the past two decades, we have been privileged to witness the transformation of lives and the establishment of three safe havens across this war-torn land.

This year, Steve and I had the profound honor of traveling to Kenya with the LUV board and staff to spend time with indigenous leaders in our anti-trafficking network. During the trip, Steve had the privilege of participating in a foot-washing ceremony in service to one of our founding leaders, James Lual Atak. He reflected:

“From his seat, he slowly dipped his feet into the pail of warm water as the ceremony began... I knelt in front of him to wash his feet... These are the feet of one of the Lost Boys of Sudan, who decades ago, during the never-ending civil war, walked over hot desert and bush terrain for thousands of miles to escape the life of a kidnapped child soldier. Feet that carried him to Kenya, where he found the love of Jesus... Feet that carried him to where no one else would go... the front line where the love of Jesus confronts human trafficking as a tool of war... Feet that walked many more thousands of miles... so he could... rescue the vulnerable, feed the hungry, spread the good news, and tell others his and their stories.”

James' faithful journey strengthened Steve's and my own commitment to preventing human trafficking in war-torn Sudan and South Sudan. We are deeply honored to have spent the past two

decades witnessing the dedication of our staff, the generosity of donors like you, and the leadership of our indigenous partners.

As we celebrate all that God has made possible over the past 20 years, we also recognize that the journey is not finished. New paths lie ahead — paths that require courage, faith, and willing feet. Just as James' feet carried hope into places where few would go, the continued movement of this mission depends on those who choose to walk with us.

Your support helps carry this work forward into the next leg of the journey — into classrooms, clinics, farms, and safe havens where freedom is protected, and lives are restored.

Thank you for lending your faith, your generosity, and your steps to this mission as we empower a new generation of changemakers to lead their communities toward hope and lasting transformation.

With gratitude,

LOUISE COGGINS

Chair of the Board, Lift Up the Vulnerable



Steve and James in white shirts

Problem

At its core, human trafficking is the exploitation of a person's vulnerabilities. In conflict zones such as Sudan and South Sudan — regions marked by violence and extreme poverty — the most vulnerable are conscripted as child soldiers, coerced into child marriage, sold into sexual exploitation, or trapped in forced labor. Trafficking thrives amid widespread poverty, compounded by rampant orphanhood, ongoing civil unrest and war, religious persecution, limited access to education and medical care, and chronic shortages of food and clean water.



Solution

Preventing human trafficking in warzones requires an agile, holistic approach that addresses extreme poverty, instability, and the lack of infrastructure and resources that leave millions vulnerable to exploitation. Our solution is a locally led model that prevents trafficking while empowering children and women to thrive as change agents in their own lives and communities. Through the only indigenously directed anti-human trafficking network spanning Sudan and South Sudan, LUV provides protection, education, and economic development to eliminate exploitation, restore freedom, and renew hope.



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 2025, our programs directly empowered over 1,997 people at our three locations, with an estimated 4,896 additional community members impacted. This reflects our commitment to protection education and economic development.



Past Year HIGHLIGHTS

Strengthening Leadership, Deepening Alignment

In 2025, LUV invested in people — bringing together global leaders, expanding governance, and equipping the next generation of changemakers.



Welcomed Dr. Joan Perry, pediatrician and longtime medical mission partner, as a new board member



Added five new advisory council members with deep ties to LUV's mission and programs, spanning healthcare, the arts, agriculture, youth development, and anti-trafficking advocacy



Convened 16 LUV leaders from four countries at the biennial African Leadership Summit in Nairobi, focused on program strategy and trauma-informed care



Engaged 39 Youth Ambassadors in Birmingham, Alabama, raising awareness and resources to end trafficking in warzones



Supported 444 changemaker students in Sudan and South Sudan as they served through schools, sports teams, churches, and community leadership roles

Advancing Self-Sufficiency Through Sustainable Farming

What began as a small initiative has become a cornerstone of prevention, stability, and dignity.

20 TO 303 ACRES

Expanded school-based farming over five years

85% OF FOOD PRODUCED LOCALLY

Grown across 232 actively farmed acres at Hope For South Sudan

21% OF FOOD PRODUCED LOCALLY

Generated across 64 acres at Our Father's Cleft

7 ACRES UNDER CULTIVATION

Introduced new crops at New Life Ministry, including sorghum and groundnuts

28 FULL-TIME LEADERS & 288 SEASONAL WORKERS

Employed and trained in conservation agriculture



Strengthening Communities Where Vulnerability Is Highest

LUV's work extends beyond campuses — supporting whole communities through prevention, partnership, and presence.



8 SITE VISITS

Conducted by LUV's Kenya-based monitoring and evaluation team to strengthen indigenous partnerships



20 PASTORS AND LAY LEADERS TRAINED

Equipped through an ecumenical faith development program near Darfur



762 COMMUNITY MEMBERS TREATED

Reached by a four-person medical mission team, including coordinated life-saving surgery for a two-year-old child



544 JOBS CREATED

Supporting an estimated 4,896 families and community members across Africa

Building Infrastructure for Long-Term Care

In 2025, LUV made strategic investments that improve daily life now while laying the foundations for decades to come.



2 solar-powered wells installed: expanding access to clean water across the New Life Ministry campus

600 students served daily: new energy-efficient school kitchen replaces open-fire cooking

\$500,000 matching grant secured: 73% already pledged to strengthen sanitation, classrooms, farming systems, furniture, and energy-efficient cooking solutions

**TWENTY
YEARS**
*of prevention
through
empowerment*



Since 2005, we have partnered with in-country leaders to protect children and women from trafficking and equip them to become changemakers in their communities.

Cumulative Impact (2005–2025)

4,083 children and young adults supported through protection, education, and economic development

413 students have completed high school since 2016

30 college graduates through LUV-funded scholarships

**2025
PROGRAM
IMPACT**



Protection

130 CHILDREN

(64 girls, 66 boys)
**rescued and
protected from
trafficking**

729 CHILDREN

(351 girls, 378 boys)
**were provided safe
housing in emergency
and long-term care
settings**



Education

1,428 STUDENTS

(676 girls, 752 boys)
**enrolled in PreK
through high school
education programs**

153 CHILDREN

(73 girls, 80 boys)
**achieve literacy by
passing grade 3
reading benchmarks**



Economic Development

**544
COMMUNITY
MEMBERS**

(260 women, 284
men) **meaningfully
employed through
local economic
initiatives**

48 ALUMNI

(10 women, 38 men)
**supported through
paid internships,
trade school pathways,
or university
scholarships**

IMPACT STORIES

Re-rescue of Aluet: Protecting Girls from Forced Marriage

Aluet* was just four years old when she was rescued through LUV's anti-trafficking network. Now in high school, she spent the past several years growing strong, dedicating herself to her studies, and serving younger students who reminded her of herself. She was known for giving back wherever she could, carrying gratitude and purpose beyond her years.

Then, one Saturday in November of 2025, everything nearly unraveled. While visiting a local market with friends, Aluet was approached by a group of boys who told her her auntie, who had helped her survive as a baby, was now dying, and she needed to go with them to say goodbye. Without hesitation, Aluet followed them back to her village. When she arrived, she discovered the truth too late: her extended family had conspired to trick her into a forced marriage in exchange for a dowry of cows.

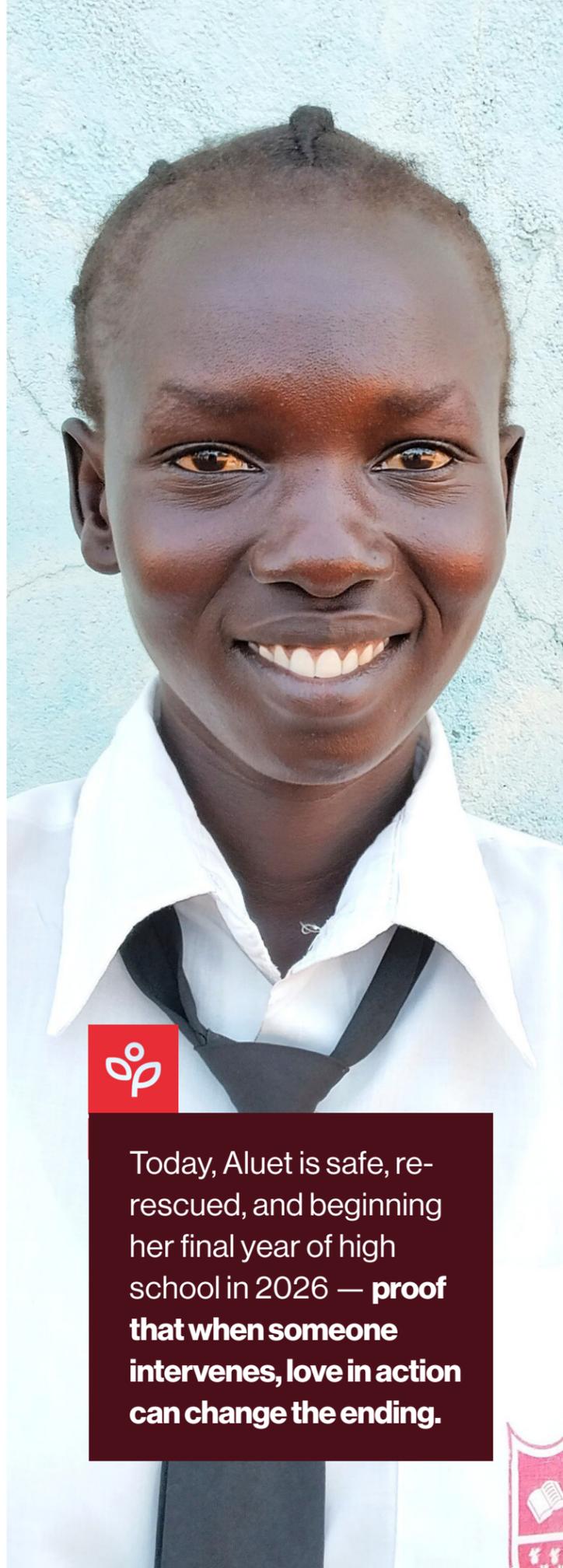
When Aluet did not return to LUV's center that afternoon, local leaders acted immediately. Her friends explained what had happened, and James Lual Atak, LUV's local leader in the area, set out with police to search for her. Heavy rains slowed the journey, and their vehicle became stuck in the mud. In a moment only God could orchestrate, villagers came to help — and James realized they were stranded on the very land belonging to Aluet's family. The same boys who had deceived her came forward to assist.

Convicted, the family brought her out of hiding. Aluet and James embraced, both weeping as she returned to LUV's care — unmarried and free.

Aluet's story reflects a global crisis fueled by poverty, insecurity, and social pressure.

Every year, 12 million girls — 1 in 5 worldwide — are married before the age of 18, and in South Sudan, more than half of girls face this reality. With over 85% of forced marriages driven by family pressure, many girls never have someone to stand up for them — making timely intervention life-changing.

**Names changed for protection.*



Today, Aluet is safe, re-rescued, and beginning her final year of high school in 2026 — **proof that when someone intervenes, love in action can change the ending.**

IMPACT STORIES

Saving Iris from Labor Trafficking

When Iris* was just one year old, she was abandoned by her parents as war spread through South Sudan and they fled to the refugee camps in Uganda — never to be heard from again. Iris's grandmother took care of her when she was an infant, but as they both grew older, her grandmother didn't have enough strength to find food, and there wasn't enough food to sustain both of them.

At the age of 5, Iris was forced to work to survive.

In South Sudan, nearly half of all children between the ages of 10-14 are already working just to survive. This prevalence of child labor is compounded because of extreme poverty and lack of education — with 70% of school-age kids in South Sudan not having access to an education and 90% in Sudan — due to the war that's devastating the country.



As a child laborer working in various homes and farms in neighboring villages, Iris was exposed to the dangers of walking long distances for water. During one of her trips, a man brutally assaulted her along the roadside — leaving her for dead.

In 2025, she was brought to LUV for help. Now, Iris is enrolled in school and has a safe place for her heart, mind, and body to heal, grow, and thrive.

"I want someone to pray for me for good health, success, safety, and protection," she shared.

Today, instead of working for food, **she's free to play, make friends, sleep safely, enjoy nutritious meals** (her favorite is rice and beans), and excel in her education. Iris dreams of becoming "a doctor and a missionary... to give to the needy."

Stories like Iris's show prevention at work: food and security keep children in school, stabilize families, and reduce vulnerability.

IMPACT STORIES

Selah was almost recruited as a child soldier in Sudan

In 2023, war broke out across the nation, and fighting made its way towards Selah's* hometown of Dilling, making living there increasingly dangerous. Situated along a critical supply route in the Nuba Mountains, Dilling had fallen under paramilitary control and remained isolated for nearly two years. Access roads were cut off, humanitarian operations severely restricted, and conditions pushed to crisis levels. Half of the city's civilian population fled, while those who remained faced acute shortages of food, healthcare, and basic necessities.

Selah was attending school in Dilling when the violence escalated. As the conflict spread, the danger became deeply personal. With many children in the region being recruited as child soldiers, Selah and several friends made a decision no child should ever have to make: they ran.

Leaving everything behind, they fled on foot toward safer territory, eventually reaching an SPLM-liberated area and settling in at a refugee camp. It was there that

Ezekiel Ayub, LUV's leader in the area, welcomed 14-year-old Selah and 49 other unaccompanied minors in 2025 to receive protection and education in LUV's network.

Selah is now enrolled in grade two and rebuilding a sense of normalcy through his new home in LUV's network. When asked about the future, he speaks clearly and without hesitation: he wants to become a teacher.

Selah's story is not unique. Across Sudan, nearly **12 million people** have been displaced by conflict, and children are among the most vulnerable — at risk of recruitment, exploitation, and loss of opportunity.

But his story is a powerful reminder of what protection can make possible.

Because Selah escaped recruitment and found safety, his life is no longer defined by war — but by learning, resilience, and the promise of a different future.



Looking AHEAD

As we look to the future, we do so with deep gratitude and steady faith in a God who makes the impossible possible.

For twenty years, your partnership has helped protect lives, restore dignity, and raise hope in some of the world's most fragile places. Yet the work of justice and healing in Sudan and South Sudan takes time. After decades of war and instability, lasting change requires faithful perseverance and long-term commitment.

In places where infrastructure is scarce and poverty widespread, LUV is helping build sustainable, indigenously-led programs that care for the physical, spiritual, and emotional needs of those most at risk. This work of restoration happens through trusted local leaders who are actively at work binding up the brokenhearted and setting captives free.

None of it would be possible without you. Your generosity and prayers sustain this mission and invest not only in urgent needs but in generational transformation.

Our Focus for the Next Five Years TOGETHER, WE WILL:

Strengthen critical infrastructure to improve care and safety: including renovating aging buildings and constructing new facilities that improve care for children and staff across our programs.

Expand economic development and food security initiatives: by growing our school farms and investing in new entrepreneurship opportunities, we're helping alumni and communities move toward self-sufficiency and resilience.

Deepen trauma-informed protection, education, and discipleship: offering training to current team members and launching new leadership development opportunities for students.

Build sustainable, locally driven income-generating systems: by selling locally grown food and expanding income-generating programs that strengthen our local partners and communities.

Because of you, LUV can impact lives where few others dare to go — and invest in transformation that lasts for generations.

Thank you for continuing to walk with us into the future God is unfolding.

Financial OVERVIEW

2025 FINANCIALS

Your exceptional generosity helped us raise \$3,394,765 for protection, education, and economic development programs — **a 45% increase over 2024's revenue.**

REVENUE

- Foundations
\$1,504,000

- Individual Donors
\$783,267

- Monthly Donors
\$356,325

- Organizational Partners
\$266,005

- Corporate Partners
\$239,593

- Church Partners
\$154,835

- Stock Donations
\$79,556

- Dividend Income from Reserve Fund
\$10,064

- Other Income
\$1,120

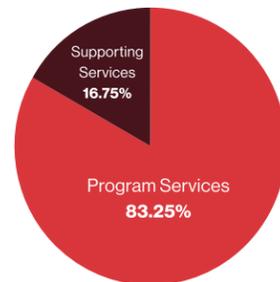
EXPENSES

83.25% of expenses were invested in protection, education, economic development, infrastructure, nutrition, and medical care for programs in Africa. **16.75%** was invested in administrative costs, including management, development, financial planning, and reporting.



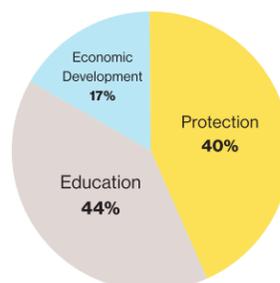
YOUR IMPACT, THEIR LIVES TRANSFORMED

- Program Services **83.25%**
- Supporting Services **16.75%**



BREAKDOWN OF PROGRAM SERVICES

-  Protection **40%**
-  Education **44%**
-  Economic Development **17%**



STAFF/BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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

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- John van Rens**
Vice Chair & Spiritual Director
- Daniel Prince**
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Spiritual Director
- Marilyn Dixon**
Director
- Joann Hsieh**
Director
- Jennifer Ludwick**
Director
- Dr. Joan Perry**
Director

- Dr. Linnea Smith**
Director
- Gustavo Quintero**
Director

ADVISORY COUNCIL

- Mary Boney Clark**
- Dr. Kyle Hudgens**
- Bryan Pride**
- Katie Robinson**
- NaTasha Yvette Williams**



In 2025, as we celebrated 20 years of impact, LUV's board, staff, indigenous partners, and supporters gathered together in Kenya for a first-of-its-kind international gathering honoring two decades of partnership as we looked ahead to the future.



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