



**FREEDOM
THROUGH
JUSTICE**

A photograph of two children sitting at a light-colored wooden table, playing with wooden blocks. One child, wearing a blue and white striped shirt, is in the foreground, reaching towards a tall stack of blocks. Another child, wearing a blue shirt, is in the background, looking down at the blocks. The blocks are light-colored wood and some have words written on them in blue ink, such as "safe" and "happy".

**2020
IMPACT
REPORT**

VISION

Freedom for the exploited.
Justice that protects.
A world in which human
trafficking is not tolerated.




MISSION

Prosecute and prevent
human trafficking by
strengthening justice systems.

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LIFT International works to strengthen justice systems, support survivors and hold offenders accountable for crimes of human trafficking and sexual exploitation.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Robin Hughes

Chairman

Alan Jamieson

Board Member

Nikki Denholm

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Ian McInnes

Board Member

Darryl Gardiner

Board Member

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Board Member

The last 12 months have been most challenging for LIFT International as the team navigated the unfolding implications of a worldwide pandemic. The restrictions on international travel for the board and expat staff and the related impact on our loyal donor base has been difficult and the Board is very grateful for the continuing support we enjoy.

The board is very pleased with the results that have been achieved despite the turmoil as the organization unflinchingly adapted to continue to work for justice for victims and survivors of human trafficking.

During the year we have bid farewell to several senior staff who have personally given much to the LIFT journey to date and the board wants to acknowledge and express our gratitude for their service and commitment.

We also have been very fortunate to secure a new CEO, Erik van Os, who has stepped into the leadership role of LIFT and is setting a fresh pathway forward that builds and expands on the historical achievements and relationships that LIFT has achieved to date.

The board remains very committed to seeing LIFT International achieve its full potential in the coming years and we look forward to further growth of the organization over the next 12 months.

Robin Hughes
Chairman of the Board



The COVID-19 pandemic has been an unprecedented crisis, profoundly affecting the global community, including LIFT International.

The sudden changes in the environment, and the trafficking landscape, posed significant challenges, but also presented opportunities to reform our operations and value delivery. We adapted quickly to respond to offenders adjusting their practices by increasing the abuse of modern technologies and driving human trafficking further underground. We among others intensified our activities on electronically-enabled human trafficking and collaborated closely with our law enforcement partners to reinforce their ability to respond to the changing landscape.

I'm proud of what we have achieved during 2020, and the way my colleagues and the organization adapted to the extensive amount of change. Looking ahead to 2021 and the coming years we will build and expand on our institutional experience and expertise to drive systemic justice system strengthening, hold offenders accountable and support victims and survivors of human trafficking.

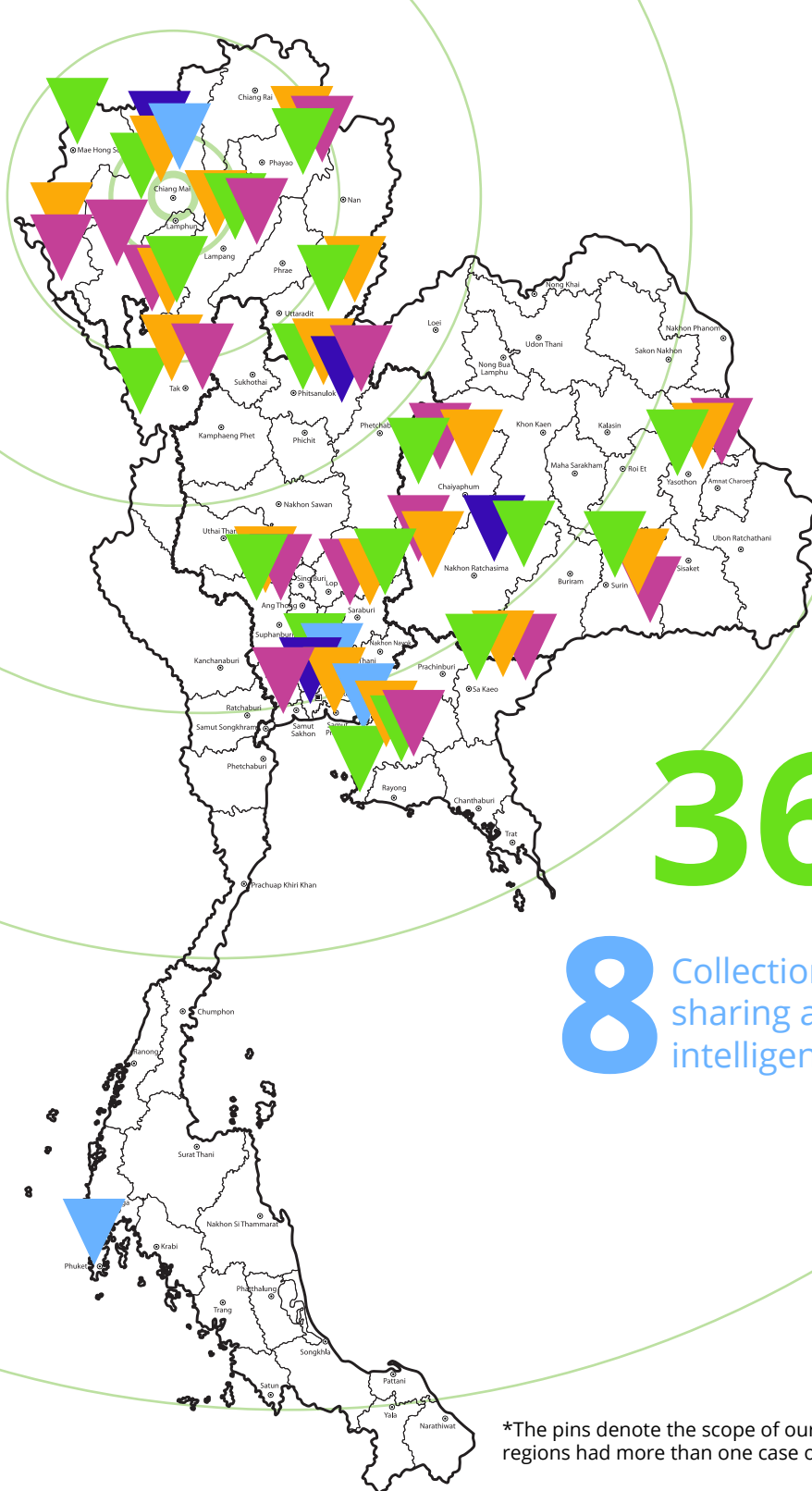
Sincerely,

Erik van Os
CEO, LIFT International



LIFT Impact at a Glance

A look into LIFT's impact across Thailand



5 Active-partner shelters (government and private) for victim care

36 Active cases in 2020

16 Provinces served in 2020

8 Collection Partners sharing actionable intelligence in 2020

19 Government & non-government agencies asking for LIFT assistance in 2020

*The pins denote the scope of our impact, not the number. Some regions had more than one case or partner but only 1 pin per region.



IDENTIFY

We partner with government agencies, law enforcement and international and grassroots organizations to investigate cases of human trafficking and sexual exploitation to identify victims and perpetrators.



PROTECT

We assist victims by connecting them to resources that help them become survivors. We advocate for their needs from the courtroom to their return or repatriation home.



PROSECUTE

We believe in prevention through prosecution. Strengthened justice systems will disrupt organized crime and secure harsher sentences for the perpetrators of trafficking.



103
VICTIMS ASSISTED



63
OFFENDERS ARRESTED



34
OFFENDERS CONVICTED



1,297
YEARS SENTENCED



6.7M THB
COMPENSATION
ORDERED





257

**LAW ENFORCEMENT &
NGO STAFF TRAINED**



50

SURVIVOR VISITS



48

LOVE PACKS GIVEN



15

**LIFT LIFE FUNDS
SUPPORTED**



211

FORENSIC EXTRACTIONS



MULTIDISCIPLINARY CASE TEAMS

We are **ANALYSTS,
CRIMINAL INVESTIGATORS,
LAWYERS & SOCIAL WORKERS**

all united by our desire to be
strategic and focused on
long-term impact.

"The appealing aspect of LIFT International is its functionality as a multi-disciplinary team with investigation at the core. LIFT International has the capability to provide an all-round service to law enforcement agencies from intelligence, investigation, forensic to legal and social worker support, which is a rare amalgam in an NGO space within the anti-human trafficking sector. Having a part to play in this process is a privilege; to know that justice is served through our hours of hard work." --LIFT Case Team Leader

INTELLIGENCE

LIFT Analysts serve as the entry point for information reports that we receive from partners. We collect, collate and decide on the next step (whether to take action or not). Each piece of information we receive is stored and the data helps us paint a bigger picture of trafficking in the region and allows us to track patterns of traffickers. Additionally, our analysts help law enforcement officers with complex crimes by extracting and analysing information and then creating reports from the internet, mobile devices, social media profiles and other digital platforms.

In 2020 we received 204 information reports and opened 33 new cases.



INTELLIGENCE HIGHLIGHT: CASE TULIP

An Israeli foreigner living in Thailand evaded the justice system for years. Via social media channels, he openly sought relationships with mothers of young children, with open intentions of abusing the children. LIFT and our law enforcement partners at DSI* worked hard for several months to gather proper evidence to warrant an arrest.

To build a clear case, LIFT analysts gathered evidence to prove that the perpetrator had clear intentions to sexually engage with the children of Thai mothers he met online. We then were able to present a comprehensive case to the Human Trafficking division of DSI that was sufficient for a search warrant.

At the arrest, LIFT provided a detailed forensic analysis of the offender's cellular equipment and other electronic devices which turned out to reveal a significant amount of child sexual abuse material (CSAM). He was charged by both the immigration department of the Royal Thai Police as well as the human trafficking division for possession of CSAM.

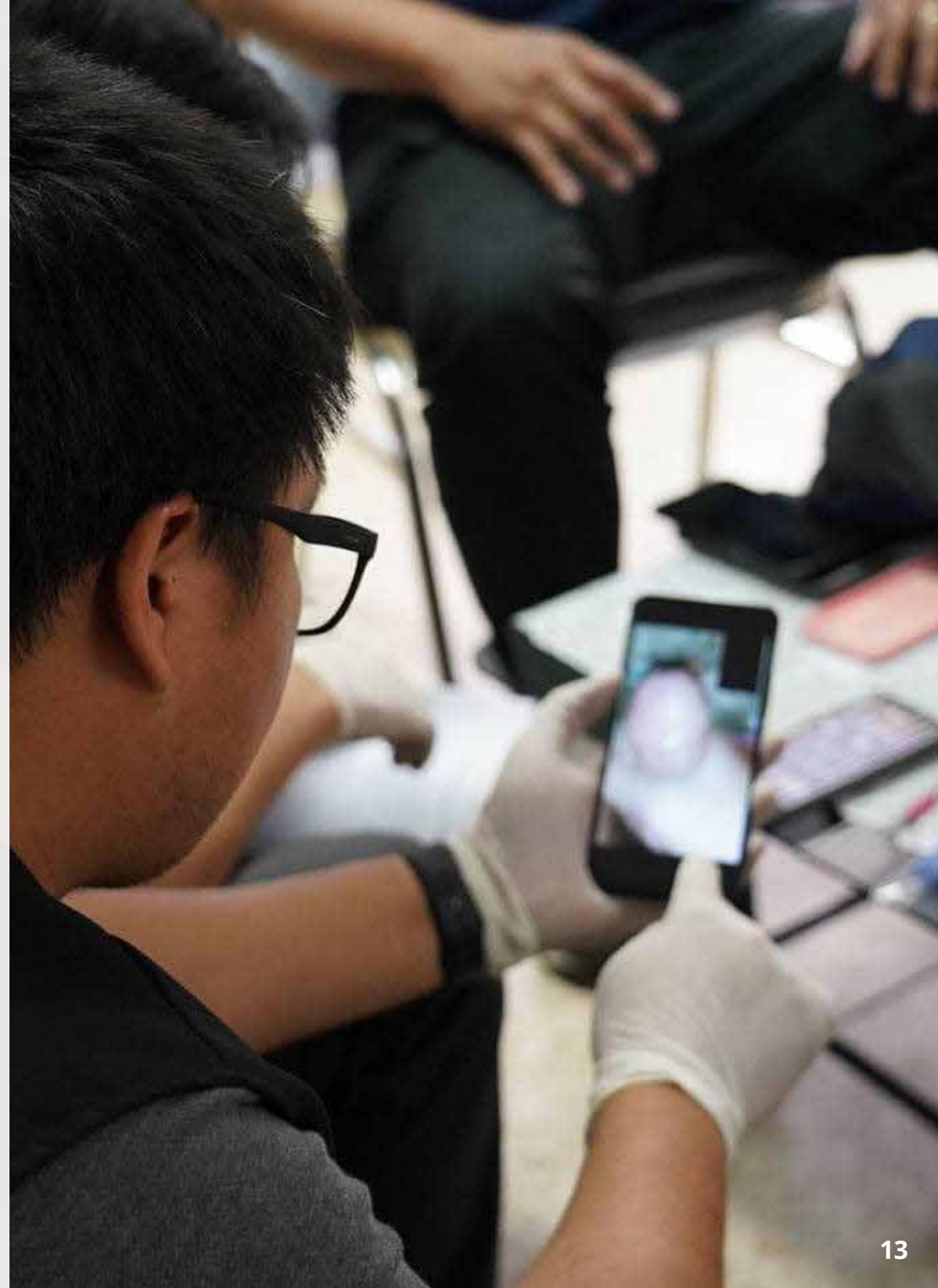
"This case really goes to show the tenacity of our team to hold on and keep pushing the case through to the authorities and assist them to completion." --Matthew Valentine, Modern Slavery Technical Advisor at LIFT International

**Department of Special Investigations*



INVESTIGATION

Often an information report comes in that has enough information to raise alarm, but not enough to give to the police with the certainty that they have sufficient evidence take the case forward. At this point, our fieldworkers step in at the request of analysts and work tirelessly to gather enough evidence to confirm the information report that was submitted. Our fieldworkers obtain evidence via photography, surveillance and other appropriate methods to confirm whether or not the information is correct. If the information is confirmed, the case is sent directly to law enforcement. At this time our fieldworkers move to a support role to assist law enforcement with the case.





INVESTIGATION HIGHLIGHT: CASE STEP

Royal Thai Police brought a case to LIFT in which a convicted human trafficker* was suspected to be selling boys to customers at a popular tourist hot spot in town. LIFT Investigators deployed to survey the area and gather evidence to support the information report we received from police.

With the assistance and input from LIFT social workers at all times, LIFT investigators were able to interview one of the victims to support their findings.

A 14 year-old boy had come to the city to work at his aunt's restaurant. He was a few days late arriving and missed his opportunity to work. The offender found him walking the streets looking for work and began to sexually abuse and coerce him, reacting in anger if the boy resisted. The boy was taken to one of our partner shelters for safety.

"After the offender was arrested, the victim thanked our team several times for helping him out of the helpless and threatening situation. By giving up our time for a few weeks, months or even a year can bring a drastic change to someone else's life, their 'entire' life, to end the sufferings forced upon the innocent, paving a new path where they can get another chance to live." --LIFT Case Team Leader

*This offender was arrested in 2010 on charges of human trafficking and rape. It was not a LIFT case, so we do not have further information

PROSECUTION

From the moment we receive an information report to the second a survivor moves back home, LIFT Legal works to ensure best practices are met. Our legal team ensures LIFT follows the letter of the law and they assist police with legal services (search warrants, consultations) and by helping direct case work to ensure the case will hold up in court and have the best outcome for victims. Additionally, our lawyer works with public prosecutors and victims for compensation claims, civil applications, appeals, interviews, victim representation, and to assist inside the courtroom. In the event that the judicial system fails a survivor, our lawyer steps in to seek justice on his/her behalf.

In 2020 LIFT Legal helped to achieve 34 convictions, resulting in 1297 years of imprisonment.



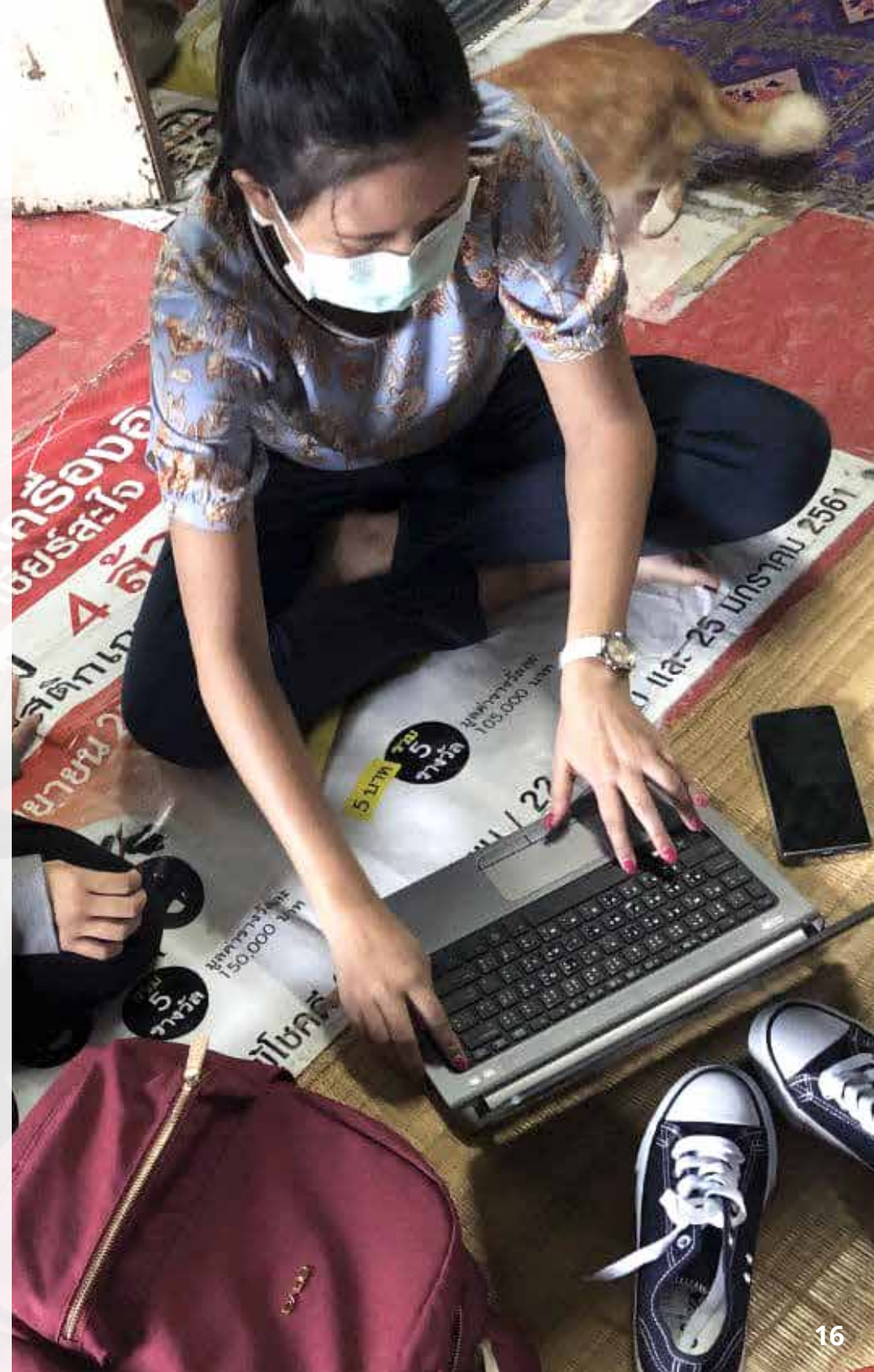
PROSECUTION HIGHLIGHT: CASE ARIEL

CASE ARIEL spanned throughout 2020. A 13 year-old girl was being raped repeatedly by her neighbour who was recording his crimes and using the videos to threaten and manipulate the victim for two years. He may have been selling the content online. The victim finally broke down to a teacher at school and the teacher reached out to LIFT for help.

When we say LIFT Legal is a part of the process from beginning to end, this case is the perfect example. Our lawyer, Wiliyasinee “Pik” Rinya, was on the ground across the country, staying days with the family in order to gain the girl’s trust in order to gather proper evidence to prosecute the offender to the full extent of the law. Pik made regular visits along with LIFT social worker, Janejinda Pawadee, to ensure the safety of the victim and her family now and in the future.

Because of her work on this case, Pik was invited to give a lecture to the Royal Thai Police and the Department of Provincial Administration (DOPA) on how to properly conduct a case to claim compensation for victims. The inquiry official of this case was included among the attendees.

Of the victim Pik said, ***“I saw the future of Thailand in this victim. She is a grade A student, a good girl. She could be a doctor or a lawyer and I want to support her as much as possible. We can heal her and give her justice.”*** Pik went on to say that she is not just a lawyer but that she will do everything she can.



SURVIVOR CARE

LIFT Social Workers work throughout all of our operations to ensure that LIFT and anyone we partner with treats victims with the best care. LIFT aims for a Victim-Centered Approach in everything we do and our social workers champion this in all the areas of our work, including within our partnerships.

Our social workers advise LIFT Analysts and our collections team during their work and once we take on a case, they help police choose the best approach to handle casework with victim welfare in mind. They also conduct victim interviews for police and attend terminations to ensure that victims know their rights and that they get placed in the best shelter for their needs. Throughout the court process, LIFT Social Workers are present to ensure victims are not re-traumatized and that they receive the justice they deserve in the form of compensation. After court proceedings resolve, LIFT Social Workers stay in contact with survivors to ensure they remain on the path to recovery and assist in obtaining scholarships, job training, housing and more as needed.



SURVIVOR CARE HIGHLIGHT: CASE SURIN

Seven victims were removed from harm in early 2020 when LIFT investigators assisted the Department of Provincial Administration (DOPA) in arresting 4 offenders who owned 3 interconnected karaoke bars in a small country town near the Thai-Cambodian border. The karaoke bars were shut down and the victims, ranging in age from 14-17, went to a government shelter in the province to wait out the prosecution process.

LIFT social worker, Chutinate “Chu” Arsakit said this case was a first for LIFT International to have direct interaction with the MSDHS* Anti-Trafficking Unit, which resulted in much more clear communication regarding case updates and the victims’ futures. Usually the communication goes through a liaison at the shelter and details get missed or lost completely in transition. With direct contact, Chu was able to get a formal, extensive report which enabled our social work team to assist the victims more thoroughly, specifically and individually.

“I am proud that my social work is driven by both NGO and government partners. We communicate well to coordinate, refer and follow up regarding the social work and legal processes. The survivors of this case were given appropriate service and can start their lives according to their life plan.”

Chu went on to say that this new communication path shows that the MSDHS Anti-Trafficking Unit trusts LIFT to support them. *“The government has certain restrictions and limitations, but LIFT can help the victims beyond what the government can provide.”*

*Ministry of Social Development and Human Security



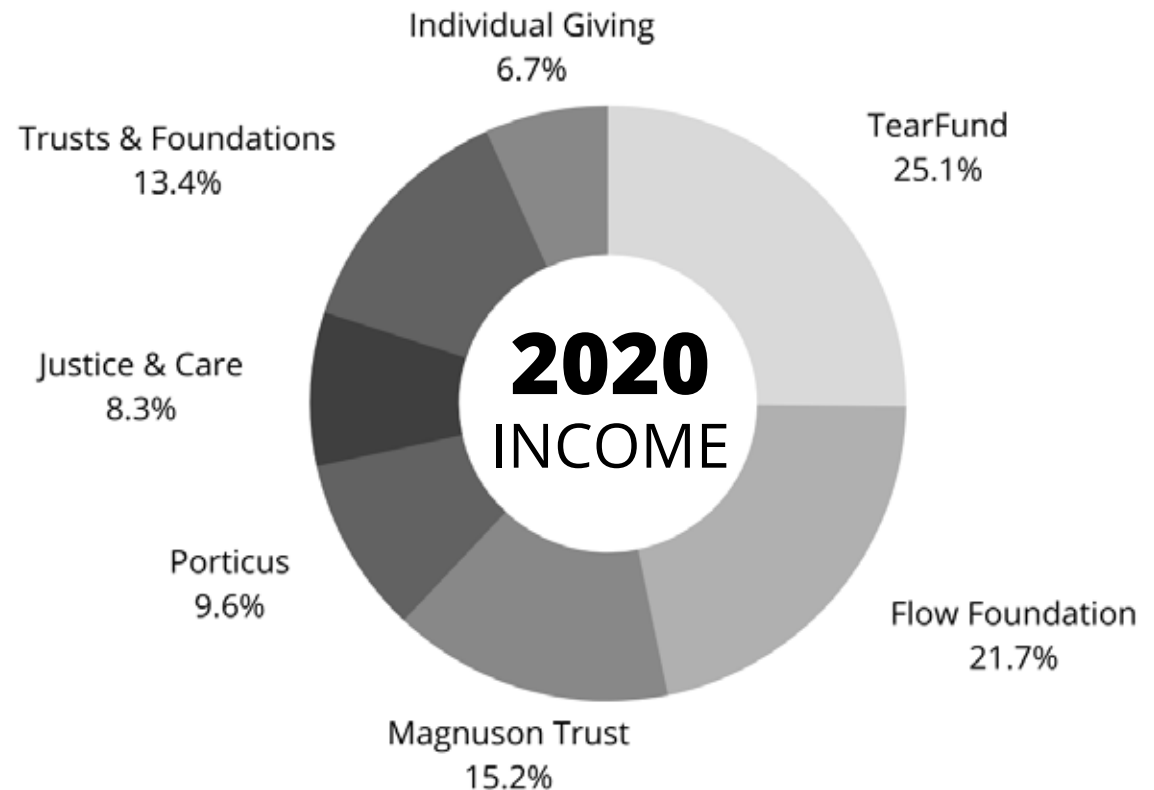
INCOME

In 2020 LIFT International's income took another small step forward from 2019. TearFund New Zealand remained a major income source whilst we continued to look to diversify our income portfolio by deepening our partnership with existing funders and bringing new sources of income on board. During the 2nd half of the year we experienced a regression of income due to the global, and localized, impact of Covid-19; yet, LIFT International continues to work closely with a range of partners to access funds. This year has seen the beginning of our partnership with Magnuson Trust and a continuation of our collaboration with Flow Foundation, Porticus, Justice & Care, Dove Trust, CEDAR Fund, and Ping Pong-A-Thon to deepen the impact of our core activities to combat human trafficking.

Over 50 regular and single-gift donors form the foundation of LIFT International's individual giving programme. The majority of these supporters make consistent, monthly donations whilst some individuals make larger one-off contributions per annum.

These partnerships and generous donations provide valuable funding for our work; we extend our heartfelt gratitude to all our supporters.

The chart to the right shows our income in 2020.



Total NZD 1,894,741

EXPENSES

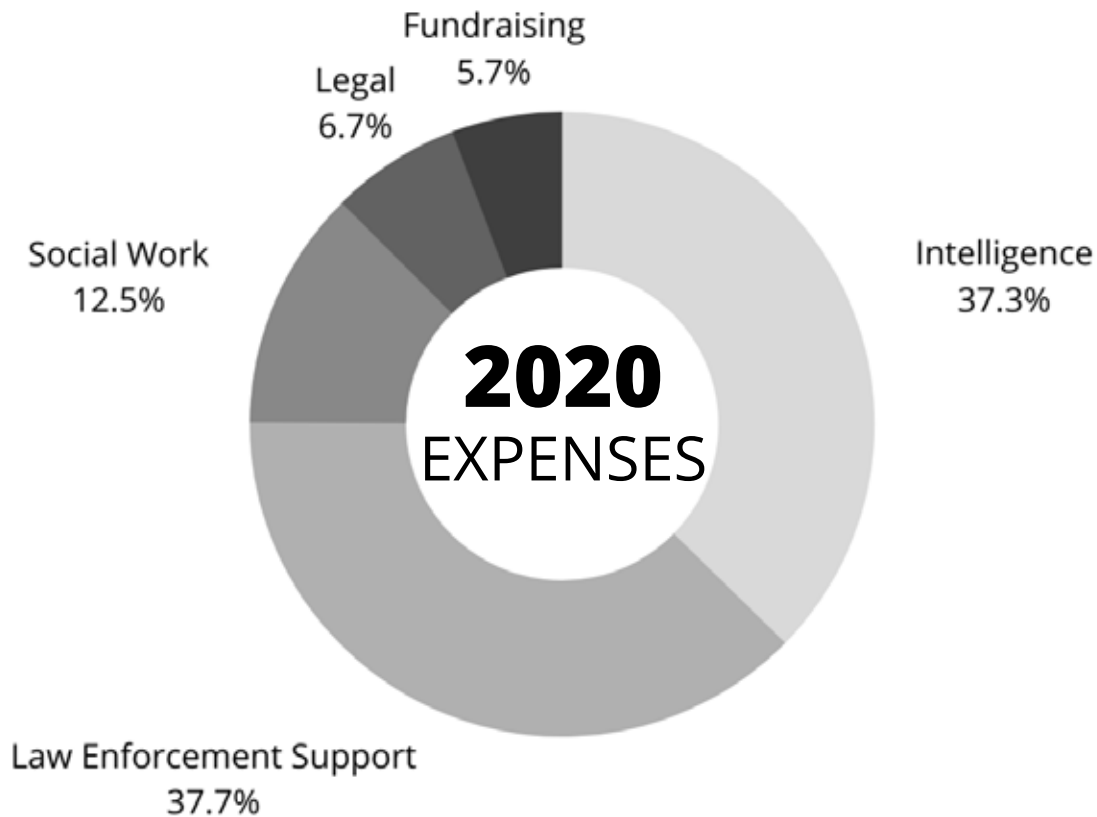
The total expenses on activities to combat human trafficking in 2020 was NZD 1,458,631.

Expenditure on our activities to support Thai Law Enforcement to fight human trafficking and our work to operationalize our Intelligence Hub approach remained highest due to LIFT International's strong focus on case work.

We saw the impacts of COVID-19 disrupt our implementation of case work, resulting in less expenditures as the year unfolded. Additionally, with the knowledge of the widespread effects of the pandemic on global economies, we anticipated the possibility of some reduced funding in the year(s) to come, therefore we are looking to keep a sufficient reserve should this come to unfortunate fruition.

During the course of the year, we furthermore recognised that fundraising investment was low which could compromise LIFT International's future. Efforts to develop a sustainable foundation to strengthen our project-based programming and fundraising increased during the 2nd half of the year with among others the recruitment of a new Head of Programs and the preparation of new project ideas.

The chart to the left displays how our income was spent in 2020.



Total NZD 1,458,631



M | MAGNUSON TRUST

PORTICUS

Thank you from all of us at LIFT International

