WE ARE
INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE MISSION

WE HAVE SPENT MORE THAN 20 YEARS ON THE FRONT LINES FIGHTING SOME OF THE WORST FORMS OF VIOLENCE.

We work in communities in Africa, Latin America, South Asia and Southeast Asia. Through our unique Justice System Transformation model, we help victims of violence secure justice and partner with key authorities to fix broken justice systems in the countries where we work.

**RESCUE**
We collaborate with local police to rescue victims from ongoing violence and bring them to safety.

**RESTRAIN**
We partner with police to restrain criminals, traffickers and slave owners from hurting others.

**RESTORE**
We join with social workers to restore survivors to safety through counseling, education and skills training.

**REPAIR**
We identify gaps in the systems that do not protect the poor, and then work with police and courts to address these challenges.

2,046
VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE AND OPPRESSION RESCUED BY IJM AND IJM-TRAINED PARTNERS

OUR PROGRESS THIS YEAR*
Police abuse of power
Citizenship rights abuse
Sexual violence
Land theft
Cybersex trafficking

FORCED LABOR SLAVERY
SEX TRAFFICKING
SEXUAL VIOLENCE
LAND THEFT
CYBERSEX TRAFFICKING

78
CRIMINALS RESTRAINED
THROUGH COURT-ORDERED DETENTION OR CONVICTIONS

2,900+
SURVIVORS AND FAMILY MEMBERS CURRENTLY RECEIVING AFTERCARE

8,700+
PEOPLE TRAINED, INCLUDING LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS, JUDGES, COMMUNITY MEMBERS, PROSECUTORS AND SOCIAL SERVICES PROFESSIONALS.

*Numbers reflect January–May 2018

2018 MID-YEAR REPORT
Early in the morning of March 7, Santa Kila, a 73-year old grandma, smelled smoke. Her family’s hut had been set on fire in an effort to intimidate her and get her off her land. Thankfully, Santa Kila escaped safely. This was not the first time she had been intimidated, and not the first time she had escaped.

Her great-nephews have been trying to chase her off her land since 2014. In one instance, her great-nephew punched her in the eyes and kicked her. That same day, nine more relatives launched an attack on her land by slashing her hut, stealing her chickens and her belongings.

Since then, IJM has been fighting on Santa Kila’s behalf—investigating her case, seeking to arrest and prosecute the criminals and finding her a new place to live.

Even as we seek justice, we’re helping Santa Kila get back on her two feet so that she can stand up to her bullies in the long run. Through our aftercare team, she is receiving medical care, business training, therapy and support running a small business selling fish.

IJM won’t stop until Santa Kila is safe and thriving.
Fourteen young women ran off the field with huge smiles on their faces this February. They clutched bronze medals in their hands. They had just won 3rd place in a state field hockey tournament.

18-year-old Pavi* was among them. She is a young woman with a remarkable story, rising from the hopelessness of the sex industry to the joys of being a successful young athlete.

Orphaned as a child, Pavi became the property of a madam who ran a brothel out of her home. Pavi cleaned the house as women and girls were sold for sex in the dingy rooms all around her. She didn't know until later that she too was being prepared for this fate.

When Pavi was 8, local police and IJM staff arrived to rescue another girl sold into sex slavery. Pavi was rescued, too—before the madam had a chance to sell her to customers. Afterward, she grew up under the wing of caring professionals in her aftercare homes. Pavi said, “I have had some amazing and kind [friends] who are social workers walking with me, encouraging me to pursue my dreams.”

Pavi channeled her energy through sports at the aftercare homes—karate, soccer and finally, field hockey. She fell in love with the sport when she saw some older girls playing. She marched right up to the coach and asked to play. Pavi hasn’t looked back since.

Her field hockey career accelerated in 2017, when she joined a junior professional team. They won first place last August in a local league. Pavi was subsequently selected for the senior district team earlier this year, which won the bronze in February.

But Pavi has her eyes set on higher dreams—she wants to represent India in an international tournament one day.

She says proudly, “Instead of allowing the scars of my past to define me, I am choosing to overcome them.”

* A pseudonym

GOAL! RESCUED FROM SEX TRAFFICKING, A GIRL FINDS HEALING THROUGH SPORTS

KOLKATA, INDIA

2018 MID-YEAR REPORT
A preteen boy stood up in the brick kiln and told the officials that he was a slave. He was only 13 years old yet worked nine hours a day counting bricks under the hot sun for the kiln owner. The boy’s bravery in telling his story led to a large rescue—147 people rescued in total.

The intense, four-day operation began on March 14, when IJM brought the case to the local government’s attention. Impoverished families had been misled and trafficked from several central Indian states and were being forced to make thousands of clay bricks each day while being beaten and abused by the kiln owner. Authorities were moved to action by the stories and quickly mobilized to intervene.

What happened next was remarkable—though IJM had originally discovered this case of slavery, government authorities moved with unprecedented speed to help the laborers. Beyond rescue, they proactively processed official release certificates, arranged hot meals and medical care, created new ID cards and brought in a local bank to help set up accounts to deposit funds for the survivors.

In addition, the police sent out a special task force to find the brick kiln owner and several of his accomplices, who had fled to a neighboring state. Police found the suspect the next day and took the kiln owner into custody. Normally, this process can take months. This time, it took days. Police showed how seriously they took the crime by being exceptionally proactive.

After the rescue, IJM and government officials helped the survivors get ready for the 24-hour train ride back to their home state. Officials even held up the train to ensure all the survivors were safely on board; some officials accompanied the survivors too. Now home, many will join IJM’s two-year aftercare program for rescued slaves to re-learn life skills.

This case shows that when justice systems put survivors first and are vigilant in stopping slave owners, the end of slavery becomes closer.
On January 22, the very first case for IJM Dominican Republic came to a close. After three and a half difficult years, seven sex traffickers were found guilty of selling children for sex.

The case began in August 2014, when 13 teens, ages 14 to 17, were rescued by local authorities, IJM and a local partner. Since then, IJM has supported survivors with therapy, job placement, school enrollment, help for new mothers and legal support.

Meanwhile, the legal trial dragged on for three years. The prosecution proved to be one of the biggest challenges the office has ever faced. Dozens of suspended hearings and other delays frustrated the team’s efforts to fight for the survivors. But IJM did not give up.

And justice was finally served this year when the seven traffickers were sentenced to prison. Two were sentenced to jail for 10 years—the maximum sentence for sex trafficking.

“This victory demonstrates IJM’s dedication to work with the Public Ministry for as long as it takes to secure justice for victims of sex trafficking,” said Fernando Rodriguez, IJM Field Office Director for the Dominican Republic.

During one week in February, local authorities and IJM rescued 10 children and four adults from the devastation of cybersex trafficking. Three rescue operations happened in total.

In the first rescue, February 26 was the day everything changed for a 3-year-old boy, Oscar*, outside Cebu. He was rescued from being sexually abused in front of a webcam. The perpetrator was his own mother.

Oscar is now safe in the protection and care of social workers, and police continue to search for more children who are believed to be victims.

Two other rescues happened that same week, resulting in 10 children and four adults taken from homes where they were abused who are now safe.

Said John Tanagho, Field Office Director in Cebu, “These three operations in four days are a reminder that there is much progress in the fight against cybersex trafficking, and IJM is committed to supporting our law enforcement partners to rescue and protect traumatized Filipino children across the country.”

*A pseudonym
Building off of our work defending widows in Uganda, IJM began two pilot projects late last year and this year to address violence against women and children.

The first is a domestic violence project in Gulu. Domestic violence (also referred to as “intimate partner violence” or IPV) is pandemic in Northern Uganda. Approximately 70% of women between the ages of 15 and 49 experience some form of violence by their spouse or partner, according to the Uganda Bureau of Statistics.

IJM took on its first two cases in March—already resulting in the arrest of one man who had been beating his wife, Akello*, almost to death, for a decade.

Our second pilot is focused on sexual assault in Western Uganda. More than half of Ugandan girls between 15-19 years old have faced physical or sexual violence, according to the Uganda Demographic and Health Survey. To respond to this huge number of girls in danger, IJM is training the local government to manage cases of sexual assault, equipping police and partners to investigate crimes, and provide aftercare and legal support.

With these two pilot projects, IJM is hoping to protect more women and children in Uganda from this devastating and widespread violence.

IJM seeks to understand and tackle the challenges that traditionally exist for women and children who are beaten and assaulted. For example, women face huge barriers to reporting domestic violence. They may rely on their partner for financial support. Additionally, often, communities discourage women from speaking out on an issue that people perceive to be a private or family issue.

“People will say it’s most important to just keep the family together in peace,” Josephine Aparo, Director of Aftercare for IJM Gulu said. “But if a woman is being beaten, there is no peace.”

* A pseudonym
Together we can end Gender Based Violence
On April 25, a group of nonprofit leaders, government dignitaries and community members met for the launch of the IJM-led Coalition of NGOs Against Child Trafficking (CNACT).

The goal is to work closely together to help end child trafficking in Ghana, such as rescuing the boys who are trapped in slavery on Lake Volta. IJM has brought together more than 25 nonprofits, including World Vision and UNICEF, to commit to protecting girls and boys from being trafficked in Ghana.

During the event, luminaries such as the Second Lady of Ghana, Samira Bawumia (pictured left), stood up to emphasize their commitment to work together.

She said, “Eliminating child trafficking is a collective responsibility. Dealing with this [issue] will enhance the dignity of children and empower them for the country’s progress.”

This new coalition marks great progress in the fight to end slavery in Ghana. As a result of the kickoff, at least three organizations are currently working with IJM to sign agreements to work together in rescue, arrest and prosecution of child trafficking.
For the second year in a row, teams of IJM volunteers are hosting Local Prayer Gatherings around the country to engage the church in the work of justice through urgent, specific prayer. From Seattle to Cincinnati, people are coming together because prayer matters. God’s people want to intercede on behalf of those in slavery and move God to do miracles in the field.

During a typical gathering, people will hear about IJM’s casework in the field such as rescuing children from cybersex trafficking in the Philippines or boys trapped as slaves in Ghana. People hear about specific and urgent prayer requests: a roadblock in a survivor trial, healing for girls after recent rescue, a crucial advocacy initiative that can protect children. Prayers are then lifted in several ways—in small groups, written on scraps of paper and posted on a wall, or individually.

“The work of ending slavery is difficult,” said volunteer Caitlyn Pierson at the Boston Prayer Gathering. “While the horrors we learned about tonight can be overwhelming, we will not be overcome … because we serve a God who is greater, and who has invited us into the work of justice.”

Said Tim Ghali, pastor at Grace Chapel in Lexington, MA: “We have gathered here in the name of prayer and justice, and we have this incredible gift of calling out to a God who truly is all powerful, truly is all caring, who truly is ever-loving, and He invites us to join in this type of kingdom work that is focused on deliverance and redemption.”

People in 21 cities in total came to listen and pray, because the power of prayer can bring slavery to an end.