ISSUE 3 | 2026

CHILDIMPACT INTERNATIONAL

EMPOWERING EDUCATION. **ERADICATING EXPLOITATION.**

Dr. Tom Evans (left), along with one of Child Impact's partners (right), talks with Riya, who lives and works in the largest red-light district in the world.*

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO

"Mothers know that if a young girl is visible, most customers will choose her instead."

At Child Impact International, we are committed to bringing hope where it is needed most. Few places illustrate that mission more clearly than our work combating human trafficking.

In 2014, Child Impact launched Operation Child Rescue (OCR) with just three projects in India, a country where an estimated two out of every five trafficking victims worldwide are found. Today, because of the faithful support of people like you, OCR has grown to 36 projects across 18 countries. Those who stand with us through monthly support are known as members of The Rescue Party, a community of compassionate partners helping transform lives every day.

Earlier this year, I visited one of our newest projects in Sonagachi, India, the largest red-light district in the world, which is home to approximately 16,000 sex workers. Together with our local partner, I sat with a woman named Riya* in the small room where she receives customers.

As we talked, I asked what happens to the children growing up in this environment. Her answer was heartbreaking.

When customers arrive, teenage girls are often at the greatest risk. Mothers know that if a young girl is visible, most customers will choose her instead. To protect their daughters, many mothers send them to hiding places. Some girls climb into cramped rafters above nearby businesses, where there is barely enough room to lie down, waiting for a signal that it is safe to come home. Younger children often hide beneath elevated beds.

For many children, this is their daily reality. Yet even in places like Sonagachi, hope is breaking through.

Because of supporters like you, Child Impact has established a drop-in center where children can experience safety, encouragement, and a vision for a different future. Here they receive educational support, learn valuable skills, and discover opportunities beyond the streets where they were born.

We are also helping women who long to leave the sex trade by providing vocational training, including tailoring courses that offer a pathway toward independence and dignity. Many of these women were trafficked, deceived, or coerced into lives they would never choose.

Beyond prevention and restoration, our teams work alongside trusted local partners to identify vulnerable children, conduct undercover investigations, and assist in the rescue of underage victims trapped in exploitation.

Every child who finds safety, every woman who discovers a path to freedom, and every life restored is possible because people like you choose to act.

Thank you for partnering with Child Impact. Your generosity is shining light into some of the darkest places on earth and helping create stories of rescue, hope, and transformation that will last for generations.

Together, we are making a difference.

Dr. Tom L. Evans, CEO

**Name changed for privacy and protection*

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CHILDIMPACT INTERNATIONAL

EMPOWERING EDUCATION. **ERADICATING EXPLOITATION.**

Child Impact International is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit focused on the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of children. We believe that education empowers children to break the chains of generational poverty. First launched in 1966 under the name Asian Aid, our sponsorship program has grown to support more than 5,000 students. In 2014, Operation Child Rescue was launched to help eradicate exploitation. Over 10 years later, Child Impact is an emerging leader in the fight against human trafficking with 36 projects in 18 countries and counting. Our generous supporters have helped us bring hope and a brighter future to thousands of vulnerable children around the world.

July 30 is

WORLD DAY AGAINST TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS

Did you know there are more slaves today than at any point in history? **?**

An estimated **50 MILLION** *people live in modern-day slavery.*

Join us in bringing freedom to the captives, one child at a time.

MAKE A GIFT OF *$50* FOR *50 million* IN SLAVERY

On July 30, look for an email or text from Child Impact International about an opportunity to give.

50 for 50

RESCUING ONE CHILD AT A TIME

Reyna with her infant son. Sadly, Child Impact could not help Reyna continue her education and dreams of becoming a nurse before she was married off at age 12.

CHANGING FUTURES IN PALAWAN

Rescue campus supports children delaying early marriage and continuing their education

By Sean Knapp

After 14 years of witnessing the devastating cycle of child marriage among the mountain people of the Philipine island of Palawan, we are finally seeing a change for the better. So many of these children's aspirations and dreams of receiving an education are completely ignored and overruled by their families' and communities' belief that they should marry young. Clearly, the dowry and the celebration matters far more than the child's happiness or future.

But why are we seeing change? I believe it's not only the result of the Christian education—supported by Child Impact International—they have been receiving here for almost 20 years, but rather the more tangible contributions that have come to them through Child Impact partnering with Philippine Adventist Medical Aviation Services (PAMAS) and supporters over the past three years. A daily feeding program, medical/dental check-ups, and technical training, along with a college sponsorship, are all igniting a new hope and drive within the young people to break away from destructive traditions, to delay early marriage, and to continue going forward with God and with their education. It's awesome to witness this change!

In addition to witnessing these exciting changes, God has led Child Impact and PAMAS to build a complete campus, a haven where these young people can receive their high school and technical education. Construction began in December 2025 and continues to move forward.

We have had over 50 workers, skilled and unskilled, contributing to the construction of the campus: some are our neighbors, others are from across the island, and still others are Palawanos from the mountains. They have been working together amazingly well and made great progress! Recently acquired equipment and a dry season have allowed us to make terrific headway on this project.

To date, the industrial arts building is ready for roofing, the girls dormitory post and beams are complete up to the second floor, and both the girls dormitory and classroom buildings are ready to have their first floors poured, all in about five months of work!

The communities from the mountains, along with church leaders and our team on the ground, are all amazed at how this school is coming together, which will serve as a rescue campus and safe place for any young person wanting to receive further education or skills. They will be able to come and experience God's real and practical love for them. What was once a dream is becoming a reality. A big thank you to each of you who are praying for and supporting this project! ■

Construction is underway on the building that will hold classrooms at the rescue campus.

SOLD BY CIRCUMSTANCE

The Marriage She Never Chose

By Christina Donesky

"Our daughter is young and pretty. I'm sure she will make a good wife for your brother, and there is no need to pay very much for her dowry, just enough so we can eat."

Zahra* was 15 years old. Small for her age. She stood to the side while the adults negotiated, head down, twisting her scarf in her hands, as her future was decided around her. The man they were marrying her to was in his 40s and in another country. She had never met him and wouldn't until after the wedding. By the time they were introduced, they would already be husband and wife. "I hope he doesn't come back too soon," she thought anxiously.

Zahra was 15 years old ...*
The man they were marrying her to was
in his 40s and in another country.

This was what the civil war in Sudan had come to for Hakeem and his family. Like many refugees, they had escaped their hometown with just their lives, traveling a long distance on foot, or by whatever transportation they could bribe to take them a few more kilometers. Eventually they arrived in a town where distant relatives lived. With no resources and nowhere else to turn, Hakeem knew they needed that family to feel obligated to take them in. Marriage would make that happen.

Hakeem told himself it was the right thing to do, that at least Zahra would have someone to provide for her. Deep down, he knew he would never have arranged this kind of marriage for his daughter if there was no war.

There was no happy ending.

When the betrothed man returned, his first complaint was that she "wasn't enough of a woman." What followed wasn't a marriage in any real sense. It was sexual exploitation. A child, already displaced and traumatized, married to a man she had never chosen.

By the time Hakeem and his family returned to their hometown, Zahra was 17 and divorced.

Some time later, a Child Impact staff member invited her to an art therapy workshop. She pushed back immediately. "I'm too old to draw pictures with the other kids." The staff couldn't believe her age, thinking she was no older than 14. Eventually she started to attend. The staff could tell she carried a deep sadness that she tried to cover with fake smiles and energy. She clung close to the staff at the project, as though she had something to say. Finally, one day, she broke down and told her story to Mrs. Amira, who, along with the rest of the team, was determined to help her process and heal from the trauma she had suffered.

Zahra's story is not unique. Across our projects, children and young women are surviving sexual exploitation, often in silence. Safe spaces, trained staff, and trauma-informed care are not optional; They are essential. That is why Operation Child Rescue funds projects like this one around the world. This is why your support matters. Zahra is healing. Meanwhile, there are others still waiting for someone to notice. ■

**Name changed to protect identity*

To become a monthly supporter of Operation Child Rescue and support children like Zahra, visit ***childimpact.org/ocr****.*

Mushtaq (second from far right) gives two thumbs up on the day that he and his children and grandchildren are freed at last from generations as slaves in the brick kilns.

LIKE MOSES TO MY FAMILY

The indescribable impact of helping families escape generational slavery

By Liz Thomsen

Right now in Pakistan, an estimated two million children are working in slave-like conditions. Many of them are trapped in brick kilns alongside their parents, shaping bricks with tiny hands before they are even old enough to read (if they ever even get the chance to learn).

At first, it was difficult to believe this reality could truly exist. Was it staged? Could children really spend their lives in these kilns?

Then we met the families.

We watched little girls skillfully forming bricks from mud under the scorching sun. We learned they begin almost from birth—working beside their mothers and fathers. Slavery is all they have ever known.

Slavery is all they have ever known.

These families are trapped through a system called Peshgi—an "intentional trap." A medical emergency or financial crisis forces a family to accept a loan from a brick kiln owner. But the loan comes with crushing interest rates that can never realistically be repaid. Many cannot read or write; they sign away their future with a thumbprint.

Tragically, the debt does not end when a parent dies. It is inherited by their children, a life sentence without any hope of freedom.

Families work from 5 a.m. to 5 p.m., six days a week, earning just fractions of a cent per brick. At a quota of 1,000 bricks per day, a family might earn only $7 total. Yet they are charged for food, shelter, and living expenses at the kiln, causing the debt to grow larger every month instead of smaller.

For many, this becomes a life sentence.

One family we met in these circumstances was Mushtaq's.

Mushtaq is 71 years old, though the years of backbreaking labor have aged him far beyond his years. He has spent his entire life in slavery. His children and grandchildren are also trapped in the kiln under inherited debt. When he heard Child Impact International was helping families reach freedom, he said words we will never forget:

"Child Impact is like Moses to my family."

When our supporters heard about this man and his family, their hearts were touched, and with an overwhelming amount of support, we can now say that Mushtaq and his eight children and their families are finally free!

Then there is Imran.

Imran's story is one of pain, courage, and hope that refuses to die.

His father was born into slavery in the brick kilns. As a young boy, Imran dreamed of freedom. One day, he escaped. He built a life outside the kiln and became a truck driver. For the first time, he experienced dignity, independence, and hope for a different future.

But when his father died, Imran returned to the kiln for the funeral—unaware it was a trap.

The kiln owner recognized him as the son of a deceased slave and immediately forced Imran to inherit his father's debt. In one devastating moment, his freedom was taken away again.

For the past ten years, Imran has worked in the brick kilns with no visible way out.

Today, he and his wife have two small children: a four-year-old daughter named Roshni and a one-year-old son. Roshni's name means "light," and despite unimaginable hardship, she lives up to her name with a joyful spirit that shines brightly.

But tragedy struck when she accidentally fell into a pot of boiling water. Her arm was severely burned, and even today she still suffers pain from the injury.

And yet when we met her, she smiled.

That smile is impossible to forget.

Imran longs for something many of us take for granted: the chance for his children to grow up free. Free to play. Free to attend school. Free from inherited bondage.

Because of Child Impact's Free a Family project, freedom is possible. When a family's debt is paid, they can legally walk away from the kiln forever. Child Impact and local partners then step in to help families transition into freedom by providing six months of housing and meals, clothing, medical care, job placement assistance, and connection to a local church community for ongoing support and pastoral care.

For families like Imran's, freedom costs approximately $5,500—though every family's debt amount varies.

It is difficult to imagine that generations of slavery can end with one act of compassion. But we have seen it happen. We have watched fathers weep as they stepped away from the kilns for the first time in their lives. We have seen children laugh and run freely after years of labor. We have witnessed hope return to families who believed they would die in bondage.

Today, there are more slaves in the world than at any other time in human history.

But here is the difference: in Pakistan, we have been given access to enter these brick kilns and help set families free.

As long as the debt is paid, these families can go free. The question before all of us is simple, what will we do with this opportunity? ■

Imran (far right) with his wife and two children. Imran has dreamed of returning to freedom for 10 years.

HOW YOU CAN HELP FREE A FAMILY

Child Impact International's partners in Pakistan currently have the capacity to free approximately 15 families each month as funding becomes available. In the past few years, we have helped free 80 families—more than 500 individuals—from slavery.

If you, your church, class, or business would like to help free a family from slavery or learn more about our Free a Family project, please visit **childimpact.org/free-family** or email Liz Thomsen, Development and Global Engagement Director, at **lthomsen@childimpact.org**.

Together, we can help families walk out of bondage and into freedom for the very first time.

Child Impact International team members join a class taught by Child Impact Brazil staff members that educates children on what is safe and unsafe touch.

A DIFFERENT DOOR

A child entered a hidden door to survive; we're building new doors where children find safety

By Dr. Tom Evans

Twelve-year-old Leticia* was handed an empty bag and sent to the grocery store with heartbreaking instructions. Her family needed food, but the cost would be far more than they could bear. She was told to enter through a hidden side door, where the shop owner would abuse her before filling the bag with groceries. Because she was a child and this abuse was exchanged for something of value, Leticia is a victim of human trafficking.

Leticia is from Barreirinha, Brazil, a remote city of 33,000 residents in the lower Amazon region that is accessible only by boat. This is where Child Impact's headquarters for the Brazilian Amazon is based. In this community, child protection is an urgent and ongoing crisis. One woman we met survives by cleaning a local brothel. One day, she encountered a 15-year-old girl wearing old, tight-fitting clothes and asked, "What are you doing here?" The girl answered simply: she was hungry and needed something to eat.

As our team travels along tributaries of the Amazon, visiting schools and teaching children about safe touch and protection, they continue to uncover heartbreaking realities. Abuse is widespread. Reports are made, and arrests sometimes follow, but corruption often allows perpetrators to bribe authorities and continue harming children. One painful sign of the lack of protection is that the local police station is closed on weekends, leaving vulnerable children with nowhere to turn when they need help most.

After witnessing so many extreme cases, our team has concluded that reporting alone is not enough. Children need a safe place to heal, learn, and rebuild their lives. That is why our major fundraising priority this year is a rescue campus in the Brazilian Amazon. We have already purchased 207 acres for a future boarding school. The property is strategically located to offer both safety and accessibility, close enough to serve the community while providing a protected place of refuge for children who have known very little hope.

This full-featured campus will include dormitories for girls and boys, classrooms, a cafeteria, and recreation areas. We also plan to cultivate the land to grow fruits and vegetables that will help provide healthy, nourishing meals for the children in our care. Our goal is to raise $1 million to build this rescue campus, and by God's grace, $279,843 has already been given. Every gift brings us closer to opening a place of safety, restoration, and opportunity for children who urgently need it. If you would like to support this project, make a gift at **childimpact.org/brazil-campus**.

At Child Impact International, we believe that safety is the first step toward healing from trauma and abuse. That is why we support safe houses and dormitories around the world, and why this rescue campus matters so deeply. Thank you for partnering with us to protect children, restore hope, and help create a future where they can thrive. ■

*Name changed for privacy and protection

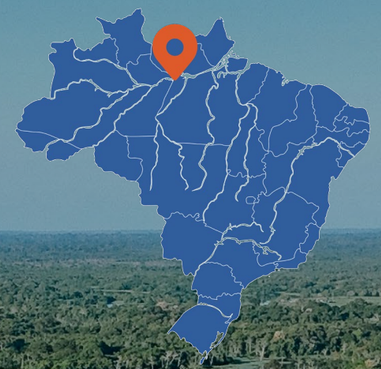
HELP KEEP ME *Safe*

Join us in building a rescue campus for vulnerable children in the Amazon

The planned rescue campus will be a therapeutic boarding school designed to provide long-term protection, education, and healing for children rescued from abuse. Unlike temporary shelters, this model allows children to remain in a stable, nurturing environment for several years, giving them the time needed to heal and rebuild their lives.

Serving over 200 vulnerable children, the campus will offer:

- Safe residential housing
- Trauma-informed emotional support
- Quality education and life skills training
- Spiritual care and mentorship
- Structured environment focused on long-term recovery



Join us in building a future of hope and safety for precious children in need. To make a gift toward this project, scan the QR code or visit ***childimpact.org/brazil-campus.***

LITTLE IS MUCH IN THE HANDS OF GOD

From a lemonade stand to a family farm, ordinary offerings are helping vulnerable children

By Jonathan Blackburn

In the Gospel of John, chapter 6, we meet the young boy who gave all the food he had to Jesus. After a long sermon, surrounded by 5,000 men, plus women and children, the boy noticed that people were hungry, remembered he had food, and volunteered his solution to the enormous, overwhelming issue. He may have been intimidated by the magnitude of the crowd. He also might have felt fear that his offering would be wildly insufficient. But despite any apprehension he may have felt, he stepped out in faith and believed that Jesus was enough. He trusted, and that faith created a story that inspires to this day.

In my role as Strategic Partnerships Manager at Child Impact International, I have the privilege of hearing stories of generosity from all kinds of people—major donors, long-time supporters, churches, businesses, and many more. But recently, two stood out to me, and I'd like to share their stories with you. I find it an enormous privilege to introduce you to brother and sister, Oliver and Lilah.

One day, after seeing a Child Impact International presentation on 3ABN, this pair of siblings decided that the money they had made from their lemonade stand could be used for something more: to help free a family from slavery. When one of our speakers came to their church to preach, they took the opportunity to bring their hard-earned cash and donate it to the work of Child Impact. They didn't wait for someone to ask them or assume that their donation wouldn't be "enough;" they gave what they had and trusted that the Lord would do the rest.

They gave what they had and trusted that the Lord would do the rest.

Around the same time, we heard from the Henley family in Washington state, who had made a similar decision about their business. The Henleys grow cherries and blueberries and choose to give a portion of their harvest proceeds to support Child Impact's global projects. Not only does their continued generosity provide hope and a new future to countless children, but their fields, in part, stand as a beautiful representation of what can exist when our lives and efforts are placed in the capable hands of our Heavenly Father—seed, patience, growth, harvest, renewal.

Child Impact works around the world, fighting against the exploitation, violence, and trafficking of children through rescue, education, and prevention projects. None of that happens without people like Oliver, Lilah, and the Henleys, who decide that they want their efforts and resources to be multiplied by a hand who "is able to do immeasurably more than we could ever ask or imagine." (Ephesians 3:20)

We are not responsible for solving the issue of slavery and trafficking by ourselves. We are simply called to do what we can with what we have been given. If the Lord has blessed you, I want to invite you to find your place, side by side, in this work, and together we can see what the Lord will do with our small offering. ■

Dr. Tom Evans, CEO (right), receives a check from siblings Oliver (left) and Lilah (center).

AN UNEXPECTED CONNECTION, A LASTING IMPACT

How an ordinary meeting led to an extraordinary difference for a new rescue campus in Brazil

By Jason Churchwell

When Dave and Mariana Palmer attended Child Impact International's annual fundraising dinner in November 2024 along with nearly 400 supporters from the Chattanooga area, they had no idea that a simple conversation that evening would eventually lead to a major gift helping vulnerable children deep in Brazil.

During the evening, the Palmers met fellow Child Impact supporter Fred Boothby, who had donated a stay at one of his vacation rentals for the silent auction. Dave and Mariana owned a successful vacation rental business, and Fred had years of experience and connections in the same industry. What began as a casual introduction soon turned into a meaningful friendship.

As time went on, Fred became a valuable resource while the Palmers explored selling their business. Dave and Mariana had already begun feeling called toward missions and wanted to create more margin in their lives to serve. After the sale was complete, they spent time praying about how they could use part of the proceeds to make a lasting difference.

The answer soon became clear.

The Palmers made a generous gift to Child Impact's developing rescue campus in Brazil. Their donation will help provide safety, care, and restoration for children rescued from exploitation and abuse.

Stories like this remind us that God often works through ordinary moments and unexpected relationships. A conversation at a dinner table became an opportunity to change lives.

You can be part of that story, too. Whether through giving, sharing with others, or simply connecting, your support helps bring hope and healing to children who desperately need it. ■

JOINING THE FIGHT FOR EVERY CHILD

New board member Daniel Hall brings a lifelong commitment to serving vulnerable children around the world

By Shana Fairchild

For pastor and philanthropist Daniel Hall, saying "yes" to becoming involved with Child Impact International was a "natural extension" of his own ministry work.

Besides being Child Impact's newest board member, Daniel serves as a pastor in Columbia, South Carolina. After leaving a successful career in banking, he dedicated his life to ministry and service, and has a passion for supporting children and single-parent families.

As a longtime friend and mentor to Daniel, Dr. Tom Evans, CEO, introduced him to Child Impact's work through Operation Child Rescue (OCR), an initiative focused on the prevention and rescue of vulnerable children from trafficking and exploitation.

"As someone who has dedicated much of my life to serving children and families, the mission immediately captured my attention and resonated deeply with my values," said Daniel.

Daniel has been active with his own ministry called The Compassion Project, which serves under-resourced families across the United States by providing practical support such as diapers, groceries, clothing, toiletries, and other essentials.

"At the heart of both organizations is a commitment to protecting, uplifting, and creating opportunities for children," Daniel said. "That shared passion made Child Impact a mission I wanted to support."

What inspires Daniel the most about Child Impact is their refusal to accept child trafficking as something that will always exist and their willingness to tackle one of the world's most difficult and heartbreaking problems head-on.

"Every child deserves to grow up safe, loved, and protected, and I believe Child Impact is making a real difference by giving vulnerable children a chance at a better future," said Daniel.

As a board member, Daniel hopes to see Child Impact become a household name in the fight against child trafficking.

"Most importantly," said Daniel, "I hope Child Impact continues to grow its impact and bring hope to families around the world." ■

ENDING CHILD EXPLOITATION ONE STEP AT A TIME

Racing to Support Child Impact at the First Annual Rescue Run

By Melissa Moore

What began as a traditional year-end campus 5K race at Southern Adventist University (SAU) is now transforming into a long-term community movement to protect vulnerable children. Last spring, Dr. Judy Sloan, dean of the School of Health and Kinesiology, led a group of students from Southern's gymnasium to Child Impact International's office for a volunteer event. She left inspired by our mission and began crafting a vision for how students could be more actively involved in Child Impact's rescue projects. One clear way to engage the student body and surrounding community was to select Child Impact International as the long-term partner for their annual 5K race, rather than identifying a new partner each year.

More than 300 participants registered for the event, with 100% of race fees supporting Child Impact's Operation Child Rescue initiative, which works to protect vulnerable children from trafficking and exploitation. Child Impact staff enjoyed sharing information about our rescue projects and learning more about why the racers chose to participate. While the majority were students, it was inspiring to see runners in their 50s, 60s, and even 70s choosing to spend their Sunday morning running alongside college-age participants.

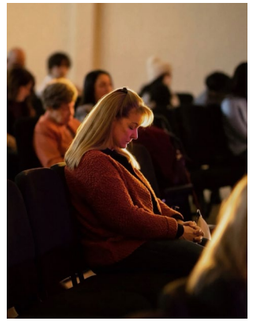
"My friends and I care deeply about children being trafficked around the world, and none of us realized there was a nonprofit on campus that is actively fighting this issue," shared SAU sophomore Ryan Williamson. "I think even more people in the community will want to support this race next year."

In partnership with Southern, we hope to continue building on the momentum from this first event, raising even more support in the years to come for at-risk children through Operation Child Rescue. We are grateful for Southern's partnership and the many ways the university supports Child Impact International. This event offers a unique invitation to our local neighbors to actively participate in our work and make a global impact. We hope this race becomes a highly anticipated annual tradition in our community. ■

TURNING COMPASSION INTO OPPORTUNITY

One church is empowering vulnerable women to build sustainable livelihoods

By Jonathan Blackburn



One of the most rewarding parts of my work with Child Impact International is witnessing the passion of a local church when they fall in love with a mission project, reach out, and invest in people on the other side of the world that they've never met.

Last spring, I got to witness just that when visiting LifePoint Christian Fellowship Church in Jacksonville, Florida.

After a wonderful weekend of introductions, study, and worship, LifePoint fulfilled its commitment to help support the Vizag Slum Tailoring Program in India. Through the work of our partners in India, this tailoring program offers vocational education and resources to women seeking to escape prostitution and violence. Upon graduating from this program, the women receive a sewing machine of their own and can begin to earn a dignified living as tailors in their communities.

LifePoint Church made the dreams of many women finally possible for this upcoming year. Their generosity is not abstract or intangible; their generosity is providing a life-changing alternative to women in India who will never again have to endure the circumstances of their past or to young girls who can now avoid such atrocities altogether.

There are more churches like LifePoint, and I am thankful to work with many of them already. If your congregation feels called to this work, let's connect. One of our 36 projects is waiting and could become your church's project. Please reach out to me at jblackburn@childimpact.org, and let's explore together. ■

HERE AM I. SEND ME.

How a retiree is bringing his expertise to the fight against child trafficking

By Liz Simons

A retired attorney for the United States Customs and Border Protection spends his free time helping to rescue children from human trafficking, abuse, and child marriages.

That may sound like the plot of an inspirational movie, right? In reality, it is the story of Scott Falk, a dedicated volunteer for Child Impact International serving as Senior Advisor for Child Protection & Policy. I recently met Scott and was very inspired by his energy and passion for Child Impact. Here are snippets of our conversation.

Liz: Tell me a bit about your career with the U.S. Customs and Border Protection and how you ended up now spending about 30 hours a week volunteering for Child Impact.

Scott: I was Deputy Chief Counsel for about 11 years and Chief Counsel for 10 years in D.C. I loved my job, but it was very demanding and I often put in 80-hour weeks. So when I was eligible to retire, we moved to the Chattanooga area so our son could attend Collegedale Academy. I met CEO Dr. Tom Evans when our sons were on the same soccer team, and I became more acquainted and familiar with Child Impact and the amazing work they do through our Sabbath School class, which is a big supporter of Child Impact.

After hearing the non-PG version of the facts on sex trafficking in the United States at a presentation to the staff and parents of my son's school, a light went on in my head, and quite frankly, it made me angry that this is going on all around us. I thought, "I've got some skills left, you know, and I can use them for Child Impact." The next week I told Tom I wanted to volunteer!

Liz: What does volunteering for Child Impact mean to you personally, and how has it impacted your life?

Scott: I grew up with a strong faith, learning to imitate Christ in this world, so that is a passion of mine. I was a career public servant, not a political appointee, with an agency that had a mission I firmly believed in; protecting the country's security. That's one of the highest things that you can do, I believe.

Once I left that behind, I was looking for something else with a mission that I could dedicate my time to. The mission of Child Impact gives me energy and allows me to use the skills God gave me. I feel like this is my calling and gives me a purpose in life. I mean, you can't look at these kids, children of God, and not be moved. So whatever I can do to tackle this situation, I'm willing to give my best efforts.

Liz: When you think about the work that you're contributing to, it's really what we are commissioned to do: be the hands and feet of Jesus and care for the least of these. What would you say to encourage others to either volunteer their time or resources to support Child Impact International?

Scott: I think of Isaiah 6:8: "Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying,'Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?' And I said, 'Here am I. Send me!'"

So maybe you are retired and want to donate your time or maybe you look at how blessed you are and want to give back some of your financial resources. Either way, why not give back to an organization that is doing absolute good?! ■

VOLUNTEER WITH CHILD IMPACT

Are you interested in supporting the work of Child Impact International? Contact our office at 423.910.0667 or help@childimpact.org to learn about available volunteer opportunities!

OUR IMPACT AROUND THE WORLD

Sponsorship Schools and Operation Child Rescue Projects

SEX TRAFFICKING IN AMERICA: HOW TO IDENTIFY AND PREVENT EXPLOITATION

By Dr. Tom L. Evans

The second edition is available now!

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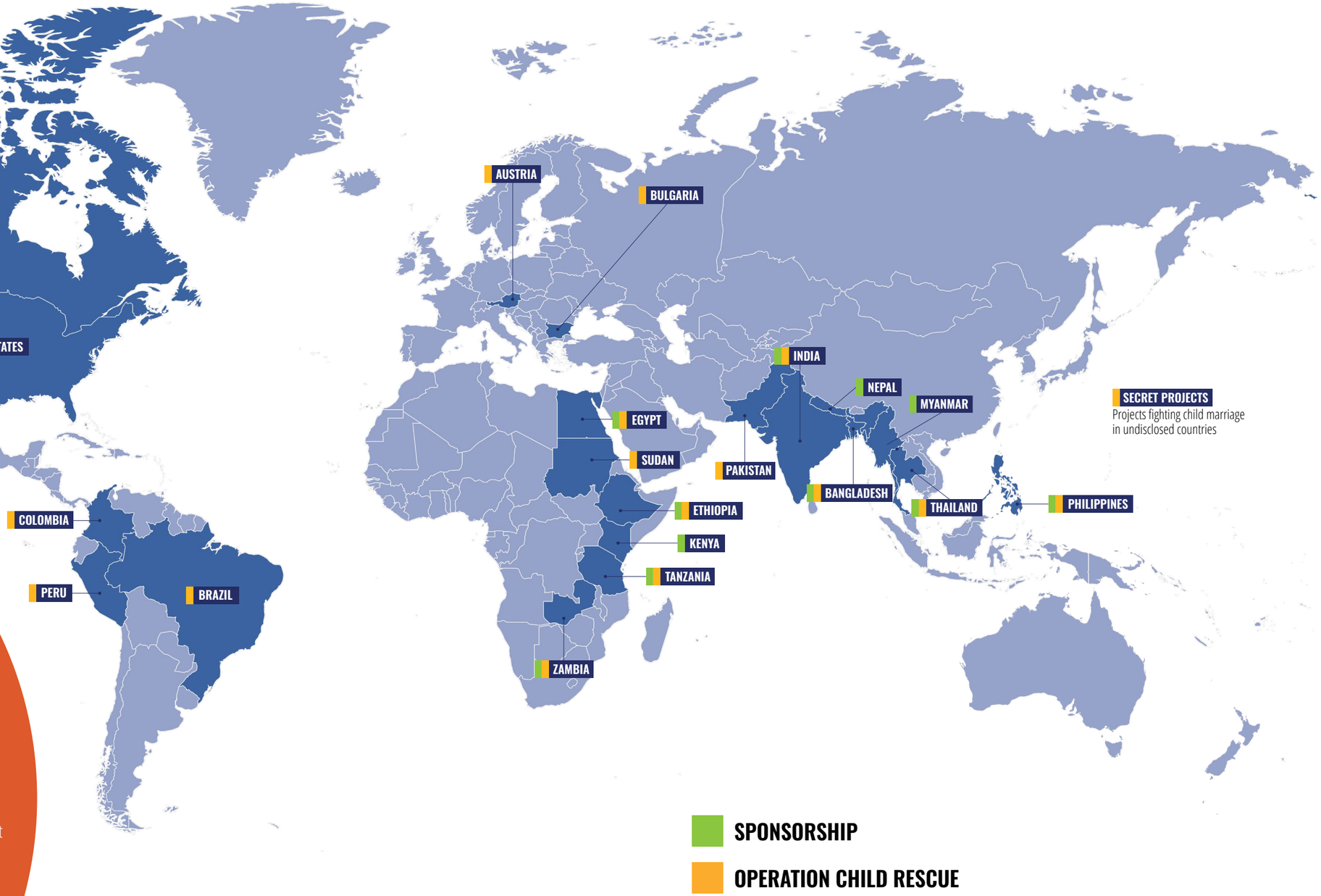

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