

SET  FREE

2017

Impact Report



About Set Free

Who we are

We seek to create new futures and end slavery through community-based action and partnership with others.

What we do

We support and equip 30+ teams around the world to address the brokenness in their own communities that breeds slavery and other injustices.

How we do it

How we engage is as important as what we do. Events and programs are useful, these are only a means to a bigger, deeper goal.

We seek to recreate community by engaging all sectors of society – from health care and faith to academia and government – using these core strategies:



education



prevention



mobilization



rescue



restoration



We seek **holistic freedom.**

We strive to build healthy communities where people are freed not only from physical slavery, but from any spiritual, emotional, or mental bondage. It's not just freedom *from* but freedom *for* something.



Our vision is not only justice but **shalom.**

We start with addressing society's brokenness to transform people and communities from the inside out: healing relationships, shifting harmful cultural values, and rebuilding dysfunctional systems.



We focus first on **relationships.**

Mission happens within the scope of discipleship: as we are formed by the character of Christ, our actions conform. Our work is ultimately relational, founded on community with Jesus at the center.

From the director

In the fall, I had a conversation with a director of a state run children's home in Hungary. She expressed her concern for the children in her care and the daily barriers they face. No fans during hot season. No outlets in the kitchen. Burnout among staff. **Worst of all, some of the youth end up on the streets in prostitution.**

I shared with her about what our Set Free team does in Seattle: how they help children in foster care, how they host support groups and trainings for foster parents, how they encourage social workers through regular appreciation events. She was deeply touched and asked me why Americans did these things.

My response to her was: "I can't speak for all Americans, but I know these people in Seattle believe that every person, every child, is created in the image of God and deserves dignity, love, and care."

Set Free teams across the globe are agents of hope and healing. In the midst of despair, they are challenging harmful values that perpetuate abuse and are loving in transformational ways. In this report, you will see how our teams are working holistically to reduce vulnerability, end slavery and create new futures for people in their own neighborhoods and around the world. You will see *how* our teams are doing this: **through a community-based, Jesus-focused, discipleship approach.**

Over the past eight years, Set Free has grown into being a global community of liberated, imperfect people that follow Jesus and partner with others in ways that make sense in each context. As you read this report we hope you see how our community approach and the movement of God is changing lives.



Thank you for your support and partnership!

Rev. Dr. Kevin Austin
Director, Set Free Movement



We published our first book, *Urban Shalom*, in June 2017



We grew our Facebook followers by 20%



We launched % for Freedom, a platform to engage businesses



We launched a new logo and a new ethically-made t-shirt

Key themes of 2017

Seeking Diversity

Our teams worked hard to engage diverse groups: from former traffickers to girl scouts, from LGBTQ+ groups to the Universalist church. We intentionally seek out people who are not being served or welcomed in their community to bring in diverse perspectives and reduce vulnerability.

Maturing deeply

Our teams grew their capacity to effectively address the root causes of slavery. Some worked to improve the foster care system and sought legal training to understand the vulnerability of immigrants. Others served people who are homeless or emerging from incarceration and domestic violence to protect them from abuse.

Investing in youth

We believe that raising up youth to be informed, resilient people with access to vital resources and positive relationships is one of the best ways to prevent exploitation. Our teams disciplined and trained thousands of youth to protect themselves and their peers from exploitation.

Why our approach works

Wendy is a History professor at a community college in Birmingham, AL. She has been leading human trafficking awareness events ("Freedom Week") on three campuses for several years.

What's most significant about her efforts is the one-on-one time she spends coaching students. Her approach isn't only educational but relational, which has a ripple effect throughout campuses and into the community.

Following Freedom Week in October 2017, two of Wendy's students changed their majors to focus on human trafficking and justice, while a student in fashion design was moved to focus on creating designs that would benefit survivors.

Through Wendy's efforts to educate and raise up student leaders, one of her students was equipped to identify warning signs that her cousin was being groomed for trafficking.



Wendy (pictured above) counselled the parents of the girl being groomed and called the National Human Trafficking Hotline, which rapidly led to the daughter being safely pulled from what could have been a lifetime of exploitation and abuse.



**FREEDOM
WEEKEND**

September 17
corruption.com church

United States

We coach, equip, and mobilize 20+ teams across the U.S. to address the root causes of slavery in their own neighborhoods.

Our impact in the U.S. by the numbers



\$29,797

raised for other social service agencies



7,451

hours teams invested as volunteers



144

average number of agencies we partner with each month



5,275

times people volunteered to help our teams



34,228

times we engaged community members



4,527

times we supported people at-risk of exploitation



4,822

students trained + engaged

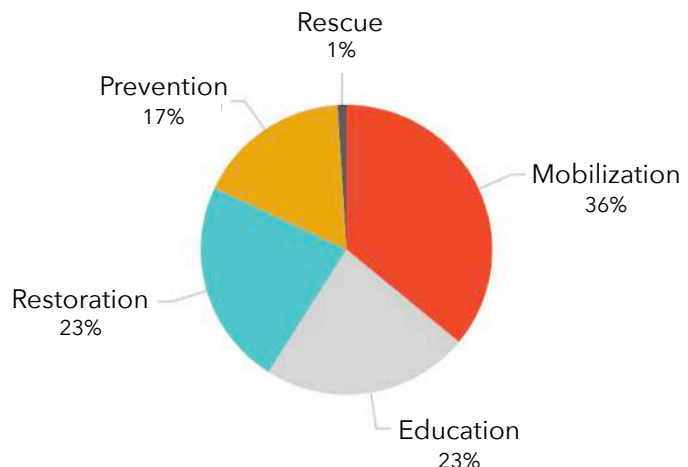


17

media interviews featuring team leaders

Our Strategies

We engage in education and awareness, prevention, community mobilization, supporting rescue professionals, and restoration. At right is the breakdown of the concentration of our activities in the U.S.



Ways our U.S. teams served their communities



Wenatchee, WA

In the summer, our team partnered with their church, local leaders and missionaries at a Native American reservation in extreme poverty in Montana, creating a safe space with food, games, and activities, while sharing Jesus' love.

FACT

Trafficking disproportionately affects Native Americans. Prosecutions are lower and cases are underreported.



Spring Arbor / Jackson, MI

In April, the team hosted a sleep-out with a local high school to raise awareness about teen homelessness. The youth made blankets and assembled hygiene kits for local homeless shelters.

FACT

In a study by Covenant House, nearly 1 in 5 of homeless youth interviewed were victims of sex and labor trafficking.



Wichita, KS

We partner with Refuge, a ministry primarily serving women who are homeless or re-integrating from incarceration and domestic violence. They gave 185 women basic needs items for hygiene and job interviews in 2017.

FACT

60% of female state prisoners in KS have a history of physical or sexual abuse, which may make them vulnerable to further abuse in the future.

* <http://bit.ly/2BFhngz>



Seattle, WA

In May, they hosted their first one-day "Brave" event for 35 teen girls in foster care, who enjoyed entertainment and hair cuts, learned about free local services, and were connected to mentors they met with monthly for the year.

FACT

Between 55-90% of commercially sexually exploited youth in the U.S. have been in foster care.* In Seattle, that number is estimated to be around 70%.

* State of WA Coordinating Committee on Sex Trafficking



Tampa, FL

Our team in Tampa has partnered with a local strip club and aftercare ministry for years. In March, they assembled gift baskets for 50 women working in strip clubs as a way to build relationships, reinforce their value, and connect them to services.



Turlock, CA

In October, this team hosted their second annual 5k race and freedom festival to create awareness about slavery, raise funds for anti-trafficking efforts, and mobilize the community to respond in tangible ways, such as buying fair trade products.

FACT

Victims of trafficking in strip clubs may be U.S. citizens, undocumented immigrants, or foreign nationals held by debt bondage or threats of deportation.

FACT

Advocacy groups in CA battled in 2017 for legal recognition of the dehumanization of prostitution. In January 2018, the courts upheld the prostitution laws.



McPherson, KS

In May, the team addressed the low levels of awareness about slavery in their area by bringing Truckers Against Trafficking to their community. Over 200 people visited the mobile museum and the team talked with over 500 people about identifying and preventing human trafficking, even in a small town.



Watsonville, CA

Felicia taught nearly 1,500 youth mainly in middle school about the realities of human trafficking in 2017. These students now know the warning signs of human trafficking, how to properly report it, and how to protect themselves and their classmates against it, especially on the Internet and social media.

FACT

There were 33 human trafficking cases reported in Kansas in 2017. A total of 274 cases have been reported over the last decade.*

FACT

Traffickers may use social media and the Internet to develop relationships with youth, seeking to fill a void in the youth's life to lure them into meeting in person.

*National Human Trafficking Resource Center



Bond County, IL

Eden's Glory, a restoration home for survivors of human trafficking, celebrated their second year of operation in the fall. A key highlight of 2017 was having one resident working towards her GED and another seeking a Bachelor's degree. The team continues to educate and engage their county.



Decatur, Macon County, IL

It was a big year for this team. In October, they hosted a community forum on poverty and its interconnectedness to human trafficking. The next month, they hosted a benefit concert with four local bands whose music had messages of freedom and justice. They gave a portion of proceeds to Eden's Glory.

FACT There are 682 beds for survivors of human trafficking in the U.S. There were only 8 beds for survivors in Illinois when Eden's Glory opened in 2015.

FACT Over a third of people in Illinois are considered low-income or living in poverty. People of color and children are disproportionately affected.*

* Heartland Alliance



Seattle Pacific University, WA

This team formed an ethical purchasing task force to introduce more fair trade options on campus, especially food items. They also hosted a documentary screening to engage students on the interconnectedness of fast fashion and human trafficking.



Roberts Wesleyan College, NY

Students at Roberts Wesleyan formed a Set Free club this year. In October, they partnered with A21 to bring awareness about human trafficking to Rochester by hosting a community walk. They will be hosting an on-campus Freedom Forum in 2018.

FACT An unaccompanied minor wandering into Seattle's Westlake Center will be approached by some kind of predator - including pimps - within 45 minutes.*

FACT Human trafficking is a racial issue. In New York City, 50% of streetwalking prostituted minors are Black and 25% are Latino.*

* Seattle Police Department

* ECPAT USA: <http://bit.ly/2o6QSws>

Our Global Impact

North + Latin America



Europe



Africa



Asia



Established project(s)

United States
Canada
Bulgaria
Hungary
The Philippines
Taiwan

Emerging work

Haiti*
Portugal*
Spain*
Kenya*
India

Influential relationships

Belgium*
Holland*
Burundi*
Cambodia
Thailand

*New in 2017

Some of our international accomplishments in 2017 included:



370

churches registered
for Freedom Sunday
(potentially hundreds
more unregistered)



\$40,000

raised in Freedom
Sunday offerings
for global anti-
trafficking efforts



1,000's

of people around
the world
influenced by our
ministries



7

new countries in
which we are growing
our influence and
establishing work



Asia

We prevent the exploitation of children, ethnic minorities, and migrant workers through education, pastor training, church mobilization, and more.



The Philippines

Fact: Tens of thousands of children are victims of online sexual exploitation, a billion-dollar industry in the Philippines where an anonymous user pays as little as \$5-\$10 for a live-streamed "show."



50

pastors intensively trained in identifying + responding to human trafficking



210

youth educated on prevention



150

at-risk people served



1,590

community members mobilized

Training + Mobilizing Churches

Our Filipino leader, Ken, worked alongside her husband, Jemuel, to equip nearly 1,600 church members to be at the forefront of the abolitionist movement. They mobilized three churches to host Freedom Sunday, worked closely with the Philippine General Conference of the Free Methodist Church to host a multi-day training for 50 pastors, and built relationships with many churches.

Protecting Children

An estimated 250,000 children live on the streets in the Philippines.* We partner with ICCM to meet the basic needs of children living in slums with emphasis on education so they can pursue dignified employment. In February, we taught 40 children and their parents about safe relationships to prevent exploitation and educated at least 110 more youth throughout the year.



Ken Abenoja-Baldo


*Unicef



Taiwan

Supporting Migrants

Our team runs a self-help group for Filipino women who have migrated to Taiwan, often for marriage. These women sometimes feel misunderstood, struggle with the language, and are disconnected to their culture and home. Some may be at-risk of abuse. Our group creates an empowering, healthy, and therapeutic space to discuss issues, teach communication skills, grow spiritually, and offer individualized case work when necessary.



Fact: There are 600,000+ migrant workers in Taiwan.* Of those, 200,000 were employed as caregivers or home helpers, which are industries that slavery often occurs.

*Ministry of Labor

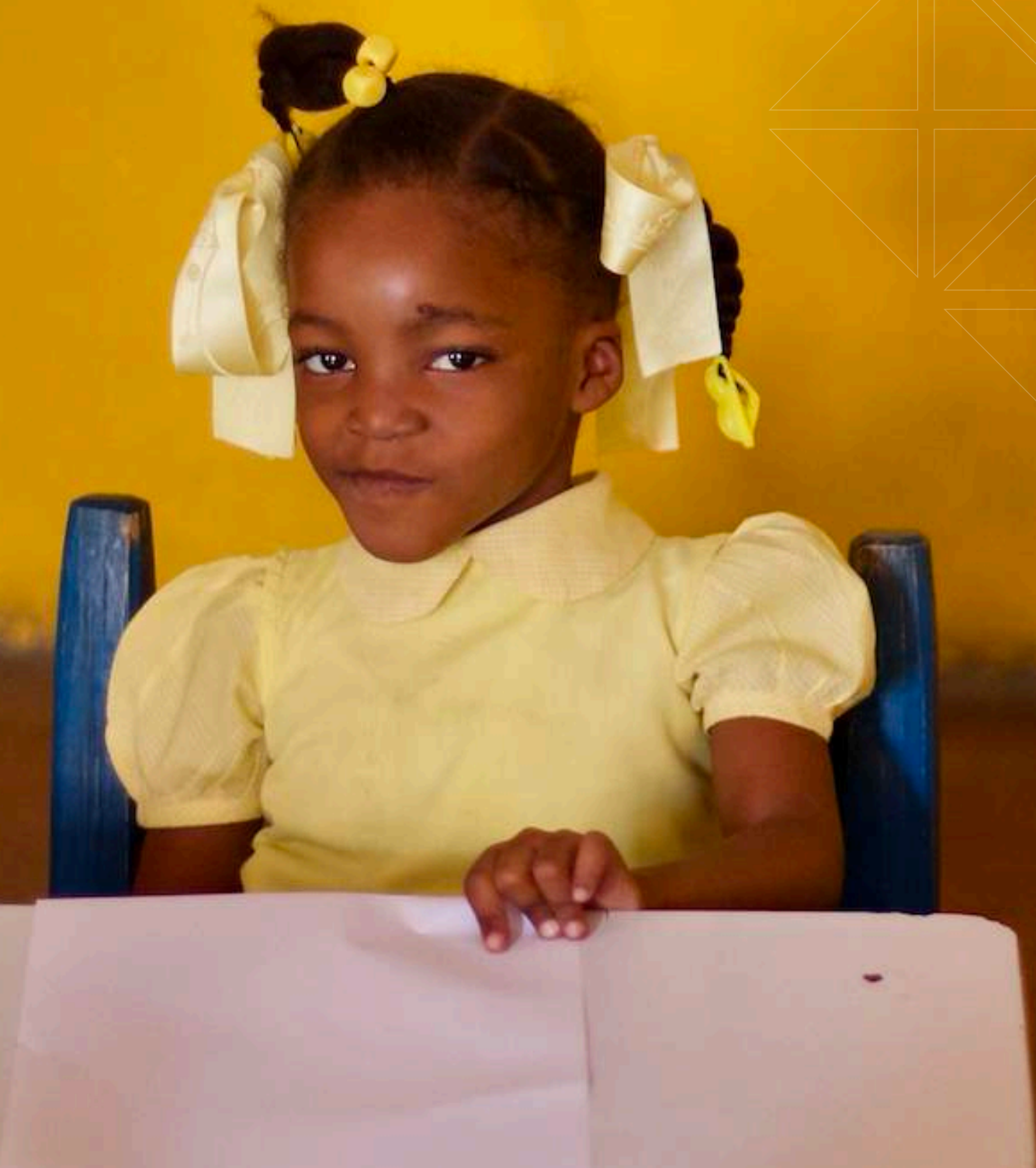


Emerging Projects

Throughout 2017 and years earlier (in some cases), we have been building relationships with national leaders, missionaries, churches, and agencies in several other areas in Asia, including India, Cambodia, and Hong Kong. We are eager to share more details about this work with you in 2018.

Latin America + Africa

In 2017, we began partnering with like-minded organizations
to support existing efforts to prevent exploitation.





Haiti

Protecting Restaveks

In 2017, we partnered with ICCM and Restavek Freedom to address child slavery in Haiti. Funds from Freedom Sunday 2017 will be used to launch a 12-week justice curriculum in 2018 to train teachers, pastors, church members and parents in a way that will empower all Free Methodist churches and schools in Haiti to stand against child slavery.

Fact: 300,000+ children* are estimated to be caught in a culturally-acceptable form of modern-day slavery called "restavek". Often from poor, rural households, these children are sold to other families as unpaid domestic help.

*Restavek Freedom



Burundi

Equipping Social Workers

One of our teams in Washington is partnering with Sister Connection, which invests in widows to create opportunities for self-sufficiency. Since there is little awareness or response to human trafficking in Burundi, we are helping to equip social workers to identify and respond to exploitation. The first training took place in the summer of 2017.

Fact: Thousands of women in Burundi have been widowed after decades of civil war. Considered cultural outcasts, they may have no income and struggle to meet the basic daily needs of their children and themselves.

Europe

We partnered with missionaries and local leaders to protect ethnic minorities, people who are unemployed, and others at risk.



Bulgaria



We partner with Free Methodist missionaries Chance and Dee Dee Galloway, whose discipleship and church planting approach is a strong line of defence against human trafficking. In 2017, they built churches that are resilient against exploitation in these ways:



19

total church plants being nurtured



300

students receiving biblical training



80

students learning English



1000's

of people equipped to identify and intervene in human trafficking

Fact: An estimated 10,000 females are trafficked in Bulgaria each year, according to the Bulgarian government. Roma girls are especially at risk.

A Home for Roma Girls

In the summer, the Galloways purchased the home that will house up to 10 Roma girls who are at-risk of abuse and exploitation. Renovations began in the fall and we hope the St. John's Home will open in 2018, creating access to education, health care, and vocational training in a safe, spiritually rich family environment.

Set Free Missions Teams

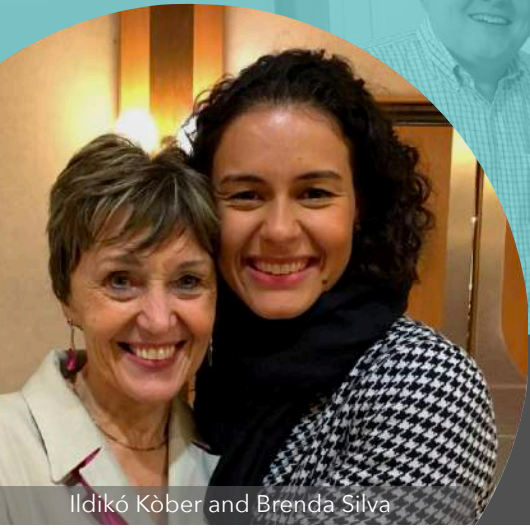
In June, Meghan Shuffet (daughter of Set Free leaders in Alabama) interned with the Galloways, teaching on human trafficking at a youth conference and six churches in five cities.

In July, Set Free leaders Heidi and Eric Barnes led a team from their church in Wenatchee, WA, to support the Galloways and local leaders host youth outreach programs to strengthen the church and share God's love.



Chance
Galloway

Pastor
Ivan Georgiev



Ildikó Köber and Brenda Silva

Hungary



Fact: In 2017, Hungary was downgraded to a "Tier 2 Watchlist" country for failing to meet Trafficking Victims Protection Act standards, sharing the same rank as Haiti, Liberia, Iraq, Rwanda, and others.

Prevention

Ildikó, Set Free leader in Budapest, trained 21 mental health workers, 64 at-risk teen girls, students at Youth With A Mission, and numerous churches in 2017. Her team also runs a life skills program for 180 people who are unemployed and offers therapeutic services to survivors of abuse.

Protecting Youth

Our Free Methodist missionary partners, the McNamara family, support at-risk children at an orphanage in Győr. The discipleship and mentoring relationships they create through English classes, Bible studies, games and crafts establishes a safe, trusting space where youth find belonging instead of turning to a pimp.

Freedom Forum

In November, we hosted a Freedom Forum in Budapest to connect agencies and educate the public about local responses to slavery. We brought together 82 people from 6 local churches, 8 countries, and 11 NGOs.



104

times we hosted a Recovery group



180

people who are unemployed served



66

classes for children



31

activities supporting women



28

English classes taught

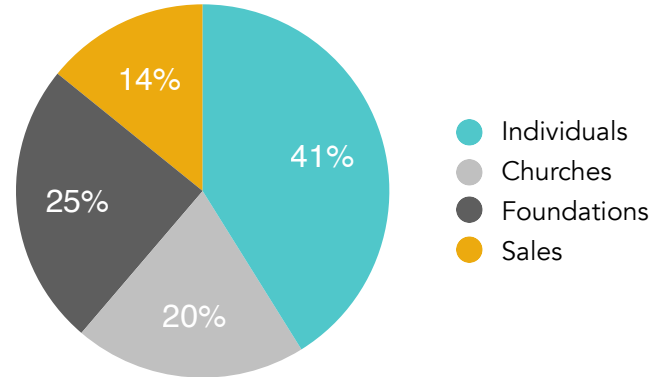


Zsuzsi and Katica McNamara

Financial Information

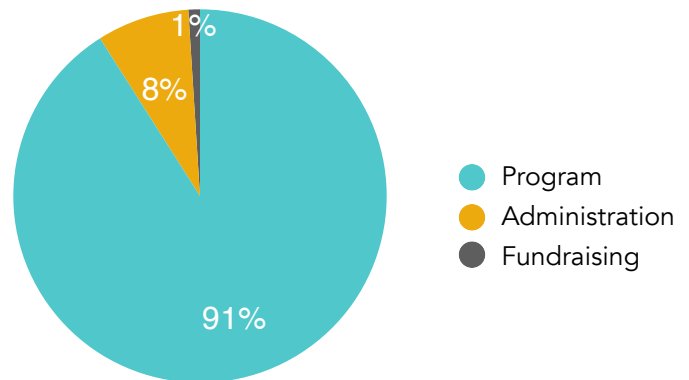
Revenue

	Total
Individuals	59,340
Churches	29,039
Foundations	35,450
Social Enterprise Sales	20,460
Total Contribution Revenue	144,289



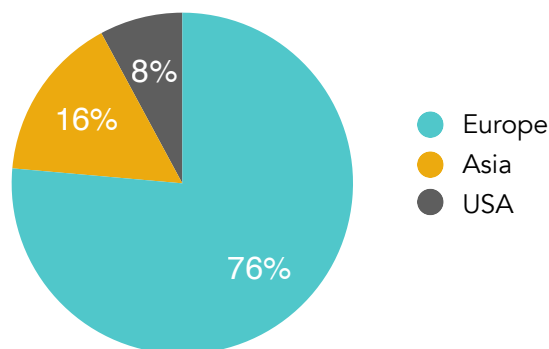
Expenses

	Total
Program Services	128,625
Supporting Services	
Administration	11,662
Fundraising	1,430
Total Expenses	141,717



Allocation of Support for Projects

Below is the geographic distribution of funds spent directly on projects:



2017 Board of Directors

Mark Van Valin (Chairperson)
 Kevin Austin (Director)
 Bishop David Kendall
 Linda Adams
 Curt Sarles
 Deb Sommerville
 Tim Burkhart

Thank You

We are grateful to the people, churches, and agencies all over the world who supported and collaborated with Set Free in 2017, especially:

- Set Free teams all around the world who tirelessly work for justice in wise and holistic ways
- Our Board of Directors
- Free Methodist Church USA
- Individual and church donors and supporters
- Camano Island Coffee
- Stephane Boss (Bydfault)
- All of our partner agencies

Get Involved

Pray in the direction of freedom: sign up for our monthly prayer newsletter. setfreemovement.com/connect

Give monthly as a Freedom Advocate (monthly gifts of \$10-\$49) or Community Builder (monthly gifts of \$50+, eligible for exclusive perks). setfreemovement.com/give-monthly

Join or start a Set Free team. Email team@setfreemovement.org

Stay connected! Download our mobile app for Apple and Android phones and follow us on social media.



setfreemovement.com

