

A photograph of a man with dark, curly hair and a beard, wearing a light blue t-shirt, holding a young girl with pigtails in a floral dress. They are outdoors in a sunny, slightly blurred environment. The man is looking towards the camera with a gentle smile, and the girl is looking slightly off-camera.

2023

Annual *Report*

S E T  F R E E

PROVIDING FREEDOM THROUGH CHRIST



Set Free is working toward a vision of a world where no child is held in slavery, every person has access to clean water, and *all* have heard the good news of Jesus Christ.

I am thrilled to share that 2023 was our biggest year ever as we crossed \$4 million in ministry donations. So, from the bottom of my heart, thank you. I do not take it lightly that the incredible impact Set Free is able to make in the world is only possible because of your generosity. And it is through your gifts that millions of brand-new brothers and sisters in Christ were baptized, thousands of children were rescued from slavery, and hundreds of villages received clean water for the very first time.



2023

Ministry Highlights

- 103 new wells drilled, serving over **347,802** people
- **10,170** children rescued from slavery and **8,402** children reunited with their families
- **5,665** children and young women prevented from ever entering slavery or brothels
- Deepening relationships with Indian businesses resulting in **\$1M** in matching gifts
- **16** new church partners joined the Set Free family

In the pages of this report are the stories and photos of a few we have had the pleasure to serve. I hope their stories of light bring a smile to your face. But I also hope it encourages you to *keep moving forward*. We are not yet through. As long as there is a person who doesn't have clean water, a child held in slavery, or someone who hasn't heard the name of Jesus - we've still got work to do. And as we work together, with our eyes on Jesus, the best is yet to come.

Onward,



SARAH KELLEY
CEO





STATEMENT OF FAITH

Since our foundation, faith has set Set Free apart. In everything we do – each well we drill, medical clinic we conduct, and child we rescue – Set Free seeks to provide *freedom through Jesus Christ*.

Meeting the humanitarian needs is our method, but making disciples *is our mission*.

MISSION

Set Free envisions a world where *all* are set free in the name of Christ.



CHILD REDEMPTION MISSION

We work to prevent child slavery, rescue children from slavery, and whenever possible, reunite them with their families. When reunification is not possible, our team cares for them and prepares them for a brighter future.



WATER OF LIFE INITIATIVE

By drilling wells, we transform entire villages. The simple act of giving fresh, clean water changes individuals' lives and improves communities' health forever.



HEALTH RESTORATION CLINICS

Countless men, women, and children suffer from treatable illnesses in the villages we serve in Sierra Leone, Liberia, and India, so we provide mobile medical clinics to treat those who otherwise wouldn't have access.



CHURCH PLANTING & DISCIPLESHIP

Our pastor partners establish permanent churches in villages, enhancing their ability to build relationships, share the gospel, and foster spiritual growth through Bible studies.



2023 CHURCH PLANTING & DISCIPLESHIP

Statistics



12,000+

pastors working together to
share the gospel



40,143

new churches were planted
across India and West Africa



STORIES FROM THE FIELD

Church Planting & Discipleship

Surjari was born and brought up in a Hindu family where his parents were both village leaders in the community. One of their deepest desires was for him to study to become a priest in the local Hindu temple. He was very happy with his life and family until one day when he was 35, enemies attacked his village. His whole family was killed. He was so angry that this happened that he turned his back on all gods. He felt such a deep pit of hopelessness that he decided to commit suicide. As he prepared to take his own life, he heard a voice speak to him. It said, "Son, I am with you, you don't need to worry." He looked around frantically, wondering where the voice came from. There was no one around. He was standing on the edge of a river, ready to jump in and end his life when this happened. He closed his eyes to collect himself and saw a vision of a man with his two hands stretched out toward him. He was welcoming Surjari into an embrace, telling him not to give up.

Surjari opened his eyes, startled at what was happening. He stepped back from the side of the river. Still baffled on his walk home, he soon passed a roadside restaurant where he stopped to rest. While he was there, he overheard a man preaching about Jesus. He felt led to ask him if he would interpret the vision and voice he had just encountered. Without Surjari telling him, the man said, "Surjari, Jesus wants you to come to Him. You are His son and he wants to calm your anxieties and heal your heart." Surjari asked him how he could possibly have known his name. The man told him that Jesus had spoken to him, telling him that Surjari would come to him. Surjari began to tell the pastor about his life and what had led him to this point. The pastor's advice was to use the sorrow he had experienced to teach others about Jesus and the Good News that saved his life. Through his experiences that day, Surjari encountered the unconditional love and pursuit of God. He took what the pastor had told him and decided to return to his home village and began to tell others about his new-found faith in Christ.

After hearing Surjari's story, some of the villagers began to believe because of the change they saw in Surjari. They saw him change from a man full of sorrow, ready to commit suicide, to a man full of hope and joy in Jesus' promise of everlasting life. The villagers began hosting a weekly Bible study to continue to learn and grow in their relationship with Jesus. Surjari started traveling to other villages to share the gospel. Surjari has brought 3,156 people to Christ so far! Surjari cannot believe God has used him in such incredible ways. To this day, he has shared the gospel in 17 different villages through Set Free.



STORIES FROM THE FIELD



Child Redemption Mission

2023 was the year that we doubled the rescued children in our care. A rescue of 7,648 began as a dying wish rooted in faith and the deep desire of a key ministry partner who wanted to see more children set free.

As part of our mission to empower locals, we've worked with an Indian well driller for many years who has also provided incredibly generous financial support. Not only does his company drill our wells at their cost, but he has also personally supported caring for the rescued children and the initial construction of the central campus - donating millions of his own money.

Recently, the well driller's health has declined greatly. His dying wish was to see another rescue completed. So, early in the morning of Tuesday, June 27, his son began the process of rescuing children in 17 mines. The well driller's son is honoring his father's dying wish by covering the total cost of the rescue mission and pledging to cover half of the total cost for the ongoing, holistic care of the children rescued.

With one man's wish, so many children have experienced their last night trapped in the horrors of child slavery. This rescue was also a pivotal moment in our ministry, as our partners faithfully honored the request of the well driller and leaned on God's provision. Since that morning in June, more than half of these children have been reunited with their families. *Praise God!*

2023 CHILD REDEMPTION MISSION

Statistics



10,170

children were rescued from slavery



8,402

children were reunited with their families



10,673

children were provided with holistic care



5,665

children and young women were prevented from ever entering slavery or brothels





STORIES FROM THE FIELD

Water of Life Initiative

My mom hands me the pail and tells me for the thousandth time, “Stay with your sister, stay on the path, keep each other safe, and come home to me.” I take the familiar bucket in my hands and grab my little sister’s hand. We begin the trek that starts at our hut near the center of our village and ends at the muddy pond three miles away where the livestock bathe. The walk is second nature now, I could do it with my eyes closed. My sister and I walk, talk, and meet up with our friends on the way. It’s all we’ve ever known. Collecting water is our job. We never knew other opportunities existed for girls our age – like going to school or learning a trade.

Then one day, with our heavy buckets balanced on our heads, we saw a group of men in our village that we had never seen before. They were talking to our village leader and examining an area on the ground in the center of the village. My sister and I started coming up with ideas of what they may be doing! Luckily, in our village, news travels fast. When we got home to our mom, she first sighed a big breath of relief when she saw us safe, then she excitedly told us the news – our village was going to get a well for clean water.

It was hard to comprehend what this would mean. What would we do with our time if all we had to do was walk to the center of town for our water? This is when my mom told us we’d get to go to school and learn, take time to learn a trade like sewing, and that our health may even start to improve from not drinking the dirty, muddy water the animals use. We jumped for joy the day the drill crew came with the big, loud machine they used to drill to the clean water deep in the earth. We got as close as we were allowed to so that we could see the water. When they hit clean water and it began flowing, I let it flow over my hands and I couldn’t believe how clear it was. I filled our bucket and brought it home to my family. I watched my mom appear lighter than I’d ever seen her – like she had a big weight lifted off her shoulders. That day, the drill crew told us that this water was a gift from Jesus – who loves each of us unconditionally. Since that day, our family has talked a lot about the fact that we’d never been told of a God that gave good gifts with no conditions. We’ve begun learning more about Jesus with others in our village and feel very thankful to the pastors and drill crews that changed our lives through clean water.

2023 WATER OF LIFE INITIATIVE

Statistics



103

wells drilled across
India and West Africa



347,802

people received
clean water





STORIES FROM THE FIELD

Health Restoration Clinics

There are few days that I'd wake up in the morning and not feel pain in my stomach. Nausea and fatigue were a part of who I was. And every day got a little bit worse. My body felt like it was growing weaker. So much so that I couldn't bear to get out of bed some days. As a husband and a father, I needed to provide for my wife and children, but my job in the rice fields required physical labor I just couldn't do some days. Our money was running out, and my family was suffering for it. I felt so angry that my body was preventing me from providing for my family, but I was helpless. We couldn't afford medical care, as what was left of our money was going to food. I could see no way forward. My wife and children tried to help in any way they could – they even began begging. I couldn't stand seeing my family do this because of my illness.

Then one day everything changed when people came to our village and set up a big tent. There were doctors in white coats and more medical supplies than I had ever seen in my life. This team started setting up tables, chairs, and tents. They had boxes of medicine, vaccines, and other supplies with them too. I wanted so badly to ask them for help, but I knew that this must be something I'd have to pay for.

Still, I knew I had to try. I'd beg them for help if I had to. I got in the long line that had begun to form in front of the tables. When I got to the front of the line the doctor asked me how he could help me. I immediately answered, "I don't have any money to pay." The doctor answered, "We aren't charging for our services. We just want to provide you with the medical care you deserve and share with you about a God that loves you." It was so hard for me to understand why they would do this for me, a total stranger. And not only that, but a stranger that is an Untouchable. I'd been told my whole life I wasn't worthy of anything. Reluctantly, I told the doctor about my stomach pains. And he did exactly what he said. He gave me medicine to help prevent and treat the stomach pain I was experiencing. He even assured me that very shortly their drill crew partners would be arriving to provide a well for our village to have clean water. He said that the clean water would help my stomach as my pain was caused by waterborne bacteria.

This experience touched me so much that I became curious about the Jesus he mentioned. After that day, I began to learn more about Jesus, and now I'm telling others about Him and sharing that same love and generosity that was shared with me with others.



2023 HEALTH RESTORATION CLINICS

Statistics



24

medical clinics hosted



29,345

people decided to receive
Christ at a medical clinic





THE CORNERSTONE XII

MONTHLY GIVING

Ministries, like buildings, need *a strong foundation.*

When laying the foundation, builders begin with the cornerstone and set all the other stones in reference to it. When properly situated, the cornerstone provides stability and support for the entire structure. Our monthly supporters provide this foundational structure for our ministry and our partners.

By joining The Cornerstone, you are ensuring that Set Free's work throughout India and West Africa continues in a way that allows for effective planning, efficient use of resources, and ongoing innovation that enhances our ability to serve our people.

2023 MONTHLY GIVING STATISTICS



58%

of Set Free's budget comes from monthly giving



2,059

rescued children received holistic care for one year thanks to monthly donors



59

wells were drilled because of monthly donors



14

medical clinics were hosted because of monthly donors



23,282

churches were planted because of monthly donors

Business Partnerships

What if your business had the opportunity to be part of something bigger – something that literally saved thousands of lives and transformed entire villages for generations to come? Our business partners aren't donors – they're investors who give generously and regularly see the tangible ROI and impact of their investment. Far beyond numbers, these partners are our backbone in sharing God's message of love to the unreached and untouchable people of the world to empower entire generations with hope, dignity, and love.

Here are a couple of examples of what a partnership can look like:

- Sponsorship Opportunities
- Paycheck Deduction Programs
- Co-Branding Opportunities

Church Partnerships

With our foundational goal to share the love of Christ through our work, church partnerships are crucial. It is our goal to come alongside your church to help achieve your specific missional goal. When Set Free is chosen as a mission your church supports, it is our priority to craft our partnership to uniquely extend your church's overall mission.

Does your church partner with Set Free? If so, we are incredibly grateful! If not, we would love to connect with the person or team responsible for missions.



Contact us to learn more about
Church and Business Partnerships



SET FREE

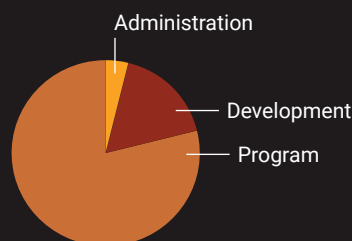
2023 Financials

2023 Overview

Total Donations	\$4,052,002
Total Expenses	\$4,211,959
<i>Net</i>	-\$159,957

Expense Breakdown

Administration	4%	\$176,575
Development	17%	\$716,208
Program	79%	\$3,319,176



Program Breakdown

West Africa Total

\$248,045

India Total

\$3,071,131

Towards all four areas of focus

Breakdown of India's Total

\$2,504,682



Towards Child
Redemption Mission



\$566,449

Towards Water of Life
Initiative, Health Restoration
Clinics, and Church Planting
& Discipleship

Support from India

\$920,233 in Indian donations

The largest contributor to general Indian donations comes from our lead well driller (remember, the one who had the dying wish to set more children free in 2023? The Lord healed him and he is still with us support the mission so faithfully) His giving personally funded the rescue mission and covered several months of on-going support for the children rescued.

Additional Indian donations were received from growing churches and supporters within India who were touched by the ministry.

\$645,141 in rescued children turned graduates that give back to Set Free

When the first group of rescued children graduated vocational training programs and started their first jobs, they did something unexpected. They gave back. Giving is never something we ask or expect, but something the graduates do out of gratitude and a desire to rescue more of their brothers and sisters in Christ out of slavery. This number has continued to grow over the years, and it is Set Free's collective vision with our Indian partners that one day the rescued children's ministry will be entirely funded from within India from graduate donations.

\$1,000,000 in Indian matching gift support

The well driller also got a group of his business friends together who wanted to make a big impact in the ministry in India in a unique way. They pooled their money to put up a \$500,000 matching gift for the Gala and a \$500,000 matching gift at Christmas to make a million-dollar impact in the lives of the rescued children in 2023.

\$2,565,374 in total ministry support from India



UPCOMING INITIATIVES

What's Next...

We believe that the best is yet to come for Set Free. Because of your faithful generosity and the Lord's sovereignty, we are looking forward to what's next for our ministry. As our work expands and our partners are able to rescue more children from slavery, we are setting plans in motion to:

1. Add a wing to our existing central campus that will expand its capacity to 2,000 children.
2. Acquire land, begin building a brand-new campus in the state of Odisha to house children who come from that area, and provide another central home for 2,000 children to call home.

The benefits are countless when considering the additions to both the existing central campus and the building of a brand new one. Having so many of the rescued children together in the same place allows our partners to better tend to their ongoing needs, gives them more opportunity for schooling in a classroom setting, and alleviates the need to distribute goods to so many different church homes.

What's *Your* Next Step?

As we celebrate all that the Lord has allowed us to accomplish together over the last year, we would love to encourage you to take your next step in supporting Set Free in the year to come.

GIVE

Would you take your financial support to the next level?

- ▮ If you are a **Monthly Donor (Cornerstone Member)**, would you consider giving a gift above and beyond your monthly support?
- ▮ If you are a **Consistent Supporter**, would you consider joining The Cornerstone as a monthly support partner?
- ▮ If you are an **Occasional Giver**, would you consider increasing your gift from last year?
- ▮ If you have not yet given, would you consider becoming a **First-Time Donor**?

SHARE

Would you spread the word about Set Free by:

- ▮ **Spread the Word** – Invite one of our staff to come and speak to your small group/ Sunday School class, business, rotary club, family/friends gathering, etc.

PRAY

Will you pray for the work Set Free is doing? Join us in this prayer:

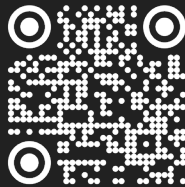
- ▮ *Lord, we come to you together and ask for your continued blessing over the ministry of Set Free. Please continue to protect and guide our in-country partners, the villages, families, and children they are serving, and for each supporter that is faithfully partnering with us in this mission. We pray that in everything we do, your love will be made known. Amen.*





S E T F R E E

PROVIDING FREEDOM THROUGH CHRIST



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