LABOURING FOR JUSTICE.... LIBERATING THE OPPRESSED

CREATING A LASTING IMPACT

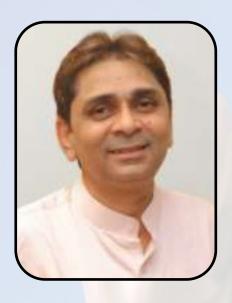
ANNUAL REPORT 2018



TRANSFORMING LIVES FOUNDATION

ANNUAL REPORT 2018

Creating a lasting Impact by labouring for justice and liberating the oppressed from the clutches of Human Trafficking



"Could anything be better than this, waking up every day knowing that lots of people are smiling because you chose to impact lives, making the world a better place?"

- Anyaele Sam Chiyson

Creating the world a better place to live for the vulnerable has been the main objective of TLF from the time of its existence. It has been 8 years of this journey of *labouring for justice and liberating the oppressed* and as we look back to the impact that we have been able to create in the lives of the victims of sex trafficking, the relief and happiness that we feel is totally inexpressible.

Our humble beginnings never discouraged us from our burning desire to bring transformation in the lives of the victims, mostly minors who are deeply oppressed and have literally no rights as a human being and are enslaved in the dark places and worst still, on whom the society chooses to turn a blind eye.

Today we are not just rescuing young girls from prostitution and sex slavery, but are also helping them to rebuild their lives and get rehabilitated into the mainstream of society.

Now as we look at the 400 victims rescued by TLF in the past 8 years out of which some are happily married, some doing hotel management course, some completing their schooling while some are working in different places of their interest.

The last year has been a year of challenges wherein we have seen several changes as far as human resources are concerned. A key activity that has been undertaken by us was by way of change in management. As we transition from a purely rescue oriented agency to one that has a broader outlook the activities and program modules that we have been running in the past have been tweaked.

TLF has always aimed on working in untouchable and unreachable areas and the previous year saw an example of it in which we were able to conduct 2 successful rescue operations in Mandsore & Neemach that are small districts in Madhya Pradesh, where prostitution is done traditionally. TLF plans on continuing to work in these districts in the coming years and making a stronger impact by partnering with other organizations and government authorities.

As we look at the past 8 years of TLF, which has been full of ups and downs, we are thankful to all our partners who have supported us, encouraged us and joined hands with us in this fight against human trafficking and this hideous crime against minor girls and women. It was the support of all of them that has helped us gain strength and be more equipped.

We thank all the donors, the volunteers and everyone who have been a part of this journey.

Thank you very much.

Mr. Manohar Waghela

Ms. Awantika Wankhede

Mr. Ranjeet Chouguley

Chief Operating Officer

Treasurer

Chairperson

TLF

TLF

TLF



Human Trafficking a form of organized crime that extends across borders covers various forms of human rights violations, ranging from commercial sexual exploitation to forced labour and organ donation. Over the years it has taken on more complex and diverse forms making it necessary to reform laws and strategies geared towards eradication and control.

The Indian Constitution defines human trafficking as when one person uses force, fraud or coercion to induce, recruit, harbour or transport another person for the purpose of exploitation for his/her own commercial gain. And along with it there are many other sections that define the types of exploitation and the heightened sentenced of each.

FACTS & FIGURES

¹ It is estimated that 40.3 million people in the world are in some kind of
modern day slavery out which 18.3 million people are in India.

- ≥ 2 Out of the 18.3 million only 15,379 are reported victims in the year
 2016 only out of which 9034 victims are minors that is more than half of
 them.
- ➤ ³ Reportedly **23,117** Victims were rescued from which **7570** were victims of different kinds of sexual exploitation that includes **4980** of them who are victims of sexual exploitation from prostitution.
- 1- 2018, Global Slavery Index -

https://www.globalslaveryindex.org/2018/findings/country-studies/india/

- 2- 2016, National Crime Records Bureau "Crime in India 2016" table 14.4 http://ncrb.gov.in/StatPublications/CII/CII2016/pdfs/NEWPDFs/Crime%20in%20India%20- %202016%20Complete%20PDF%20291117.pdf
- 3- 2016, National Crime Records Bureau, "Crime in India 2016" table 14.4 http://ncrb.gov.in/StatPublications/CII/CII2016/pdfs/NEWPDFs/Crime%20in%20India%20-%202016%20Complete%20PDF%20291117.pdf

WHO WE ARE

Transforming Lives Foundation is an organization whose intention is to assist the criminal justice system in India and in turn to strengthen the law enforcement system in response towards human trafficking for forced prostitution.

Starting out as a rescue team in 2010, to an organization that now has a three-pronged approach, Transforming Lives Foundation (TLF), has had a steady journey in the anti-human trafficking field. Mr. Manohar Waghela, the founder who never planned on starting an organization, only thought was how to save a 10 year old girl from her abusers and when he couldn't be of any help as he wasn't connected to any organizations at that point of time, he felt like he needed to do something more. And that's when the foundations of TLF began to emerge.

TLF works towards creating a strong partnership with other civil society organizations that result in effective rescues, successful convictions and most importantly healthy rehabilitation and reintegration of survivors into their communities and/or mainstream society where they are not defined by their past but rather can continue their journey into freedom with confidence.

HOW WE WORK

Rescue Victims from forced prostitution.

TLF assists the law enforcement officers in the country to rescue minor and major victims who have been sexually exploited for commercial purpose.

> Rehabilitating the victims who are rescued.

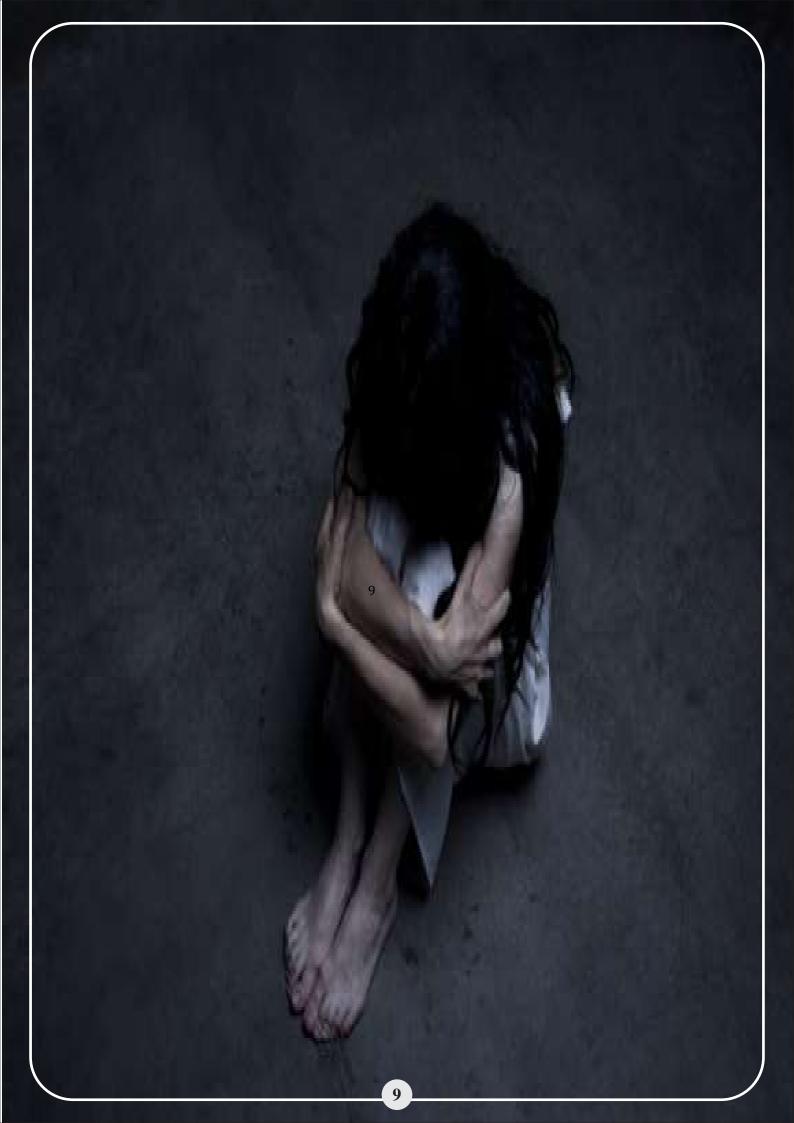
TLF works with social workers, counselors and Government and Private Shelter Homes where these victims are given shelter in order to assess the needs of such victims and rehabilitate them back to the society.

Prosecute the accused.

TLF works with legal professionals to assist the victim to bring justice to her. We see to it that the accused responsible for her trafficking and exploitation are convicted.

Raise awareness among communities.

TLF believes that one of the ways to prevent human trafficking is by raising awareness in different social and educational communities; we work with different communities in order to bring notice of the people on this heinous crime that they would be aware and wouldn't fall in such traps.



CREATING AN IMPACT THROUGH TIMELY RESCUES

TLF has seen commendable growth over the years. From operations in Maharashtra to new operations in Madhya Pradesh, the team has now completed **87 successful rescue operations** amongst numerous numbers of unsuccessful ones. From the successful raids, **418 women were rescued**, **101 of them being minors**.

a. MADHYA PRADESH

Our operations in the state of MP began after a brief research conducted by one of our partners Save the Children India (STCI). The research showed that in districts of Neemuch, Mandsaur, and Ratlam, majority of the population belongs to the *Banchhada community*.



This community is historically known for celebrating the birth of the girl child for very immoral reasons, as girls and women in this community, though breadwinners do so by engaging in prostitution. Young girls are groomed at an early age and continue the line of family-based prostitution which has been passed down from generations. The male members of this community live off the women's earnings. The total population of Banchhada community, which is spread over 75 villages in the three districts, is about 23,000, of which at least 65 per cent are women, according to a census report¹; and sometimes to increase the earnings of the household, members from the community also buy girls from different parts of the community contributing to the global slavery issue of human trafficking².

Because this has been the status quo for generations, it's almost been accepted as a way of life for the community not just by its members but even by law enforcement and officials meant to protect and ensure the rights of women and children. So much so that police officials don't really see it as a problem and refused to cooperate during raids. The lack of awareness of the current laws also plagues the system there. Despite this, TLF has managed to **lodge 2 FIRs in Neemuch** with police stations there in connection with the **2 successful raids** that were carried out, with the hopes of securing justice where it's due. So far, no cases have come to trial yet, though there is a lawyer who regularly volunteers with us and who will be able to take on the case once it reaches the court.

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¹ https://www.news18.com/news/india/banchhada-a-community-that-celebrates-birth-of-girls-but-for-flesh-trade-1692897.html

² Ibid

Another problem that hampers this journey to freedom, is the lack of access to shelter homes and safe spaces where women and girls can receive the rehabilitation care they need.

Some of the main problems faced in 2018 while working in MP have been:

- The tradition and normalization of prostitution and the fact that no one thinks that minor girl involved in the act is a problem.
- Difficult to give evidence against the middle person involved in dealing.
- Police aren't that cooperative
- Lack of awareness of the current and right laws amongst the police
- CWC hands over the girl to parents who are actually also involved in the dealing

This was one of the cases where through the assistance of TLF a successful rescue operation was conducted in Mandsaur, where in 7 girls were rescued out of which 3 victims were minors i.e. below the age of 18 and the youngest among them was 8 years old.

The father of the victim who was 8 years old was also taken into custody; it was also found that all the victims were pushed into flesh trade by their parents.

Now the victims are in the shelter homes that are in another district due to no shelter homes in the same district, where they are being rehabilitated and their personal interests are being inculcated.



b. MAHARASHTRA

Since our operations in Maharashtra have been constant for many years, we've managed to, slowly but steadily, build a reputation for ourselves and hence conducting raids has been a lot easier within the state. Majority of the operations happen around Mumbai as that is our base.

Historically, Mumbai too, has also had spots and areas that are known to have human trafficking activities conducted there. Moreover, most girls that are brought in tend to be either from other states and even other countries like Bangladesh and Nepal. Based on our various information received and collected through various sources, we've been able to focus our work in these areas. Sometimes, due to our sustained relationship with the police, we are called to assist them in some of the raids that they have initiated. We maintain our relationship with the police through regular visits, which eventually pay off.

Through our partnership with other organizations like Justice and Care working towards similar goals, we manage to get regular updates on each of our cases and have a thorough follow-up plan and intervention strategies in place to ensure justice is served. We also have our very own legal volunteers who also follow up with the police and magistrates to ensure all evidence for the crime are properly in place and all procedures are followed.

Our work also includes regular visits and meetings with police to keep the partnership going strong. We also assist with other post-rescue procedures like getting medical tests done on the survivors, recording their statements, and keeping the police informed about the regular court dates. All these in-between tasks help us interact with law enforcement on a regular basis thereby ensuring cooperation during raids is positive. Besides the local police stations, our team has also built good engagement with higher ranked officers like the Inspector General, Commissioner of Police and Deputy Commissioner of Police, which helps during times of non-cooperation from the local police officers.

From the survivors' side, we assist them with their statements, right from the time they're rescued and scared to talk to the police afraid of being punished by their handlers if they get caught again, to the time that they are cross-questioned about the authenticity of their statements. We help counsel them to be confident and reassure them that they are safe and free to talk about the trauma and abuse they've faced.

A RACKET BUSTED WHERE IN THE VICTIMS WAS SHOWN DREAMS OF WORKING IN THE FILM INDUSTRY

TLF received information that a certain lady was providing minor girls for prostitution and further built a rapport with the lady and developed the case, post which the raid was conducted. Minor girls lured into prostitution with a promise of employment in movie business.

3 girls rescued and 4 accused including a woman arrested. Accused woman is part of a bigger racket. One of the rescued girls is from Nepal who came to Mumbai in search of a job; the other two girls are from Mumbai. Rescued girls were sent to Boisar Correctional facility. The accused were locked up at Arnala Saagri Police Station.

फिल्मों में काम दिलाने का सपना

प्रवासी संदेश टीम।

नाबालिंग लड़िकयों को सिनेमा जगत में काम दिलाने का ख्वाब दिखाकर उनसे वेश्या व्यवसाय कराने वाले एक गिरोह का पर्दाफाश हुआ है। सहायक पुलिस अधीक्षक की विशेष टीम को इस घटना का पर्दाफाश करने में बड़ी सफलता हाथ लगी है। इस मामले में चार आरोपियों को गिरफ्तार किया गया है। तथा तीन लड़िकयों को छुड़ाया गया है।

जानकरी के अनुसार विरार पश्चिम के यशवंत नगर में एक घर में वेश्यावृत्ति की जानकारी पुलिस को मिली थी। जिसके अनुसार पुलिस ने जाली ग्राहक को भेजकर घर में रहने वाले दलाल महिला से संपर्क किया था। जिसके बाद उस दलाल महिला ने तीन लड़िकयों को ग्राहक को दिया। पुलिस द्वारा इन तीनों लड़कियों को मुक्त कराया गया। इस मामले में बोलते हुए पुलिस उप निरीक्षक हितेंद्र विचारे ने कहा कि आरोपी महिला एक बड़े गिरोह की सदस्य



है। सिनेमा में अभिनय, नृत्य और सह कलाकार की आवश्यकता का विज्ञापन देकर लड़िकयों को अपने घर बुलाती थी। जिसमें से मजबूर लड़िकयों को होटल और पार्टियों में कैटरिंग का काम देने का बहाना दिखाकर फंसाती थी। पीड़ित लड़की को एक दिन के लिए एक ग्राहक को दस हजार रुपये में दिया जाता था। पुलिस द्वारा छुड़ाई गई एक लड़की नेपाल से भारत में काम देने के बहाने बुलाई गई थी। बाकी दो लड़िकयाँ मुंबई की ही हैं जिन्हें फिल्मों में काम देने के बहाने फंसाया गया था। छुड़ाई गई लड़िकयों को बोईसर सुधार गृह में भेज दिया गया है और आरोपियों को अर्नाला सागरी पुलिस कोठरी में भेज दिया गया है।

फिल्म में काम दिलाने का ख्वाब दिखाकर किया वेश्या व्यवसाय,पुलिस ने चार को किया गिरफ्तार

विरार। पालघर जिला के विरार नावासिंग लड़कियों को सिनेमा जगत में काम दिलाने का ख्वाब दिखाकर उनसे वेश्या व्यवसाय कराने वाले एक गिरोह का पर्दाफाश हुआ है। सहायक पुलिस अधीक्षक की विशेष टीम को इस घटना का पर्दोपाश करने में बड़ी सफलता हाथ लगी है। इस मामले से भारत में काम देने के बहाने बुलाई गई थी। में चार आरोपियों को गिरफ्तार किया गया है। बाकी दो लड़कियां मुंबई की ही हैं जिन्हें सिनेमा तथा तीन सहकियों को छहाया गया है। विरार पश्चिम के पश्चंत नगर में एक घर में वेश्यावृत्ति की वानकारी पुलिस को मिली थी। विसके अनुसार पुलिस ने जाली बाहक को भेजकर घर में रहने वाले दलाल महिला से संपर्क किया था। जिसके बाद उस दलाल महिला ने तीन लड़कियों को ग्राहक को दिया। पुलिस द्वारा इन तीनों लड़कियों गलत व्यवहार करता है। इस गिरोह के बारे में को मुक्त कराया गया। इस मामले में बोलते हुए पुलिस उप निरीक्षक हितेंद्र विचारे ने कहा कि पर ली हुई निवासी भवन में केयावृत्ति चलाई जा आरोपी महिला एक बड़े गिरोह की सदस्य है।सिनेमा रही थीं। पुलिस इस बात की भी छानबीन कर में अभिनय, नृत्य और सह कलाकार की आवश्यकता - रही है कि क्या घर मालिक ने घर माहे से देने से

थी। जिसमें से मजबूर लड़कियों को होटल और पार्टियों में कैटरिंग का काम देने का बहाना दिखाकर फंसाती थी। पीडित लडकी को 9 दिन के लिए एक ब्राहक को दस हजार रुपये में दिया जाता

पुलिस द्वारा छुड़ाई गई एक लड़की नेपाल जरत में काम देने के बहाने फसाया गया था। छड़ाई गई लड़कियों को बोईसर सुपार गृह में भेज दिया गया है और आरोपियों को अनीला सागरी पुलिस कोठरी में भेज दिया गया है। पुलिस से मिती जानकारी के मृताबिक यह गिरोह देशभर में लड़कियों को इसी तरह फंसा कर उनके साथ पुलिस जानकारी निकाल रही है। विरार में भाड़े CREATING AN
IMPACT BY
REHABILITATING
THE RESCUED
VICTIMS

Apart from the regular rescues, rehabilitation and restoration and repatriation are a major part of the team's work. These are the components that are all geared towards the survivor's well-being once the rescue is done, and they include an array of activities. In 2018, out 43 survivors, 25 of the girls are still in government shelter homes, receiving the proper care and protection they need.

Through our rehabilitation services, we provide the survivors with support every step of the way. Right from the time the rescue is completed, it starts with a post-rescue kit that is handed over to the new survivor. This kit includes two sets of clothes, toiletries, lotion, and comb. Once they reach the shelter home, their new safe space for a while, then begins our regular interventions. Most of the shelter home are government homes and hence might not have the facilities to be able to provide for all the needs of their residents, which is why we partner with different homes on a need basis to help with either providing medicines or other facilities that the survivors might require.

Since the time the survivors spend in the shelter homes vary anywhere from 3 months to a year, and can even go onto 3 years, we aim to ensure that they receive a care plan for their entire duration. Counseling services are provided to help them cope with their trauma and is an essential part of the process towards reintegration back to society. Some survivors receive education and take part in other shelter home activities like tailoring, dance therapy, arts and craft depending on their interests and inclinations. All activities are geared towards teaching and helping the survivor continue with regular activities, help rebuild their trust in people while also helping them grow in confidence that there is hope for them beyond their trauma.

TLF partners with 7 shelter homes in Maharashtra, 2 shelter homes in Madhya Pradesh, and works with 3 CWCs on regular basis. The partnership with the CWC is crucial to help keep both parties updated on the regular progress of the survivors, especially in the case of minors. The CWCs, in the case of minors are the custodians of the survivor, and are responsible for survivors' individual care plans.

During the victims stay in the shelter homes TLF social workers were responsible for:

- Following up with survivors in the shelter homes on regular bases.
- Following up with survivors who have been restored & repatriated to their families.
- Repatriation/restoration of 35 girls.

a. Programs at Government Shelter Homes:

Apart from all the basic requirements of the victims TLF also organizes yearly programs in the shelter regularly during the festive season, where the girls are encouraged to show their talents, participate in the activities and along with it there also some motivational speakers organized who encourage them saying that this can just be the beginning of something more wonderful.

In the year 2018, this program was conducted during the Christmas season, and the girls were encouraged to dance, sing, play games, given gifts along with it do different activities and not only that, there was also special set up done for the survivors so that they can have Pani Puri, Sev Puri, Chinese Food and many such little joys of life that they ought to miss in the Shelter Homes.



The Government Rehabilitation Centre for Minor Girls Deonar





The Government Rehabilitation Centre for Minor Girls Deonar





Navjeevan Mahila Sudhar Vastigrah





Gifts provided in Navjeevan Mahila Sudhar Vastigrah

CREATING AN IMPACT THROUGH BRINGING AWARENESS

Another component of our operations has also been awareness programs. Awareness programs are a part of community intervention that helps create awareness not just about the organization but also about the perils and extent of human trafficking. These programs act as an informative session for communities and civil society on how to identify the signs of abuse, trauma and manipulation that might all be related to the crime as well as the right ways of proceeding to deal with it once it is identified. These sessions can also be a call to volunteers.

A. AWARENESS PROGRAMS IN COMMUNITIES:

In one of these awareness programs, the organization has been successful in reaching out to more than 300 people who have been made aware of Human Trafficking and ways through which we can prevent such happenings. API Sanjay Bangar, had also been a part of this program, he also addressed the people on ways they can come against Human Trafficking. Along with him there were social activists and Government Official who had been part of such programs.



API Sanjay Bangar receiving a token of thanks from Mr. Manohar Waghela.



Superintend of Government Shelter Home for Minor Girls, Deonar Smt. Yogeeta being felicitated for her work in the field of Human Trafficking



Superintend of Government Shelter Home for Minor Girls, Deonar Smt. Asmita Birje being felicitated for her work in the field of Human Trafficking



Mr. Devdan Tribhuvan, the founder of Rahat Legal Trust and a Social Activist who works among Christians, who was the chief guest of the awareness program, introduced the yearly magazine of the organization.



Mr. Mark Tribhuvan, Founder of Sahawas& a well-known Gospel Singer also joined hands with the organization on this fight against Human Trafficking.



In the year 2018, Pastor Ajay Chavan Founder of "Anosh Prarthna Bhavan", one of the leading Gospel singer in India and is associated in doing 'PRISON MINISTRY' across India along with his wife Mrs. Surekha Chavan decided to stand together with Transforming Lives Foundation in this fight against Human Trafficking by being an ambassador of the organization.

"It was really heart wrenching to know that these small girls go through this kind of misery but I am thankful to God for people like Manohar & his team who is working day in and day out for these victims and I along with my wife decided to do whatever little we can."

- Pst. Ajay Chavan.



A SUCCESSFUL

IMPACT

CREATED IN THE

SURVIVOR'S LIFE

In the year 2016, 6 years into our operations, we received information about a minor girl being sold into prostitution. She was a minor. On receiving the information, our immediately got moving - we got the police involved and in no time we were able to rescue her from a place in Dahisar.

During the course of the post-rescue procedures, we were informed through the victim's statement that she had been trafficked from her home in Assam.

Then began the tedious task of reuniting her back with her family. Through constant follow ups, and with the help of the government officials, we were able to contact the Child Welfare Committee of Assam. Working with the same officials, we were able to provide her with counseling and prepare her for life back with her family. Once she was restored back to her family, she was able to adjust to normal life despite the ordeal she had been through. She was able to continue her various pursuits, one of them being education, and in 2018, completed her 9th standard with 54.57%.



Survivor when being Repatriated to her home



We received information in the month of July 2016 about a minor girl being put into prostitution by her mother. We immediately took the information to the Police and rescued her with help of police.

During the victim's statement we came to know that victim was studying in the school but her mother forced her to leave the school and earn the money by doing prostitution.

We worked for her rehabilitation along with the shelter home. She started her studies again and appeared in 10th grade in 2018 and passed with 50%, this year she will be appearing for the 12th grade.

Also she is looking to do a nursing course that is organized by the shelter home.

Our team received information about a minor girl in prostitution in the Bhandup red light area. Our team immediately took action along with police and rescued her.

During her statement she said that, a person had trafficked her from the West Bengal in the pretext of marriage and sold her in the red-light area in Delhi. She managed to escape from there and return to her home in West Bengal, but when she returned to her home, her family was not ready to accept her as she was in prostitution and the family was worried of their image being tarnished.

Later, she had again been trafficked by a lady on the pretext of getting her a domestic work in Mumbai, but then again she was put into prostitution. Later after her rescue we counseled her and were able to win her trust.

Now she has completed a computer course and also appeared for 10th grade exam in which she has cleared 4 subjects out of the 6 subjects.



PLAN FOR 2019

For the year 2019, we plan on working more on rehabilitation of victims rescued and along with it also pay more attention towards the legal workings as many of our cases have started to come in court for hearings.

For the next year we also plan on socializing and making people of different community aware about the work we do and also about the threat that human trafficking holds in our society.

We also plan on building a stronger network base with other organization so that together we can bring a more powerful impact against human trafficking.



TRANSFORMING LIVES FOUNDATION,

Registered under The Bombay Public Trust Act, 1950.

Regd. No. E-8498/Thane

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