

# January & February 2024 Newsletter

Welcome to Light House Disha India's first newsletter of 2024! Your unwavering support has been instrumental in helping us continue its mission of bringing hope and restoration to those in need. As we embark on our continued journey, we are excited to share with you the impact of your generosity and the progress we've made in our various programs.



As we journey through this year, we commit to listening to God's voice and seeking His direction in all that we do. Through His strength and wisdom, we trust that our efforts will align with His will, bringing about Jesus centric transformation.

**Stories of Restoration:** *"He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness For His name's sake."* - Psalm 23:3

We have witnessed incredible stories of restoration and healing in the lives of new survivors have found refuge and support at Light House Restoration Centre. Through counseling, mentorship, and spiritual mentorship broken lives are being transformed, and hope is being reignited.

**Meet Maya** a survivor of child labor, whose hands now hold dreams as she embraces education and empowerment through our programs.



*From darkness to light, her hands now hold dreams.*

Maya who once toiled in hazardous conditions instead of holding a pencil. Through our programs, Maya is receiving education and vocational training, transforming her life from exploitation to empowerment.

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## Meet Sarah a Survivor of Domestic Violence.



*Breaking chains of fear, embracing a life of courage.*

Domestic violence continues to be a pervasive issue affecting many women in our communities. Recent statistics show a concerning rise in domestic violence cases in North Bengal, India, highlighting the urgent need for intervention and support. Our interventions in the communities shed light on how women are often silent victims of violence in their homes, emphasizing the real need for safe spaces and support systems that we are able to provide through your support. **Sarah** and her four years old child today finds refuge and support at Light House. With

counseling and legal assistance, she broke free from abuse and now advocates for other women facing similar challenges.

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## Meet Bina & Roja



*From desperation to determination, their journey inspires hope.*





**Bina** and **Roja**, two at-risk women from Naxalbari and Panighatta, faced uncertain futures due to severe poverty, which often leads to vulnerable young girls being trafficked to other cities. Recent trends in trafficking highlight the exploitation of marginalized women and girls from rural areas, making them easy targets for traffickers who lure them with false promises of better opportunities.

Through early intervention and prevention measures, we are able to save lives and provide brighter prospects for vulnerable individuals like Bina and Roja.

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## Meet Perna



*Thriving through adversity, her dreams take flight.*

Perna's story is one of resilience and hope. Raised by a single mother and surviving neglect, peer pressure, addiction, and a narrow escape from trafficking, Perna's journey led her to our Restoration Centre. Here, amidst love, care, and guidance, Perna not only healed from her traumatic past but also discovered her passion for dancing, singing, and her dream to become a police officer.

Through your generous support, we are helping survivors like Perna turn their dreams into reality and teaching them how to soar above their challenges.

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## Government Advocacy: Influencing Change.

*"Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven." - Matthew 5:13-16*



Our survivors took center stage at Shramik Mela 2024 in North Bengal, sharing powerful stories of resilience against human and labor trafficking. This event provided a crucial platform for our survivors to advocate for change and raise awareness about the realities of trafficking in our communities.





Grateful for the opportunity to sensitize the public and interact with government officials, we recognize the importance of biblical principles in working with government authorities. Just as salt enhances flavor and preserves, we, as advocates against trafficking, aim to influence positive change and preserve human dignity.





Through advocacy, collaboration, and the tireless efforts of our team, we strive to create a safer environment for vulnerable individuals and ensure that their rights are upheld.



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## **Empowering communities against labour trafficking.**



**Amidst the stunning landscapes of Dooars in North Bengal, with its close proximity to Nepal, Bhutan, and Bangladesh, lies a troubling reality of human trafficking. This stark reality drives our unwavering commitment to**

**action as a social worker and non-profit leader.**



**Since 2013, We've been deeply involved in hundreds of cases of human trafficking, particularly focusing on the holistic restoration of survivors. Through this work, we've witnessed firsthand how this heinous crime steals childhoods, breaks families, and shatters lives on multiple levels – physically, emotionally, financially, and**



**psychologically. It's a humanitarian crisis at its peak.**

Every day, we are reminded of the countless communities affected, the lives waiting to be rescued and restored, and the numerous opportunities to make a positive impact. It is our collective responsibility to stand in solidarity with the marginalized, the exploited, and the excluded.



We teamed up with Labour Commissionerate Siliguri and International Justice Mission as knowledge partner to mark BLSA (Bonded Labour Abolition Act 1976) Day In collaboration with survivors and stakeholders, we shed light on 'Unsafe Migration leads vulnerable people to human trafficking resulting in Bonded Labour'.

**Let's combat trafficking together! Write to Revival Fires to know how you can join our collective efforts to address Labour Trafficking in India.**



This year we are reminded that no matter how challenging the journey gets, God's presence and guidance are with us. Just as Moses encountered God in the desert, we too can find profound purpose and direction even in the midst of challenges.



Thank you for being a part of this important journey towards brighter futures and transformed lives.

*"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." - Jeremiah 29:11*



Here's sharing a glimpse into our past years survivors three of them who are

**economically empowered! Coming out of life of hopelessness into live of freedom. We continue to build our relationship with the mothers of two survivors from the red-light area who we are continuing counsel and offer our timely support.**

**Thank You!** We extend our heartfelt gratitude to each one of you for gifts of our generosity. It is through your continued support that we can influence meaningful changes, transform lives, and work towards a world free from exploitation and trafficking.





**Together, we are making a difference,  
one life at a time.**

**Thank you for being part of this crucial  
mission and for standing with us in the  
fight for justice and dignity.**

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