

# 2020

## ANNUAL REPORT



CROSS X GLOBAL







# FROM THE PRESIDENT's DESK



**Mr. Kamal Raj**

*Founding President, Cross Global*

Dear Justice Seekers,

We have made it through 2020, a year none of us could have imagined. Even amidst uncertainty and hardship, we witnessed the Resilience of the Survivors. We also hope that you and your families are safe and well this season. I am so excited to share with you Cross Global's 2020 annual report. In these pages, we will read stories of victory after victory.

All because of people like YOU stepped up to play their part.

Today, we thank YOU for your every single effort, every donation, and every partnership — May this 2021 brings us radical hope that Together, we will end slavery in our lifetime.

**Kamal Raj**  
Founding President

# HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Human Trafficking is the fastest growing crime and the second largest organised crime in the world. Article 23 of the Constitution of India prohibits the trafficking of human beings and forced labour. Various other Indian laws and India's ratification of several international laws also clarifies India's stand on trafficking. In March 2013, India passed the Criminal Law (Amendment) Act of 2013. This Act amended Section 370 of the Indian Penal Code and includes India's first definition of human trafficking.

According to this definition, human trafficking occurs when one person (the trafficker) uses force, fraud or coercion to induce, recruit, harbor or transport another person (the victim) for the purpose of exploitation for his/her own commercial gain. It also defines exploitation as "any act of physical exploitation or any form of sexual exploitation, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude, or the forced removal of organs." The Act also clarifies the types of offenses that are criminalised as trafficking violations and institutes heightened sentences for perpetrators.

## FORMS OF MORDERN DAY SLAVERY

### BONDED LABOUR



Bonded Labour is an oppressive form of force labour where, due to a debt or other obligation (*custom, caste-based, economic consideration*), the labourer forfeits certain basic rights and freedoms that are guaranteed by the Indian Constitution. Physical violence, verbal insults, brute force and sexual abuse are often common elements in bonded labour making it a serious human rights crime.

The most common form of bonded labour usually entails an advance. Victims accept a petty cash advance from the employer, agreeing to repay the amount through their services. Often, the labourer moves into the worksite with his/her entire family. Once at the worksite, labourers are curtailed from moving around freely, denied the chance to supplement their wages through alternate employment or by selling their goods and also refused the right to be paid the State-recommended wages. They are told that their freedom will be restored only upon repayment of the advance. However, as the labourer soon realises, the entire system has been designed to make repayment impossible. Abysmally low wages, exorbitant interest rates and falsified account-keeping ensure that the illiterate labourer is trapped for years, sometimes generations.

The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) lists bonded labour as one of the various forms of Human Trafficking in India. Human trafficking is the acquisition of people by improper means such as force, fraud or deception, with the aim of exploiting them. Most times, people are exploited for sex, labour or organs. Human trafficking is a serious offence and can be tried under Section 370 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC). In most cases where people have been trafficked for labour, the conditions are very similar to bonded labour. Most times, bonded labour offenders can be tried both under the Bonded Labour Act as well as under Section 370.

## SEX TRAFFICKING



Sex trafficking or commercial sexual exploitation (CSE) is a ‘rape for profit’ trade, in which victims are kidnapped, coerced, deceived, transported or detained for the purpose of being sexually exploited for commercial gains. Although CSE and related forms of human trafficking clearly violate international human rights conventions, the crime brings in significant profits for the offenders and thus continues to be a growing industry. Once trafficked, the victims face violence on a daily basis. In addition to being raped multiple times a day, both children and forced adults are particularly vulnerable to violent physical abuse from owners, pimps and customers.

They are also at a significantly higher risk of contracting HIV or sexually transmitted diseases. Often, they receive a mere fraction of the profits from their exploitation or none at all, making it impossible for them to provide basic amenities for themselves.

Sex trafficking is a criminal offence under Article 23 of the Constitution of India, Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956, and the Indian Penal Code (IPC) regardless of the consent of the victim. If the victims are minor, perpetrators can also be tried under the POCSO (Protection of Children from Sexual Offences) Act, 2012.

## INDIAN LAWS PROTECTING VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

1. The Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956
2. The Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976
3. The Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986
4. The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection) Act, 2000
5. The Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989  
The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012
6. The Indian Penal Code, 1860 (certain provisions).

# ABOUT CROSS GLOBAL

Cross Global is a Non-profit organisation that protects the most vulnerable from Modern-day slavery in India. Cross Global works with the State and Central governments on two forms of human trafficking—bonded labour and sex trafficking. We work alongside government officials, civil society organisations to rescue and rehabilitate victims.

## VISION

*"End Slavery in our lifetime"*

## REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Cross Global is a **Section 8 Company** incorporated under the Companies Act 2013.

**Registration No:** U80902TN2020NPL138066

**PAN No:** AAICC9858R

### **Bank Details:**

Account Name: Cross Global Asia Foundation

Bank Name: HDFC

Account number: 50200050860289

IFSC CODE: HDFCOOO9077



# HOW WE WORK



## PREVENTION

We partner with community-based providers to respond to the needs of children, youth, and families in their communities before they reach a critical level of risk.



## RESCUE

We strive to support and work alongside those who play an active role in rescuing victims of human trafficking and turning them into survivors.



## RESTORE

Holistic aftercare is a necessity to prevent survivors from being exploited again. We aim to see lives fully restored.



## RESOURCES

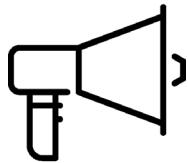
Trafficking is often simply the exploitation of the vulnerability. We have established multiple resources as a means to bring education and awareness of this nefarious crime.



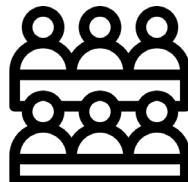
## RESTRAIN

We work with local authorities to arrest and prosecute suspected offenders.

# CROSS GLOBAL'S IMPACT SINCE 2018-2020



300,000 Reached through Awareness Campaigns



6000 Students reached through Human Trafficking Seminars



200 Families supported in the time of National Disasters



520 Families supported with COVID relief fund



187 School kits provided for Children



6 RBLA Leaders were graduated with Basic Computer Training Course



3 Houses funded to build for Rescued Bonded Labor Survivors

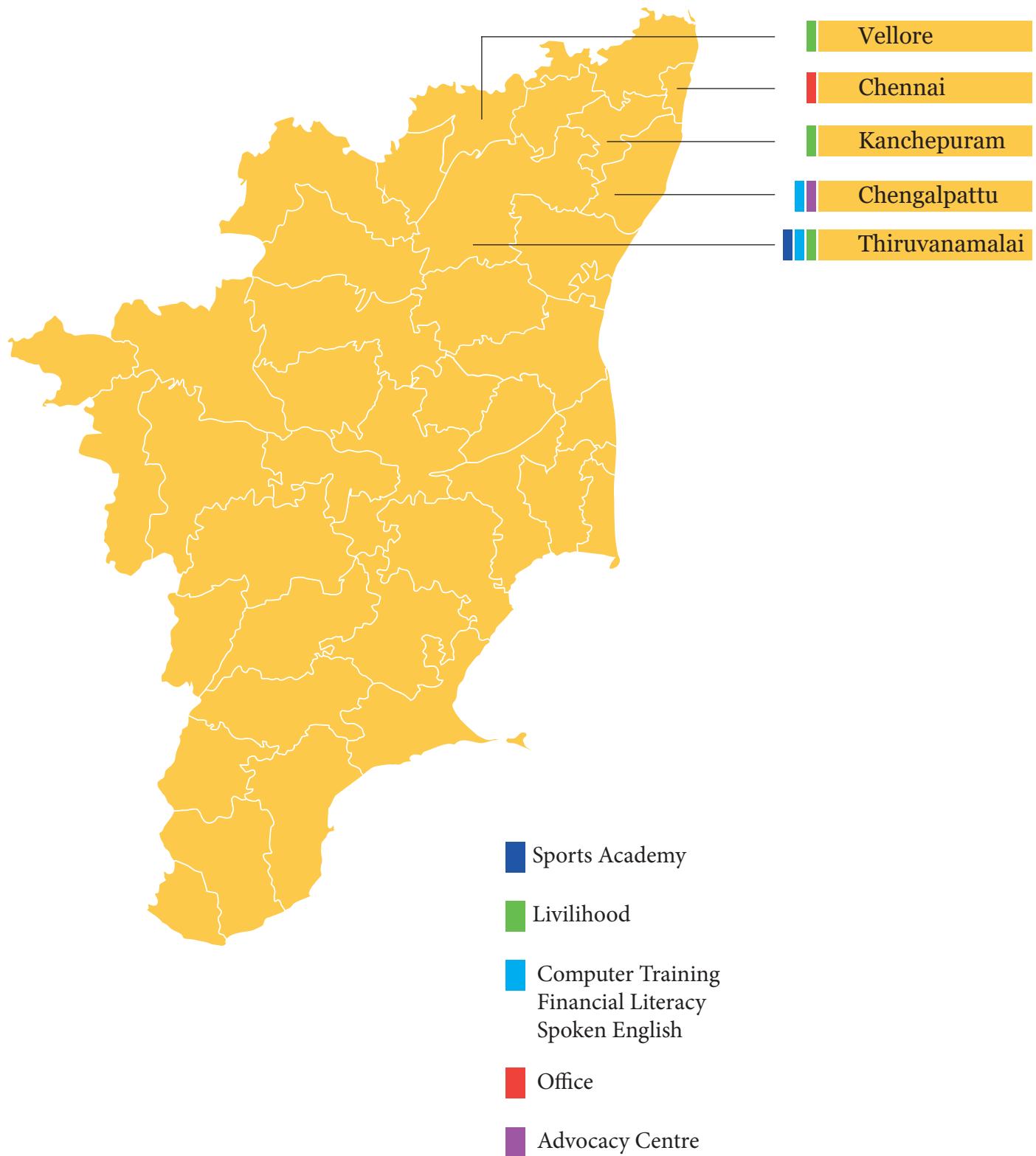


310 Meals served for Migrant workers in COVID'19 Lockdown



450 Individuals Trained to fight Human Trafficking in India

# CROSS GLOBAL'S PROJECT IN TAMIL NADU



# CROSS GLOBAL'S IMPACT IN 2020

## COLLABORATING WITH VARIOUS CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS

### COMPREHENSION OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

11 January 2020



Online campaign through social media was conducted to raise awareness about Human Trafficking. Around 1000+ students participated in this campaign.

### THE BLUE-SHIRT CAMPAIGN

18 January 2020



The blue-shirt campaign was organized to stand with the vulnerable who face social and domestic injustice. 100+ students across the globe participated by wearing blue shirts to support the cause.

### STORY OF GOWRI

26 January 2020



Contribution of raw materials You helped us get raw materials for Candle-making, Jute bags making, Tshirt & Jewelry making to Mrs. Gowri's from Arakkonam, Vellore District. We taught her skills to make these products as well. Story of Gowri: She is a single mother of two children who did not know she was a bonded labor until she realized that her owner under-pays for the work she does. After paying her debts, Gowri searched for a safer job and her owner attacked her and her children. She braved up and sought help from the officials. She and her children were rescued. She educates her children with the income she gets from selling hand-made products.

## A FAVOR TO THE DISTRESSED

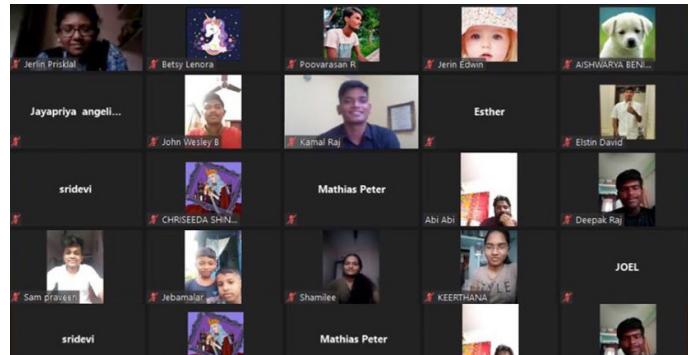
28 January 2020



Supported a family who survived bonded labor to build a house after their hut was burned down in a fire accident.

## AWARENESS PROGRAM FOR THE YOUTH

28 January 2020



Around 70 youth from different walks of life participated in the webinar. We received constructive feedback and the commitment that they will present themselves to transform our society into a better place to dwell in.

## FREEDOM FEBRUARY AWARENESS TOUR TO CHENNAI, COIMBATORE, AND COCHIN

01 Februaray 2020 to 20 feburary2020

Around 1000+ students from 10+ colleges were trained on how to fight against human trafficking & Slavery.



# A VISIT TO IRURAL'S FESTIVAL

8 March 2020



Cross Global was invited by the Irural Tribal Welfare Association to be a guest to encourage around 1.5 hundred thousand people who gathered in Mahabalipuram, Chennai to celebrate the Maasi agam festival. Mr. Kamal encouraged the parents to involve their children in sports. Fact about Irural tribe: The people from this tribe follow an amazing principle which is, the eldest female runs the family rather than male domination. Sadly 90% of bonded laborers are from this particular tribe.

## MARCH AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING



We organized an Anti-trafficking training session at Central University, Thiruvarur District for 80 hostel students who were from Kana, Kenya, Nigeria, Swaziland, and South Africa.

## 150 STUDENTS TRAINED TO STAND WITH VULNERABLE

A screenshot of a GoToMeeting video conference interface. The top bar shows "Talking: Kamal Raj" and "View Everyone". The main area displays a grid of 15 participant icons, each with a name: Gladson, saranya BPM, KNBL, Fiona Irene, KRND, LVPS, Nivetha S, DRB, VS, Aarthi Ravikumar, JR, SD, Meenakshi S, HS, and Subhanghi. At the bottom, there's a search bar and a taskbar with various application icons.

### Youth/Students role in Modern Society

07 May 2020

An online seminar on Youth/Student's Role in Modern Society is conducted to the Students of SNMV College of Arts and Science, Coimbatore by Mr. Kamal Raj

### Role of women in modern society

05 May 2020

An online seminar on the role of women in modern society is conducted to PSGR Krishnamal College for Women, Coimbatore by Mr. Kamal and Mr. Gladson for the Students of I BBA(BPM) & II BBA(BPM).

## DREAM HOUSE HAS BEEN BUILT



Mr. Balaji, his wife, and his two girls were held captive for 9 years in a brick-kiln as a bonded laborer for Rs.50,000 which he borrowed to support his brother-in-law's wedding. The principal amount was deducted from an unfair daily wage of Rs.180 which was the full pay for the entire family's hard work. He experienced physical abuse and false threats each time he took a stand against this injustice. Balaji and his family were rescued and rehabilitated holistically. Balaji's hard work was recently recognized by Tamilnadu state rural livelihood mission and he was

appointed as a cluster coordinator to organize his peer rescued bonded laborers into special SHG an initiative by the government of Tamilnadu. Balaji was sanctioned with a long-awaited housing approval from the government. Until then, the family was trying to keep themselves safe in a hut. Balaji was in need of Rs.12,000/- to meet the final stage of his construction. We requested you to support and YOU showed up at the right time. Now, Balaji and his family are living in their dream house because of you.

## NATIONWIDE SIGNATURE CAMPAIGN



A Nationwide Signature Campaign was assembled by Shout for Freedom in order to appeal the government to support the unorganized workers with Rs.6000 for four months and other vulnerable communities to reduce the impact of lockdown due to Covid-19 and their economic condition. Shout for Freedom - Movement of individuals and organizations working together in all forms of slavery and human trafficking in TN. They organized a nation wide campaign, they reached out to us, we were one of the 30 organizations to help them with the campaign and cross supported them to represent 7 states of India. We collected 1000 signatures from people.

# THE LAND

Cross Global was able to purchase a piece of land in Chengalpattu. In this piece of land, Cross Global & has decided to build a multipurpose building that includes a Child advocacy center, Livelihood skill training, Counselling, Incubation center for the immediate rescued victims of slavery (Legal assistance, financial assistance, victim-centered trauma therapy center).



With your help, we were able to purchase a piece of land. The building will have all the facilities needed for rescued victims.

## A SMALL GESTURE FROM US TO CONVEY KNOWLEDGE HAS NO LIMITS

28 August 2020



Cross Global has trained the people of RBLA with all the necessary operations of a computer system. We decided to put our hands together and donated a computer, a small gesture from us to convey knowledge has no limits.

# A DAY IN ULLAVUR



We all are pretty shaken up by the losses endured due to this pandemic especially to the rural people. We decided to give them a break from the world and we organized a cricket tournament between the members of RBLA and Cross Global. RBLA surprised us with their sportsmanship by winning the match twice. The people were so compassionate and gave us so much love. After breathing our lungs out to a wonderful cricket tournament, we shared our love through biriyani. We gathered around, sat under the breezy sky, and filled our stomach and soul.



# GRADUATION

## BASIC COMPUTER TRAINING COURSE

Basic computer training skill course exclusively curated for the Leaders of Rescued Bonded labour Association by Cross Global. Cross Global started the course for the RBLA leaders on Feb 1st 2020. The syllabus of the course includes all basic operations involved in computing activity.

Students in this course (RBLA leaders) were rescued by Tamil Nadu Government in collaboration with various civil society organizations between the year 2010-2020. The risk they have taken to gain knowledge amidst the struggle they walk through every day for basic livelihood deserves high respect and admiration. They set a perfect example to the world that nothing can stop you from learning.



For the first time, I heard what bonded labour is, and I am really moved by the pain everyone has gone through. I congratulate all the graduates for your hard work for the past months despite the pandemic. Keep pushing yourself and don't stop learning. I would do my best to end bonded labour in my lifetime, said Bharath Raj (Celebrity Lifestyle Coach / Actor while his Chief Guest address)

# ANNUAL GATHERING

11 - 13 December 2020

Cross Global is honored to have Mrs. Pranitha Timothy from Justice & Hope, Chennai. She is one of the heroes of Justice. Mrs. Pranitha and her team pioneered over 60 rescue operations, freed over 4000 slaves, and served as the witness/complainant in their legal cases. Mrs. Pranitha has been a featured speaker at many prestigious conferences around the world. Mrs. Pranitha's session was challenging. She helped our team to understand the importance of having values in the fight against Human Trafficking. And, her session helped our team, how to stay in the fight against modern-day slavery.

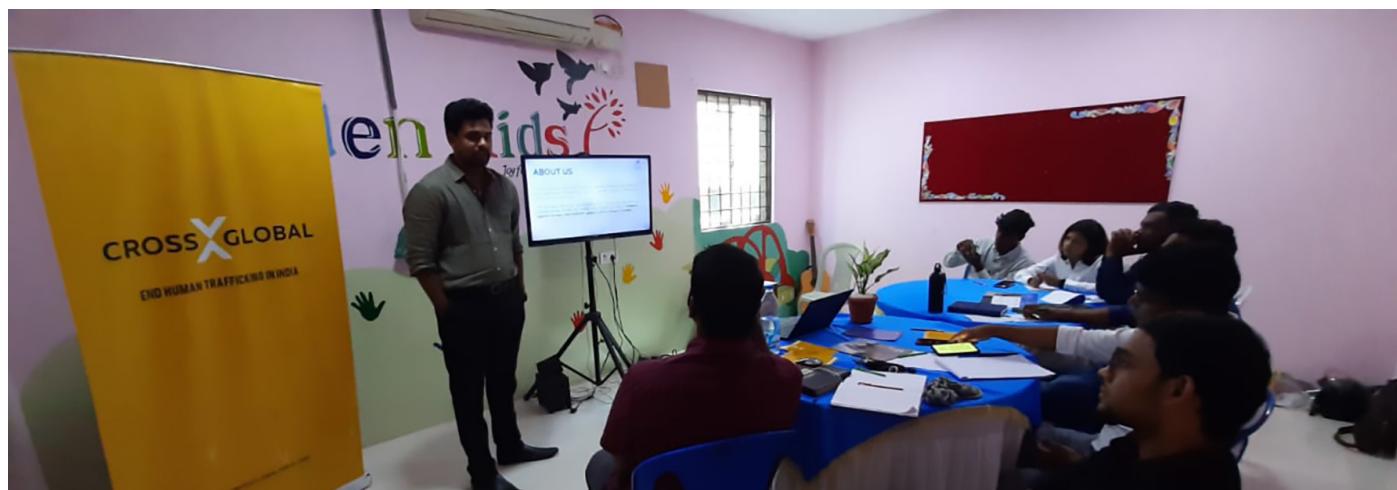


To know more about Justice & Hope: [www.justiceandhope.org](http://www.justiceandhope.org)

End of each year, Cross Global's volunteer staffs gather for an Annual Team Meeting. This meeting is vital for the mission of the organization. Our team spends a weekend to learn from the experts in the Anti-Human Trafficking field. The experts help Cross Global's Team by taking various sessions on the subject.

This 2020's meeting is crucial as our team is getting ready for the Decade (VISION 2030). This year, We had IJM, Chennai. The largest Anti-Human Trafficking organization in the world to take various sessions for our team. We are so grateful to have Mr. Sam Jebadurai representing IJM and helping the team understand what human trafficking is and how we can end it by 2030.

To know more about IJM: [www.ijmindia.org](http://www.ijmindia.org)



# FIGHTING COVID 19

From March to September we supported the affected Survivors of Bonded Labor families, Sri Lankan Refugees, Migrants workers. We partnered with RBLA, Mr. Nickson, Mr. Jaba and other partners to support over 500+ with COVID Emergency Relief funds, sanitation kits and groceries.

**350** MEALS SERVED TO HOMELESS & MIGRANTS

**50** RBLA FAMILIES SUPPORTED WITH COVID EMERGENCY FUNDS

**20** SRI LANKAN REFUGEE FAMILIES SUPPORTED



# UPCOMING EVENTS (2021)

## JANUARY

- Sports Academy for Children Rescued from Bonded Labor
- Basic Computer Training Course
- Advance Computer Training Course
- Spoken English Course

## FEBRUARY

- Freedom February (Awareness campaigns in the universities)
- Internship Programs
- Commemorating Bonded Labor Day (Feb 9th)

## MAY

- Anti-Human Trafficking Annual Conference
- The Global Justice School (E-learning)
- RBLA-App
- Launching Celebrity Advocacy Team

## JUNE

- 12 June World Day Against Child Labour 2021 Conference

## JULY

- July 30. World Day against Trafficking in Persons Conference

## AUGUST

- Independence Day celebration with Bonded Labor Children

## OCTOBER

- Oct 27th Celebrate Your Birthday with Survivors

## NOVEMBER

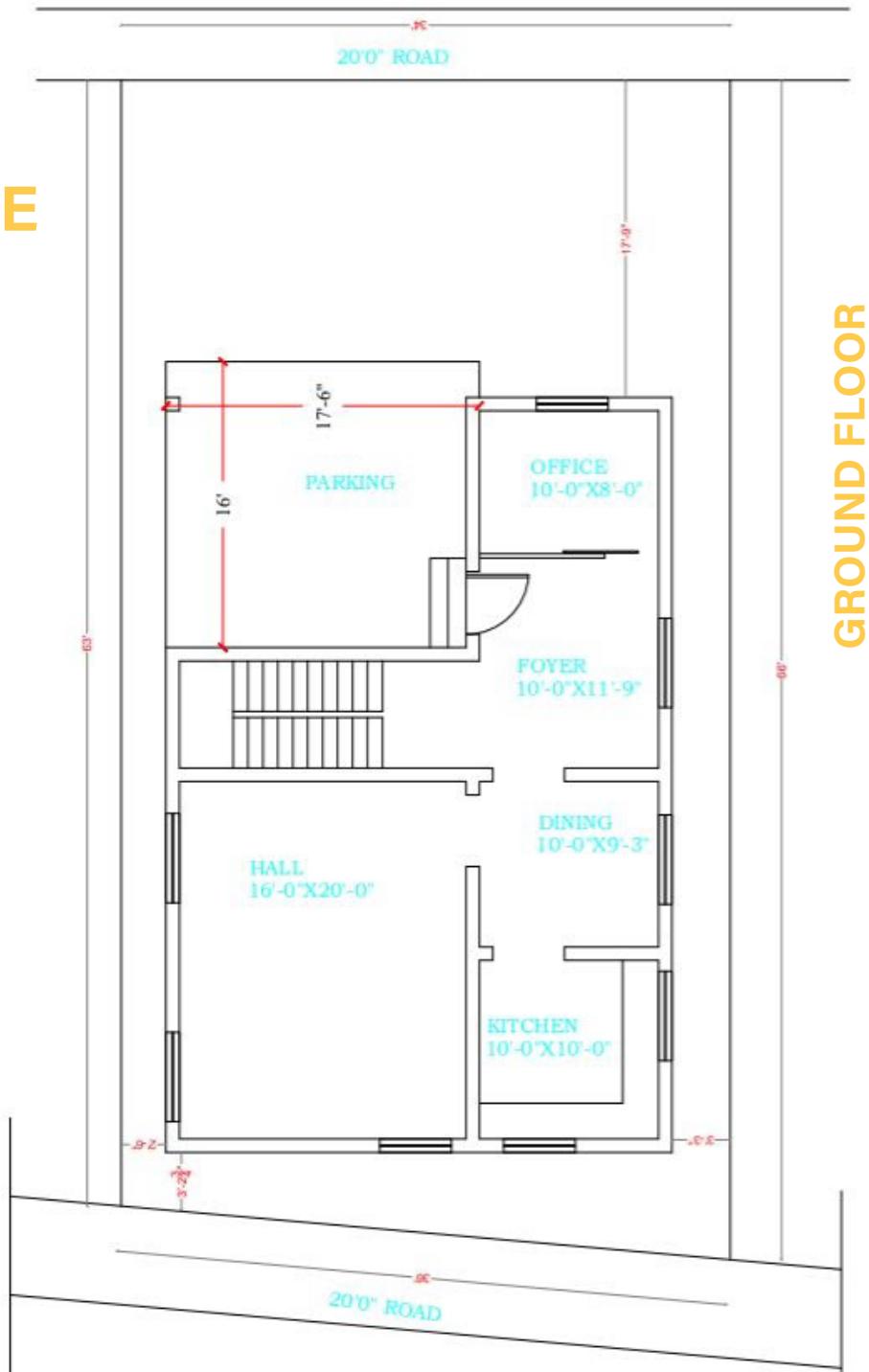
- 4th Diwali Celebration with the survivors
- 14 November Children's Day Conference

# UPCOMING PROJECT

## SURVIVOR ADVOCACY CENTRE (BY 2024)

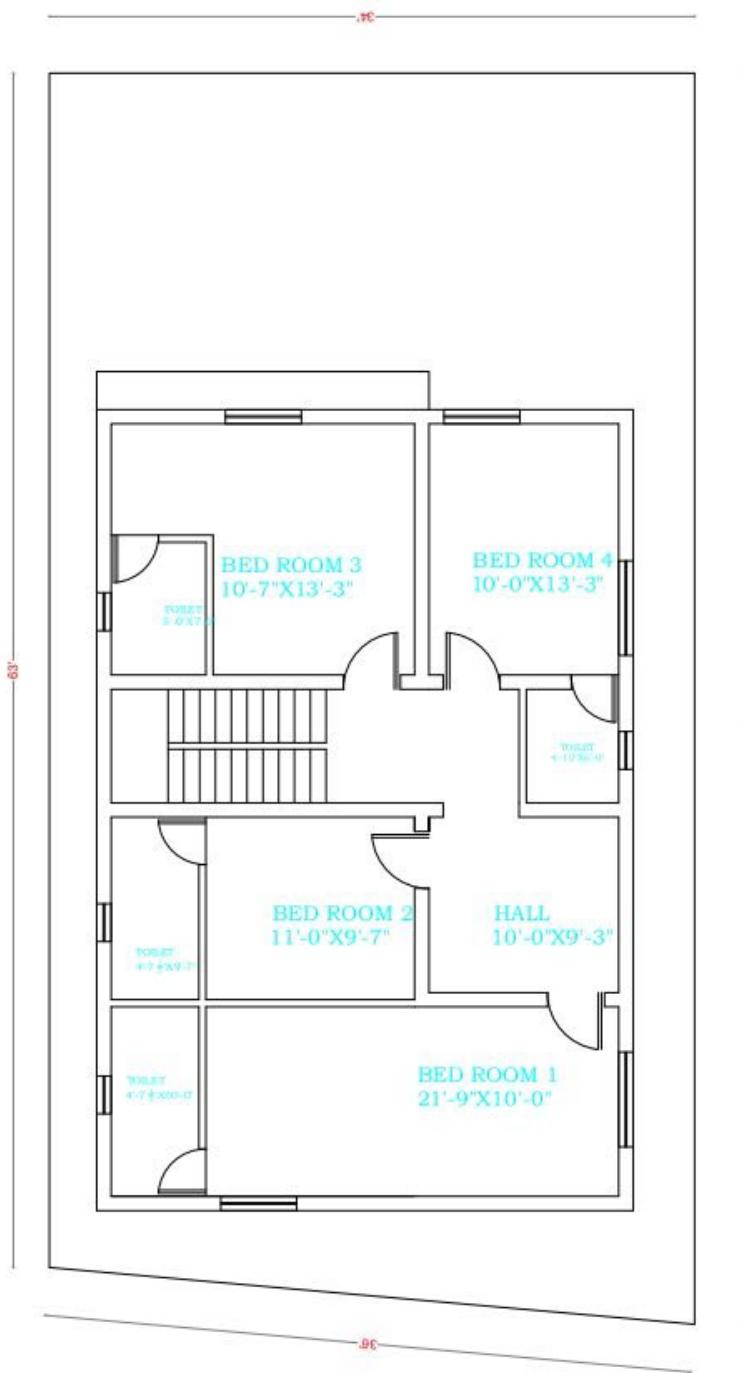
SAC will be an aftercare center in Chengalpattu, South India. SAC provides a safe environment for survivors coming out of exploitation. Also, SAC will provide holistic aftercare services and uses a victim centered approach to rehabilitate the survivors of Human Trafficking.

## BUILDING PLAN OF THE SURVIVOR ADVOCACY CENTRE (SAC)



1. This facility is the one of the first exclusive Advocacy centre for Bonded Labor victims and survivors in Tamilnadu, India
2. This facility will host, train and restore upto 100 survivors a year.
3. This facility will be built by the survivors (To create employment opportunities for them)
4. This facility will have the state of the art equipments
5. This facility will be the model for the government, civil societies, and other organizations to replicate in their states for the victims of slavery

## FIRST FLOOR



## AREA

Ground Floor - 1225 Square feet  
First Floor - 1225 Square feer

# VISION 2030

By 2030, Cross Global will catalyze a revolution that will End Slavery in our lifetime.

## THE PROBLEM

Governments across the world have developed numerous welfare measures to meet the basic needs of their citizens - especially those from poorer sections of society. However, offenders who seek to earn profits through exploitative practices, restrict or cut off access to government's schemes by controlling the vulnerable people using brute force, threats and other forms of abuse. Though countries have strong laws to prevent such atrocities, offenders commit these crimes, unafraid of consequences, due to the lack of implementation of laws. To put an end to this cycle of injustice against people in poverty, Cross Global works collaboratively with government and civil societies by applying the following model

## THE MODEL



To End of Poverty requires  
End of Violence



To End violence requires  
Effective Law Enforcement

## OUR SOLUTION



Protect children, women, and men from  
Human Trafficking



Partner with the government to  
rescue & rehabilitate the victims



Prevent survivors from Re-bondage



Provide resources to equip Individuals & civil  
societies to End Slavery by 2030

## TESTIMONIALS

*Thank you so much for your time dedicated to our students, sir. Every minute was a valuable input detailing more about the need of humans towards society.*

*Thanks a million, sir. All the best for all your good works now and forevermore, sir.*

*- Roopa. C (Co-ordinator, Red Ribbon Club)*

*For the first time, I heard what Human Trafficking is. Thanks for your awareness sessions.*

*I will commit my life to stand for the vulnerable in my country*

*- Student (Rajagiri College, Kerala)*

*For the past 2 years, Cross Global has been the greatest support for the survivors. Especially in COVID'19 Lockdown Cross Global's emergency funds for the survivors, helped them sustain in the lockdown.*

*Cross Global's various skill training programs have increased the survivors' confidence and livelihood.*

*- Rescued Bonded Labor Association - Leader*

*I have to say that these people are amazing! they are so ambitious at helping the poor coming out of violence while they're not working as a usual company, they are working together as a family which is impressive!*

*- Volunteer / Monthly Donor*

*I have been serving in Cross Global for the past 2 years. I am having a great time volunteering with Cross Global and highly recommend this type of experience for anyone interested in helping the poor. I think if more volunteers could give back to the projects of Cross Global through fundraising and volunteering it would make an even bigger long-term impact. Overall, Cross Global is doing a brilliant job of Ending Slavery.*

*- Volunteer Staff*







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