

MIKA HOUSE

INDIA



The room fills with chatter and bright silk saris as the Indian women begin their work. Sitting together at long tables, they gather glittering beads, chains, and charms to make jewelry. The work is peaceful and joyful. They smile and laugh together, knowing they are far from their former lives of slavery. Others at Mika House begin the day by gathering textbooks and homework, getting ready for classes at their new school. The dignity and hope they experience from education, employment, and vocational training reaches across oceans to meet Mika House in the USA. Here, rescued American women receive the necklaces, bracelets, and earrings made in India, selling and sending them across the country. Learning business skills, leadership, and earning fair trade paychecks gives them hope for a new future. When you wear this jewelry, you support the rescue, restoration, and empowerment of women around the world.



STORIES OF RESCUE & EMPOWERMENT

COUNTRY: INDIA • PROGRAM: VOCATIONAL TRAINING



Megala

Megala felt beautiful. Wearing a brand new outfit, she set out to visit their family, accompanied by her stepfather. Together, they walked into the hotel where she planned to see her uncle, but he wasn't there. Instead, Megala's stepfather sold her, earning a high price for her virginity. The traffickers tossed her into a hotel room and soon returned with many eager to exploit the young girl. On the brink of assault, authorities burst into the room and rescued Megala. After spending many months healing in safety, she decided to join Mika House. Today, Megala is learning to craft jewelry, earning an income, and finishing her education. Her dream is to become a social worker and return to the slum she grew up in. Her story of pain has transformed into one she plans to passionately share, becoming her own circle of protection around at-risk women and children.

*For more stories of rescue & empowerment, please visit our story gallery at www.warinternational.org/story-gallery
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