

Hands of Freedom is a nonprofit organization focused on helping the "untouchables" of India through micro-lending, fresh water well projects, education and savings groups.

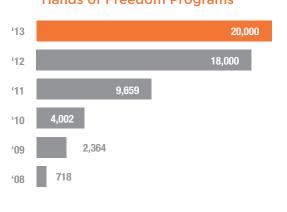
Why the Untouchables of India?

- Most live in communities without basic infrastructure
- Water, housing, plumbing and education present challenges
- Women and children vulnerable to human trafficking
- Forced labor, prostitution and unequal protection major issues
- Individuals robbed of basic hope and self-worth

Mission

To create a movement that brings spiritual and social justice to the oppressed. Hands of Freedom accomplishes this by planting churches in India.







HOW WE HELP

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Hands of Freedom provides business opportunities that make a difference for local people and their communities. Efforts include training, mentoring, and start-up funding. The results? Stabilized families, healthy communities, and long-term security.

SAVINGS GROUPS

After learning a trade or skill, Hands of Freedom places each woman in a savings group. These groups teach women how to save and manage money, and just as important, provide a support network. In times of need or when starting a new business, a woman may borrow from her savings group at a reasonable interest rate, keeping her and her family safe from loan sharks and potential human trafficking.

CHURCH PLANTING

Churches play a critical role as the hub of spiritual, economic and social development in each community. Each new church helps develop leadership skills in both pastors and members, provides spiritual assistance to those in need and serves as the nucleus of economic activity in the area.

WELL PROJECTS

A community water well not only reduces disease and death, it also allows women to earn income by freeing up hours each day previously spent transporting water. Hands of Freedom installs wells sponsored by individuals, families, churches and other organizations. Once the well is installed, any remaining funds go toward community support including mentoring, school supplies, and vocational training.

EDUCATION

Education provides a path to a brighter future. Hands of Freedom launches schools that provide what is often the first, and perhaps only chance, for some children to receive an education and escape a life of poverty.

PATHWAYS OF HOPE

The Pathways of Hope exhibit, located in the Twin Cities, places a spotlight on the many dire situations found in countries around the world and here in the United States. One of four founding partners, Hands of Freedom helped create this exhibit to educate people about poverty in countries like India. Tours are available upon request.

TRANSFORMING LIVES: PRIYA



After a church service, Priya came up for prayer and shared her ordeal with us. She was born and raised in the local red light district. Her mom, whose family was extremely impoverished and barely able to survive, was from the poorest district in the state. After receiving an offer for a job in the "big city" from a stranger who came to town, Priya's mother's family risked (sacrificed) her life by sending her along with the stranger. She ended up miles away in the local red light district and was sold to a local brothel owner there. Slowly she lost all hope during which time Priya was born in the red light district. Growing up, Priya had dreams of going to school, having a regular

job and getting married. However this did not happen and she too was pushed into prostitution. One of the challenges of being in the red light district is that these women are disowned by their family. But as Priya began attending church, things started to change for her. The church became Priya's family and has mentored and counseled her. They have been able to help her find a job and help her get out of prostitution, unlike most women who are never able to escape. Another blessing for Priya is that her four year old daughter now goes to one of our preschools and has the opportunity to receive an education. While everyone had written Priya's future off, God intervened through Hands of Freedom and changed the course of her life.

HOW SUPPORT CHANGES LIVES

Fund school supplies for a child \$25

Business training for a woman \$50

Provide micro finance mentor \$100

Support a business start-up \$500

Fund a teacher's salary for a year \$1.500

Sponsor a Well Project \$3,000

Sponsor a church plant

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Join Hands With Us Today

www.handsoffreedom.org