

IMPACT REPORT  
PHILIPPINES



PARTNER WITH A FIELD OFFICE





# Your Partnership is Propelling Rescue and Protection



We are delighted to give you another firsthand field update after an impactful time bringing justice to those most vulnerable. Because of your faithful support we are seeing incredible change take place. Throughout the year, your partnership helps us to achieve rescue, convictions, restoration and lasting protection. And we are just getting started! Together, we will see justice flourish in powerful life-changing ways. Our hope can't be contained!

FROM JANUARY TO JUNE, YOUR PARTNERSHIP HAS ENABLED THE FOLLOWING:

42

VICTIMS  
RESCUED

15

PERPETRATORS  
RESTRAINED

22

CONVICTIONS

Gain further insight into these stats on Pages X and X



## Inside:

PAGE 3-4: JANUARY TO JUNE JUSTICE NUMBERS

PAGE 5: OUR FAVORITE MOMENT FROM OUR MOST RECENT FIELD CALL

## Kamusta! (Hello!)

This year, we are thrilled with how far justice has grown. Passionate individuals from across communities are coming together in the name of justice. This movement is proving effective in protecting children globally. Our teams have been working diligently to ensure that those most vulnerable get the support they need to thrive. Moreover, that thriving would not be as limitless without you, our generous donor, fueling the fires of hope.

There are many moments worth celebrating this year. However, one to call to attention is the past years' investments and wins in casework, capacity building, advocacy, and partnership development - all of which have been building momentum. Thus, casework continues to produce results, affirming local governments and partners to take ownership.



Along with this, survivor leadership is gaining momentum. Shortly after the Philippine Survivor Network was launched this year, survivor leaders leaped into action, speaking and participating in several fundraising events and partner engagements inside and outside the Philippines. Their impact knows no bounds! To support them is our honor.

Justice is spreading thanks to your meaningful giving.

**Until all are free!**

*Attorney Sam*

Attorney Sam Inocencio,

Vice President for the Global Program against  
Online Sexual Exploitation of Children,  
National Director of IJM Philippines





# January to June Justice Numbers ★

The progress we have seen from the Philippines inspires us to dream bigger! Protection is on the move, and the justice system here is passionate about protecting their children and communities. The numbers below prove that the excellent work started is continuously blossoming to new heights.

**Your support has set in motion the following achievements:**



## Convictions

**Our goal: 5**  
**YTD: 22**

Compelling evidence and swift judicial action led to the shortest OSEC (Online Sexual Exploitation of Children) criminal case by far, a breakthrough in the Philippine Criminal Justice system, where cases typically take months or years to be resolved. The accused Filipino trafficker pleaded guilty to multiple violations of the newly enacted R.A. 11930, Anti-Online Sexual Abuse or Exploitation of Children (OSAEC) and Anti-Child Sexual Abuse or Exploitation Materials (CSAEM) Act.

Two days after the case was filed, on March 22, 2023, the accused was convicted and sentenced to 36 years of imprisonment along with hefty fines and damages.

## Perpetrators Restrained

**Our goal: 7**  
**YTD: 15**

In June, an IJM-supported operation led to the rescue of a 6-year-old girl and the arrest of a suspected trafficker. This successful operation exemplifies the value of the Philippine Internet Crimes Against Children Center (PICACC), a model for an enhanced global response against online sexual abuse and exploitation of children. The case was referred to as an ideal case example, as it facilitated the streamlined cooperation of four different law enforcement agencies - making way for more perpetrators to be restrained.

*\*These goals and results depict the 2023 calendar year.*

## Victims Rescued

**Our goal: 35**  
**YTD: 42**

In July, local police rescued four children (ages nine, six and two) from online sexual exploitation and arrested two suspected traffickers in an operation in Bacolod City. The rescue of four innocent children and the apprehension of two suspected traffickers stand testament to the effectiveness of strong collaboration across local law enforcement. With the determination to hold traffickers accountable for their crimes, more and more children are being found and protected. The Philippine government, alongside IJM and partners, is steadfast in safeguarding the community's most vulnerable.

## Survivors Restored

**Our goal: 17**  
**YTD: 17**

The launch of the Philippine Survivor Network (PSN) marks a new chapter in the survivor leadership protection pathway: Survivor Leadership. The PSN, a survivor-led, IJM supported initiative, is re-organizing two former Philippine survivor groups into one unified group. With survivors of child sexual abuse and exploitation playing a more significant role today than ever, the launch is a timely affirmation of the value and potential of survivors as professionals, leaders, and citizens.

## Confidential

**A Historic Moment in the Work of Justice: The Signing of the Implementing Rules and Regulations of the Anti-OSAEC Law.** May 2023 marked the historic ceremonial signing of the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of Republic Act 11930, the Anti-Online Sexual Abuse or Exploitation of Children (OSAEC) and Anti-Child Sexual Abuse or Exploitation Materials (CSAEM) Act. The signing of the IRR for RA 11930 is meant to unite all Filipinos in protecting children against online sexual abuse and exploitation. This event marked the culmination of extensive work in crafting the IRR. Various agencies and NGOs, including IJM, were part of the technical working group responsible for its drafting.



*\*Stock Image*



In September, Attorney Sam joined us for a live interview. Something fascinating that stood out from that conversation was the recent launch of the scale of harm study and the vital information shaping protection moving forward.

Here is a quote from that call:



The findings of the study are admittedly distressing. We've come to know that nearly **half a million Filipino children have fallen victim to this specific form of trafficking and online sexual exploitation last year alone**. Equally alarming is the fact that nearly a quarter of a million adult Filipinos are involved in perpetrating this crime. Without the interventions from the government alongside partners like IJM, this prevalence could even be significantly higher. But here's the silver lining – we now possess a prevalence measurement that provides us with a clearer understanding of the scale of the problem. Armed with this knowledge, we can tailor our interventions more effectively and measure our impact on reducing this crime's prevalence at the end of our program.

**ATTORNEY SAM'S FILIPINO FOOD RECCOMENDATIONS:**

First up, we've got the renowned **LECHON** – a whole roasted pig that's a true delight.

If you're up for trying something with a unique twist, go for **SINIGANG**. This is a sour soup that can feature either pork or seafood as the main star.

For our vegetarian friends, **PINAKBET** is a fantastic choice – a flavorful vegetable stew.



# Happy Thanksgiving

from

**International  
Justice Mission**



*We are so grateful for your support that allows families worldwide to create their own moments of safety and freedom.*







# Survivor Leaders Amplify Survivor Voice in Several Key Engagements

We are seeing some incredible movement from our Survivor leaders. They have passionately embraced their calling to be a voice for their fellow survivors, share their stories, provide their perspectives, inspire the community and challenge leaders to take action. Thanks to opportunities provided by IJM advancement offices, survivor voices have reached many government meetings, corporate initiatives and churches this year.

## HERE ARE A FEW OF THEIR EXCITING ENGAGEMENTS:

Invited by IJM Germany, Philippines Survivor Network (PSN) survivor leader Jaika\* spoke to members of the German Parliament Group in April. "To you, esteemed members of the German Parliament, I want to first thank you for listening to survivors like me," she said. "Now, I want to challenge you to prioritize child protection as you create and change laws and policies. I also invite you to start or support campaigns that spread awareness about online sexual exploitation of children or OSEC. Please support organizations like IJM who help victims and survivors of OSEC."

At IJM Philippines' Strong Network of Care closeout event, co-hosted by survivor Theia\*, survivor Marj\* shared her story and a message of thanks. At the same time, Charito's\* recorded video was played, in which she acknowledged how survivors had been empowered through the project.

Three survivor leaders, Ashira\*, Carsten\*, and Joy\*, wrote a letter to the EU Parliament and Council for Stronger Legislation in line with the Brave Movement's Day of Action in April 2023.

IJM lawyer Atty. Kathleen Piccio-Labay and survivor leader Ruby\* supported IJM Australia in a series of May engagements in Sydney, Australia. Ruby was part of IJM Australia's Year End campaign video and participated in a Benefit Dinner. At the dinner, Ruby moved the audience with her incredible story.

Project Needlestack, an IJM law enforcement and detection project, intentionally included survivor voice in law enforcement training in Nigeria in June. IJM produced an exclusive video featuring five PSN survivor leaders (Azalea\*, Malone\*, Crystal\*, Briella\*, and Carlyn\*) who called law enforcement officers and participants to continue investigating OSEC cases. They emphasized the importance of law enforcement work, the urgency of their work, and the need for more victims to be rescued.

These survivor leaders and their indomitable spirits are bringing truth, light and justice into places that need it most. It is our honor and joy to hear their voices rise to the top and change the future for those most vulnerable.

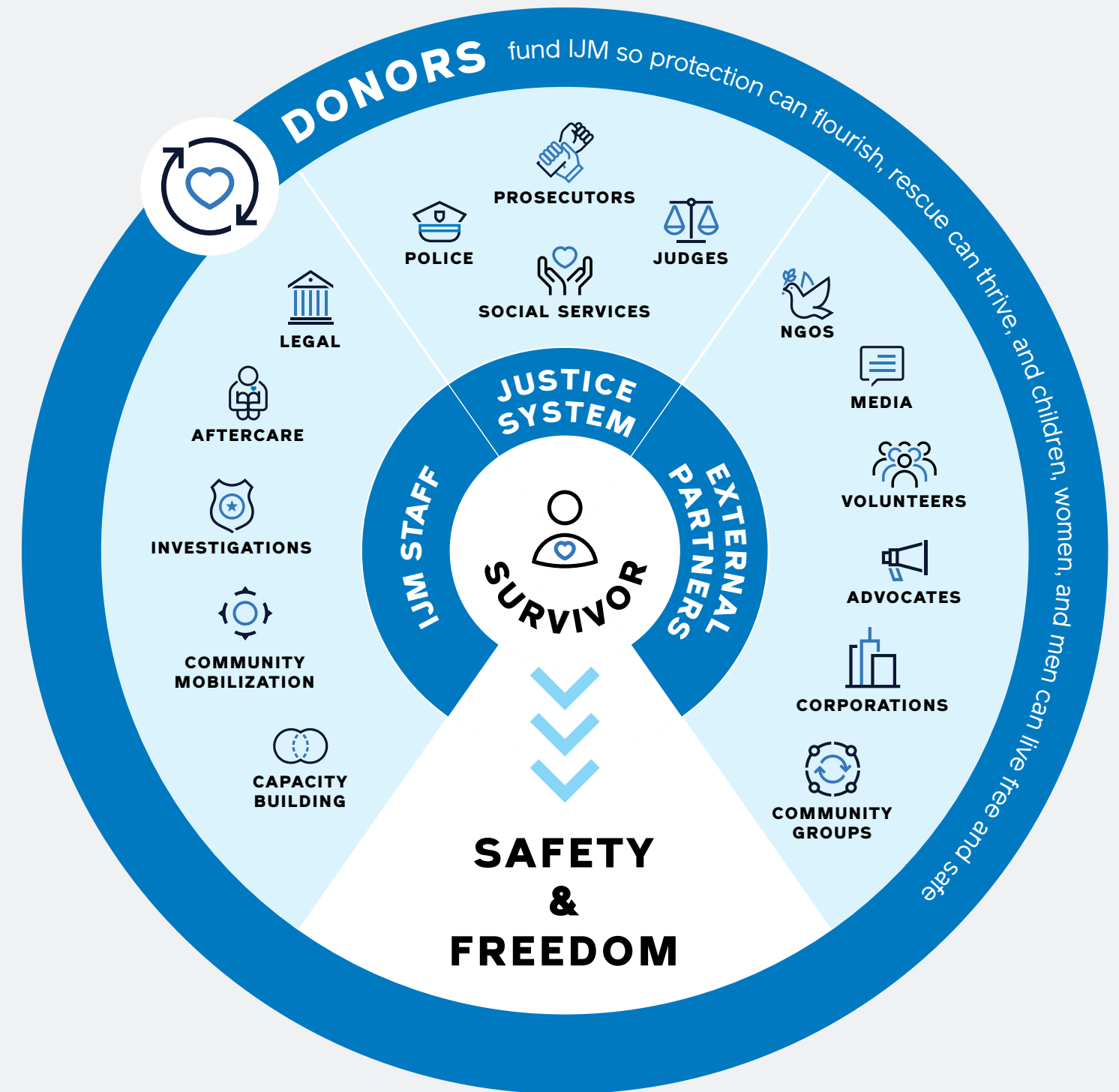


\*Pseudonym

# Protection Happens Together

Protection is like a justice ecosystem. It needs a complex network of interconnecting systems working together for the good of Survivors and the next generation.

**THIS IS HOW FREEDOM AND SAFETY FLOURISHES.**





*Thank You! Your committed  
giving is changing the future for  
those most vulnerable.*

