



**HOPE<sup>FOR</sup> JUSTICE**

Change lives. End slavery.

*YEAR IN REVIEW 2016 / 17*

ONE YEAR CLOSER TO THE END OF SLAVERY



**"To everyone who is raising their voice and using their resources in this shared fight, I want to say a heartfelt and passionate thank you, as we change lives and end slavery."**

*- Ben Cooley, CEO, Hope for Justice*



# IMPOSSIBLE IS A DARE

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## What an incredible year bringing freedom and hope.

We rescued and helped rescue so many people this past year, giving them their freedom back and making sure they can start new lives, restored and hopeful. Every one of their stories matters.


Hope for Justice is active in more places than ever, thanks to new Hubs in Scotland and Northumberland and further development of our programmes in the US and Norway. In Cambodia, we have offered new hope to survivors of sex trafficking, from the very day of their rescue until the day they can be reintegrated happily into their families or communities.

Our Advocacy team helped clients testify against their traffickers when they were able to, and we have seen successful convictions. It is our strong belief that those who profit from human misery must be prosecuted and convicted, so we send a message that their crimes will not stand.

**Our movement, powered by our dedicated and generous supporters, is on the front lines of this fight.**

Around the world, we are rescuing victims, restoring lives, and reforming society, bringing an end to the evil and terror of modern slavery.

We refuse to live in a world where people are exploited and treated as commodities, and we are determined to end it. Eliminating slavery forever means going to the source and cutting the demand for cheap slave labour, which is why we have stepped up our work to help businesses cut slavery out of their supply chains and help them understand why they need to focus on this crime: it is such important work and I think it will be transformative.



Ben Cooley  
CEO, Hope for Justice

It has been uplifting to see governments and nations taking the issue of human trafficking evermore seriously.

In the US we were one of six not-for-profit organisations invited to the White House to brief the President and his staff in person; in Cambodia, our partnerships with the government and the Ministry of Education grow ever deeper and stronger; in the UK, the Prime Minister announced a new focus on anti-slavery efforts and partnerships; in Norway, the government has been taking a stronger stance ever since becoming the second country to ratify the global Forced Labour Protocol.



Human trafficking briefing with President Trump, February 2017



Cambodian government officials visiting Shine School, October 2016



Norway ratifies the global Forced Labour Protocol



**"I am grateful for the important work Hope for Justice is doing to tackle modern-day slavery."**

*- Theresa May MP, Prime Minister of the United Kingdom*

We dream of creating a world where every country and every person living there is hostile to slavery – a world where slavery is eradicated and can never take root again. That is why Hope for Justice is looking to launch our award-winning programmes in even more countries.

Some might say we have set ourselves an impossible task, but I like to quote Muhammad Ali, who said: *"Impossible is just a big word thrown around by small people who find it easier to live in the world they've been given than to explore the power they have to change it."*

**Impossible is not a fact...  
impossible is a dare.**

**Ben Cooley**

Chief Executive Officer, Hope for Justice



# RESCUE

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Our RESCUE work is based out of Hubs embedded into communities. Our specialist teams work closely with police, other frontline agencies and members of the public to identify victims of modern slavery, build bridges of trust with them and facilitate their rescue. We also submit intelligence to police, which informs of the bigger picture and can result in more rescues and the conviction of perpetrators.

Here are some of the highlights of our RESCUE work this year, during which we've helped men, women, children and entire families.



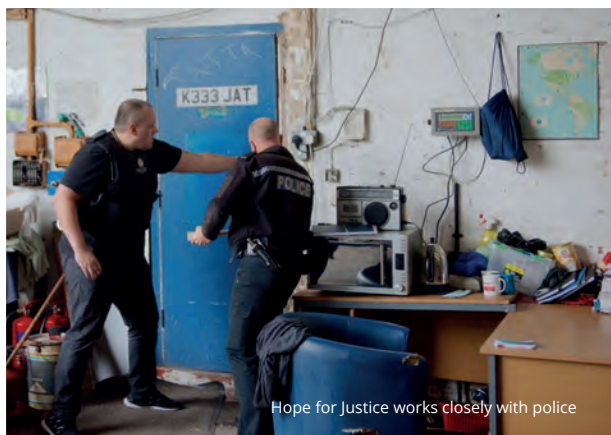
**"Hope for Justice has a wealth of extraordinarily experienced, talented and committed people, who are really well-positioned to take the organisation to the next level. I hope we as a board can collectively help the organisation stay on the incredible path it's been on since inception."**

*- Peter Elson, Chairman, Hope for Justice*



**"Hope for Justice remain a key partner in the fight against slavery and human trafficking. The West Midlands area is seeing a positive increase in the identification of and recovery of vulnerable victims. However, we acknowledge that there is more to do and we look forward to undertaking further work with a variety of agencies and, in doing so, will cement our relationship with Hope for Justice."**

*- Detective Superintendent Nick Walton from West Midlands Police's Public Protection unit*



## Anti-Slavery Day rescue operation – a major success

Hope for Justice conducted one of its largest-ever rescue operations during the 'Modern Slavery Week of Action', held by police forces across England to mark Anti-Slavery Day on October 18th.

In the biggest single operation of the week, conducted jointly with Northumbria Police and involving every member of the West Yorkshire Hub, 14 victims were rescued and helped to places of safety in a single day – a fantastic result. There were also a large number of arrests made by police.

## Hubs launched in Scotland and Northumberland

Hope for Justice continued its expansion to bring even more freedom by launching new Hubs in Scotland and Northumberland, England.

Leading our work in Scotland is a former Detective Superintendent with Police Scotland, with significant experience in partnership-working in the public protection arena and as a senior investigator and critical decision maker in complex child protection and vulnerable adult investigations.

We also launched our programme work into Northumberland, where we have strong links with the police.

The Hub model has proved a tremendous success. In West Yorkshire, where we launched our first regional investigative Hub in 2013, the number of referrals into the UK government's National Referral Mechanism of people identified as potential victims of slavery was five times higher in 2016 than it was before the Hub opened. In the West Midlands, referrals are now nearly nine times higher than the year before our Hub opened there in 2014.



Image changed to protect survivor's identity

## Shona's Story

*The gratitude I feel about Hope for Justice gives me motivation and power'*

Shona\* was trafficked for sexual exploitation and forced to work against her will in shops and restaurants across Europe and the UK, with her ID documents under the control of her trafficker. She lived through a nightmare of threats and beatings for years, leaving her traumatised.

After her rescue, Hope for Justice connected Shona with specialist counselling and supported accommodation. We helped her get the care she needed to address her underlying trauma and help her start to rebuild her life. We also introduced her to the specialist solicitors she needed to get legal advice on several complex problems that were holding her back.

She embraced the support offered and is now living independently, confidently moving forward with her life. She said: *"The gratitude I feel about Hope for Justice gives me motivation and power to look towards my future in a very positive way."*



Our US headquarters is based in Nashville, TN





## Lottie's Story

*A baby born into slavery, but now growing up free*

Lottie\* came to England three years ago on the promise of work. She was betrayed and kept as a domestic slave, a modern-day Cinderella.

She had to live in an unfurnished room, fed on scraps, literally the leftover scraps of the meals of the family she was providing for. She was working seven days a week, often 14 hours a day. During this time, she was raped, and the product of that rape was a beautiful son.

Her son was born into slavery, and Lottie could not allow that for him. Desperate, she found out about Hope for Justice and reached out to us for help. Within 24 hours, we had rescued her.

It was so moving to see her in the safe house, emotional but happy.

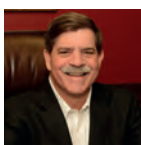
She pointed to her son, peaceful and fast asleep on the bed. It was the first time she had seen her son sleep as a free person; she knew he'd be able to eat, and she wouldn't have to worry about where the next meal was coming from.

Lottie and her son have freedom now, and the opportunities we take for granted. Life for them is going to be so different.

## Hub launched in USA

The Tennessee Investigative Hub is now live and helping victims of human trafficking. Hub staff are conducting investigations in co-ordination with law enforcement agencies, with referrals also coming from the National Human Trafficking Resource Center hotline.

Additionally, the Hub acts as an 'alternative pathway' for victims too frightened for their safety to speak to the authorities to report their situations.



**"We are proud to have helped Hope for Justice launch initiatives statewide in 2016 to aid in their efforts to end human trafficking and end modern-day slavery."**


*- Phil Wenk, president & CEO, Delta Dental of Tennessee*



*"It's difficult to express everything we want to say... You are not ordinary mortals but superheroes. It is too hard to describe how great you are!"*

*Today we have everything thanks to you. We know how it feels to live. You gave us back our faith in ourselves and faith in dreams that can come true."*

*Extract from a letter written by Józef and Ulryk\*, two victims we are supporting, to Hope for Justice investigators after their rescue.*



Here are  
some of the  
highlights of  
our RESTORE  
work around  
the globe  
during the  
year.

## RESTORE

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Rescue is not an event, it's a process. That's why our work to RESTORE victims of slavery is so important. We run aftercare facilities and provide specialist multi-disciplinary advocacy and support. We have a firm belief in trauma-informed care, and we run residential and educational projects for young survivors that transform their lives.

For adult victims, we help them

access housing, welfare benefits, employment opportunities, mental health support and other specialist care.

Hope for Justice also supports victims through the criminal and civil justice processes to ensure they receive justice and restitution.


This is all essential to give survivors a voice, new life choices and a platform to rebuild their lives.



**“Hope for Justice has played a key role in the area of victim support. The organisation has assisted many female victims of human trafficking in Cambodia through its shelter stay and reintegration programme. In addition, Hope for Justice takes part in improving policies related to victim protection. I hope Hope for Justice will continue working with UN-ACT and other actors to assist the victims and improve their wellbeing.”**

- Tith Lim, United Nations Action for Cooperation  
Against Trafficking in Persons (UN-ACT)

## Major milestone for Lighthouse



The Lighthouse Assessment Centre at Hope for Justice Cambodia welcomed more than 50 girls rescued from sex and labour trafficking into our care over the course of the year. The Lighthouse has proven a massive success since its launch, addressing a vital need.

Survivors use their time at the Lighthouse to begin to regain an essential sense of safety and

empowerment as they address their trauma for the first time and work towards positive futures. Depending on their needs, girls can move into other programmes, including those run by Hope for Justice such as the Dream Home residential facility or Shine Career School, or – where appropriate – be reintegrated back into their families or community.



Young survivors of sex trafficking safe in the care of The Lighthouse Assessment Centre

# Approval for our projects from the Cambodian government

Hope for Justice has successfully become the first NGO in Cambodia to get government approval to run an educational programme up to and including grade 10 (age 15), and is working to add grades 11 and 12 over the next two years.

This achievement was marked at a ceremony at our Shine Career School – a fantastic celebration of the students' tremendous efforts and academic achievements over the past year, also attended by government ministers and representatives of the Cambodian Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport.

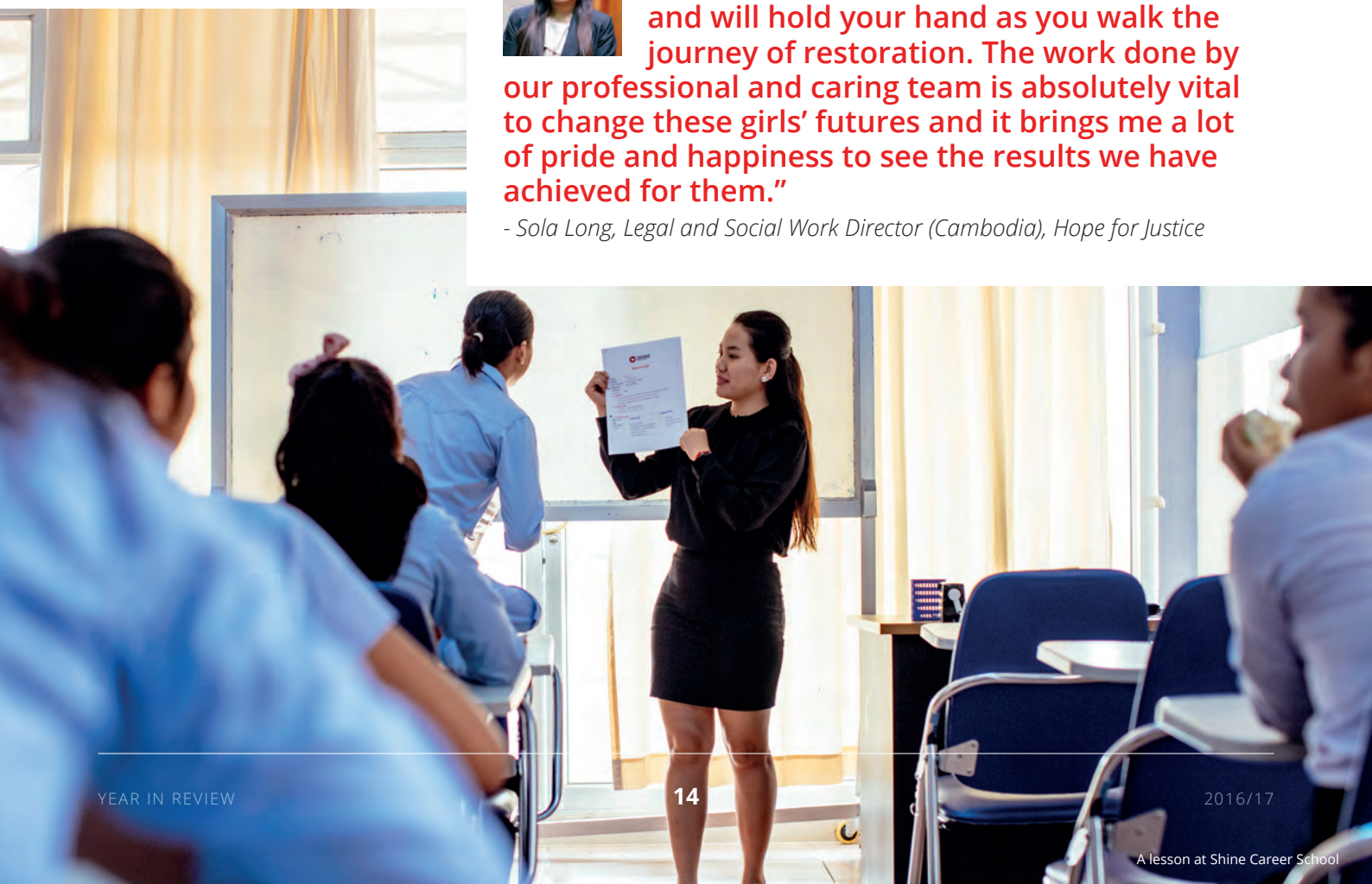
Shine Project Manager, Nourn Vanna, education liaison to the Ministry, said getting government approval and a formal Memorandum of Understanding is *"a sign of their trust"*. He added: *"They know about Hope for Justice and they know about Shine. They trust us to provide quality education for our students."*

Sam Onn Ngin, Operations Director at Shine Career School, said the certifications open up many more educational and professional opportunities for the girls.



**"This is what we tell the girls we help: you are safe now. We are here with you and will hold your hand as you walk the journey of restoration. The work done by our professional and caring team is absolutely vital to change these girls' futures and it brings me a lot of pride and happiness to see the results we have achieved for them."**

- Sola Long, Legal and Social Work Director (Cambodia), Hope for Justice



# Bopha's Story

*A new future*



When Bopha came into Lighthouse her whole life had been disrupted by the man that trafficked her. She was rescued from a province several hours away from Phnom Penh and her hometown. Before being trafficked, Bopha was in school and hopeful for her future – but months of exploitation disrupted her academic progress.

Thankfully her rescue, facilitated by one of our partners, brought her to Lighthouse where the future could be reset. We supported Bopha through the court process and

provided critical trauma therapy during her time with us.

But in order to keep Bopha on track with her education she attended classes at Shine, where she received individual tutoring to help her catch up and prepare for her exam to move on to the next grade.

**Lighthouse was a place for her to start over, but also step back into the life she deserves. A life where she can pursue her dreams.**

## Ján's Story

*Reaching breaking point*

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Ján\* spent most of the last 15 years being exploited by a trafficking gang who forced him into domestic servitude and then into exploitative labour, controlling his wages and movements.

He has been beaten, threatened and abused mentally and physically. Treated like a house-slave, he was later put to work in factories, gardens, and other hard manual work.

**He was terrified to try to escape because of threats his traffickers made against him. They regularly checked his phone and monitored his movements to stop him making friends or contacting anyone who could help him.**

The traffickers opened multiple bank accounts in Ján's name but had complete control over them. Ján did not have good English, and felt entirely isolated and had no one to confide in. He was trafficked all over the country, never receiving any income, just tobacco and low-quality food, forced to live in dilapidated and dirty accommodation.

But then his traffickers tried to find him a new job through a recruitment agency that had been trained to spot the signs of modern slavery. They raised the alarm and contacted Hope for Justice. Our specialist team managed to speak to Ján while he was away from his traffickers, and found him in a broken state – unable to go on being psychologically coerced and controlled every single day, having no control over his life.

Hope for Justice helped him to escape, and worked with his employer to get his remaining salary paid directly to him. He said it was a real leap of faith for him to seek freedom after so long under the control of his traffickers.

He managed to escape his accommodation in the early hours of the morning to meet with the Hope for Justice team, who whisked him away to safety and a new life in freedom.

\*Name changed to protect the victim's identity

**"We were incredibly impressed with the entire Hope for Justice programme, and how they are set up to respond in a strategic, effective way. We love how the focus is on excellence, professionalism, and achieving outcomes to help victims find healing, hope, and justice. We love the entire restorative care process, and how 90% of those who go through the rehabilitation process never return to traffickers. During our search, we've found this to be the highest success rate among non-profits fighting human trafficking."**

*- The D. Gary Young, Young Living Foundation*

## 'They can release the trauma from their lives through sports'

Young survivors of sex trafficking supported by Hope for Justice Cambodia picked up new skills and had a huge amount of fun at a Sports Day.

The girls spend much of their time at Hope for Justice's Dream Home – a residential community in Cambodia's capital Phnom Penh for girls rescued from sexual exploitation and forced labour – and studying at Shine Career School. They are also given opportunities to participate in events planned by Hope for Justice staff and volunteers.



Photo credit: Annelise Blackwood

Sports Day is dedicated to giving the girls time to play outside and learn new sports they may have not tried before. It also helps team-building, confidence, and is even a form of therapy, helping to release the trauma from their lives through sports. It is just one of the many ways Hope for Justice gives the girls new experiences.



Photo credit: Annelise Blackwood

## Recommendations to improve victim care and support

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Hope for Justice in the UK worked with other anti-trafficking NGOs and agencies on a wide-ranging report detailing exactly what policy and legislative changes are needed to facilitate recovery, reintegration and prevent re-exploitation.

**This groundbreaking report is being used to inform government on guidance, policy and legislation.**

We have also continued to campaign and maintain pressure over the issue of victims being made destitute and homeless because of a lack of welfare assistance after exiting the government-funded 45-day recovery period. Our team briefed key parliamentarians and the UK Anti-Slavery Commissioner, who subsequently requested a Parliamentary enquiry. We submitted detailed evidence to this enquiry, whose final report made strong recommendations for change that we fully endorse.



**“Hope for Justice are a key organisation in raising awareness, providing expertise and giving the best support to victims. They are also playing a key role in helping to coordinate the work of both the West Yorkshire and National Anti-Trafficking and Modern Slavery Network. I thank them for the difference they have made in West Yorkshire and further afield in this fight against human trafficking and modern slavery.”**

*- Mark Burns-Williamson, Police and Crime Commissioner for West Yorkshire*

# REFORM

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*Our work to REFORM society is all about moving beyond reacting to slavery and onto preventing it happening in the first place, which will require systemic change.*



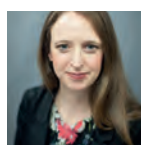
Our frontline work provides the evidence base to inform our legislative campaigning activities to ensure that law, policy and practice all work in harmony to protect victims, deter traffickers and combat the problem.

We deliver specialist training and resources to the professionals most likely to come into contact with victims. In 2016-17, just under 60% of all referrals to Hope for Justice of potential victims came from organisations or individuals we had trained.

Here are some of the highlights of our REFORM work around the globe during the year.

We seek to improve public awareness about the facts of trafficking around the world, so more and more people are equipped to spot the signs, raise concerns, and pressure their representatives for action.

We also have a fundamental belief in the need to tackle slavery at its source, such as by working with the business sector to identify and eliminate slavery from supply chains.



**“The work we are doing is both life-changing and world-changing, helping to ensure a better future for victims but also changing laws and societies to make them hostile to modern slavery.”**

*- Phillippa Roberts, Legal Director, Hope for Justice*

# End Modern Slavery Initiative made law after long-running campaign

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Hope for Justice welcomed the passage of an important new initiative that seeks to end modern slavery worldwide and on which we ran our 'TOGETHER, WE CAN END IT' campaign in support. The End Modern Slavery Initiative, championed by US Senator Bob Corker of Tennessee, was passed by Congress and then signed into law in December. A new US government-backed grant-making foundation, seeking to raise \$1.5bn, will fund anti-slavery projects around the world.



Senator Corker said: "Hope for Justice played a critical role in those efforts, and I appreciate the

work this important organization continues to do to rescue and restore victims of modern slavery."



## Thousands informed and trained in Norway

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Hope for Justice shared key messages about the impact of modern slavery and our vital work to end it at large conferences and events in Norway, informing thousands of people about this devastating issue.

We also launched our awareness training programme in Norway, with hundreds of people already trained and many tip-offs and referrals generated as a result.

## Sebastian's Story

*Leaving fear behind*

Sebastian\* was promised a good job and accommodation in the UK but was deceived, trapped in a cycle of forced labour.

He was forced to sleep on a mattress in a squalid room shared with many others, in a house with no heating where he often went hungry.

He never received his wages for long hours at a factory, instead receiving lies about 'deductions'. He was too afraid of his traffickers to challenge them directly and had heard terrifying stories about what happened to those who spoke up.

Sebastian just did not know what to do, until he heard about a friend who'd managed to get help from Hope for Justice.

He escaped to a local church where we were able to help him. Since then, Hope for Justice has supported Sebastian with housing and welfare benefits, and advocated for his rights as a victim of trafficking.

We are also helping him with a potential criminal prosecution against his traffickers and ensuring the debts run up in his name by his traffickers are written off.

Today, Sebastian is doing really well in a supported project and recently moved house. He is happy and is involved in his local community – volunteering, attending church and going to college.



**"Hope for Justice is among those organisations taking the lead in addressing the issue of modern day slavery in today's Great Britain. Their organisation is the only NGO working from the point of rescue right through to advocacy."**

- Chief Constable Shaun Sawyer, Devon & Cornwall Police, National Police Lead for Modern Slavery

*\* Survivor's name changed to protect his identity*



**"What's special for us about Hope for Justice is that they are able to offer support and services which cover all aspects of training, prevention, investigation and response. They are a highly effective, efficient and well-connected organisation."**

*- Chris Harrop, Group Marketing Director with responsibility for sustainability, Marshalls*

## Hope for Justice briefs President at the White House



Photo credit: Pablo Martinez Monsivais, Associated Press

In February 2017, Hope for Justice was one of six anti-trafficking organisations invited to the White House to brief the President and his officials in person.

A strengthened US government response affects everything –

whether that is working together with us on making sure that businesses are keeping modern slavery out of their supply chains, or sharing best practice on victim care. We are now working with the White House on those two key issues.



## Traffickers forced to compensate their victims.

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We were delighted to announce that 18 survivors being supported by Hope for Justice in England received compensation via criminal proceedings following the conviction of their traffickers.

This is a rare victory – before this case, only eight compensation orders of this kind were made in the entire UK from 2004-14, which is just a tiny fraction of the 211 people who were found guilty of trafficking and slavery-related crimes in the same period.

Hope for Justice legal director, Phillipa Roberts, said that without our support, victims may not have been able to give evidence in court, since many would have ended up homeless at the time of the court case.



## Government agency to change guidance after Hope for Justice intervention

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A criminal injuries compensation claim by a victim of slavery that was initially rejected by the authorities was later granted at appeal after Hope for Justice UK engaged specialist lawyers. We provided both evidence for the appeal and support to the victim at the tribunal. The Criminal Injuries Compensation Authority, an executive agency of the UK Ministry of Justice, will change its guidance as a result of this case.

Restitution is a vital part of the restorative process, and this change should help more victims to access compensation.

## Training for banking group proves massive benefit to survivors

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It is common for victims of modern slavery to have bank accounts opened in their name by traffickers, to be used for money laundering, loans or benefit fraud. Post-rescue, this fraudulent activity can continue to haunt survivors, preventing them opening new bank accounts – which in turn stops them getting legitimate work.

Our UK Advocacy team have been working with the fraud department of Lloyds Banking Group to mitigate this. Bank staff are now trained to ensure a victim's exploitation does not prevent them opening a new account. Already, survivors we support have finally been able to open authentic bank accounts and re-enter the labour market, gaining their independence.

Our team also appear in a Lloyds internal training video on this issue.



## Srey Maly's Story

*A life transformed*

Srey Maly\* had a traumatic and troubled childhood filled with terrifying violence. She ran away from home, and began spending time with a new group of friends – but one of them betrayed her, getting her hooked on drugs and using that dependence to sell her into the sex trade.

One of Hope for Justice's partner NGOs in Cambodia rescued Srey Maly and referred her to our Dream Home, where our clinically trained team have been stabilising her aggression and withdrawal symptoms. They also developed an emotional safety plan for her.

Srey Maly has been exposed to things a teenager should never experience, and still has lots to learn and to overcome. But there's been a significant change in her attitude recently – she knows how to clear her head and she even reaches out to help her peers who also struggle with aggression. Thanks to the excellent education and advice provided by Shine Career School, she wants to study to become an accountant and really has something to aim for now.



**"I'm honoured and blessed to call Hope for Justice**

**a partner with IWILLSURVIVE.org. Their constant efforts to rescue and restore victims of human trafficking are critical. They truly foster and encourage these individuals to overcome the tragedies they have faced as well as their oppressors in the spirit of a true survivor!"**

*- Gloria Gaynor, GRAMMY Award winning recording artist and founder of IWILLSURVIVE.org*

## 'We are grateful and humbled'

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This has been another year of investment into programme and development for Hope for Justice. We have extended our areas of operation, laid down infrastructure for future expansion, and developed our work to rescue and restore victims of modern slavery.

We have been taking action to reform society and change public opinion in order to bring an end to slavery forever, and have significantly scaled up the amount of work we do with businesses and the corporate sector to cut modern slavery out of their supply chains.



### We dare to believe in another future – one of a world free from slavery.

Finally, I would like to pay tribute to the two elements that are making our vision a reality: firstly, to the staff and volunteers of Hope for Justice who apply their considerable skills and time freely without stinting.

Secondly, to the most generous group of people we could hope to know – you, our donors. We recognise that some give out of plenty, and others out of need. For your individual sacrifices, we are truly both grateful and humbled.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rob Allen'.

**Rob Allen**  
Chief Operating Officer, Hope for Justice

[www.hopeforjustice.org](http://www.hopeforjustice.org)

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*\* Survivors' names changed throughout to protect their identities*

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