

LIFEWAY NETWORK



2024 IMPACT REPORT



It felt like
somewhere I
wanted to get
comfortable. ...
I love that it felt
like home.



LIFEWAY SAFE HOUSE RESIDENT



Dear Friends,

It is with deep honor that I step into the role of executive director of LifeWay Network. For nearly two decades, this organization has been a place of hope, healing and empowerment for survivors of human trafficking, and I am humbled to serve alongside such a dedicated community of staff, board members, volunteers and supporters.

My own journey in this work began as a Peace Corps volunteer and Fulbright Scholar, when I first witnessed traffickers recruiting children and youth from schools and orphanages. That moment set me on a path that has spanned more than 25 years and taken me across the globe, always alongside survivors, developing innovative, survivor-driven solutions. Today, I am privileged to bring those experiences to LifeWay Network as we build upon Sister Joan's powerful vision.

Looking ahead, our 2025–2028 Strategic Plan charts a bold roadmap: strengthening leadership, infrastructure, programs and funding so that LifeWay grows as a professional, sustainable organization. Rooted in our core values of integrity, community, empathy, courage and empowerment, this plan positions us to achieve greater impact while remaining true to our mission.

Together, we will ensure every survivor has the chance to be strong, connected and free.

With gratitude,
Ali

ALISON BOAK

Executive Director





Human trafficking is one of the fastest growing criminal industries in the world. It's second only to drug trafficking as the most profitable form of transnational crime. Human trafficking generates an estimated \$150 billion annually.

Human trafficking affects adults and children in every community around the world, including yours.

Trafficking survivors come to LifeWay Network in numerous ways, including through self-referral, nonprofit partners, governmental agencies, faith-based organizations, anti-trafficking task forces and law enforcement.

Since its founding in 2007, LifeWay Network has emphasized the power of collaboration in creating the trafficking-free future we all envision. We believe in bringing people together to form a community and address a global issue with a significant local impact.

Learn More, Take Action

LifeWay Network's website, www.lifewaynetwork.org, is a trusted resource with information about human trafficking, including the warning signs to look for and the steps you can take if you suspect trafficking.

If you or someone you know may be a victim of human trafficking:

- Call the National Human Trafficking Hotline at 1-888-373-7888 (toll-free, available 24/7, with interpreters on hand).
- Or text "HELP" or "INFO" to 233733 (BEFREE) for immediate support.

Trained advocates are available day and night to listen, provide assistance, and connect you with the help you need.



MISSION

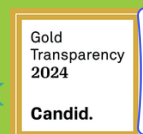
LifeWay Network joins the global movement against human trafficking by providing safe housing for women who have been trafficked and offering education on human trafficking.

VISION

LifeWay Network envisions a world in which the trafficking of human beings is eradicated and every survivor is strong, connected and free.

Founded in 2007 by Sister Joan Dawber, LifeWay Network is a 501(c)3 registered in New York State.

LifeWayNetwork.org



LifeWay Network served 4,000 meals in 2024.

Many women arrive at our safe houses with only the clothes on their backs. We provide three home-cooked meals a day and all essentials for daily living—clothing, toiletries and more—so survivors can focus on healing and rebuilding their lives.



This year, we connected with 1,248 people, from classrooms to community centers—690 of them youth who are now better prepared to protect themselves and others. But our story doesn't stop there. Since our founding, LifeWay Network has educated more than 30,000 people about human trafficking and the signs to watch for. Each presentation builds momentum toward a world free from exploitation.

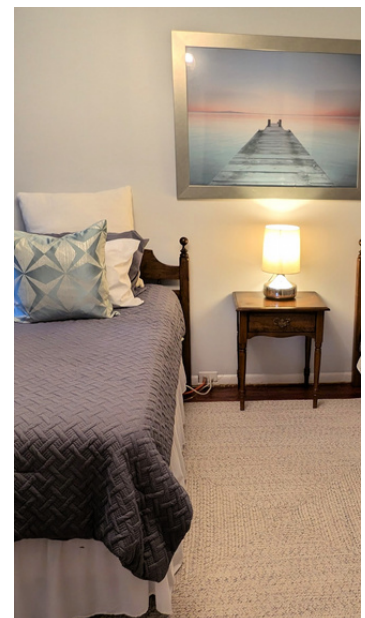
YEAR IN REVIEW IMPACT AT A GLANCE

In 2024, we provided



safe nights for our women residents.

LifeWay's safe house in Queens benefitted from a makeover starting in October, thanks to the vision, labor and generosity of our incredible donors. The response from the survivors has been overwhelming. They love the changes, especially the brighter and more open feel of the renovated spaces. The effort also has reinforced the sense of value and worth that survivors often struggle to reclaim. [We created a video of the transformation.](#)



PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Safe housing is foundational to healing from a trafficking experience and avoiding instances of re-trafficking. It's key to a survivor's safety, especially if her trafficker is not in jail. And it provides a critical opportunity to decompress, to recover mentally and physically, to establish finances and obtain necessary skills.



Spotlight: Community Dinners

On Wednesday nights, residents share a meal in LifeWay Network's comprehensive safe house as we talk about our days and prepare for a therapeutic workshop: financial literacy, resume writing, nutrition, creative writing, yoga, art or a game night.



"I've been working in the anti-trafficking space for several years now and I have found no organization better than LifeWay. Their staff is knowledgeable and compassionate and perhaps most importantly prompt in their response to people in need. I couldn't be more impressed by the work they do."

—Brian Joseph, author of *Vegas Concierge*



LifeWay Network's **education program** is built on the premise that every person has the power to fight against human trafficking using their own unique skills, networks and consumer choices. Our goal? To stop trafficking before it starts.

Young people are particularly vulnerable to traffickers online. LifeWay Network has developed resources to arm adults and teens, including a simulation of an online trafficking situation and a student activity guide.

Spotlight: Convent of the Sacred Heart

After a presentation by LifeWay Network Director of Education Josephine Crisostomo, computer science students at Convent of the Sacred Heart interviewed survivors to identify how they might use technology to support the women's recovery.

The yearlong project resulted in [a blog on lifewaynetwork.org](https://lifewaynetwork.org), [a news article in the Tablet magazine](#), and an innovative anxiety-calming biofeedback bracelet that won an award from Project Invent for the students' work as well as their partnership with LifeWay Network. Josephine was named a Community Partner of the Year by Project Invent.

2024 SPOTLIGHTS

Prepared for Success

In April, a LifeWay Network safe house resident completed job training—and within weeks received two job offers. Our programs equip survivors with the skills and confidence they need to enter the workforce and build independent lives.



Healing in Community

Thanks to the Pound Ridge Working Moms Group, LifeWay Network residents experienced the Rockettes' Christmas Spectacular together. Sharing this joyful outing gave survivors a chance to connect, celebrate, and see New York through fresh eyes—reminding them that healing happens not just through services, but through moments of belonging and community.



Advocating for Justice

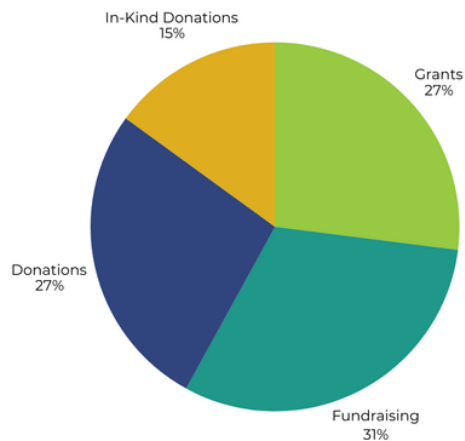
LifeWay Network actively amplifies survivors' voices and pushes for systemic change. This year:

- **Standing with Survivors:** Director of Education Josephine Crisostomo joined Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg Jr., elected officials and advocates at a press conference supporting Bill S349B/A1940A, which would eliminate the five-year statute of limitations for sex trafficking and child sex trafficking crimes in New York State.
- **Fighting Trafficking in Hotels:** In August, LifeWay Network supported the passage of Int. No. 991-A, the "Safe Hotels Act," bipartisan legislation designed to combat human trafficking in New York City's hospitality industry.
- **Strengthening Local Networks:** LifeWay Network became a member of the Westchester County Anti-Trafficking Task Force, forging a stronger network of resources and relationships to combat trafficking and provide referrals for safe housing.

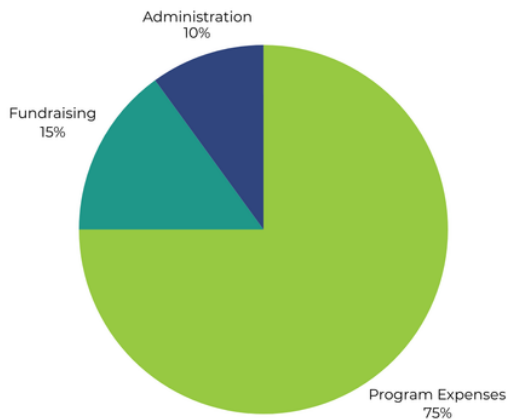
Through these efforts, LifeWay Network works to create a legal and social environment that protects survivors, strengthens accountability and prevents future trafficking.

2024 FINANCIALS

INCOME



EXPENSES



Fueling Our Mission, Stewarding Our Resources

Revenue

In 2024, LifeWay Network's mission was sustained by the generosity of a broad community of supporters. Contributions came from individuals, foundations, faith communities and partner organizations who believe in creating a world free from human trafficking. This strong base of support enabled us to provide safe housing, education and advocacy to survivors while growing awareness across communities.

Expenses

LifeWay Network remains committed to stewarding resources responsibly and ensuring that every dollar directly advances our mission. The largest share of our spending supported survivor services—providing safe housing, trauma-informed care and long-term empowerment. Additional investments went toward education and advocacy efforts that raise awareness and prevent exploitation, while essential administrative and fundraising costs allowed us to sustain and expand our impact.

**LifeWay Network
Board of Directors**

- Yasmeen Mock
- Elizabeth Kolb
- Evan Harrel
- Marianne Mocarski
- Mary McMahon
- Roberta Kerins
- Karen McSherry
- Adam Cooper
- Lorraine Gonzalez-Camastra
- Rosamond Blanchet—
Corporation Member
- Carol De Angelo—
Corporation Member
- Peggy McVetty—
Corporation Member
- Tesa Fitzgerald—
Corporation Member

GUIDING LIFEWAY NETWORK'S MISSION

The board of directors is at the heart of LifeWay Network's leadership. These individuals generously give their time, expertise and vision to ensure that survivors of human trafficking have access to safety, healing and long-term empowerment. Their commitment reflects the values of compassion, justice and dignity that guide our mission.

Champions, Stewards and Advocates


Board members do more than provide governance—they are advocates, ambassadors and stewards of our mission. They help strengthen partnerships, ensure financial accountability and champion our work in communities near and far. Their leadership ensures that every decision is made with survivors' needs at the center.

"Ending human trafficking requires collaboration, courage and vision. Our board members embody this belief every day, bringing diverse skills and perspectives to support LifeWay Network's mission."

Looking Ahead

With the board's guidance, LifeWay Network continues to grow stronger, more resilient and more effective in creating pathways to freedom. Their leadership reminds us that change is possible when we work together toward a world without trafficking.

LOOKING AHEAD



LifeWay Network's 2025–2028 strategic plan charts a bold path forward, guiding us to evolve into a professional and sustainable organization that strengthens our mission with discipline, measurable outcomes and evidence-based practices. Rooted in the vision of our founder, Sister Joan, and grounded in our enduring values of integrity, community, empathy, courage and empowerment, this plan positions us for growth and greater impact. By focusing on leadership, infrastructure, programs, and sustainable funding, we are building not only for today but for a future where every survivor can be strong, connected and free — ensuring LifeWay Network remains a beacon of hope and change in the fight against human trafficking.

With the support of our community, donors, and partners, we are ready to turn this vision into reality.

You are the ones who show up and help out at the events and fundraisers, in the safe houses and the office. You are the ones who share your time and ideas so that the organization can constantly improve. You are the ones who give so generously to put a roof over survivors' heads, food on the table and hope in their hearts.

With this, you create opportunities for a different future for women who have survived trauma. For a life of independence. Freedom. From the staff of LifeWay Network, thank you for all you do. You inspire us.

Support LifeWay Network

Shop our Amazon Wish List:
See <https://bit.ly/LifeWayWishList>

Volunteer. Email
contact@lifewaynetwork.org.

Like, comment on and share
our social media at Facebook,
Instagram, LinkedIn and
Threads.

Host a Meet and Greet to help
grow our network. Email
development@lifewaynetwork.org.

Host an educational
presentation for your school,
group or organization. Write to
education@lifewaynetwork.org.

Donate. Give at
LifeWayNetwork.org.



LifeWay Network is a registered 501(c)3.

www.lifewaynetwork.org

contact@lifewaynetwork.org

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ENDING HUMAN TRAFFICKING.
RECLAIMING LIFE.

SAVE THE DATE

- The 2025 Event Towards New Life is slated for May 7, 2025. See you there!