

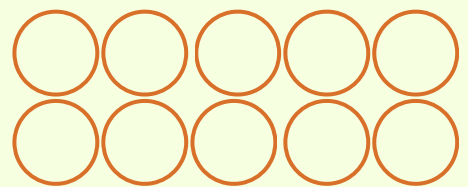


SOLID GROUND
INTERNATIONAL



ANNUAL REPORT

Shelter. Healing. Hope.



2025

Dear Friend of Solid Ground International,

This past year, our residents reminded me why our mission matters. Every woman who enters our homes arrives with her own challenges and goals. Despite their different backgrounds, they share common needs: hope, belonging, and the opportunity to build a strong future.

I witnessed this transformation unfold time and again. Residents overcame fear and hopelessness, discovered courage and confidence, and demonstrated remarkable perseverance. They flourished in school, employment, and personal growth.

One resident, Ash, described her experience this way: "I haven't been very optimistic about life in general. There were many moments when I wanted to give it all up. But ever since I became an SGI resident, I've slowly become more hopeful. I look forward to my mornings and sleep soundly at night. I never thought I would need a family to guide and support me at the age of 25, but everyone here is so loving and nurturing."

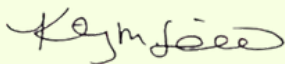
Ash's words moved me. She was once trying to navigate life alone, and now she has the guidance and support of a community who sincerely cares about her.

Each resident who walks through our doors longs for a place to belong. Jules shared, "I truly feel like I belong here, like I am part of a family. Looking back at my time here, I realize there are so many positive things I have benefited from, especially in my personal growth and in achieving my purpose for being here." Hearing Jules say this resonated with me deeply. She found more than a home – she found a future.

I am encouraged knowing their stories do not end when a resident leaves our program. They keep in touch and visit our homes. Some alumni are social workers who serve in nonprofit organizations and others are marketing and business managers. Their lives are a testament to the power of a supportive community.

Ash plans to go to college, and Jules has two years of college left. The trajectory of their lives has profoundly changed, and your generosity is an important reason why. Every story of hope, healing, and success shared in this report is, in many ways, your story as well.

With Sincere Gratitude,



Kimberly M. Shields
SGI Director

Board of Directors

Lukuang Lynette Hsu, MD – Chair
David Wolter – President
Sandra Borgest – Secretary
Romina Yeganeh – Treasurer

*In all cases, resident names have been changed to protect privacy.

**In all cases, residents give consent for the use of their photos.



ASSISTING SURVIVORS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE SINCE 2013

OUR MISSION

The mission of Solid Ground International is to provide housing, healing, and hope through the establishment and maintenance of transitional housing. We create safe environments and provide supportive services to enable residents to overcome their trauma and flourish in their independent lives.

OUR VISION

Solid Ground International is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the restoration of individuals exploited by human trafficking and gender-based violence.

PROGRAM DETAILS



Family-style housing near employment and educational opportunities



Educational financial assistance, academic tutoring, and job onboarding support



Financial assistance for residents who need medical, dental, and mental health care



Individualized case management support from a full-time, registered social worker



Onsite training in financial management, home life, healthy relationships, health and hygiene, and accessing community resources



Social and spiritual development activities

OUR IMPACT TO DATE

Total number of residents served: 87

Total number of residents served in 2025: 26

Home visits in 2025: 9

SGI facilitates home visits for residents who are able to safely reconnect with their families. These trips often take us to different islands. Jaclyn had not seen her family in two years and was overjoyed to be reunited with them.

Residents who completed college internships: 4

As one such social work intern, Melody conducted community interviews in her assigned area to better understand the needs of an under resourced community. The interviews revealed a lack of proper waste disposal, and Melody was able to provide training in waste management.

EDUCATIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

College Graduations: 23

High School Graduations: 26

Vocational Training: 24



Raven's Story

Raven was rescued from gender-based violence at the age of six. She will graduate from college in 2028. This is her story in her own words.

From a young age, music was how I made sense of the world. Listening to Bruno Mars, Jim Brickman, and Sarah Geronimo taught me that feelings matter. They inspired me to write my own songs to share my story.

When I was six, my grandfather did something that took away my sense of safety and made it hard to trust others. When I finally told someone, she brought me to a government official, and my life changed direction. My mother had no work and my father was gone. I stayed in the government center for 11 years and saw my family once or twice a year. Through all of it, I held onto music. I won singing contests while in the center.

At eighteen I came to SGI, full of hope but also lost. I got carried away and made wrong decisions and my mind got blank. I enrolled in performing arts but did not do well academically. I realized I had to choose the right path and make changes. So I chose to study furniture and cabinetry making to use my creativity skills. When I see my hard work, it makes me happy to see the finished product. I am dedicated to creating more pieces and to one day building my own house.

SGI gave me an education, a safe home, people to count on, and the courage to believe in my future. One day I want to give back to others, especially women who have walked a hard road. I am thankful for all of the support from SGI as I pursue my goals.



Resident Achievements and Life Skills Activities

EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT

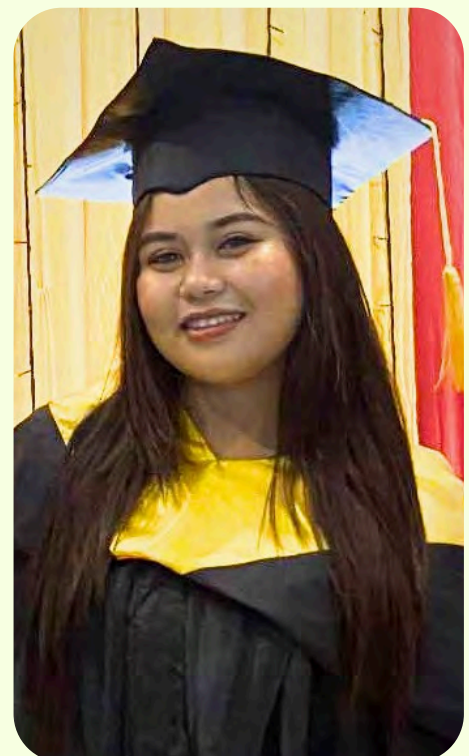
- Eighteen residents pursued college degrees in these majors: Criminology, Cosmetology, Business Administration, Furniture and Cabinet Making, Development Communication, Public Administration, Social Work, Psychology, Electronics, and Industrial Technology in Food Preparation.
- One college graduate went onto meaningful work at a residential home that provides safe housing for children who have been trafficked.
- Three residents completed grade 11.
- Two residents worked for a social enterprise called International Sanctuary.

RESTORATION

- One resident traveled to Thailand to speak at the Asia Region Anti-Trafficking Conference to assist in the launch of the Asia Region Survivor and Allies Network.
- One resident was an officer for International Justice Mission's Philippine Survivor Network.
- Eight residents had active mental health engagements with our psychologist.

LIFE SKILLS TRAINING

- All residents did menu planning, food shopping, and cooking for the home.
- Nine residents participated in our Aspire program, which provides natural opportunities for them to implement the life skills training they have received while staying in our core homes.
- The residents learned to be mindful of their dental health through collaboration with a partner organization that held a free dental clinic at SGI.
- The residents attended life skills seminars on financial literacy and mental health.
- All residents were encouraged and supported in obtaining summer work so they may experience gainful employment.
- Five residents were involved in community organizations that provided opportunities for them to volunteer for causes that align with their values.





Aspire Program

Our Aspire program offers essential housing and life skills training for residents who are finishing college or stepping into the workforce. We're deeply grateful to our community of supporters, whose generosity makes this second level of care possible.

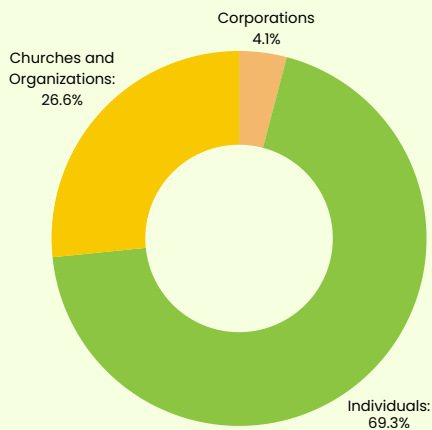
Jacinthe, an Aspire resident since October 2024, puts it beautifully:

“ I'm allowing myself to grow in ways that truly matter to me. Life in Aspire has been both challenging and formative. I've learned to do more on my own and stay strong through all kinds of difficulties. Aspire has shaped so much of who I am today, and I'm truly thankful to SGI for this opportunity. ”

Financials

Total Contributions: \$155,321

Source of Contributions



Resource Distribution

