OUR VISION

Solid Ground International is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the help, assistance, and healing of individuals exploited by human trafficking through the establishment and maintenance of transitional housing.

OUR GOAL

The goal of SGI is to launch the residents into a successful independent life, focusing on transformation into the best individuals they can become.
A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Friend,

ALLOW ME TO tell you about Lydia. Her mother is unemployed and her father drives a bicycle to take people from their crowded neighborhood to the main road to get public transportation. Passengers pay twenty cents a ride. When Lydia was in high school, her family’s financial struggles led her to find work in a bar where she was trafficked. The Philippine government in partnership with International Justice Mission rescued her, and we welcomed her into our transition home a few months later. Lydia was finishing high school when we met, and she was determined to graduate from college.

Through our years together, we have come to know and love one another just as family members do. Lydia sure can have mood swings. Sometimes the whole Filipino neighborhood can hear her joy-infected, exuberant laughter, and other times there is a pervasive silence about her, a gloomy expression that communicates she prefer to be left alone. So we give her some space and watch her face every day with fierce grit, whether out loud or with quiet grace. And then she graduates from college and we stand beside her and cheer with arms raised, not only because she is holding her diploma but also because she has earned every moment of glorious clamor that has gone into seeing this day become a reality.

In 2017, we assisted 21 women with safe, transitional housing, who, like Lydia, had no other viable housing options. This was made possible through your generous donation. Thank you for being an integral part of each woman’s story; she now imagines a more hopeful and beautiful future for herself. Through the giving of your resources, you make it possible for her to live in a home where she experiences the love of family and the support and care she needs while working hard to achieve her goals.

Thank you for believing in each survivor when she required your unwavering support the most. What an honor it is to be writing these stories of healing and hope with you.

With Gratitude,
Kimberly

Kimberly Shields
Director

Board of Directors
Lynette Hsu, MD
David Wolter
Sandra Borgest
Romina Yeganeh
PROGRAM DETAILS

40

Total number of women we have assisted

Housing
Family-style, safe housing accessible to employment and educational opportunities

Medical and Dental Assistance
Financial assistance for residents needing medical and dental check ups and treatment

Life Skills Training
Onsite training in money management, home life, healthy relationships, health and hygiene, and accessing community resources

Case Management
Individualized case management support from qualified staff

Educational and Vocational Support
Academic tutoring and new job requirements assistance
RESIDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Housing

- We welcomed seven women to our homes.
- Ginette and Adadlise continued their grade 12 educations.
- Ada continued her second year of college as an accounting student.
- Rakel passed the job assessment to become a junior data analyst in a business process outsourcing company.
- Raine and Abriel continued to study to take their high school equivalency exam.
- Lexann continued her second year of college as a hotel and restaurant management student.

Life Skills

- Nine women completed A Healthy Me curriculum, facilitated by a medical doctor in partnership with the Philippine Department of Health. They met weekly throughout the summer to learn more about topics such as healthy eating, reducing anxiety, loving your body, and avoiding risky behaviors.
- Three women opened bank accounts.
- All women learned how to do the weekly food shopping, menu planning, and cooking for the women in their home.

Restoration

- Five women successfully completed our program.
- Jaypearl secured full-time work in a reputable company in February. By the end of the year, her manager promoted her to an HR position.
- Abigail and Juliet completed Bloom Asia trainings and passed government exams in Bread and Pastry Production.
- Clarissa graduated from college with a degree in Social Work in March. She took and passed her board exams in June and became a licensed social worker.
- Rosalie passed the job assessment to become a junior data analyst in a business process outsourcing company.
Given our success in the Philippines, we are excited to replicate our transitional housing model in the Dominican Republic to assist more women on the path to healing and restoration. We have completed the government incorporation requirements and look forward to hiring staff and opening the doors to our new home in 2018. We look forward to sharing the stories of our new residents with you.

Total Contributions: $157,806.17

Your generosity makes the Solid Ground homes a reality. Visit our website or follow us on Facebook and Instagram to learn more about how you can engage in restoring lives.