



December 1, 2016

If you are like me, the reality of your life is that you've been able to pursue many possibilities. You've been able to make choices about career, love, and friendship. You've chosen which schools to attend and where you'd like to live. ***You've had freedom.***

Until "Sarah" came to Restore, ***her reality was one where she was exploited and coerced to sell her body.*** She escaped from her trafficker and was referred to live in our Safehome from a partner organization. It was during her time at the Safehome that she began trying to find work and get on her feet.

For Sarah and so many others that Restore serves, ***finding a job is one of the most challenging barriers*** to living independently after leaving their trafficker. Because of the trauma they've experienced, limited English skills, and immigration challenges, securing sustainable employment is often impossible without training and support.

In response, **Restore launched an Economic Empowerment program in 2016** to begin addressing this reality. Sarah was one of our first participants in the Economic Empowerment pilot group and attended weekly supportive services. Here she learned about workers' labor rights in the United States, how to cope with workplace stress, and skills to communicate well with a manager. She wrote her first resume and successfully applied for a position at a food business in NYC that partners with Restore.

Now, ***Sarah is employed***, follows a budget, and uses a savings program. Through our ESL class, her English developed to an intermediate level and she is on a path to live independently. She dreams of helping other women who have similar experiences learn skills and find jobs, just like her Economic Empowerment coach helped her.

Your investment made Sarah's journey to find employment and support her family possible.

On behalf of Sarah and all of the other women you have helped this year, thank you.

Recently, Sarah sat down with one of our staff and showed her a painting she made during her time at Restore. She pointed on the canvas to the butterfly resting on a flower and said she never painted a butterfly before coming to Restore. She pointed to the butterfly and said "this is me."

You have helped hundreds of women like Sarah experience freedom and independence through our Safehome, Client Services, and most recently, our Economic Empowerment program. Your generosity

has made it possible for survivors to find real jobs, support their families, live in safe shelter, and receive the counseling and support they need.

Can we count on your continued support to help more women like Sarah in 2017?

We are committed to this important work, **but we need your help to meet the demand for our programs and serve every woman who needs help.**

Two years ago we had 212 referrals and served 197 women.

Last year we had 456 referrals, and due to capacity, could only serve 292 women.

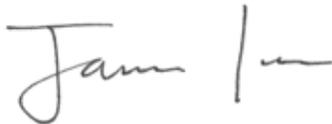
This year, **the demand has continued to increase**, but we've had to cap our current capacity.

We've served 375 women but there are so many more who need help – the vast majority with stories similar to Sarah's.

Will you renew your support and help close the gap to meet this increased need to help survivors?

We believe that sex trafficking is a problem that is ripe and ready to be solved. **Thank you for being part of the solution.**

Sincerely and gratefully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jimmy Lee". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jimmy Lee
Executive Director