

International Justice Mission

f /InternationalJusticeMission @IJM @IJM



International Justice Mission is a global organization that protects people in poverty from violence. IJM partners with local authorities in 19 program offices in 11 countries* to combat slavery, violence against women and children, and other forms of abuse against people who are poor. IJM works to rescue and restore victims, hold perpetrators accountable, and help strengthen public justice systems. IJM's work has been recognized by the U.S. State Department, the World Economic Forum and leaders around the globe, as well as featured by The Guardian, The New York Times, Reuters, BBC and CNN, among many others. Learn more at IJM.org.

Why IJM?



- Modern-day slavery, such as sex trafficking and labor trafficking, exists. There are an estimated 40.3 million people in slavery today. In fact, more children, women and men are trapped in slavery than ever before in human history. One in four victims of slavery is a child, and women and girls unproportionally account for 71% of people enslaved.
- People who are poor live under the threat of violence every day and established anti-slavery laws are rarely enforced in developing countries, which allows criminals to rape, enslave, traffic and abuse the poor without fear.
- IJM works to protect people in poverty from these forms of violence by partnering with local authorities, rescuing victims of violence, bringing criminals to justice, restoring survivors and ultimately strengthen justice systems.
- Once a survivor is reused, IJM's work is not fished. The organization's global aftercare programs seek to establish places where survivors may have safety and stability as well as working to educate local justice system officials in principles of trauma-informed care.
- To date, IJM has rescued more than 49,00 people from oppression and trained more than 67,000 officials since 2012 helping protect more than 150 million people from violence around the world.

IJM Leadership

IJM's mission boils down to the four Rs: RESCUE victims, RESTRAIN criminals, RESTORE survivors, and REPAIR justice systems.



Melissa Russell

Regional President, North America

Melissa Russell serves as IJM's Regional President of North America, leading the strategy ad teams responsible for IJM's constituent, government and corporate partnerships in the United States and Canada. She joined IJM in 2008 and has since served in increasingly senior leadership capacities.

Prior to her current role, Melissa served as Chief Advancement Officer where she led IJM's Global Brand and Communications teams, global revenue and institutional engagement. She launched IJM's first transnational corporate supply chain partnership and the global Freedom Sunday campaign. Under her leader, IJM scaled significant growth through government grants, the IJM Freedom Partner program, and a thriving volunteer movement. Her teams launched offices in Singapore, Hong Kong and South Korea, and ignited worldwide engagement through films featured at Tribeca Film Festival and other premier venues.

Melissa received her B.A. in Journalism and her Masters of Arts in Advertising from the University of Texas at Austin. She lives in the Washington D.C. area with her husband and two sons.

IJM is a global team of lawyers, social workers, community activists and other professionals at work in 19 communities in 11 countries* to protect people in poverty from violence.

As President of IJM United States, Phillip Langford leads partnerships, strategy and alliances that fuel and leverage the impact of IJM and its partners around the globe.

In 2006, Phillip joined IJM as the lead lawyer for the work to combat bonded labor slavery in India. Within his first year in India, he led IJM's expansion into the state of Karnataka, serving as IJM's first Field Office Director based in the state. Since that time, Phillip has led and pioneered the development and expansion of IJM's Justice System Transformation model in over 10 countries across Africa and Asia-Pacific. He has also participated in the planning and execution of scores of successful law enforcement operations to rescue victims and prosecute their traffickers, slave owners and other violent perpetrators.

Philip continues to regularly advise government, corporate and multilateral leaders on scalable solutions to eliminate human trafficking from transnational supply chains and to drive Sustainable Development Goals 8.7 and 16.

Philip and his wife, currently live in the Washington D.C. area with their five children.



Philip Langford

President, IJM United States

“IJM's leadership is comprised of men and women from multiple nations and diverse backgrounds, joining together to end the slave trade for good.”