



A Destiny Foundation Report

ANNUAL REPORT

2019-2020



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I. Introduction

Destiny has integrated a for-profit and nonprofit model, which disrupts the cycles of exploitation that countless girls and young women in Kolkata face.

Destiny focuses on every step of the process of human trafficking, provide prevention, rehabilitation, and reintegration.

When working with our beneficiaries, we seek to keep them out of the cycle of trafficking while helping them to build a new life. Our approach provides our beneficiaries with the following three critical pillars of support:



We use these principles to serve girls and young women from their date of arrival to the moment that they are ready to move out on their own.

This focus on ensuring care from childhood to adulthood lowers the potential for re-trafficking while also fostering prevention of common exploitative scenarios.



At Destiny we often say “one life at a time” because we believe in the power of investing in long-term support.

II. Human Trafficking

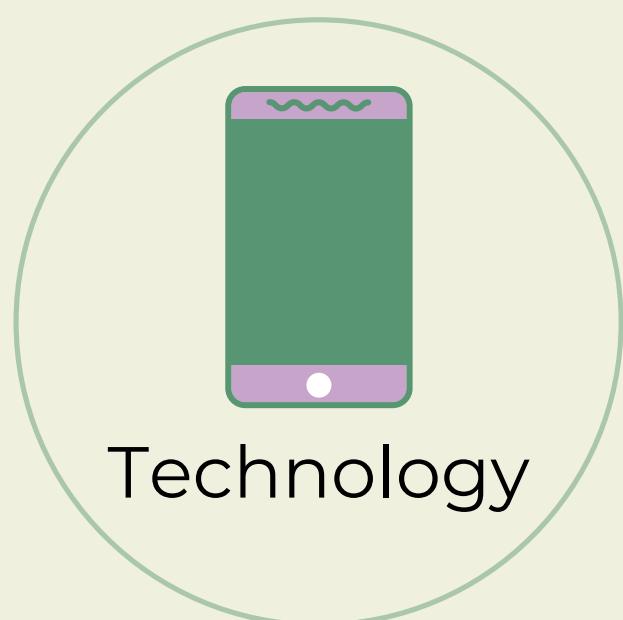
The Situation Today

Human trafficking is one of the most exploitative and violent problems facing societies around the world today.



Human trafficking can be defined as: “the use of **force, fraud, or coercion** to obtain some type of labor or commercial sex act.”

Trafficking is on the rise for many reasons such as:



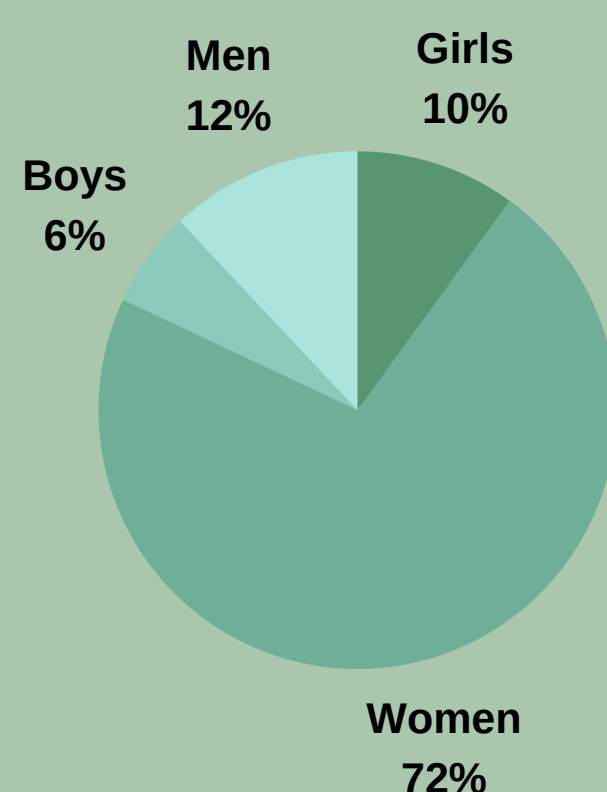
This has resulted in an estimate that **40.3 million** people are currently entrapped in a form of human trafficking today.

Demographics

Of the 40.3 million people entrapped in trafficking,

20% are children. Experts warn that the number is most likely much higher.

Destiny has stepped in to provide economic empowerment, social care, and safety.



In West Bengal, the situation remains dire. Anywhere between **20 to 65 million people are imprisoned** in human trafficking

42% of victims in West Bengal are children

The borderlands between Nepal, Bangladesh, and West Bengal have become a **global hotspot of human trafficking**, with Kolkata at the epicenter.



III. Board of Directors and Members



Smarita
Sengupta



Sanjoy
Sengupta



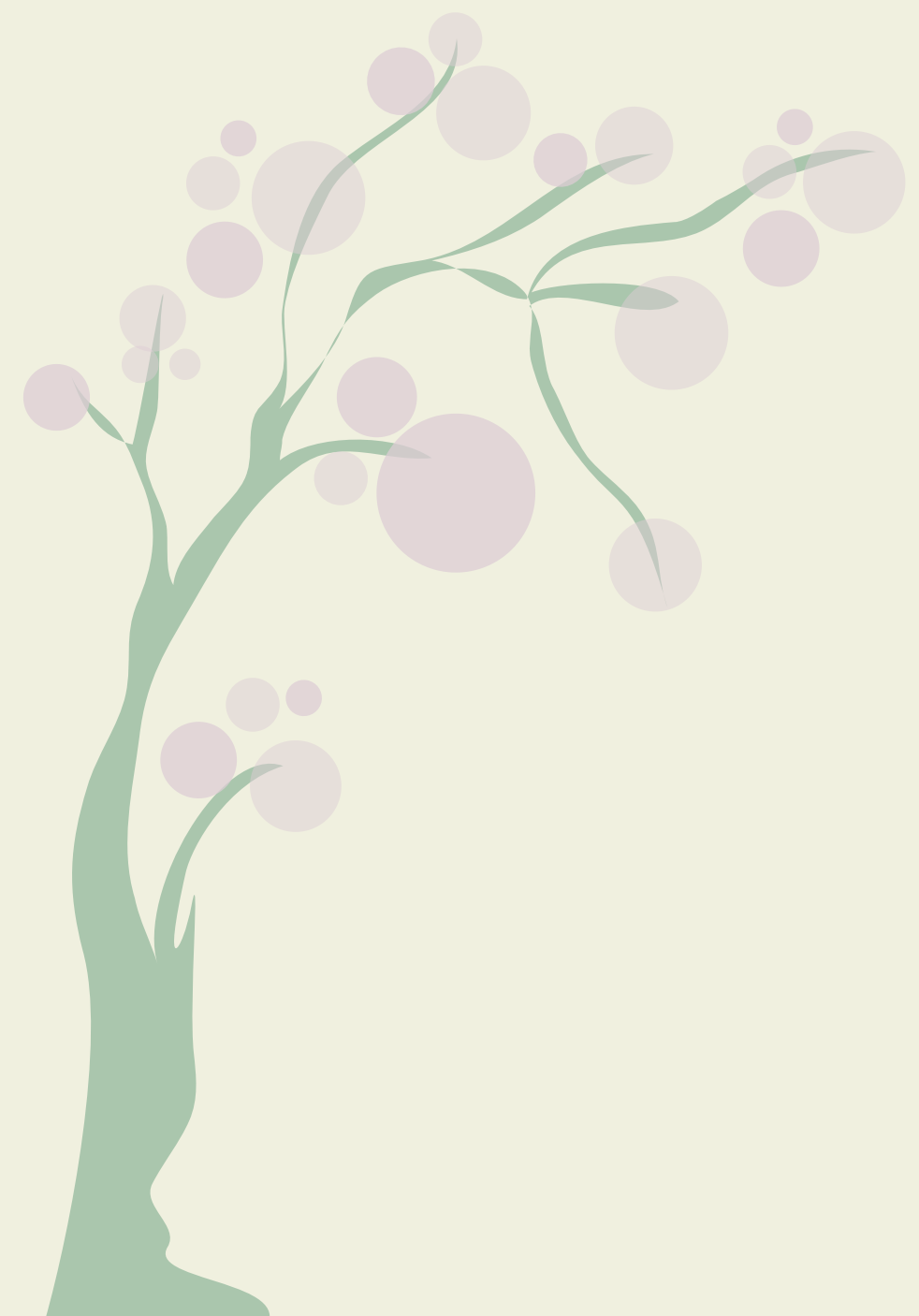
Snigdha
Ray



Raju BuddhedeB
Kayal



Shayoni
Dasgupta



III. Board of Directors and Members



Jayeeta
Bhowmick



Indrakshi
Banerjee



Nilakshi
Sengupta



Phil
Bennett



Martine
Boleson



Anne
Edwarsons

III. Board of Directors and Members



Rebecca
Bavinger



Sharan
Dhanoa



Ishita
Paul

III. Volunteers and Interns



At Destiny, we have developed long term relationships with institutions and volunteers to continue effectuating our mission. Our interns and volunteers are one of the best aspects of our work at Destiny.

In 2019-2020, we hosted several interns from our partner universities. They used their skills and energy to improve our operations and run programmes for the participants. We also were able to catch up with some familiar faces at conferences throughout the year!

IV. Programmes

Destiny has designed its programmes with the sole purpose of assisting our women and girls in achieving **sustainable** independence

Our motto is to end modern slavery.

We work to free women from sexual exploitation and the potential for falling prey to re-trafficking by fostering **empowerment** and **rehabilitation**. To do so, we use a three-tiered model:



We implement this model in our three main projects:



Group Home Programme

At just 18 years of age, girls are often forced to leave the government shelter homes. Many lack the necessary support structures of family, friends, or employment, and thus struggle to live on their own for the first time. This project provides shelter, job training, and basic necessities for young women who have been rescued from human trafficking. .

Khidderpore Community Center

We run a community centre in the heart of the Munshiganj Red Light Area in Kolkata. We offer a variety of social and wellness events, such as sewing training, literacy classes, and business workshops. The purpose of this programme is to improve general well-being in the community with the goal of strengthening their empowerment.



Government Home Project



The Indian Government provides hundreds of shelter homes in West Bengal children have been rescued from a variety of traumatic situations, including sex trafficking, child labour, child marriage, domestic violence, and homelessness. We provide enhanced social services in one government shelter home for girls. We provide arts and crafts programmes, as well as literacy and job-skill training.

Living Proof: Sonia's Story

Originally from a village in Northern India, Sonia was the oldest of her three siblings. Unfortunately, her father was an abusive alcoholic who would mercilessly abuse her mother and his children. Being unable to bear this abuse, Sonia's mother ran away to protect her children. When Sonia turned 13 years old, she began work in a factory. This same year, Sonia was introduced to her future husband, who would frequently visit her family and provide them with assistance.

At just 13 years old, Sonia was married and brought to her husband's home in Bihar. When she arrived, she realized that she was his second wife. Her husband abandoned her with his family, who then forced her to do all of the household labor and starved her and beat her. She was forced into prostitution in the village.

Sonia escaped, but was not safe. As a vulnerable child, she became entrapped in human trafficking through three fake marriage schemes. She was finally rescued during a CID raid from a brothel in Bihar. It was at this time that she joined us at Destiny.

Even in the safety of Destiny, Sonia still faced many difficulties. She struggled with her mental health and had poor physical health. Sonia received the care of our trustworthy community and overcame her pain to successfully complete our empowerment training. Her hard work and strong spirit are a testament to the work of Destiny and our beneficiaries.



V. Operations: Events and Activities

2019-2020 were challenging and impactful years for the community that Destiny seeks to serve Just as in every past year, Destiny has continued to hold a series of consistent events to enact our goal of delivering safe social connections, security, and empowerment to our beneficiaries.



2019

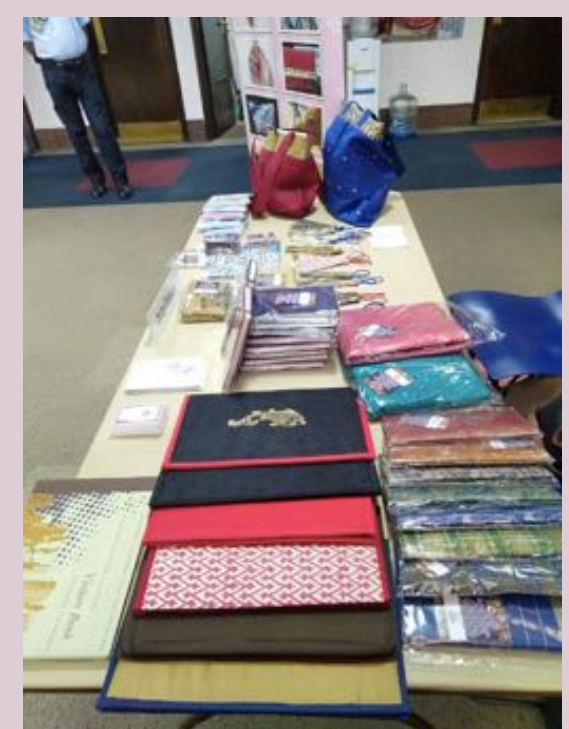


Kingsland Church Visit

In January, this church group visited our Lake Gardens Office as well as Khidirpur Community Center. The volunteers gave community lessons for for both learning and enjoyment.

Kingsland Church Visit

In March, Destiny participated in a fair held at the American consulate where we sold our handicrafts and educated the public about the essential work that Destiny undertakes to protect survivors of trafficking.





Holi celebration

In March, Destiny celebrated Holi with our beneficiaries and community members. Our interns joined in for the opportunity to enjoy Indian culture and to make the day even more colourful.



All Ladies League Fair

Later that year, in July, Destiny participated in the All Ladies League fair at ICCR.



Joy of Giving

Distributed 150 clothes to the children and caregivers of Government shelter homes with the support of local community members.



Christmas Bazar

Destiny Reflection was invited to the German Consulate in Kolkata in December to display their products for sale at a Christmas bazaar.

2019 (continued)



Open House and Film Screening

A gathering of approximately 50 people to generate donations and promote learning through the film *Stolen Innocence*.



Event: Breaking the Chains of Modern Slavery

This panel discussion, organized by Tanya Monsef from the Santa Clara Global Fellows program and the Religious Studies Department, raised awareness.



Facebook South Asia Summit

Organized to address the growing trend of tech platforms and human trafficking, Destiny attended and interacted with other practitioners and contributed to future plans for combatting abuse..

2019 (continued)



Livelihood Network

Joined the Save the Children Livelihood Network of 25 non-profits working towards sustainability.

2020



Social Entrepreneurship Concalve 3 Presentation

Destiny's founder was invited to present at this prestigious regional conference. This conference, under the theme of "Women Changemakers in the Social Sector" aimed to showcase and celebrate these leaders by creating a platform for knowledge-sharing and partnership.



Stanford Master Class

Through the generous support of the Stanford Change Lab and the Hilton Foundation, our founder attended a workshop of "System Transformation" with Martine Boleson. The workshop was attended by 21 senior leaders from around the world and from Google, the United Nations, and other organizations.



SOCAP Event and Meeting with the Miller Center

Partnership and engagement with the Miller Center has been vital for Destiny. Smarita and Sanjoy attended SOCAOP this year in California in order to expand our network further with a community of investors, donors, social enterprises, and non-profits.



Volunteer Events

Destiny hosted a high number of student interns and volunteers from around the world from 2019-2020. They have contributed the following:

- Mental health workshops
- Yoga and Healing workshops
- Fitness and money management
- Literacy, health and hygiene workshops
- Musical workshops
- Jewelry Merchandise
- Self Defense
- Self Care Workshop

VI. Awards and Recognitions



Jijabai Achievers Award 2020

The Women's Development Cell (WDC) at Shivaji College in Delhi honored Destiny for its contributions at the truly grassroots level.

VII. Impact

The programs of 2018-2019 had a large impact in our communities. With our monthly programs and our events, we have provided employment and built a strong network of partnerships with the following universities:



By using our three pillar model of fostering a (1) trusted community, (2) safe accommodation, and (3) economic empowerment, we have seen incredible results for the women with whom we work. Our reach has grown and we are achieving our goal of lowering a participant's probability of being re-trafficked.

Thus far, we
have reached
1,314
participants.

The following figures
demonstrate our
overall impact on
both the well-being
and continued
security of our
beneficiaries.



Destiny
has
provided
120 jobs.

95%

of our beneficiaries
felt optimistic
about the future.

98%

of our
beneficiaries were
not re-trafficked.