



20 17

Annual Report



Letter from the Director



Andrea Baker
Co-Founder/Director

"I want to do what you do!" declared one teen, recounting her dreams for the future. After growing up in our ministry center over the last 12 years she said, "I want to do for others, what you guys did for me." The children in our prevention program are highly vulnerable to sexual exploitation, whose direct caregivers are prostituted women. But this young woman is brimming with possibilities.

Constancy. It's the gift of enduring, remaining faithful and dependable. It calls for commitment and resolute steadfastness, particularly in the face of the seemingly insurmountable. For those whose lives are often chaotic, consistency is an invaluable gift.

2017 was a challenging year for us. Key staff losses, funding challenges and shocking abuse burdened us and clouded our vision. We struggled with burnout, doubt and fatigue. When comparing the numbers, you'll see increase in every area of the ministry, but the fuller story is one of a community who continued to say, "Yes," day after day.

Despite the setbacks, the Lord blessed those thoughtful, prodding steps of obedience. As we grow and mature, we're learning to balance management, improve evaluation processes, and yet stay true to our identity and calling. We successfully intervened and saw restoration in a number of severe child abuse cases. We witnessed the fall of a major trafficking ring where a church grew in its place. Four new artisans were employed in SutiSana, which is growing as a recognized, quality brand combating gender violence. WMFB became the Regional Head of the La Paz Anti-Trafficking Network, increasing our visibility as respected leaders in the fight against sex trafficking in Bolivia. Partnerships increased both nationally and internationally, and we watched the local church rise to action.

In 2018, we will continue to be faithful. Our plans include strengthening discipleship and leadership development, for both our staff, women and children, and improving the educational component of the Children's Program with Montessori-inspired components and resources. We will focus more concentrated efforts on involving the local church, and escalate SutiSana sales and productivity, for more changed lives among prostituted persons and their children in Bolivia.

This past year matured us; we're wiser, more grounded. In large part, we're still here because you are still here with us. We are deeply grateful to journey together with you in this Kingdom work. Your prayers, encouragement and financial giving strengthened and sustained us. And we are honored. I hope you enjoy reading more about what we've been able to accomplish together.

Thank you,
Andrea

Word Made Flesh Bolivia

WMFB has maintained a consistent presence for 16 years in **El Alto's prominent red-light district**, which hosts roughly **500 beds in a dozen brothels**. Here women show the war-torn signs of injustice upon injustice: sexual abuse, alcoholism, domestic violence, single-parenthood, heavy debt and more. **WMFB meets her here**, hoping to break through lies and awaken dormant dreams. And then, when she is ready, **offers her the tools and support** needed to reach them.

Vision

Abundant life for those affected by prostitution in Bolivia

Mission

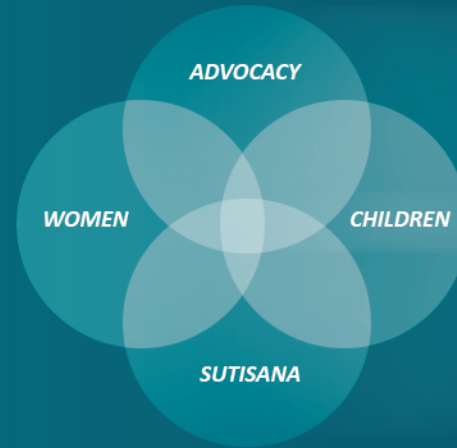
In community, we seek to practice and proclaim the Kingdom of God among persons affected by prostitution, through relationship and opportunities for transformation



intimacy
obedience
humility
service
submission
community
simplicity
suffering
brokenness

WOMEN

affected by prostitution
improve their quality of life
THROUGH OPPORTUNITIES
for change



965 women reached
in the red-light district



34 social, legal or health
emergencies
attended



CHILDREN
AFFECTED
by prostitution
empowered to break
cycles of violence

Gifted

376 health care items
70 chocolates
300 roses
400 blankets



168 women

123 children

visited drop-in center



478 hours of therapy provided



10,851

Educated on human
trafficking through
advocacy efforts

Awaken **God's heart** for the **vulnerable**



Meet Wanda*

She glows with a soft, quiet spirit that belies her past. Her smile awed and captivating, though her story is horrific.

Orphaned and sent to live with her aunt and uncle as a teen, she was raped by her cousin in their home. A resulting pregnancy, angry beatings and finally a miscarriage left her abandoned and alone on the streets. She ended up prostituting for years, until three children and one more pregnancy later, she found herself unable to do even that. Subsisting in the middle of urbanity, she and her children were cooking on an open fire, huddled together at night on one straw mattress in a one-room shack.

Little Jorge,* starving from hunger, had complained to his teacher, "I danced for them, and they didn't pay me like they said they would."

In great need, she came knocking on the doors of our drop-in center, clutching the invitation we had given her months earlier while Christmas caroling in the brothels. When staff placed plates of food in front of the children, they devoured every morsel, gnawing even the chicken bones. Wanda whispered it was the first time they had eaten meat in a year.

The Church came together, providing clothes and toys, a bed, a stove, food staples and more. And Wanda and her children took advantage of all the resources the ministry could offer: tutoring, nutritious meals, workshops, discipleship and community.

She delayed her C-section to complete our intensive 6-week goal-oriented rehab program. As she studied sewing, she began to realize her potential and declared she had found her vocation. In late 2017, Wanda began working as one of our newest SutiSana seamstresses, with her newborn daughter by her side.

She has since transferred her children to a new school closer to the ministry center, facilitating their participation in our after-school programming. A volunteer cares for her baby, while Wanda takes short breaks to breastfeed throughout the day. And although it is a significant challenge learning to balance 4 children and full-time work, Wanda shows great determination. She has a supportive community, patiently supporting her and rooting for her success. The Lord has found her, and will not let her go.

Most women are in the sex trade for **10-15 years** before leaving and attempt to leave an average of **6** times

"I didn't realize there were so many good people in the world."

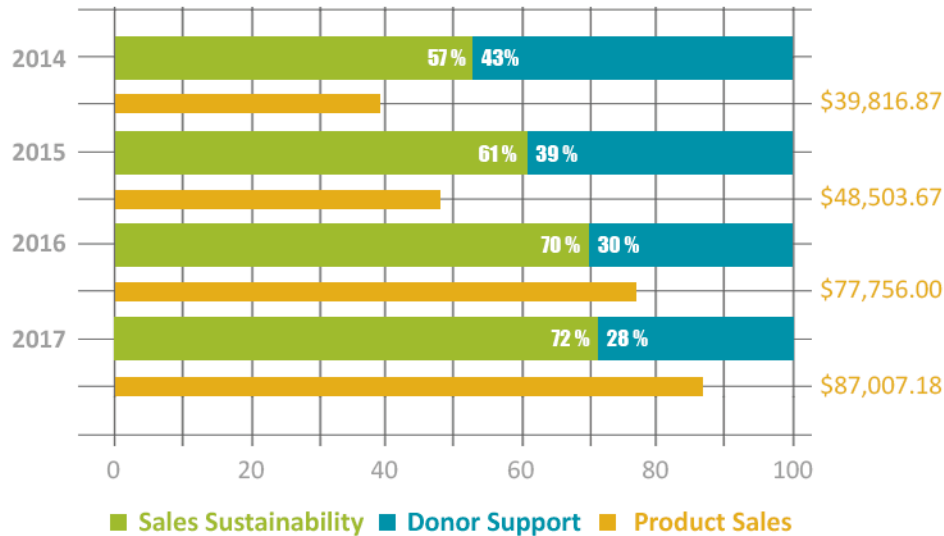
Wanda*

*Names changed for respect



sutisana

Dignified employment for survivors of prostitution



Our goal? 

to become **100%** sustained by sales

meanwhile, donations help us improve our infrastructure



Every SutiSana purchase celebrates a woman's Restoration and helps us offer the same opportunity to others

12 survivors employed



5

“As a company we're **RISING**”

Silvia, SutiSana Artisan

Special thanks to:

Major Donors & Partner Organizations

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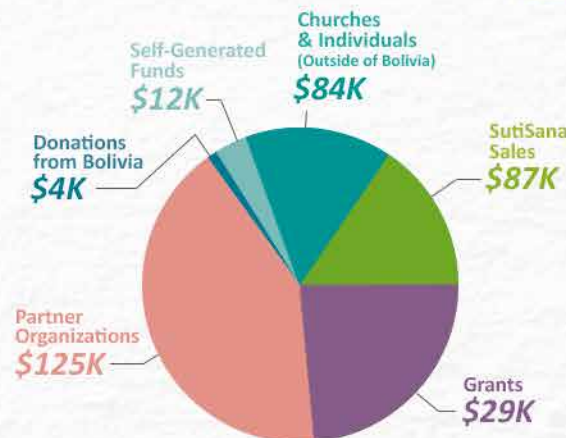
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We're a passionate community of world-changers. Our service is an expression of our faith, a declaration of our belief in an all-powerful God and a humble attempt to follow Christ's example of service among the poor. *Will you pray for us?*

2017 Financials

Income



Expenses

