



Dining for Women

Program Fact Sheet

PROGRAM: Love146

WEBSITE: <http://www.love146.org> **BLOG:** <http://love146.blogspot.com/>

MISSION: The abolition of child sex trafficking and exploitation.

ONE REASON WE LIKE THIS PROGRAM: Love146 does everything possible to prevent child sex trafficking in SE Asia. Not only do they work to build coalitions and educate communities to look out for vulnerable children and educate them about the dangers of child sex trafficking, they also provide aftercare to survivors, nurturing them with love and teaching them the skills they need to rebuild their lives.

LOVE 146'S STORY: In September 2002, Love146 co-founders Rob Morris, Lamont Hiebert, Desirea Rodgers and Caroline Hahm went on an exploratory trip to SE Asia to determine how they could serve in the fight against child sex trafficking. In brothels they saw young children being sold for sex. In safehomes they witnessed the miracle of restoration as they sang and danced with sex trafficking survivors. The goal of this and subsequent trips was not to "reinvent the wheel" but to find out where the greatest needs were and how they could be most helpful in filling those needs. After 18 months of research, networking and other foundational work, Love146 became an official Public Charity in March of 2004 under the name of Justice for Children International. In October 2007, JFCI became known as Love146.

HOW THEY WORK: Love146 has initiated two core program areas to combat the issue of child sex slavery and exploitation:

1. Protect and Defend – PREVENTION

Protecting children by developing sustaining targeted projects for high risk communities while defending the rights of the vulnerable *through advocacy, awareness raising and effective action.*

Field Prevention - Love146 aims to reduce the risk for children in "high-traffic" areas through targeted field prevention efforts. Some field prevention efforts include:

- Education about trafficking for at risk children and communities in Cambodia & the Philippines through media and outreach
- Funding sustainable community development programs in high traffic areas (micro-enterprise, agricultural development)
- Funding animation projects – tools that field workers use to highlight the dangers to at risk children in the Philippines
- Funding a coalition of organizations in SE Asia to help share preventions tools and ideas
- Purchase of eight wells along the Thailand Cambodia border to prevent children from wandering the villages unsupervised, and hence reduce their risk of falling prey to sex traffickers

Advocacy Prevention – For the modern-day abolition movement to succeed, communities need knowledge and action points. *Love146* raises awareness among various sectors of society and speaks up on behalf of child trafficking victims. These advocacy initiatives include:

- Abolitionists – A grassroots campaign aimed at increasing awareness and involvement
- Craigslist Campaign – With its free postings and relative anonymity, Craigslist "Erotic Services" site has become a vehicle for trafficking of children. This campaign urges the multi-million dollar company to take responsibility for the role its site is playing in facilitating child slavery and exploitation.
- Stop The Traffik – A global organization of coalitions committed to the abolition of modern-day slavery
- Research & Reports – Love146 is one of several organizations that funded a preliminary national research study into the prevalence and perceptions of Cambodian children to violence against children in Cambodia

2. Restore and Empower – AFTERCARE

Training aftercare workers, multiplying safehomes and providing therapy, a sense of family and space to thrive. Also, by providing education and viable employment opportunities; survivors are equipped to transition back into communities.

The *Safehome Program* provides care for survivors of child sexual exploitation and trafficking. The first thing a child needs after being liberated from sexual slavery is a safe place. Safehomes provide: housing, nutrition, clean water, clothing; medical care, hygiene training; counseling and psychological development; education and vocational training; spiritual development; art, play and music therapy; recreation, cultural social experiences; life planning and reintegration into society

The *Training Program in Aftercare* aims at developing participants (from grassroots to graduate school) knowledge and skills in working with victims. Through these training programs, caregivers learn to help survivors by facilitating restorative experiences, teaching life skills, and providing hope for a better future.

Aftercare Research provides best practices for aftercare, a vital part of building well developed programs that help restore and empower survivors. It is Love146's hope that the research published on their website will provide valuable information to those working in this field.

WHERE THEY SERVE: SE Asia, with programs specifically in Thailand, Cambodia, India, and the Philippines.

WHAT DINING FOR WOMEN WILL SUPPORT:

Contributions from DFW will support a year's worth of funding for Round Home safehome in the Philippines. The Love146 Round Home is uniquely built and designed to facilitate the restoration and holistic health of every child entering its doors. The approach to running the home is attuned to the needs of the exploited and traumatized child, which include both the needs of ordinary children as well as children who have been wounded in many ways, lack hope, are broken, lack opportunities and self-worth. Therefore, the Round Home is characterized by efforts to keep the child safe and well provided for, instill hope, effect healing and restoration, promote growth and development, facilitate the release of potentials, and enable the child to come full circle, liberated from their traumas and sufferings, to realize their innate worth.



COUNTRY AT A GLANCE: *THE PHILIPPINES*

Although the Philippine Islands became a Spanish colony in the 1700s, they were ceded to the US in 1898 following the Spanish-American War. In 1935, the Philippines became a self-governing commonwealth until its occupation by Japan in 1942. After US forces and Filipinos fought together during World War II to regain control, the Republic of the Philippines attained its independence on July 4, 1946. All US military bases on the islands were closed in 1992. Two presidents of the Philippines were forced from office by "people power" in the space of 15 years (Fernando Marcos in 1986 and Joseph Estrada in 2001). The Philippine Government faces threats from three terrorist groups and decades of Muslim

insurgency in southern Philippines with the government declaring all-out war on one rebel group.

Being the most Catholic country in Asia, the Philippines has the highest birth rate in Asia and forecasters say the population, already at nearly 98 million people, could double within three decades. Most of the population lives on just 11 of the 7,107 islands that comprise the Philippine archipelago. Though it once boasted one of the region's best-performing economies, the Philippines is saddled with a large national debt and tens of millions of people living in poverty. The economy is also heavily dependent on the billions of dollars sent home each year by the huge Filipino overseas workforce. These factors produce a highly inequitable national income distribution.

FINANCIAL PROFILE: In 2007, Love146 spent \$914,335 on program expenses; 86% of their total expenses. They directed \$143,749, only 14% of their expenditures, to administration and fundraising.

DFW GIVING HISTORY WITH PROGRAM: Funded by DFW in 2008, \$13,872.

SOURCES AND RESOURCES

Love146 videos "Imagine" <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uun92FyJ95Q&feature=channel>

Round House video http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d_MyUKFEgMc&annotation_id=annotation_617903&feature=iv

"Place of Dreams" <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k7uANEqJrVw&feature=channel>

<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/RP.html#top>

http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/asia-pacific/country_profiles/1262783.stm