

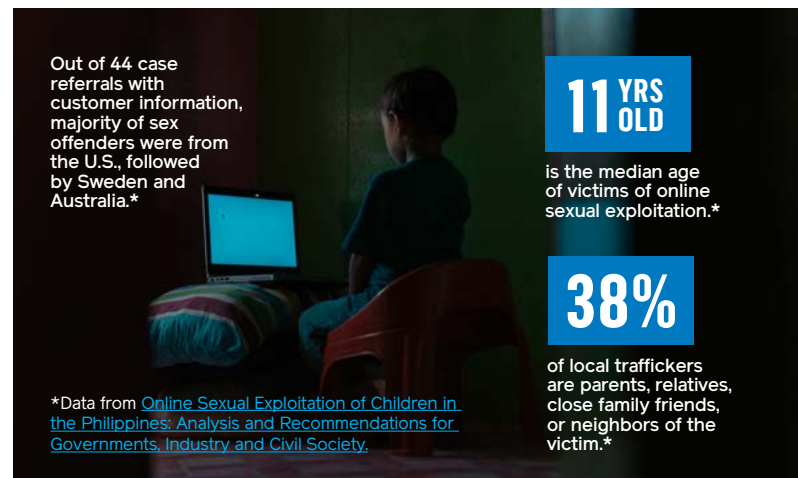
Every child deserves
to live in safety
and freedom.

Children in the photograph are not victims.

THE PROBLEM

FILIPINO CHILDREN HAVE BEEN FALLING PREY TO ONLINE SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

In this trafficking crime, children as young as two months old are at risk.



Children are trafficked by parents, trusted relatives, friends, or neighbors for the creation of child sexual exploitation material (CSEM) like photos and videos.

In some cases, traffickers livestream the exploitation to satisfy the online demand of child sex offenders in foreign countries paying to direct the abuse in real time.

OUR RESPONSE

IJM WORKS WITH THE PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT TO PROTECT CHILDREN AND HOLD PERPETRATORS ACCOUNTABLE



IJM provides support to the Philippine National Police - Women and Children Protection Center (PNP-WCPC) and the National Bureau of Investigation Anti-Trafficking Division (NBI-AHTRAD) in the investigation of suspects and in rescue operations.



IJM supports child-protective prosecution in its casework and collaboration with the Department of Justice - Inter-Agency Council Against Trafficking (DOJ-IACAT).



Partnering with the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), IJM supports the care of each survivor. It is only when each rescued survivor is fully restored that justice is fully served.

A WHOLE-OF-SOCIETY APPROACH

The work against online sexual exploitation of children cannot succeed without a supportive environment. We partner with churches, corporations, local and community organizations, including the media and academe, as well as the international community.

STRATEGIES AND WINS

IJM FOCUSES ON FOUR KEY AREAS OF PROTECTION AND SUSTAINABILITY

IJM's protection model equips change agents in the government and local communities, and measures the results.

1 STRENGTHENING OF THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM TO ENFORCE LAWS



IJM Philippines helped establish **Child-Protective Prosecution strategies**, primarily through the use of VIDI or Video In-Depth Interviews, which prevent the need for contact between victim and abuser. Plea agreements protect survivors from having to testify in court, shielding them from potential re-traumatization while securing accountability.

IJM's collaboration with Philippine public prosecutors during the Child Protection Compact Partnership with the U.S. government from 2017-2021 resulted in **91 out of 127 convictions** achieved through plea bargains and **over 100 survivors protected** from the risks and challenges of a full trial.

2 INCREASING COLLABORATIVE SUPPORT TO THE PHILIPPINES



IJM advocated for **additional resources** to PNP Women and Children Protection Center (WCPC)'s budget, which Congress increased by **347%**.

IJM conducts training to equip law enforcement in handling cases of online sexual exploitation of children, such as the **Internet Crimes Against Children training programs** and the **Advanced Investigative Workshop**, an innovative mentorship-based learning experience that effectively led to casework results, compared to the typical classroom-based capacity building training.

3 BUILDING TRAUMA-INFORMED NETWORKS OF CARE



A **Foster Care Working Group** composed of the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), IJM, NORFIL Foundation, and Parenting Foundation of the Philippines was formed in 2018. With the combined expertise from this inter-agency collaboration, survivors are matched to appropriate foster care homes, with qualified foster parents.

Trauma-Informed Care training conducted by IJM equips DSWD, local government units non-government organization social workers, house parents, and other personnel working directly with survivors of trafficking, including online sexual exploitation of children and other forms of trauma to support the survivor and prevent re-traumatization.

4 EMPOWERING SURVIVOR AND GOVERNMENT LEADERSHIP



Ten survivor leaders were trained in the pilot course of the **Local Survivor Network (LSN) curriculum** in 2020, in the areas of self awareness, knowing children's rights, and coping skills. Trained survivor leaders become trainers themselves as the course is rolled out continuously in residential facilities and communities.

PNP-WCPC has grown from **60 officers in 2016 to 275 officers at the start of 2022**. IJM's continued partnership with government agencies and law enforcement units has resulted in increase in manpower, resources, and equipment, empowering them to combat online sexual exploitation of children in a sustainable and self-reliant way well into the future.

IJM is a founding member of the **Philippine Internet Crimes Against Children Center (PICACC)**.

The online sexual exploitation of children is a borderless crime. PICACC enables strong collaboration with international law enforcement.



PICACC Founding Members: **Philippine National Police, National Bureau of Investigation, Australian Federal Police, UK National Crime Agency, National Police of the Netherlands, and International Justice Mission.**



The Survivor's Journey

IJM walks alongside the survivor from the moment of rescue, all the way through the rehabilitation stage.



Local law enforcement receives a tip from international counterparts or local concerned citizens. After investigation, an operation is conducted to rescue the child.



The child is placed under custody of the Department of Social Welfare and Development and undergoes an assessment.



The child survivor undergoes placement in a shelter or foster family to ensure their safety and to provide them with a loving and nurturing environment.



IJM works with the Philippine Department of Justice to gather evidence against the perpetrator, and prosecute.

Domains of Care

Guiding the survivor as they overcome trauma is a holistic, and often long, endeavor, guarding and supporting them in these six spheres.

Safety

Ensuring that survivors are free from the threat or experience of victimization and are motivated and able to remain safe.

Legal Protection

Keeping survivors educated about their rights and protections and enabling them to pursue justice if these are violated.

Mental Wellbeing

This may include sessions with a psychologist and check-in with the survivor's social worker. Survivors are taught positive coping strategies and prevented from harmful behaviors.

Economic Empowerment

Ensuring that the survivor's household has adequate income and that he or she is engaged in school, training or work. Some families are granted livelihood assistance and other support service from the local government.

Social Support

For the survivor to have supportive relationships and be accepted by the community.

Physical Wellbeing

Ensuring that survivors take care of their health needs, and can access basic medical services and safe, stable housing.

Survivor Voice

Survivors are speaking out and fueling the global movement against the online sexual exploitation of children.



The Global Survivor Network

The Global Survivor Network (GSN) is an international group of survivor leaders who desire and pursue safe communities through justice systems that protect the most vulnerable.

As global momentum grows in the fight against this crime, it must be guided by those who understand the problem and solution best—survivors themselves.

Through the GSN, local networks of survivor groups are given the opportunity to advocate for change in their own communities. A group of survivor leaders within the GSN will amplify survivor voices globally by speaking at international forums with policymakers, philanthropists, and thought leaders—sharing the story and mission of ending the online sexual exploitation of children.



Ruby, IJM Survivor Leader

Ruby* lends her powerful voice to speak out against online sexual exploitation of children and spark action from governments and tech companies around the world. [Read more about Ruby's work.](#)

*a pseudonym

Rosie's Story

Rosie's mother was not always around, but when she was home, it was not to care for her children, but to use them.

Rosie's father was a busy construction worker, working hard to feed his six children. Rosie's mother, who would move in and out of their lives, set up a laptop and webcam in one corner of their single-room house. She would then arrange for Rosie, her twin sisters, and two cousins, to participate in "live shows," sexual abuse streamed online for paying customers.

Forced by their mother to perform sexual acts streamed to a paying audience, Rosie and her sisters hated it, knew it was wrong, but couldn't do anything about it.



Rosie and her friends at a shelter

Rosie was much younger than her teenage sisters, and they tried to shield her from the abuse. They volunteered to take her place whenever a customer requested a child.

One day, the girls were rescued in an IJM-supported operation. Rosie didn't cry nor shout for joy. She was silent.

Rosie's IJM social worker explained that "although Rosie hated what her mother did to her and her sisters, the nature of online sexual exploitation often leads to victims feeling guilty or responsible for breaking up their family."

On February 19, 2020, Rosie's mother pleaded guilty to multiple offenses under the Philippines' Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act, Cybercrime Prevention Act, Anti-Child Pornography Act, and Anti-Child Abuse Law. She was sentenced to 37 years in prison.

Following their mother's imprisonment, Rosie and her sisters stayed together at a shelter. Rosie's sisters were thankful for the safe and supportive shelter environment.

"We didn't have that at home, but now we have people we can turn to for help. People we can depend on."

Rosie soon came out of her shell. "I like to run around the yard with my friends. I like to color. I like to make jewelry, and I like to read!" She also mentioned she loves spaghetti and ice cream from 7-Eleven.

Under a home-schooling curriculum, Rosie finished two grade levels in just one year, and wants to finish high school and college.

The once quiet and fearful Rosie is now a motivated, joyful, and resilient young girl.

[Read and watch stories of survivors helped by IJM.](#)

LOCAL AND GLOBAL IMPACT

THE PHILIPPINES, A HOTSPOT FOR ONLINE SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN, IS ALSO AT THE FOREFRONT OF A SCALABLE SOLUTION

CASEWORK RESULTS: 2011-2022*

251

Operations

895

Victims and at-risk rescued/removed

292

Suspects Arrested

126

Perpetrators Convicted

*Data from IJM-supported casework from 2011 to February 4, 2022, including data from the recently concluded Child Protection Compact Partnership with the U.S. Government.

IJM Philippines has achieved incredible growth, with strong momentum in both collaborative casework and system reform initiatives in partnership with the Philippine Government and other stakeholders.

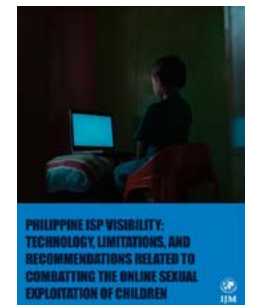
RECENT PAPERS



[Child Protection Efforts in the Time of COVID-19: Understanding Effective Casework Practices and Policies. \(May 2021\)](#)



[Online Sexual Exploitation of Children in the Philippines: Analysis and Recommendations for Governments, Industry, and Civil Society \(May 2020\)](#)



[Philippine ISP Visibility: Technology Limitations, and Recommendations Related to Combating the Online Sexual Exploitation of Children \(October 2020\)](#)

IJM Philippines is a living laboratory for casework on online sexual exploitation of children, leading in the global learning and testing, data collection, research, and the creation of solutions to scale the work beyond our shores.

EQUIPPING THE NATION FOR CHILD PROTECTION



391 CHILDREN RESCUED

117 TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED



We embrace a whole-of-society approach in battling online sexual exploitation of children. It takes a global community to keep children protected from this horrific crime.

The Child Protection Compact Partnership is the fruit of a generous award from the U.S. government in support of the Philippine government. The grant enabled the Philippine government to effectively understand, respond to, and combat the online sexual exploitation of children. From 2017 to 2021, IJM led over 200 partners and government organizations in this transformative collaboration.

OUR OPERATIONS

IJM PHILIPPINES IS AT THE FRONTLINES OF A GLOBAL EFFORT TO END ONLINE SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN

IJM's Program to End Online Sexual Exploitation of Children


is an initiative designed to combat and eradicate the online sexual exploitation of children around the world.

IJM'S PROGRAM TO END ONLINE SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN

IJM Philippines

IJM's flagship program for collaborative casework and community protection


NATIONAL OFFICE



Our National team works closely with our national government (PNP-WCPC, NBI-AHTRAD, DOJ-IACAT, DSWD). The national office is led by **Atty. Samson Inocencio**, who is also Regional Vice President of IJM's Global Programs to End Online Sexual Exploitation of Children.


LOCAL OFFICES

Cebu



Atty. Lucille Dejito, Director of IJM Cebu, leads the team in working with the Visayas and Mindanao local governments.

Manila




Atty. Rey Bicol is Director of IJM Manila, leading a team that works with the local government in Luzon.

IJM's Center to End Online Sexual Exploitation of Children

IJM's Center to End Online Sexual Exploitation of Children was formed in 2020 to support IJM Philippines' mission of protecting children from online sexual exploitation and scaling protection globally.

Learn more about The Center:



Be part of the fight to protect and restore our children's safety and freedom.

Become a partner or advocate. [Contact us.](#)



IJM

19/F Marco Polo
Ortigas, Sapphire Road
Ortigas Center
Pasig City 1600,
Philippines
P: 632 8 637 3983
F: 632 8 633 7707
OSEC.IJM.org



IJM works with the Philippine government, international law enforcement, and relevant stakeholders to combat the trafficking of Filipino children for livestreamed sexual abuse.

IJM Philippines seeks to protect children from online sexual exploitation by strengthening the capacity of the Philippine criminal justice system to enforce the law, increasing local and global collaboration, building trauma-informed networks of care, and empowering survivor and government leadership.