

The Storey Story

Apr 2014

Some Good News!

Dear friends,

I am thrilled to be able to share some good news with you on a couple of fronts this month.

First, I'm thrilled to report...I'm 100% fundraised (based on estimates)!

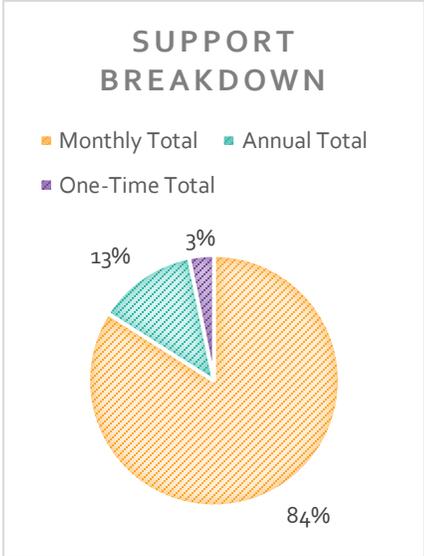
In January, our board of directors implemented a new salary/fundraising policy that sets clearer, more consistent fundraising guidelines for each staff member. This policy reduced my fundraising goal slightly (which I'm actually grateful for!), and as of last month, I can report that if all my donors continue their faithful giving as planned in 2014, I should be very close to my 2014 goal! (According to my current estimates, I'll have a \$7 surplus for the year! ☺)

I am truly grateful for each of you who pour into this ministry—whether financially or otherwise. If you are one of my donors—whether monthly, quarterly, annually, or otherwise—please know how important your giving is to this ministry. It matters, and it is highly instrumental in preventing, rescuing, and restoring victims of commercial sexual exploitation, and in bringing physical and spiritual light and freedom to those in bondage. *Thank you.*

Second, I want to update you on another development we've been excited about this past month: New key relationships with area law enforcement.

In March and early April, we were able to connect with a law enforcement task force based out of Kansas City and some local Homeland Security agents based out of the Springfield area who are specifically focused on investigating trafficking cases in the state. We are *thrilled* to have begun these relationships, and are greatly encouraged by the knowledge and experience these law enforcement officials have with trafficking cases and victim-centered approaches to investigation.

Over this next month, I invite you to join me in praying about our partnership and networking with these individuals. Join me in praying that we will be of use to one another in sharing information, providing leads, assisting with investigations, and bringing rescue and restoration to victims in need of justice and healing. Join me also in praying for these investigators as they continue investigating one known brothel in Springfield that has especially burdened our hearts. We serve a God who is just; let's pray for justice!



Transparency with my donors is important to me. If you are one of my supporters and you would like to receive a financial statement summarizing my NightLight income and ministry expenses for the year, please email me at shauna@nightlightinternational.com. I would be more than happy to share that information with you!



(Above) One of three ice cream sandwiches Ryan and I shared at "Together for the Gospel," a conference we attended in Louisville, KY. Yum. (Center) The conference. (Right) The new mural in the outreach center prayer room in Bangkok. I LOVE it.

Melanie*

Last Friday night, we met Melanie. Melanie has been dancing at a local club. She's the daughter of two missionaries. She has siblings who are also missionaries, or who are going to Christian colleges.

Here's what's interesting about Melanie. When we started talking with her, we learned she had church and God shoved down her throat her whole life. We learned that she enjoys things "that she knows Christians shouldn't do." At one point, she told us that she felt Christianity was an all or nothing thing—and since she didn't want it all, then she wanted nothing. She just enjoys certain things too much.

But later in the conversation, Melanie said something different. She said she *wants* to want God. She just doesn't know how. She reads a devotional book every morning, she desires to be a better mother, and she wants to live her dreams of becoming an artist. She wants more than where she is.

Melanie is seeking more than her current life is offering. There are parts of her life she enjoys—parts she doesn't want to let go of. But deep down, she knows those parts aren't really fulfilling her. Pray for Melanie as we try to love on her and encourage her to pursue those deeper desires. The truth is...she's trapped. She's trapped by lies

about what's important, and what's fulfilling. But we know she has a Savior who wants to see her free, flourishing, and fulfilling the calling He has on her life. He wants her all in, because that's where the freedom and fulfillment will be most profound. So let's pray for Melanie. And let's ask ourselves...might we have something to learn from her, too?

CONTACT ME

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Mother's Day Is Coming...

You know your mama needs a special gift this year. Why not treat her to one that celebrates her and brings freedom and dignity to fellow mothers (and future mothers)? Shop now at <http://store.nightlightinternational.com/>.

Every purchase creates dignity for women exploited by the sex trade. Join us by purchasing these hand-crafted pieces and praying for these brave women.

Pray

- NightLight is still in the early stages of implementing our restructure. **Pray for our Board of Directors as they work to clearly define key leadership roles in the organization.** Pray for the staff (and future staff) who may step into these roles.
- **Pray for outreach.** Pray for us to encounter the women who are ready for change and freedom. Pray for them to have the courage they need to seek help. Pray that God would bring more men to our outreach team so we can start street outreach soon!
- **Pray for our location's hiring efforts.** Pray for the right candidates to come our way, for hiring processes to move quickly and smoothly, and for support raising to move quickly. Pray for wisdom in who to hire, and how to build a new staff team.

Donate

NightLight Branson is currently fundraising to cover location expenses outside of salaries. We could use your help! Give online or mail your donation to NightLight, PO Box 74850, Los Angeles, CA 90004. If giving by check, please designate "Branson" in the memo line.

Thank You

Thank you for your sacrificial giving to this effort—whether it's prayer, time, or money. I am convinced that we are called and equipped to boldly stand up for those who can't stand up for themselves. Thank you for choosing to invest some of the time, energy, and resources you have been blessed with. May we all persevere in this work!