



# The Exodus Road®

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## **The Exodus Road Takes Human Trafficking Fight to the Americas**

**COLORADO SPRINGS, COLO.** — Tonight, sons and daughters will become commodities — bought, sold, abused, enslaved. The Exodus Road is on a mission to find and free them. And they're celebrating five years of rescue by raising the stakes.

A nonprofit based in Colorado Springs, Colo., The Exodus Road works together with local law enforcement in Thailand, India, and Southeast Asia to search for victims of human trafficking, bring them to safety, and arrest their traffickers. In five years, the organization has helped rescue more than 800 slaves and arrested more than 300 offenders.

The Exodus Road's investigators work together with law enforcement by: providing training and cyber forensics technology, gathering evidence through cyber and field investigation, and conducting raids alongside police.

Beyond working in each step of rescue operations, The Exodus Road employs social workers who support the survivors during raids and follow up with them throughout the recovery and legal process. The survivors come out of both sex slavery and forced labor exploitation.

Founders Matt and Laura Parker started The Exodus Road in 2012 after moving to Thailand to run a children's home. As Matt Parker became aware of the entrenched problem of sex trafficking around them, he began going undercover into bars and brothels to help find underage girls being sold for sex, at the request of local police. "No one was looking for these girls," Parker says, "and I knew it was something we could do."

At this five-year mark, The Exodus Road is extending its reach. Their strategy has worked in SE Asia and India, and now the nonprofit is expanding rescue work to North, Central, and South America. Their expansion includes a U.S. Cyber Operations Center, full-time data analysts, and field teams of national investigators in the U.S. and Latin America.

"This is the future — this is the next step in fighting human trafficking," says Kevin Campbell, VP of Global Operations, about the technology that drives The Exodus Road's Search & Rescue program. From the Cyber Operations Center, they can monitor investigators in real-time, collect and analyze data to build cases, and use cyber forensics to track down victims and traffickers.

What began as a grassroots coalition of investigators has grown into a global organization fighting human trafficking through strategic intervention, now even right here in the United States.

- **Five Years of Rescue Video:** <https://vimeo.com/226948452>