

Get to Know Us

International Justice Mission protects the poor from violence throughout the developing world.



We are a global team.

We are a team of lawyers, investigators, social workers, and community activists. We work to protect the poor from violence through 17 field offices throughout the world—and 95% of us are at work in our own countries.



We are bridge-builders.

Our work would be impossible without the partnership of local law enforcement and officials, aftercare professionals, NGOs, churches, students, parents, friends and scholars standing together to protect the poor from violence.



We are inspired.

Inspired by God's call to love all people and to seek justice for the oppressed, we protect the poor from violence without regard to religion, race, or any other factor. We seek to partner with all people of goodwill.



OUR VISION

Rescue thousands. Protect millions.
Prove that justice for the poor is possible.

OUR STORY

1994 — A Defining Moment

IJM's founder Gary Haugen was a human rights attorney working for the U.S. Department of Justice when the United Nations asked him to lead its investigation of the horrific genocide that had engulfed the small African nation of Rwanda.



As Haugen dug through mass graves and massacre sites, he remembers being struck by the terrible truth that the Rwandans who had perished in the violence “did not need someone to bring them a sermon, or food, or a doctor, or a teacher, or a microloan. They needed someone to restrain the hand with the machete—and nothing else would do.”

1997 — A New Kind of Human Rights Organization



Compelled by the urgent needs they saw and inspired by their faith, Haugen and a small team envisioned a new kind of human rights organization: a group that would leverage the skills of criminal justice professionals to protect the poor from violent oppression.

They met with obstacles and challenges. They faced disbelief that broken public justice systems could ever protect poor children, women and men. But slowly, the team saw their vision begin to take hold: rapists went to jail for assaulting impoverished children, families were freed from generations of slavery, young girls were rescued from the traffickers who sold them for sex.

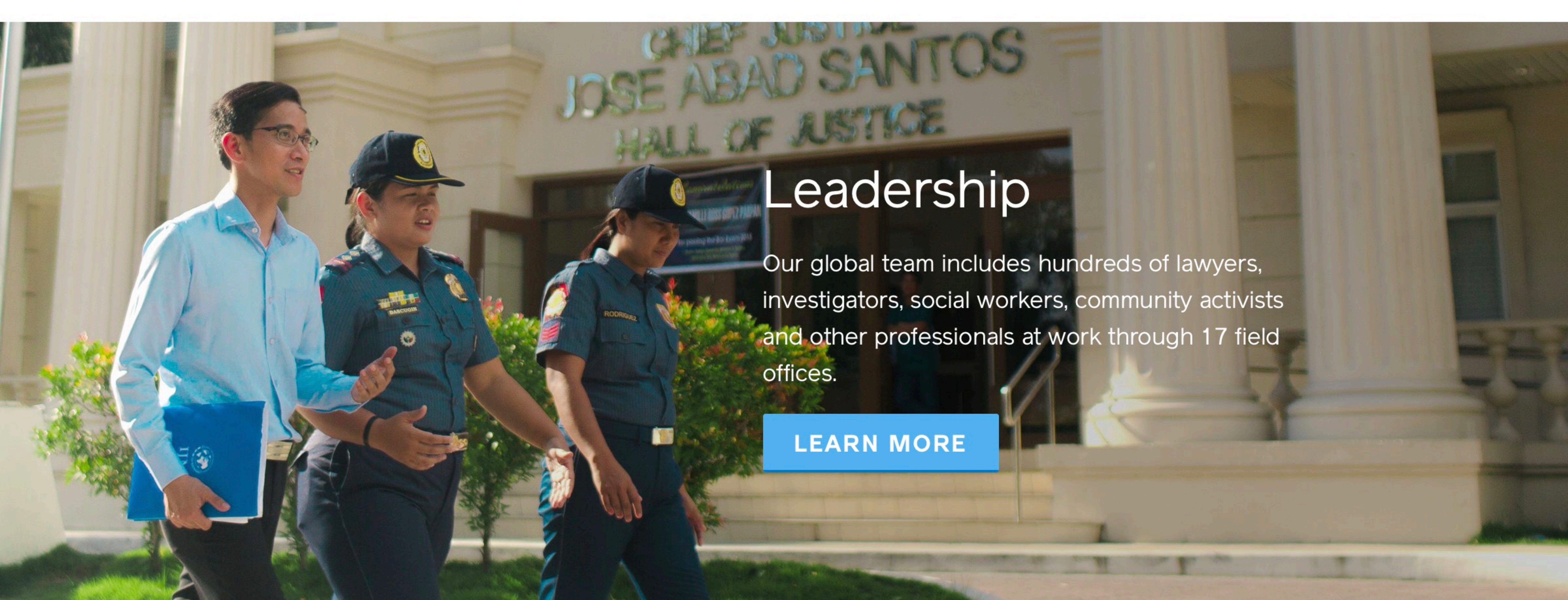
By 2000, IJM established its first long-term field office, in Mumbai, where a team of local professionals began partnering with authorities to rescue trafficked girls and women.

Today — Standing Together to Protect the Poor

We're now a global team of more than 750 lawyers, social workers, investigators, community activists and other professionals. IJM works to protect the poor from violence through 17 field offices throughout the developing world, with partner offices in Australia, Canada, Germany, the Netherlands and the UK sharing in the global mission.

Through the support of a global movement of friends and partners, we have collaborated with local authorities to rescue thousands of victims of everyday violence and put hundreds of violent criminals behind bars.

And, each day, we see powerful proof that justice for the poor is possible.



Leadership

Our global team includes hundreds of lawyers, investigators, social workers, community activists and other professionals at work through 17 field offices.

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