



MY STORY

When I was 15 years old, I was on a mission trip to Thailand. While ministering in the Red-Light District, I locked eyes with a little girl who would change my life forever. A face the same age as mine, on the same street yet lightyears from each other. The grip of the Trafficker held her in fear and threats. She had been abused and lied to for so long.... When we had to leave, I then locked eyes with her trafficker, and he told me, "She's mine." I told him you can't have her.... Small and timid, I got a voice that day. I looked back at that little girl one last time, and God gave me a vision that was so clear that it was like a movie. He said, "One day, you will return to Thailand; you will adopt a little girl and give her an identity."

Fast forward to 2007, I was young, adventurous, and full of life. Upon graduation from high school, I moved 4 hours away from home. Little did I know that although Jesus had given me my vision and calling 3 years prior, Satan had been scheming for 3 years against it. Never in my wildest dreams would I have guessed this would happen to me. <u>I</u> found myself being Sex and Labor Trafficked for 2 years.

MY HEALING

The aftermath of this was horrendous. Numerous reconstructive surgeries would inevitably need to be done so I could even sit down. There were many meetings with FBI Agents and Lawyers to try to sort out the names and locations of my perpetrators.

I started to regain my voice when I married my loving husband in 2014.

MY CALLING

In 2018, at a training seminar, I met Rebecca McDonald, Founder & President of Women At Risk, International (WAR, Int'l), who brought me into a world I had such a passion for. She offered me a job, a mission, a purpose. I want to be a voice for those little girls in the Red Light District of Thailand and across the globe and also to give my story purpose. While Thailand is the place of my heart, through WAR, Int'l, and my own experience, I have learned there is trafficking happening in every country and city in the world, especially the USA.

Two years ago, I was reminded of the verse Matthew 19:27. Despite what others thought, I left my 15-year corporate banking job to pursue a life of sacrifice. My family (my husband and our two young boys) and I have dedicated our lives to the mission of giving a voice to the voiceless and setting captives free here and around the globe. I also bring a passion for training after 24 years of teaching dance/ballet and 2 years during my banking industry teaching finances in public high schools. I have worked on a curriculum for elementary and secondary school-age children called S.T.A.N.D. to help them know how to protect themselves from predators. I also taught ESL internationally.

Today, this passion is to use my pain to help others. What started in Thailand has fueled the decision to become an Ambassador with WAR, Int'l.

MY ROLE

Women At Risk International exists to educate and unite women to create circles of protection and hope around women at risk through culturally sensitive, value-added intervention projects. We work in over 60 countries around the globe (including the USA) and desire to lift your women and children, as well as men, to safe places where Jesus Christ is whispered into their lives. We work in 14 areas of risk and are best known for being an anti-human trafficking organization.

My role as an Ambassador for WAR, Int'l, will include speaking on their behalf, sharing my story at churches and events, training educators and children through S.T.A.N.D, and promoting & celebrating the creativity & craftsmanship of survivor artisans everywhere.

WAR's jewelry, made by rescued and at-risk women, also gives me a vision of giving voice to the voiceless by highlighting the incredible work of their hands. I believe in empowering these skilled individuals by providing them with a platform to showcase their unique creations and talents. I hope to inspire women to purchase their products and support their livelihoods. I am using social media to grow a following of those looking to seek justice for the hurting and join in this fight. I am passionate about practical ways to get others involved. I break into "bite-sized pieces" WAR, Int'l's "Call to action," building repeat customers & supporters of the survivor artisans we train and help. (facebook.com/lizmidkiff) One way consumers can take a stance against trafficking is by shopping with a purpose at our WAR Chest Boutique (www.warchestboutique.com) or hosting a pop-up boutique.

MY REQUEST

We are looking for a monthly support team and/or contributions of special "one-time" gifts. Ministry expenses will be \$38,000/yearly or \$3,167/monthly. WAR is a 501c3 tax-deductible organization and ECFA member.

I welcome the opportunity to share more about how you can partner with me on this journey.

Thank you, Liz Midkiff emidkiff@warinternational.org