



# KIMBA LANGAS

Nine years ago, I made the difficult decision to step down as Executive Director to spend more time with my family. The challenge of finding a successor who could understand and execute our unique concept of using bras as an economic opportunity for survivors of sex trafficking was daunting. However, fate had a plan. Enter Courtney Skiera-Vaughn, the very person who launched Free The Girls in Uganda and who understood firsthand the transformative impact of our program on the women we serve.

From the moment Courtney joined us, her passion, enthusiasm, and relentless pursuit of hope and opportunity for vulnerable populations were evident. Under her leadership, FTG not only expanded geographically but also broadened the ways we support survivors through partnerships and direct services in under-resourced countries. She listened—to our partners, to survivors, to experts in trafficking, and to experts in trauma. She even completed a Ph.D. in health psychology with an emphasis on how culture affects behavior, focusing her research on stress and trauma. All this to envision a future beyond bras—a future that builds a network of support and community around survivors on their path to true freedom.

In the past year alone, FTG has achieved remarkable outcomes, assisting over 300 women in accessing healthcare services, aiding 27 women in securing stable housing, supporting 52 women in establishing small businesses, and facilitating the graduation of 50 women from job skills training courses. Moreover, in Courtney's tenure with Free The Girls, our efforts have led to a less than 10% recidivism/re-exploitation rate, a testament to the effectiveness of our approach. Notably, 100% of the children of program participants are in or have completed formal education, and 88% of our graduates now own land or homes.

And now, in a full-circle moment, I am stepping back into the role of Executive Director to continue the incredible work that Courtney has started.

Courtney, thank you for the mark you have left on FTG and your legacy of fiercely advocating for survivors and creating programs that empower them to build a life of dignity, independence, and opportunity. Your impact will be felt for generations to come.

Warm Regards,

*Kimba*

Kimba Langas  
Interim Executive Director