



JANUARY 2023 –
DECEMBER 2024

ANNUAL REPORT

Union of Minds, Hearts & Deeds

EMBRACE THE MARGINALISED, SAFEGUARD CREATION

Abbreviations

AOHD	Archdiocesan Office for Human Development
B40	Bottom 40% of Malaysian households by income
ECCJ	Episcopal Commission for Creation Justice
ECMI	Episcopal Commission for Migrants and Itinerants
KKD	Komuniti Kristian Dasar or Basic Ecclesial Community (BEC)
MJD	Malacca Johore Diocese
MSN	Ministry for Special Needs
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NSO MAPO	National Strategic Office – Majlis Anti-Perdagangan Orang dan Penyeludupan Migran (Council for Anti-Trafficking in Persons and Anti-Smuggling of Migrants)
PIHDM	Parish Integral Human Development Ministry
POHD	Parish Office for Human Development
PWSN	Persons with Special Needs
SSVP	Society of St. Vincent de Paul
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

CARITAS MALAYSIA

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Message from the Bishop President



Let's begin with a Zen story: A rose longed for the company of the bees, but none would come to her. Even so, the flower was still capable of dreaming. When she felt all alone, she would imagine a garden filled with bees that came to kiss her. And so she managed to resist her loneliness until the next day, when she opened her petals again. "Aren't you tired?" someone asked her. "No. I have to go on fighting," answered the flower. "Why?" "Because if I don't open up, I wither."

The invitation is to be ourselves, to be what we are – Caritas – open to love, life and lives. That's our baptismal identity and mission. We are not in customer service, but to be an open, available service provider, dreaming on who we are and what we can be. We are not defined by people and their situations, nor the needy and their needs. We are designed by God and sowed in His field to love and be loved.

Interestingly, Caritas Malaysia has come a long way ... from loose-knit operatives to an organised communion of committed friends of the poor. At the last Caritas Malaysia Assembly, the participating diocesan Caritas representatives observed and re-committed themselves to God's mission of love, to walk and work together in solidarity as the Malaysian Church, to network and collaborate with faith-based organisations and NGOs, with a deepened understanding of integral human development.

The Holy Spirit says: Be faithful to the shared vision, shared mission and shared resources.

Be that rose that opens her petals so as not to wither.

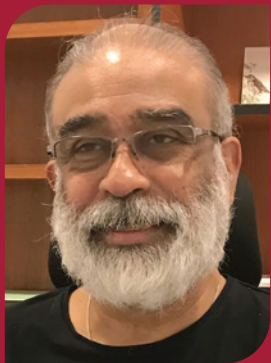
Together Building His Kingdom
Bishop Bernard Paul

"The Church that sets no limits to love, that knows no enemies to fight but only men and women to love – is the Church that the world needs today." – Pope Leo XIV

Message from the National Director

“Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labour in vain.”

(Psalm 127:1)



An annual report usually tells us what we have done.

Perhaps the more important question is: **Who are we becoming?**

As I reflect on these past two years, I do not first see programmes, meetings or statistics. I see relationships taking root, trust slowly being built, and a shared vision beginning to emerge. Like all living things, Caritas Malaysia is still growing. And growth, as the Gospel reminds us, is often quiet before it becomes visible.

When I was appointed national director on 15 May 2023, I knew I was not beginning something new. I was receiving a gift that others had already nurtured.

My sincere gratitude goes to Mr. Charles Bertille, our first executive secretary, and to Ms. Eta Ting, who faithfully continued the work they were entrusted with. Together with the bishops and every diocesan Caritas and human development team, they laid the foundations upon which we continue to build. Whatever fruit we bear today has its roots in their generosity, sacrifice and faith.

I am equally grateful to the Catholic Bishops' Conference of Malaysia for the confidence they have placed in Caritas Malaysia, and especially to our bishop president, Bishop Bernard Paul, whose wisdom, encouragement and leadership continue to guide our journey.

One conviction has become increasingly clear to me.

The future of Caritas Malaysia will not be determined by how much we do, but by **how deeply we learn to walk together**. No diocese can respond alone to the realities of poverty, migration, ecological destruction, disasters and the many forms of human suffering that confront our nation. The Gospel calls us into communion before it sends us into mission.

This is also the gift of belonging to the Caritas family. Through Caritas Internationalis and Caritas Asia, we have discovered that solidarity knows no borders. We are deeply grateful for their accompaniment, formation and friendship. They remind us that we are part of a global Church where the suffering of one people becomes the concern of all.

A background graphic showing several hands of different colors (yellow, orange, blue, green, red) reaching up to hold a large, light blue heart shape. The hands are positioned around the heart, with some fingers interlaced, creating a sense of unity and support.

Yet there is something even more fundamental.

Caritas is not first an organisation. It is a spirituality.

If our work does not flow from prayer, if our service is not rooted in the Eucharist, if our hearts are not continually converted by the Word of God, then we may become efficient, but we will cease to be evangelical. We are not simply called to provide services. We are called to reveal the compassionate face of Christ.

That is why charity and justice can never be separated. We will always respond to immediate human needs, but we must also learn to address the causes of suffering. Inspired by Catholic Social Teaching, I hope Caritas Malaysia will continue to grow as a prophetic voice; one that not only accompanies the poor but also stands with them, cares for Our Common Home, and defends the God-given dignity of every human person.

None of this will be achieved by our own strength.

Like the first disciples, we place our confidence in the Holy Spirit, who continually renews the face of the earth and the life of the Church. We simply offer our loaves and fishes, trusting that God will do the rest.

My prayer is that Caritas Malaysia will become known not because of the number of projects we undertake, but because wherever we are present, people encounter hope, discover their dignity, and experience the love of Christ made visible through His Church.

Fr. Fabian Dicom
National Director
Caritas Malaysia

Praise God!



With deep humility and gratitude, moving from a diocesan director role to an executive secretary role of Caritas Malaysia even within a three-month period, being the hands and feet of Christ among the poor, the vulnerable, and the forgotten, remains **ever hopeful and truly a blessing** despite the stormy weathers.

Foremost, my experiences of networking remotely or ‘on air’ via the online platform with our national diocesan directors and ecclesiastical assistants to the parish volunteers was **further enriched** with the wider face-to-face networking and collaboration with the 25 member organisations managed **by the Caritas Asia Regional Secretariat** based in Bangkok. Also, because collaboration and mutual support are imperative in humanitarian-type works, I lost no time to promote Caritas Malaysia and its works to our local government, for instance, the Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture (MOTAC), to **be aware of our Caritas Internationalis** based in Rome that has seven regional secretariat offices, and comprising 162 countries.

As we move forward, I envision **Caritas Malaysia as a beacon of hope and unity**. Our strength lies not only in our programmes, but **in our people: those who listen deeply, act justly, and walk humbly with God**. We are called to build bridges across faiths, cultures and generations, fostering a Malaysia where love and compassion transcend boundaries. Thus, Caritas Malaysia must be this Church: **dynamic, courageous, and rooted in prayer** by listening to the cry of the poor and the cry of the Earth, and by responding with love that is both tender and bold. To our Apostolic Nuncio, cardinal, archbishops, bishops, clergy, religious, lay leaders and partners: **thank you for your unwavering support**. To our volunteers and donors: **you are the lifeblood of our mission. To those we serve: you are not alone; we see you, we honour you, and we walk with you.**

Balancing the roles of Mary, the contemplative listener, and Martha, the active doer or servant, by putting God first and then the people, and at times confronting the ‘sleeping’ Lazarus awaiting to be raised from the dead, **can be challenging and discouraging**. However, all because of Jesus’ undying love for us, it is possible for us: you and I to continue Jesus’ mission of drawing more souls to Him especially when you and I are **able to ‘see God’ in the poor especially**.

May Caritas Malaysia continue to be a sign of God’s mercy in our land. Let us always remember that in serving others, we encounter Christ Himself. Hopefully, the nine diocesan Caritas of the three regions – Peninsula, Sarawak and Sabah – will grow and journey together in synodality **“that we may be one” (John 17:18)**.

Eta Ting Ming Na, OCDS
2nd Executive Secretary
February 2023 — May 2023



Caritas Malaysia



About Caritas Malaysia

Caritas Malaysia is the social and humanitarian arm of the Catholic Church in Malaysia. We are part of Caritas Internationalis, a confederation of 162 national organisations working together in the service of humanity. Established by the Catholic Bishops' Conference of Malaysia in 2020, Caritas Malaysia connects the social mission of the Church across dioceses and communities.

Our mission is simple but profound: to bring the love of Christ to the poor, the vulnerable, and the marginalized — regardless of race, religion, or background. We respond to human suffering, promote integral human development, and care for *Our Common Home*.

Our Core Priorities

1. Promoting Integral Human Development: Empowering people to live in dignity and self-reliance
2. Caring for Creation: Promoting environmental stewardship and sustainable living
3. Humanitarian Response: Assisting communities affected by disasters and crises
4. Building Capacity: Strengthening diocesan Caritas teams to serve effectively and compassionately.

Our Motto

Embrace the Marginalised, Safeguard Creation

Our Vision

A community of faith that lives out love and justice — embracing the marginalised and safeguarding Creation.

Our Mission

To serve, accompany and empower communities towards holistic and sustainable development, guided by Catholic Social Teaching.

Our Call to Action

In times of crisis, every moment matters. Caritas Malaysia mobilises resources swiftly to deliver urgent relief – food, medicine and shelter – to those most affected. Every act of generosity helps us reach further, and bring hope where it is needed most.

Activities & Highlights – Years 2023 & 2024

Caritas Asia Regional Conference

Date: 7 – 8 Mar. 2023 | Bangkok, Thailand

The 2023 Caritas Asia Regional Conference was held in Bangkok from 7 – 8 March with the theme *Building New Paths of Fraternity*. Malaysia was represented by the executive secretary from the National Office, Eta Ting (Caritas Sarawak Region), Fr. Martinian Lee (Caritas Semenanjung Region) from Caritas Malacca-Johor and Fr. Wilfred James (Caritas Sabah Region) from Caritas Keningau.

Caritas Malaysia Visits – Diocese of Keningau & Archdiocese of Kota Kinabalu

Date: Sep. 2023 | Keningau & Kota Kinabalu, Sabah

In September 2023, Fr. Fabian Dicom visited the Diocese of Keningau, and participated in their health workshop at the retreat house in Purun, Kuala Penyu. Following the workshop, he travelled to Membakut, and conducted a session on the spirituality and mission of Caritas. In Kota Kinabalu, Fr. Fabian met with the diocesan Caritas executive committee, and paid a courtesy call on Archbishop John Wong. He also facilitated a formation session *Embracing Our Mission and the Caritas Way* for Caritas members from various parishes. Together with Sr. Anita, he visited local initiatives, including PACOS, and gained deeper insights into the needs and realities of the communities they serve.

Caritas Asia IDCS Workshop

Date: 28 – 31 Mar. 2023 | Malacca

In collaboration with the Caritas Asia (CA) Regional Secretariat Team, Caritas Malaysia hosted the inaugural CA Institutional Development and Capacity Strengthening (IDCS) Workshop from 28 – 31 March. Fifty participants from Caritas Middle East and North Africa (MONA), Caritas Oceania, and CA attended.

Recollection on Mission

Date: 5 Sep. 2023 | Online

Held in conjunction with the Feast of St. Teresa of Calcutta, patron saint of Caritas Malaysia, and the International Day of Charity, the recollection invited participants to discover Mother Teresa's unshakable faith, invincible hope, and extraordinary charity. Her response to Jesus' plea: "Come be My light," and her call within a call made her a Missionary of Charity – a symbol of compassion to the world, and a living witness to the thirsting love of God. Her life continues to inspire us to live our call as missionary

disciples – putting faith into action through charitable and loving service to the community.

Caritas Malaysia National Assembly 2023

Date: 12 – 16 Nov. 2023 | Sibul, Sarawak

The 2023 national assembly gathered arch/diocesan Caritas representatives nationwide for reflection, renewal and collaboration. The gathering strengthened unity, fostered dialogue, and enhanced coordination among arch/dioceses towards a more integrated mission of service. The assembly also saw the formulation and presentation of the Safeguarding Policy.

Children and Vulnerable Adults Safeguarding Policy

Caritas Malaysia has adopted a *Children and Vulnerable Adults Safeguarding Policy* that complies with Canon Law and relevant Malaysian legislation, including the Child Act 2001, Child (Amendment) Act 2016, Sexual Offences Against Children Act 2017, the Penal Code, and other applicable laws. The policy outlines the organisation's responsibilities in protecting children and vulnerable adults, establishes standards of behaviour, and provides procedures for reporting and handling safeguarding concerns. Supporting tools include a reporting form, a complaints-handling flowchart, and an acknowledgement form, which all Caritas Malaysia staff and associates are required to read and sign as a commitment to comply with safeguarding procedures and protocols. All members of diocesan Caritas present unanimously endorsed the policy, and formally affirmed their commitment by signing the declaration.

Caritas Malaysia Visit – Diocese of Sandakan

Date: 29 Jan. – 6 Feb. 2024 | Sandakan, Sabah

Early in 2024, Fr. Fabian visited the Diocese of Sandakan, accompanied by Pauline Yeo (administrative executive), and led by Anna Ammandus, director of Caritas Sandakan. Over nine days, they visited every parish and engaged with Caritas groups and other stakeholders involved in integral human development.

Gaza Talks: Understanding the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict

Date: 21 Feb. 2024 | Penang

To foster a deeper understanding of the Israeli-Palestinian issue, the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit in Penang hosted a forum in February, which

was attended by over 100 people. Organised by Caritas Malaysia and the parish, the forum aimed to delve into the origins, context and current realities of the long-standing issue.

International Women's Prayer Day

Date: 7 Mar. 2024 | Online

Caritas Malaysia gathered online to celebrate International Women's Day with a themed Day of Prayer centred on "Women & the Call to Disciples". The zoom session, held during Women's Month 2024, featured opening and closing prayers alongside reflections on women's discipleship in Christ.

Joint CIMS Coordinators' and Assessors' Training

Date: 8-10 Apr. 2024 | Manila, Philippines

Caritas Malaysia's Pauline Yeo (then administrative executive) was sent to Manila to participate in a training session organised by Caritas Asia. The programme deepened the understanding of Catholic Social Teaching, and the Caritas Internationalis Management Standards (CIMS) assessment process, including tools, methodology, and supporting documents.

Asia Regional Humanitarian Forum

Date: 17 – 19 Sep. 2024 | Bali, Indonesia

Fr. Fabian Dicom, Caritas Malaysia national director, joined humanitarian leaders from across Asia at the Regional Humanitarian Forum held in Bali. Organised by Caritas Asia, the forum addressed disaster responses, emergency protocols, regional solidarity, and volunteer management.

SHAPE Meeting

Date: 20 Sep. 2024 | Bali, Indonesia

Strengthening Humanitarian Partnership and Exchanges (SHAPE), an initiative spearheaded by Caritas Asia, is a collaborative effort that emphasises mutual engagement and strengthening humanitarian aid partnerships and exchanges among member organisations in the region. The meeting brought together the SHAPE working group, of which Eta Ting (Caritas Sibu) is a member since 2021. The discussions focused on three essential areas: Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (MEAL); Community of Practice (CoP); and Resilience and Sustainability (RESUM).



Workshop on Disaster Response

Date: 22 – 25 Sep. 2024 | Penang

The capacity-building workshop was aimed at strengthening arch/diocesan Caritas teams in disaster preparedness and response. Participants received hands-on training using the Caritas Internationalis toolkit to enhance readiness, coordination, and resilience during emergencies.

Storytelling on Justice and Peace

Date: 4 Oct. 2024 | Penang

Caritas Malaysia partnered with Alternative to Violence Project Malaysia (AVP) and Friends Peace Teams (FPT) to hold a two-hour *Power of Goodness* programme to inspire the general public on the importance of being kind and welcoming when interacting with people who are different from us.

Regional Communication & Advocacy Workshop

Date: 5 – 7 Nov. 2024 | Bangkok, Thailand

The three-day workshop, participated by Fr. Fabian Dicom, brought together Caritas representatives across Asia to discuss communication strategies, social media, crisis communication, and the use of artificial intelligence (AI) in organisational work, with the aim of strengthening regional advocacy and joint communication efforts for 2025.

Caritas Malaysia National Assembly 2024

Date: 12 – 15 Nov. 2024 | Papar, Sabah

Themed *Union of Minds, Hearts & Deeds*, the 2024 national assembly marked the transition from 'being' to 'doing' Caritas, and focused on integrating thought, compassion and action in an impactful way. Guided by the principles of subsidiarity, common good, and co-responsibility, the assembly emphasized on addressing the root causes of poverty, inequality, and environmental degradation through unified and holistic approaches.

Integral Human Development Space

A proposal was put forward at the national assembly in Sabah for the establishment of a collaborative platform, bringing together Caritas Malaysia, ECMI, ECCJ and other related Church bodies to deepen reflection, strengthen partnerships, identify common priorities and coordinate action. The proposal was unanimously welcomed and endorsed by participants.

Humanitarian & Relief Aid Contribution – Years 2023 & 2024

(LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL)

Year	Country/Region	Receiving Partner	Amount	Beneficiaries
2023	Ukraine	Caritas-Spes Ukraine	RM 57,900	67,500 war victims
2023	Ukraine	International Charitable Foundation Caritas Ukraine	RM 57,900	308,814 war victims
2023	Turkey & Syria	Caritas Turkey & Caritas Syria	RM 503,100	Earthquake victims
2024	Lebanon	Caritas Lebanon – Humanitarian Aid for Conflict	USD 10,000	Displaced persons
2024	Jerusalem-Palestine	Caritas Internationalis – Humanitarian Aid for Crisis in Holy Land	USD 20,000	Displaced persons
2024	Kota Kinabalu	Caritas Kota Kinabalu	RM 30,000	Flood victims
2024	Tawau	Caritas Sandakan	RM 5,000	5 families affected by house fire
2024	Paitan	Caritas Sandakan	RM 3,500	1 family affected by house fire

In 2023 and 2024, the Catholic Bishops of Malaysia, through Caritas Malaysia, extended humanitarian aid totalling about **RM 687,400** to communities in need across multiple countries and local regions. In 2023, significant contributions were made to Ukraine through two Caritas partners, reaching over 376,000 war victims, and to Turkey and Syria following the devastating earthquake, benefitting thousands through Caritas Turkey and Caritas Syria. In 2024, Caritas Malaysia continued its outreach by supporting displaced persons in Lebanon and the Holy Land amid the ongoing conflicts, assisting flood victims through Caritas Kota Kinabalu, and providing emergency relief to families affected by house fires in Tawau and Paitan through Caritas Sandakan – reflecting the organisation's steadfast commitment to serving the most vulnerable, both globally and at home.

Summary

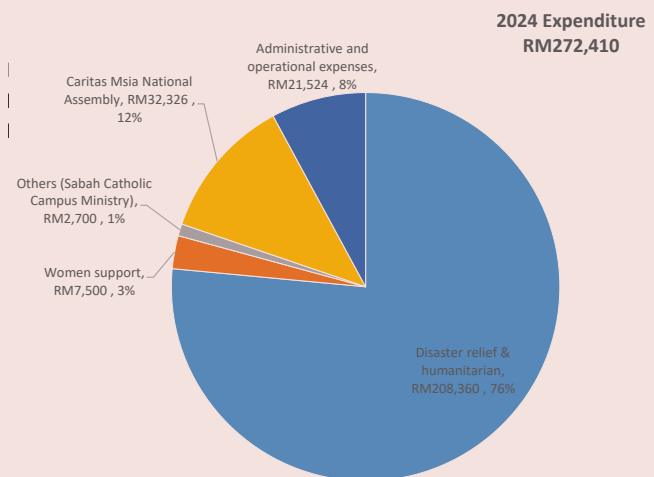
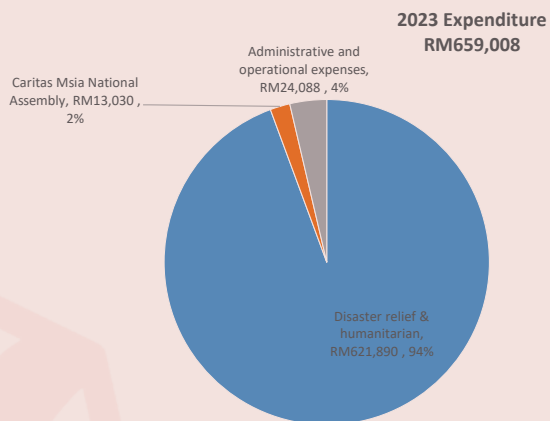
The period 2023 – 2024 was one of reflection, training, and growth for Caritas Malaysia. Through a recollection, national assemblies, and capacity-building initiatives, Caritas continued to strengthen its mission of compassion and service. Through those programmes, Caritas Malaysia reaffirmed its commitment to integrate faith and action – uniting minds, hearts and deeds in the pursuit of justice, solidarity and love.



Financial Data

CARITAS MALAYSIA STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

	2023 RM	2024 RM
Income		
Donations	1,286,241	30,975
Amount received from other Caritas office	125,035	43,000
Interest Income	-	907
Other income	-	26,095
	<u>1,411,276</u>	<u>100,977</u>
Expenditure		
Aids & outreach activities		
Disaster relief & humanitarian	621,890	208,360
Women support	-	7,500
Others (Sabah Catholic Campus Ministry)	-	2,700
	<u>621,890</u>	<u>218,560</u>
Caritas Msia National Assembly	13,030	32,326
Administrative and operational expenses	24,088	21,524
	<u>659,008</u>	<u>272,410</u>
Surplus / (Deficit)	<u><u>752,268</u></u>	<u><u>(171,433)</u></u>





Caritas Kota Kinabalu

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Main Personnel

Spiritual Adviser: Rev. Terans Thadeus | Head: Sr. Anita James FSIC

Perjalanan Kasih Caritas Kota Kinabalu: Misi, Pelayanan dan Harapan

Dalam era dunia yang semakin mencabar ini, kehadiran organisasi seperti Caritas Kota Kinabalu menjadi lambang harapan, kasih dan solidariti sejati. Sepanjang tahun 2023 hingga 2024, Caritas Kota Kinabalu telah meneguhkan peranannya sebagai lengan sosial Gereja Katolik, melayani dengan semangat *Melayani dengan Kasih* (Serving Out of Love).

Berbekalkan visi membina sebuah komuniti berpusatkan Kristus dan misi memperjuangkan ajaran sosial Gereja, Caritas Kota Kinabalu telah mengorak langkah melaksanakan pelbagai program yang membuahkan hasil nyata di kalangan mereka yang paling memerlukan.

Visi:

Komuniti berpusatkan Kristus yang bersama-sama berjalan dalam tindakan untuk kebaikan bersama, mempromosikan peradaban kasih.

Misi:

1. Mempromosi, mempertahankan dan mengamalkan ajaran sosial Gereja melalui amal, keadilan dan belas kasihan;
2. Meningkatkan keupayaan ahli dan sukarelawan Caritas;
3. Membina ketahanan komuniti terhadap isu-isu kemiskinan;
4. Membantu dalam bantuan bencana dan pemulihan komuniti;
5. Menjalin kerjasama dengan organisasi sehaluan membangun peradaban kasih.

Sorotan Program & Aktiviti – Tahun 2023

Menetapkan Haluan: Hari Perancangan Caritas KK

Tanggal 11 Mac 2023 menandakan satu langkah penting apabila Caritas Kota Kinabalu mengadakan Hari Perancangan rasmi. Dalam pertemuan ini, ahli-ahli Caritas merumuskan secara kolektif Visi, Misi dan Strategi organisasi. Visi tersebut menekankan perjalanan bersama untuk kebaikan bersama, manakala misi bertumpu pada mengamalkan amal, keadilan dan belas kasihan dalam tindakan. Ini memperkukuhkan identiti Caritas sebagai kekuatan sosial Gereja, merangkul semua golongan tanpa mengira latar belakang.



Membuka Pintu Harapan: Caritas Transit Centre

Salah satu pencapaian gemilang Caritas KK dalam tahun 2023 ialah pembukaan rasmi Caritas Transit Centre pada 24 April di Pusat Msgr. Wachter, Karamunsing. Pusat ini menawarkan 30 tempat penginapan kepada umat dari kawasan pedalaman yang menjaga ahli keluarga mereka di Hospital Queen Elizabeth. Lebih 200 penghuni dari Sabah telah menerima manfaat daripada kemudahan ini. Caritas Transit Centre bukan sekadar menyediakan tempat berlindung – ia adalah simbol keprihatinan dan kesatuan komuniti Katolik dalam mendampingi mereka yang berada dalam saat getir.

Menyatukan Semangat Kekitaan: Lawatan Caritas Malaysia

Pada 18–19 Sep. 2023, Caritas KK menerima kunjungan Fr. Fabian Dicom, pengarah Caritas Malaysia. Beliau bukan sahaja mengadakan kunjungan hormat kepada Uskup Agung John Wong, tetapi juga memimpin sesi formasi yang mengilhamkan lebih 30 peserta dari pelbagai paroki. Sesi ini memberi nafas baru kepada ahli Caritas dalam memperdalamkan kefahaman mereka terhadap misi amal dan keadilan sosial.

Sorotan Program & Aktiviti – Tahun 2024

Memperkasa Rohani: Rekoleksi dan Pelantikan Jawatankuasa Baharu

Bulan Januari 2024 menyaksikan satu lagi momen bersejarah apabila Rekoleksi dan Pelantikan ahli jawatankuasa Caritas KK dilaksanakan. Ia bertujuan memperbaharui komitmen rohani para sukarelawan dan memperkasa struktur kepimpinan Caritas, sejajar dengan misi membina keupayaan ahli.

Mengukuhkan Ikatan: Perhimpunan Pertama Caritas Kota Kinabalu

Dari 10 – 13 April 2024, perhimpunan pertama Caritas Keuskupan Agung Kota Kinabalu berlangsung dengan jayanya di Bundu Tuhan Retreat Centre. Bertemakan *Caritas dalam Gereja Sinodal: Kesatuan Akal dan Hati*, perhimpunan ini bertujuan memperkasa rohani dan kapasiti ahli Caritas.

Seramai **88 peserta** daripada **22 paroki** hadir, termasuk koordinator Caritas dan ahli Caritas Paroki. Menariknya, Caritas Paroki Kiulu – paroki termuda ditubuhkan pada Februari 2024 – menghantar delegasi terbesar seramai 11 orang.



Program dimulai dengan sesi perkenalan, diikuti sesi pembinaan rohani bertajuk *Sanctity, Synodality and Solidarity* yang dikendalikan oleh Fr. Terans Thaddeus. Perkongsian mendalam dalam kumpulan kecil menghidupkan semangat perbincangan iman dan pelayanan.

Hari ketiga diserikan dengan sesi pembinaan kapasiti yang dipimpin oleh pasukan Caritas KK, dan malam solidariti yang penuh warna dengan persembahan serta perkongsian cabaran dan kejayaan setiap paroki.

Penutup program menyaksikan pembentangan Kod Etika Caritas yang baru, serta sesi *Caritas dan Media* oleh Ts. Dr. Ebon Gansoi, yang menekankan penggunaan media yang beretika dalam mempromosikan misi Caritas. Perhimpunan berakhir dengan Misa Penutupan dan makan tengah hari perpisahan yang mengukuhkan semangat kesatuan dalam komuniti (Awalan Ts. bermaksud ahli teknologi).

Caritas KK kini bergerak ke hadapan dengan semangat baru – bersatu dalam akal, hati, dan tindakan kasih!

Menghormati Penaung: Hari St. Teresa of Calcutta

Pada 5 Sep. 2024, Hari St. Teresa of Calcutta diraikan dengan penuh keinsafan. Sebagai penaung Caritas Malaysia, St. Teresa menjadi lambang kasih tanpa syarat dan pelayanan tanpa mengira bangsa, agama atau status sosial. Melalui misa khas dan aktiviti rohani, ahli Caritas memperbaharui komitmen mereka untuk melayani sebagaimana teladan kudus ini.

Caritas Kota Kinabalu: Memberi Harapan Ketika Bencana Banjir

Apabila bencana banjir melanda beberapa kawasan di Sabah pada Julai 2024, Caritas KK segera tampil menghulurkan bantuan kepada masyarakat yang terjejas. Berpegang teguh kepada prinsip Melayani dengan Kasih, Caritas bertindak pantas untuk menyalurkan keperluan asas kepada keluarga-keluarga yang mengalami kesukaran.

Dengan kerjasama paroki-paroki setempat, pasukan Caritas menggerakkan misi bantuan kecemasan melibatkan pengagihan bakul makanan,



peralatan pembersihan, air bersih, pakaian, serta sokongan moral kepada mangsa banjir. Melalui Caritas Pusat dan Caritas Paroki, seperti di St. Paul Dontozidon, St. Joseph Papar, dan Holy Family Telipok, Caritas St. Edmund Kota Belud, Caritas Holy Nativity Terawi, Good Shepherd Manggatal dan St. Theresa Inobong, bantuan diagihkan secara teratur ke kawasan-kawasan terpencil yang paling terkesan.

Selain barangan keperluan, sukarelawan Caritas, termasuk beberapa ahli Caritas dari Diosis Keningau, bersama para belia Keuskupan Agung Kota Kinabalu juga terlibat dalam kerja-kerja pembersihan rumah ibadat, rumah penduduk dan kawasan awam yang lumpuh akibat bencana. Caritas Melaka-Johor dan Komisi Pembangunan Insan Keuskupan Agung Kuala Lumpur turut serta menghantar wakil sukarelawan dalam misi ini. Walaupun akses jalan raya ke sesetengah kawasan menjadi cabaran besar, semangat solidariti dan kasih mendorong semua anggota Caritas untuk terus berusaha tanpa mengenal penat. Caritas KK juga dapat mengembangkan hubungan kerjasama dengan pelbagai pihak sama ada dari badan-badan Gereja Katolik, seperti belia dan katekatikal, dan gereja-gereja dari denominasi lain, NGO, termasuk PACOS Trust Sabah, dalam kerja-kerja pengendalian bencana.

Dalam setiap bantuan yang diberikan, Caritas bukan sekadar memenuhi keperluan material, tetapi juga membawa kehadiran Gereja sebagai tanda harapan dan kasih Tuhan di tengah penderitaan manusia. Usaha ini sekaligus mencerminkan misi Caritas untuk mempromosikan keadilan sosial, membantu mereka yang menderita, dan membina peradaban kasih di bumi.

Dengan sokongan umat setempat, Caritas KK bertekad untuk terus menjadi pelita harapan bagi mereka yang diuji dalam kesusahan.





Menabur Benih Kepimpinan: Caritas Malaysia Training of Trainers & Assembly

Dari 11–15 Nov. 2024, Caritas KK menghantar wakil ke *Training of Trainers & Assembly* anjuran Caritas Malaysia. Seramai lebih 82 peserta dari seluruh Malaysia berkumpul di Pace-Bene Retreat Centre, Papar, untuk memperdalam ilmu, berkongsi amalan terbaik, dan merangka strategi memperkukuh misi sosial Gereja. Tema *Union of Minds, Hearts and Deeds* mewarnai setiap sesi dengan semangat kerjasama, inovasi dan kesetiaan kepada suara mereka yang terpinggir.

Menyapa Komuniti: Lawatan Caritas Paroki

Caritas KK turut melaksanakan beberapa lawatan rasmi ke paroki-paroki berikut:

- St. Pius X, Bundu Tuhan, pada 14 Jan. 2024;
- Sacred Heart, Inobong, pada 31 Januari;
- St. Paul, Dontozidon, pada 4 Februari;
- Holy Rosary, Limbahau, pada 17 Februari;
- St. Michael, Penampang, pada 23 April;
- St. Joseph, Kiulu, pada 3 Ogos;
- St. John, Tuaran, pada 18 Ogos;
- Blessed Sacrament, Labuan, pada 5 September.

Lawatan ini bertujuan memperkenalkan Caritas kepada komuniti setempat, membina jaringan solidariti, dan memperkasakan sukarelawan di peringkat akar umbi.

Mengakar di Paroki: Aktiviti Caritas Paroki 2023–2024

Setiap aktiviti ini bukan sahaja memperlihatkan usaha memperkasakan komuniti, malah menepati objektif besar misi Caritas.

Caritas Katedral Hati Kudus, Kota Kinabalu

- Bantuan ke rumah-rumah amal dan hospital;
- Bantuan makanan dan kewangan kepada keluarga-keluarga yang kurang berkeupayaan dari segi kewangan;
- Membantu golongan miskin di paroki-paroki yang kurang mampu;
- Bantuan kecemasan kepada keluarga yang terkesan bencana seperti banjir dan kebakaran;
- Kempen derma darah;
- Rekoleksi dan merayakan perayaan-perayaan yang berkaitan dengan Caritas, seperti Pesta Santa Teresa dari Calcutta.

Caritas St. Paul, Dontozidon

- Bantuan mangsa banjir dan kebakaran;
- Pembentukan ahli Caritas baru.

Caritas St. Joseph, Papar

- Bantuan makanan dan keperluan asas kepada migran dan warga tua;
- Bantuan kepada paroki dan komuniti terkesan banjir;
- Kempen derma darah.

Caritas Holy Family, Telipok

- Bantuan bulanan bakul makanan;
- Kempen derma darah.

Caritas St. Michael, Penampang

- Bengkel Caritas;
- Agihan bantuan keperluan.

Caritas St. John, Tuaran

- Program Food Bank;
- Lawatan amal ke pusat kebajikan;
- Rekoleksi Caritas.

Caritas Good Shepherd, Manggatal

- Program Jelajah Kasih (Program Amal)

Penutup

Mengorak Langkah Dengan Kasih

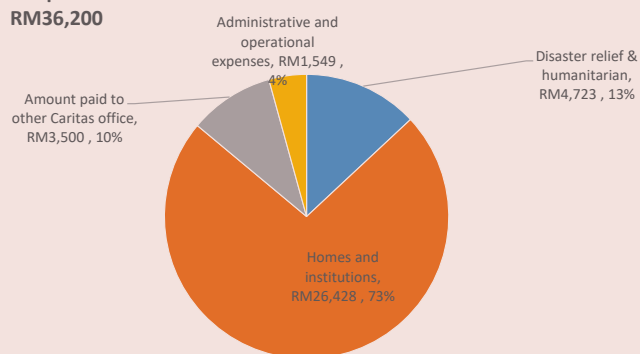
Tahun 2023–2024 menjadi saksi nyata bahawa kasih itu hidup dan berbuah dalam tindakan. Caritas Kota Kinabalu dengan setia melangkah, menghulurkan tangan kepada yang memerlukan, dan membina dunia yang lebih adil serta penuh belas kasihan. Dengan semangat yang tidak pernah luntur, Caritas akan terus menyemai benih harapan dalam setiap jiwa yang disentuh kerana ***We Are Caritas – Serving Out of Love.***

Laporan Kewangan

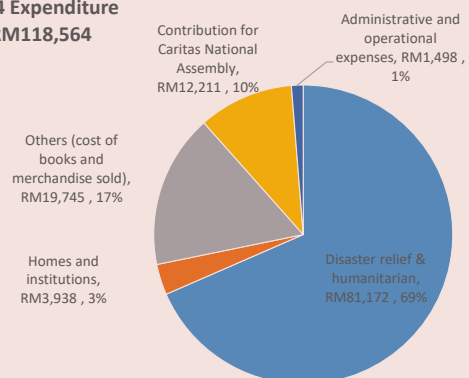
Archdiocese of Kota Kinabalu STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

	2023 RM	2024 RM
Income		
Donations	4,502	80,359
Amount received from other Caritas office	-	17,370
Other income - sale of Caritas books & merchandise	-	16,735
Other income - Caritas Transit Centre	1,720	880
	<u>6,222</u>	<u>115,344</u>
Expenditure		
Aids & outreach activities		
Disaster relief & humanitarian	4,723	81,172
Homes and institutions	26,428	3,938
Others (cost of books and merchandise sold)	-	19,745
	<u>31,151</u>	<u>104,855</u>
Amount paid to other Caritas office	3,500	-
Contribution for Caritas National Assembly	-	12,211
Administrative and operational expenses	1,549	1,498
	<u>36,200</u>	<u>118,564</u>
Surplus / (Deficit)	<u><u>(29,978)</u></u>	<u><u>(3,220)</u></u>

**2023 Expenditure
RM36,200**



**2024 Expenditure
RM118,564**





Caritas Keningau

Wisma Kateketikal Immanuel, Peti Surat 256, 89008 Keningau, Sabah
Tel: +6087-775647 / +6016-8345570 | Fax: +6087-775647 | email: caritaskeningau@gmail.com
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/p/Komisi-Caritas-Keuskupan-Keningau-100071036595242/>

Main Personnel

Director: Patricia Bai | Ecclesiastical Assistant: Rev. Fr. Wilfred James

Siapa Kami

Caritas Keningau bernaung dibawah Gereja Katolik Keuskupan Keningau, terdiri daripada 9 Caritas Paroki, 1 Caritas Mission dan 6 Biro yang menyokong kepada pelaksanaan pelayanan kemanusiaan di keuskupan ini. Caritas Keningau memiliki tenaga sukarelawan aktif yang mencecah hampir 200 orang di seluruh keuskupan.

Sorotan Program & Aktiviti – Tahun 2023 & 2024

A. BANTUAN BENCANA

Kemarau yang berpanjangan serta banjir besar yang berlaku di beberapa daerah pedalaman Sabah sepanjang tahun 2023-2024 yang disebabkan oleh faktor cuaca yang tidak menentu menyebabkan peristiwa kebakaran hutan, memusnahkan kediaman dan harta benda, serta memberi kesan kepada kesihatan penduduk yang terjejas. Caritas paroki telah menjadi saluran aktif bagi orang ramai menyalurkan derma bantuan dalam bentuk kewangan mahupun barang keperluan kepada mereka yang terkesan tanpa mengira bangsa dan agama.



Lawatan dan pemberian bantuan bencana kebakaran oleh Caritas Paroki Tenom, dan bantuan banjir oleh Caritas Mission Kemabong kepada Caritas Paroki Sook.

B. PROGRAM PENGUKUHAN ORGANISASI

Sebagai sebuah organisasi yang baru ditubuhkan, Caritas Keningau masih berada pada tahap pembentukan dan pengukuhan organisasi, lebih-lebih lagi apabila keanggotaan setiap ahli tidak tertumpu pada satu tempat sahaja tetapi berada di setiap paroki dibawah keuskupan Keningau. Sepanjang tahun 2023-2024, pembentukan jawatankuasa Caritas di 9 paroki dan 1 mission telah diutamakan agar pelayanan misi kemanusiaan Caritas dapat dilaksanakan secara menyeluruh.

Study Day Caritas Paroki



Untuk memperkenalkan Caritas ke peringkat akar umbi Keuskupan Keningau, program Study Day telah dilaksanakan secara berperingkat di semua 9 paroki dan 1 mission di keuskupan ini, dan dianggarkan seramai lebih kurang 850 orang telah menghadiri program tersebut untuk mengenali Caritas.

Bengkel Pengukuhan Kerja-Kerja Pembangunan Komuniti



Melihat kepada peluang yang tinggi untuk melaksanakan program-program berbentuk kemasyarakatan, Caritas Keningau memperkasakan tenaga sukarelawan dengan mengadakan bengkel khas menambah pengetahuan melalui perkongsian dari NGO yang berpengalaman.

Mesyuarat Tahunan dan Retreat Akhir Tahun



Masa untuk mengimbas semula dan merenung perjalanan Caritas Keningau diperlukan sebelum merangka pelan perancangan yang baru. Masa untuk bertukar-tukar pandangan, dan memperbaharui semangat Caritas di dalam diri setiap ahli.

C. PROGRAM PEMBANGUNAN KOMUNITI

Kedudukan Keuskupan Keningau serta latar belakang komuniti tempatan yang terletak di bahagian pedalaman negeri Sabah dilihat sebagai satu peluang bagi Caritas Keningau melaksanakan misi kemanusiaan yang

mengutamakan pembangunan berasaskan komuniti. Walaupun bantuan bencana masih menjadi fokus utama, faktor geografi dan ekonomi seperti keadaan tanah dan iklim yang sesuai untuk pertanian menggalakkan Caritas menganjurkan program-program yang dapat membantu golongan miskin dan sederhana menjana ekonomi keluarga.

Kursus Asas Hidroponik



Dianjurkan oleh Biro Pembangunan Komuniti Caritas Keningau pada Oktober 2023, program ini telah menarik penyertaan seramai 90 orang peserta dari golongan keluarga miskin dan sederhana. Dengan kerjasama Kolej Komuniti Tambunan, kursus ini dirasakan amat sesuai untuk membantu meningkatkan ekonomi keluarga dengan menjadikan pertanian sebagai sumber pendapatan utama.

Kursus Membuat Kalungan Rosari



Kursus ini dianjurkan oleh Caritas Mission Kemabong dengan kerjasama Franciscan Sister, dengan objektif mengajarkan kemahiran kepada suri rumah dan belia yang boleh membantu menambahkan sumber pendapatan peribadi dan keluarga sepanjang bulan Mei 2024.

Kursus Penternakan Ikan Air Tawar



Dianjurkan oleh Caritas Paroki Sook, sebuah projek pencarian dana Caritas Paroki serta menggalakkan penduduk setempat untuk menjadikan penternakan ikan air tawar sebagai pilihan utama untuk projek meningkatkan ekonomi keluarga. Projek ini telah dimulakan pada Februari 2024.

D. KERJASAMA DI ANTARA ORGANISASI

Sepanjang tahun 2023-2024, Caritas Keningau telah berusaha menjalinkan kerjasama dengan beberapa organisasi pastoral Gereja Katolik di Keuskupan Keningau serta NGO dalam usaha membawa masuk kemahiran pakar di dalam aktiviti dan program yang dianjurkan oleh Caritas agar pengetahuan yang diterima oleh peserta lebih berkualiti dan tepat serta pada masa yang sama Caritas Keningau dapat melaksanakan misi kemanusiaan dengan lebih baik.

Program Penjagaan Alam Sekitar Bersama Komisi Alam Ciptaan Tuhan Serta Agensi Kerajaan di Peringkat Paroki



Aktiviti sempena World Cleanup Day dan World Coastal Cleanup Day 2024 di Daerah Membakut.

Program Lawatan Kebajikan Migran Dengan Kerjasama Tim Pelayanan Migran Keuskupan



Caritas Keningau tidak melupakan mereka yang terpinggir terutama golongan migran di Keuskupan Keningau. Caritas Keningau, melalui Caritas Paroki, sentiasa membuat lawatan kepada keluarga migran, mengikut sertakan mereka di dalam program-program komuniti serta berusaha membantu mereka pada waktu-waktu yang sukar.

Bantuan Orang Sakit dan Keluarga Susah



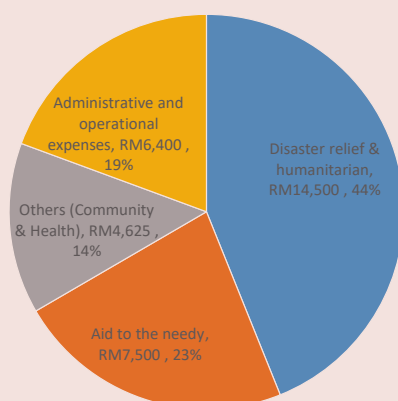
Lawatan kepada orang sakit dan keluarga susah untuk memberi bantuan keperluan harian dan bantuan memperbaiki tempat kediaman. Pada 2024, sebanyak lebih dari 100 buah keluarga susah mendapat lawatan dan diberi bantuan bakul makanan oleh Caritas Paroki di seluruh Keuskupan Keningau.

Laporan Kewangan

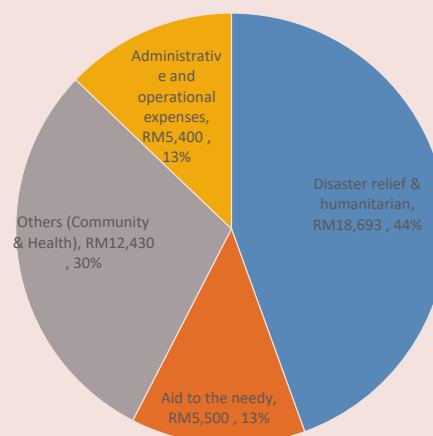
Diocese of Keningau STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

	2023 RM	2024 RM
Income		
Donations	44,985	65,054
Expenditure		
Aids & outreach activities		
Disaster relief & humanitarian	14,500	18,693
Aid to the needy	7,500	5,500
Others (Community & Health)	4,625	12,430
	26,625	36,623
Administrative and operational expenses	6,400	5,400
	33,025	42,023
Surplus / (Deficit)	11,960	23,031

2023 Expenditure RM33,025



2024 Expenditure RM42,023





Caritas Sandakan

Programme & Activity Highlights – Year 2023

HUMANITARIAN AID

Kampung Forest

On 24 Dec. 2022, the high tide and big waves destroyed 108 houses in Kampung Forest, Sandakan. The people (339 adults, 291 children and 50 infants) who lived in those 108 houses were immigrants and locals. They became homeless, and were relocated to SK Sungai Anib, Sandakan.

Before the end of 2022, the local families were sent to the PPRT Batu Putih Mile 7, while the immigrants were sent to Dewan Harmoni Mile 3 while the authorities were looking for a suitable place for them to stay.

Caritas Sandakan collaborated with YB Vivian Wong, Member of Parliament for Sandakan, and her team to ensure that the needs of the families were taken care of, and hoped that it will ease the burden of the families.

Caritas Sandakan requested RM 21,600 from the Caritas National Relief Fund to cater to the needs of those 108 families; and Caritas Kota Kinabalu contributed RM 5,000 for a total contribution of RM 26,600.00. Since school would start in early January 2023, Caritas Sandakan provided each family with food aid, toiletries, school bags and stationery.

The aid distribution was delayed due to the holidays, and due to the time for the cheque to be cleared. On 5 Jan. 2023, YB Vivian's officer informed that the number of families had decreased. Some had moved to their relatives' place; thus, only 75 families needed help.

The aid items were bought on 10 and 12 Jan. 2023, and properly packed for distribution to 75 families. Caritas Parish Sandakan and YB Vivian's staff helped deliver the aid items to 51 families at PPRT Batu Putih and 24 families at Dewan Harmoni on 13 Jan. 2023.

Each family received a box with nine household items (baby milk powder, biscuits, instant noodles, coffee powder, sanitary pads, toothbrush, shampoo, bath soap and detergent powder), two school bags and two bags of school stationery.

It was indeed a blessing to help them. We hope that our participation not only alleviated the suffering of those victims but also brought the love of Christ to others in need.

Statement of Receipts & Payments

Receipts		
30.12.2022	Contributions from Caritas Kota Kinabalu	5,000.00
04.01.2023	Caritas National Relief Funds	21,600.00
Total (A)		26,600.00
Payments		
10.01.2023	Stationery (150 bags) from Pustaka Diversey	5,100.00
10.01.2023	School bags (150 pieces) & stationery from Senalau Sdn Bhd	5,250.00
12.01.2023	Aid (household items) for 75 families from Genting Mall Sandakan	15,758.40
Total (B)		26,108.40
Surplus (A – B)		491.60

Note: The surplus of RM 491.60 was used to help Edwina (see report below).



Necessities



School Stationery



Distribution Centre



**Caritas Sandakan Members,
Diocesan Staff & YB Vivian's Staff**



Edwina De Los Santos

In January 2023, staff of the Diocese of Sandakan contributed RM 1,400 to assist Edwina De Los Santos (Church of St. Jude, Semporna), who was struggling with her medical expenses. The contribution came from the diocesan staff annual Lent and Advent RM 1/day project. The balance amount (RM 491.60)* from Caritas National Relief funds was also given to help Edwina (*refer *Statement of Receipts & Payments* above). Edwina died on 31 Jan. 2023, and the donated fund was used to clear the hospital bill and her funeral expenses.

Flood Victims

In February 2023, financial aid of RM 27,200 was given to 136 families affected by the floods at Telupid. • In March, financial aid of RM 6,000 was given to 30 families affected by the flood at Telupid.

Migrant Mother

Financial aid of RM 1,704.50 was given on 29 Dec. 2023 to a migrant woman (with an IIM13 document) who had given birth.

Turkiye & Syria

Humanitarian aid totalling RM 30,780.51 for Türkiye and Syria was collected on 14 Mar. 2023.

Capacity-Building Workshop

- A workshop on Institutional Development & Capacity Strengthening was held from 28 – 31 Mar. 2023.

Caritas Exchanges

- Caritas Sabah meeting was held on 17 & 18 Feb. 2023.
- Third Caritas Malaysia Assembly was held in Sibu from 13 – 16 Nov. 2023.

Financial Contribution

- Caritas Sandakan contributed RM 32,000 to the Caritas Malaysia Relief Fund on 24 Mar. 2023.

Programme & Activity Highlights – Year 2024

Outreach by Caritas Malaysia

Fr. Fabian Dicom, director of Caritas Malaysia, and Pauline Yeo, administrative executive, visited Caritas Sandakan as part of their *turun padang* initiative. Their mission was to meet the people who are poor, marginalised and migrants, and at the same time, meet with members of Caritas Sandakan. (*Turun padang* is a Malay term which means “to go down to the ground and see the situation of the people”.)

Dari 29 Jan. sehingga 6 Feb. 2024, Diosis Sandakan amat diberkati dengan kunjungan daripada Fr. Fabian Dicom (pengarah) dan Saudari Pauline Yeo (eksekutif pentadbir) dari pejabat Caritas Malaysia.

Itu merupakan destinasi program *Turun Padang* Caritas Malaysia yang ketiga. Pada tahun 2023, Fr. Fabian telah melawat Caritas Diosis Agung Kota Kinabalu dan Caritas Diosis Keningau. Tujuan utama bagi lawatan itu adalah untuk melihat, mendengar dan mengalami sendiri realiti serta situasi umat dan masyarakat di lingkungan Diosis Sandakan. Program *Turun Padang* atau lawatan sambil belajar itu juga turut di sertai oleh Anna Teresa sebagai pengerusi Caritas Sandakan, dan pada masa yang sama, pemandu arah bagi setiap lawatan yang hendak di tujui.

Selain daripada melawat, Caritas Sandakan juga mengambil peluang itu untuk mengadakan kunjungan hormat dan memperkenalkan apakah itu Caritas serta fungsinya kepada paderi paroki, ahli-ahli Majlis Pastoral Paroki dan pemimpin-pemimpin Gereja di setiap paroki yang di lawati dengan bantuan Caritas Malaysia.

Caritas Malaysia juga mengambil kesempatan untuk duduk bersama dan berdialog dengan Pelayanan Creation Justice, Pelayanan Migran dan Caritas Paroki di Tawau dan Lahad Datu. Dialog itu amat penting kerana bukan sahaja dapat mendengar daripada ahli-ahli dari pelayanan itu tetapi juga bagaimana ketiga-tiga pelayanan itu boleh bekerjasama dalam mengerjakan pelayanan kasih dan amal di paroki dan diosis.

Berikut adalah tempat-tempat yang telah dilawati oleh Caritas Malaysia bersama Caritas Sandakan:

29 & 30 Jan. 2024: Ketibaan di Tawau, dan lawatan ke Holy Trinity, Tawau, Kg. Piuludan, Tass, Jalan Damai, Kg. Icebox, Tanjung Batu Laut

31 Januari & 1 Februari: St. Dominic, Lahad Datu, dan St Simon, Putatan

2 Februari: St Anthony, Bukit Garam, Kg. Ranpek dan Our Lady of Fatima, Beluran

3 Februari: Kapela Katolik St. Joseph Nangoh, Kg. Nangoh, Kg. Bambangan

4 Februari: St Francis dari Assisi, Paitan, dan St. Yohanes Pembaptis, Kg. Penubukan, Tangkarason

5 Februari: Kunjungan Hormat Bapa Uskup Julius Dusen Gitom dan St. Mark, Batu 12, Sandakan

6 Februari: Melihat keadaan di persekitaran Sandakan, dan kembali ke Pulau Pinang.



Fr. Fabian Dicom



Saudari Pauline Yeo



Lawatan di kawasan banjir luar stasi Paroki Telupid



Lawatan ke rumah umat di Tawau

Lawatan sembilan hari itu benar-benar 'eye opener' bagi Fr. Fabian, Pauline dan Anna. Meskipun perjalanannya 'jauh, berliku-liku dan berlubang-lubang,' namun dengan kekuatan dan rahmat Tuhan, misi itu selesai dengan jayanya.

Semoga buah-buah hasil daripada pengalaman itu dapat memberikan lagi pergertian yang lebih mendalam tentang pelayanan Caritas dan memberikan kekuatan kepada semua yang melayani Caritas baik di peringkat nasional, diosis mahupun paroki agar dapat melayani dengan penuh KASIH Tuhan Yesus.

Semoga mereka yang telah dilawati juga dapat memahami peranan Caritas dan pada masa yang sama merasakan kehadiran Yesus dalam kebersamaan sebagai satu komuniti umat Allah di paroki dan juga diosis.

Caritas Malaysia dan Caritas Sandakan ingin merakamkan banyak-banyak terima kasih kepada Bapa Uskup Julius Dusin Gitom, kepada semua paderi paroki, ahli-ahli Majlis Pastoral Paroki, pemimpin-pemimpin Gereja dan KKD serta semua yang terlibat secara langsung dan tidak langsung dalam menjayakan program *Turun Padang* Caritas Malaysia itu.

Lawatan dan pemberian bantuan kepada mereka yang terjejas oleh kebakaran di Tawau



Webinar on Zero Waste Lifestyle

Pada 20 Jun 2024, buat julung kalinya Komisi Keadilan Ciptaan Tuhan, Komisi Migran & Perantau dan Caritas Diosis Sandakan berganding bahu untuk menganjurkan satu webinar yang bertajuk 'Gaya Hidup Sisa Sifar'. Objektif utama penganjuran itu adalah agar umat disedarkan dan diingatkan akan tanggungjawab mereka sebagai 'penjaga bumi' (Kitab Kejadian 1:26 – 31) dan agar umat dapat mempraktikkan gaya hidup sisa sifar dalam kehidupan peribadi setiap hari.

Seramai 358 orang dari dan luar Diosis Sandakan telah mendaftar bagi program itu. Walau bagaimanapun hanya 160 peserta yang telah mengikuti secara atas talian. Jumlah itu tidak termasuk para peserta yang telah berkumpul di capel-capel untuk mengikuti sesi itu. Atas usaha dan inisiatif Fr. Arthur John di Misi Paitan dan Saudari Irene Palisa di Nativity Chapel Kampung Pelantong, Beluran, peserta-peserta yang mempunyai masalah talian internet mendapat peluang untuk mengikuti webinar itu sehingga selesai.

Webinar itu telah dimulakan dengan doa pembukaan dan kata-kata aluan dari Fr. Stephen Esguerra, penasihat rohani bagi Komisi Keadilan Ciptaan Tuhan Diosis Sandakan. Dalam ucapannya, Fr. Stephen mengongsikan keprihatin Bapa Suci Fransiskus dalam krisis ekologi dan menyeru semua peserta untuk mengikuti webinar itu memberi perhatian sepenuhnya dan menimba ilmu sebanyak yang boleh agar dapat mewariskan bumi yang hijau dan sihat kepada generasi akan datang.

Sesi diteruskan dengan memperkenalkan dua penceramah jemputan yang disampaikan oleh Saudara Clarence Chin. Dua penceramah yang telah dijemput khas bagi webinar itu adalah Puan Ruth Yap, pengasas bagi *Zero Waste Sabah* dan Sr. Calista Soliun, FSIC, penyelaras bagi Komisi Keadilan Ciptaan Tuhan Diosis Agung Kota Kinabalu.

Puan Ruth yang mengusaha *Zero Waste Sabah* sepenuh masa telah mengongsikan realiti dan permasalahan sampah-sarap di seluruh dunia dan khususnya di Sabah. Permasalahan itu telah 'menyakiti' bukan sahaja alam sekitar dan haiwan (darat dan laut) malah manusia itu sendiri. Manusia merupakan punca utama berlakunya hal itu. Antara penyebabnya adalah kurang kesedaran, kurang peduli dan kurang ilmu tentang kesan sampah-



sarap terutama plastik sekali guna kepada bumi. Penjagaan alam sekitar adalah tanggung semua pihak termasuklah pihak kerajaan dan syarikat-syarikat swasta. Namun paling penting itu adalah kesedaran secara peribadi untuk berubah dan memilih gaya hidup yang mesra alam. Selain itu Puan Ruth juga menyentuh tentang usaha-usaha badan antarabangsa dalam menangani isu itu dan bagaimana peserta boleh mengurangkan masalah itu dengan menggunakan konsep *Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle & Rot* untuk dipraktikkan dalam kehidupan sehari-hari sehingga ia menjadi satu gaya hidup sisa sifar.

Sr. Calista Soliun, FSIC, pula telah menjadikan 'Segala sesuatu yang diciptakan oleh Dia dan untuk Dia' yang dipetik dari Kolose 1:16 sebagai tema keseluruhan sesinya. Selain itu, Sr. Calista juga telah mengongsikan banyak informasi dari ensiklik *Laudato Si*, Ajaran Sosial Gereja, dan Katekismus Gereja Katolik (KGK). Ternyata sekali gereja kita sangat pedulikan alam sekitar. Malah setiap kali Misa Kudus, umat Katolik diingatkan akan ciptaan-Nya melalui Doa Aku Percaya. Maka dengan itu, Sr. Calista mengingatkan kepada semua umat Katolik yang mengikuti webinar itu untuk menghidupi tanggungjawab dan komitmen mereka dalam menjaga alam sekitar yang 'lahir dari iman Kristiani kita.'

**Setiap kekejaman terhadap makhluk ciptaan Tuhan adalah
'bertentangan dengan martabat manusia.'** (*Laudato Si*, 92; KGK, 2418)

Webinar 'Gaya Hidup Sisa Sifar' itu diakhiri dengan kata-kata penghargaan dan doa penutup oleh Fr. Simon Kontou, penasihat rohani bagi Komisi Migran & Perantau, dan Caritas Sandakan.

Dalam ucapan penghargaan, Fr. Simon berterima kasih kepada Puan Ruth, Sr. Calista dan semua yang hadir dalam webinar *Gaya Hidup Sisa Sifar* yang sangat memberi manfaat kepada semua. Fr. Simon memberi peringatan kepada semua bahawa bumi boleh hidup tanpa manusia tetapi manusia tidak boleh hidup tanpa bumi. Maka dengan itu Fr. Simon menggalakkan semua 350 peserta yang mendaftar untuk webinar itu untuk memulakan gaya hidup tanpa sifar bersama keluarga kerana itu akan memberi impak yang baik kepada alam sekitar.

Tim penganjur ingin mengambil kesempatan itu untuk mengucapkan banyak-banyak terima kasih kepada para paderi, para religius, dua penceramah jemputan dan semua umat yang telah mengikuti webinar itu. Semoga dengan ilmu dan kesedaran itu, semua yang hadir akan dapat mengubah gaya hidup dan mempraktik konsep *Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle & Rot* dalam kehidupan peribadi untuk kebaikan bumi dan seluruh ciptaan-Nya.



Perkongsian dari Sr. Calista Soliun, fsic, penyelarar bagi Komisi Keadilan Ciptaan Tuhan Diosis Agung Kota Kinabalu



Perkongsian dari Ruth Yap, pengasas Zero Waste Sabah



Penyertaan secara atas talian dari Misi Paitan



Penyertaan secara atas talian dari Nativity Chapel Kampung Pelantong, Beluran

Ecology Workshop

- A workshop on Integral Ecology was held from 14 – 19 July 2024.

Humanitarian Aid

- Humanitarian aid of RM5,000 was given on 2 Aug. 2024 to five families affected by fire in Tawau.
- On 8 Dec. 2024, aid of RM3,500 was given to a family affected by fire.
- Financial assistance of RM2,500 each was given to three single mothers in Paitan Mission on 8 Dec. 2024.
- Financial aid of RM3,000.00 was given on 16 Dec. 2024 to three families affected by fire in Tawau.

Caritas Exchanges

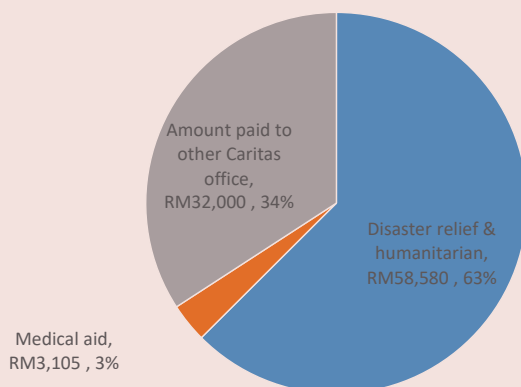
- Caritas Sandakan had their diocesan meet from 6 – 8 Sep. 2024.
- Fourth Caritas Malaysia Assembly was held in Papar from 11 – 16 Nov. 2024.

Financial Statement

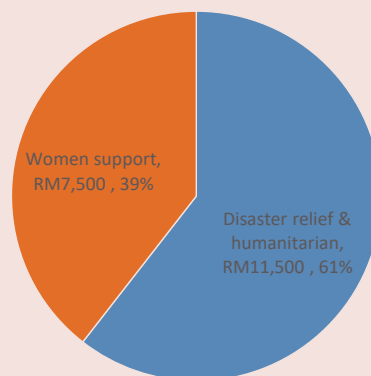
Diocese of Sandakan STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

	2023 RM	2024 RM
Income		
Donations	33,885	-
Amount received from other Caritas office	59,800	19,000
	93,685	19,000
Expenditure		
Aids & outreach activities		
Disaster relief & humanitarian	58,580	11,500
Medical aid	3,105	-
Women support	-	7,500
	61,685	19,000
Amount paid to other Caritas office	32,000	-
	93,685	19,000
Surplus / (Deficit)	-	-

2023 Expenditure RM93,685



2024 Expenditure RM19,000



Main Personnel

Chairperson: Fr. Davie anak Entalai

Programme & Activity Highlights – Year 2023

Bunan Resilience Project

Launched on 20 May 2023 at the Gethsemane Pilgrimage Centre. A pilot project inspired by Archbishop Simon Poh, and placed under the Parish of St Jude, Bunan, with the support of the Archdiocesan Commission for Creation Justice led by Friar David Au. The project • sought to uplift the livelihood of rural communities by equipping farmers with the necessary tools, knowledge and resources to face challenges posed by climate change and environmental threats; and • hoped to build a deeper connection between consumers and the sources of their sustenance, fostering a stronger appreciation for locally-obtained produce.

Ministry to Migrants

The Indonesian Children Learning Centre was back in operation in March 2023.

Pastoral Care of Migrants & Itinerants

Kuching Archdiocesan Commission for Mission and Human Development hosted the meeting of the Episcopal Commission for the Pastoral Care of Migrants and Itinerants in June 2023.

Programme & Activity Highlights – Year 2024

Charity Mission

A group of retirees from Singapore undertook mission and charity work in the Archdiocese from 18 – 22 Mar. 2024. They visited the Cheshire Home, Home of Peace, and St. Theresa's Parish. Their visit was coordinated by the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, St. Joseph's Conference.

Visit by KL Office for Human Development

The director and staff of the Kuala Lumpur Archdiocesan Office for Human Development paid a courtesy call on the Archbishop of Kuching on 15 May 2024. During the meeting, Fr. Galvin Ngumbang presented on the structure and projects under the Kuching Archdiocesan Commission for Mission and Human Development. Also present at the meeting were Fr. Davie Entalai and Bernadine Sammy. The group also visited the Bunan Resilience Project (*see Year 2023 report above*). They were interested to help market the non-perishable products in KL.



Ministry to Migrants

A thanksgiving mass for Indonesia's 79th Independence Day was celebrated on 11 Aug. 2024 at St. Joseph's Cathedral. Main celebrant was Fr. Andre Delimarta, SDB.

International Catholic Migration Commission

Fr. Davie, Fr. Andre and Ms. Diana attended a zoom meeting with personnel from the International Catholic Migration Commission (ICMC) on 12 Sep. 2024. Issues discussed were • human trafficking within Kuching, and the • possibility of setting up a migrant shelter equipped with sufficient facilities and competent staff.

Harmony Workshop

A workshop to create awareness on religious freedom in Malaysia was held by NGO Lawyer Kamek of Sarawak on 24 Aug. 2024. The programme enabled sharing of experiences and proper approaches that could be used to counter issues regarding re-conversion. Attended by Fr. Davie, Sr. Susan, SSFS and Sr. Agatha, SSFS.

Inter-Faith Visit by Forum Kerukunan Umat Beragama

A study trip was arranged by Angkatan Belia Islam Malaysia (ABIM) Sarawak for 21 personnel of the Forum Kerukunan Umat Beragama from Sambas on 21 Sep. 2024. They visited the Cathedral and the SPC Chapel, and had a Q&A session. • The objective was to get to know the significance of the various religious places of worship in Kuching, and to create awareness for a deeper understanding and respect for all believers.

Caritas Malaysia National Assembly

Arch/diocesan directors and ecclesiastical assistants met for the Caritas Malaysia national assembly themed *Union in Minds, Hearts and Deeds* (John 3:18) from 12 – 15 Nov. 2024. • Archdiocese of Kuching was represented by Fr. Andre Delimarta, SDB, Sr. Susan Dulang, SSFS, and Fr. Davie Entalai. • Assembly included a recollection, presentations from Caritas Malaysia, Episcopal Commission for the Pastoral Care of Migrants and Itinerants, and Episcopal Commission for Creation Justice, and from representatives of the arch/dioceses of Melaka-Johor, Kota Kinabalu, Sandakan and Sibu. They shared experiences on their projects, activities and disaster responses. • The assembly emphasized the spirituality of 'being' and 'doing,' and the importance of continually collaborating with each other in the mission to help those in need. • Training of Trainers was held on 11 Nov. 2024.



Caritas Miri

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Main Personnel

Director: Fr. Sylvester Ngau Jok | Secretary: Rosica Milah
Vice-Secretary: Darren Junior | Treasurer: Sr. Baby Anne

Pengenalan

Caritas Miri adalah salah satu ministry yang aktif di bawah Keuskupan Miri. Caritas Miri telah digerakkan dalam keuskupan pada tahun 2020 dengan keahlian seramai empat orang sahaja pada peringkat awal. Fr. Sylvester Ngau Jok telah diamanahkan oleh Uskup Richard Ng untuk mengetuai kumpulan ini.

Setakat ini, Caritas Miri masih belum mempunyai pejabat tetap kerana ia terdiri daripada umat Gereja yang berkhidmat secara sukarela.

Matlamat utama Caritas Miri adalah untuk membantu golongan yang memerlukan, terutamanya mereka yang kurang berkemampuan, golongan orang kurang upaya (OKU), mangsa bencana alam, serta para migran.

Bagi kami di Caritas Miri, tiada batasan agama dalam memberi bantuan. Kami turut membantu mereka daripada latar belakang agama lain seperti Islam, Sidang Injil Borneo (SIB), dan bukan Katolik. Kami juga sentiasa peka dan memberi tindak balas terhadap keperluan umat yang memerlukan bantuan, serta berusaha menjadikan mereka sedar akan kepentingan doa dan Ekaristi.

Sorotan Program & Aktiviti – Tahun 2023

Caritas Workshop & Recollection 1.0

Di Church of Mater Dei, Lutong, pada 16 Sep. 2023, workshop untuk Caritas Miri telah diadakan buat pertama kalinya, dan yang baru sahaja diperkenalkan secara rasmi. Bengkel ini berlangsung selama dua hari, satu malam, dan telah dihadiri oleh wakil-wakil daripada 14 paroki dalam Keuskupan Miri.



Caritas
MALAYSIA

Commission for Integral
Human Development
DIOCESE OF MIRI

CARITAS WORKSHOP

"...for I was HUNGRY and you gave me food,
I was THIRSTY and you gave me something to drink,
I was a STRANGER and you welcomed me,
I was NAKED and you gave me clothing,
I was SICK and you took care of me,
I was IN PRISON and you visited me."

Matthew 25:35-36

Bantuan Kepada Mangsa Kebakaran



Pada 20 Sep. 2023, bantuan diberikan kepada mangsa kebakaran di Uma Nyaving Sungai Asap. Setiap bakul makanan atau sumbangan adalah hasil dari kerjasama dari Ministry St. Vincent De Paul, Urban Poor, dan juga umat yang pemurah hati.

Program untuk Migran & Pengungsi

Pada 23 Sep. 2023, kegiatan diraikan di St. Joseph's Cathedral untuk migran dan pengungsi. Rosari dan adorasi telah diadakan bersama beberapa pendatang dari Indonesia dan Filipina sempena Hari Minggu Migran & Pengungsi Sedunia.



Carolling dan Berdoa

Pada 8 Dis. 2023, para penghuni Rumah Penjagaan Orang Tua Miri telah dikunjungi. Nyanyian lagu Krismas dan doa telah diadakan bersama mereka untuk menyebarkan semangat Krismas. Rumah orang tua itu dijaga oleh individu yang beragama Katolik.



Sorotan Program & Aktiviti – Tahun 2024

Recollection untuk Caritas Paroki

Pada 19 Apr. 2024, program recollection telah diadakan di St. Francis Centre. Program itu yang bertema *Into the Deep* adalah untuk semua yang terlibat dalam khidmat sosial di keuskupan, serta wakil-wakil Caritas dari setiap paroki.



Caritas Recollection

Pada 19 & 20 Sep. 2024, recollection untuk Caritas Miri diadakan di St. Francis Centre. Semasa program itu, dua renungan telah disampaikan: (1) *What Would Jesus Do*, dan (2) *Into the Deep* (Lukas 5:4-11). Recollection itu termasuk perkongsian kumpulan dan renungan peribadi.

Perayaan Hari Migran & Pelarian Sedunia ke-110

Pada 29 Sep. 2024, Komisi Caritas Miri telah bekerjasama dengan Komisi ECMI Miri dalam merayakan Misa di Gereja St. Dominic and the Rosary, Taman Tunku, bersama para migran, serta mengadakan jamuan makan malam sebagai tanda penghargaan dan sambutan mesra kepada para migran yang hadir ke dalam komuniti Gereja Katolik Miri.





Caritas Sibu

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email: CaritasSibu@gmail.com | Websites: www.catholic.my/dioceseofsibu/; www.catholic.my/shc

Main Personnel

Director: Eta Ting Ming Na, OCDS | Ecclesiastical Assistants: Fr. Raphael Samosir, OFM Cap. & Fr. David Ho

Serving Disadvantaged Communities

Rooted in Christ's love, Caritas SibU continues to serve the poor, the vulnerable and the marginalized with compassion and dignity.

Mission

To continue to serve as the social arm of the Catholic Church in the Diocese of Sibu and beyond, promoting integral human development and care for God's Creation.

Vision

To continue as a community where love, justice and dignity are upheld for all, especially the poor, forgotten and the voiceless.

Official Recognition

Caritas SibU was registered as an NGO with the name *Pertubuhan Kebajikan dan Kasih Sayang SibU* (Sibu Charitable Welfare Society) on 8 May 2024.

Programme & Activity Highlights – Year 2023

Welcoming the Deputy Prime Minister

A poster entitled Together We Build a Community of Love was presented to welcome back YAB Dato Sri' Haji Fadillah bin Haji Yusof, Deputy Prime Minister of Malaysia, by Eta Ting, as coordinator, together with interfaith leaders at Lakis Hall, Masjid An-Nur, Sibu, on 6 Jan. 2023.





Shelter & Support for the Homeless

Caritas members joined inter-governmental agencies to send the homeless to a transit centre (TTG Sibu) on 20 Sep. 2023.

Collaboration with Support Agencies

On 8 Nov. 2023, Caritas Sibu accompanied NSO MAPO and KPWK officers to visit *Safe Haven for Homeless* (TTG, Sibu), and also to set up a TIP shelter home in Sibu.



Caritas Malaysia National Assembly

Caritas Sibu hosted the third national assembly of Caritas Malaysia at the Sibu Diocesan Pastoral Centre from 13 – 16 Nov. 2023.



Assembly participants at community leader Catherine Tamoh's longhouse

Programme & Activity Highlights – Year 2024

Strengthening Public Awareness on Fraud

Anti-Fraud Awareness Workshop & Exhibition for the Boys' Brigade of Malaysia at Logos Methodist Church, Sibü, on 27 Jul. 2024.



Strengthening Community Capacity

A Volunteer Management Training (VMT) session was held for Caritas Sibü members at the TIP shelter home on 24 Aug. 2024. (VMT is a program to recruit, coordinate, support and retain volunteers.)



Aid to Homeless Families

On 26 Sep. 2024, financial aid was contributed to families made homeless by fire through the secretary of Masjid An-Nur, together with the Association of Churches Sarawak (ACS), Sibü Branch.



Way Forward

Serving the Common Good

Caritas SibU also desires every baptised Catholic to be an ongoing bridge builder to strengthen our interfaith collaboration, as well as with our governmental agencies and other organisations, for the common good of all to serve the vulnerable voiceless.

Capacity Building

With our faithful gaze upon Jesus, Who is our Hope always, we hope to conduct frequent Volunteer Management Training Workshops for the SibU Diocese Catholic community, especially the youth, to be trained and equipped to serve the affected person and/or community in the event of any disaster or crisis.

Acknowledgements

Supporters & Contributors

We extend our sincerest and heartfelt thanks to our selfless lay faithful as volunteers, parish staff, parish communities, priests, consecrated religious sisters and brothers, Caritas members Michael Kiu Kwong Kee (Vice-President), Jane Moh Hwei Lim (Secretary), Helen Liew (Assistant Secretary), Joseph Wong Kee Hook (Treasurer), Peter Lau Ik Kang (Program Officer), Francis Ling Ing Sieng and Teresa Yeu Lim Ling.

Collaborators for Social Justice & Peace

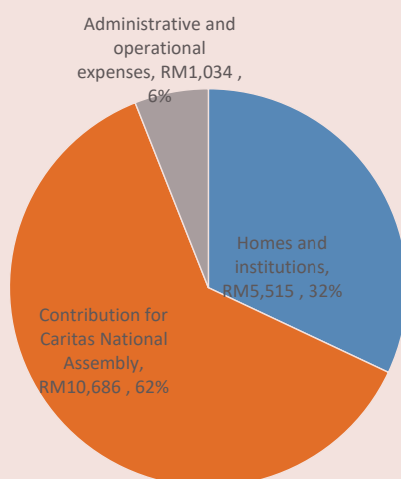
For their collaboration, Caritas SibU thanks • Interfaith Communities of SibU • Ministry of Women, Early Childhood, and Community Well-being Development (KPWK) • SibU Resident Office • SibU District Office • National Strategic Office of Majlis Anti-Pemerdagangan Orang dan Anti-Penyeludupan Migran (NSO MAPO) • Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development (KPWKM) and • NGOs.

Financial Statement

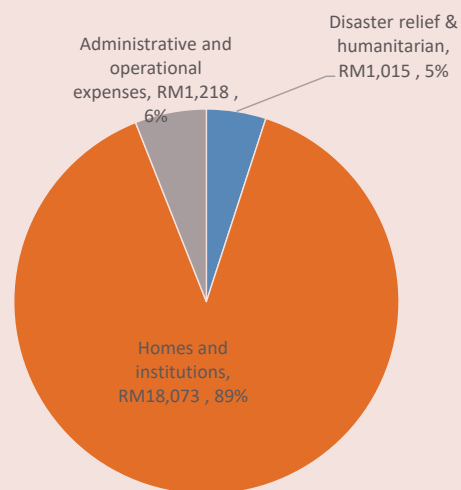
Diocese of Sibü STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

	2023 RM	2024 RM
Income		
Donations	17,235	20,306
Expenditure		
Aids & outreach activities		
Disaster relief & humanitarian	-	1,015
Homes and institutions	5,515	18,073
	5,515	19,088
Contribution for Caritas National Assembly	10,686	-
Administrative and operational expenses	1,034	1,218
	<u>17,235</u>	<u>20,306</u>
Surplus / (Deficit)	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

2023 Expenditure
RM17,235



2024 Expenditure
RM20,306





AOHD

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Cahayasuara, 5, Jalan Robertson, 50150 Kuala Lumpur
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YouTube: www.youtube.com/channel/UC-4-R7EfKwY7lq7F1a_4g0Q | Website: www.aohd.org

Main Personnel

Ecclesiastical Assistant: Fr. Albet Arockiasamy | Director: Dr. Gary Liew

Structure

A new structure for AOHD was adopted in accordance with the updated Terms of Reference when the new AOHD director took over in May 2023. Eight ministries were brought under AOHD: • Ministry for Special Needs (MSN), • Ministry for the Poor (MP), • Women Ministry (WM), • Ministry for Migrants & Itinerants (MMI), • Prison Ministry (PM), • Creation Justice Ministry (CJM), • Ministry for Orang Asli (MOA), and • Society of St. Vincent de Paul (SSVP).

Programme & Activity Highlights – Year 2023

ARCHDIOCESAN OFFICE FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT (AOHD)

Conducting Training & Formation

The AOHD Retreat (talks, activities, discussions, personal reflections and mass) was held from 10 – 13 Nov. 2023, with 68 participants, including AOHD team members. The retreat was also open to non-Catholics to enable participants to grow as a community.

Providing Relief & Support

- In March 2023, AOHD provided gas stoves and bedding to Orang Asli affected by floods.
- AOHD paid for three months the electricity bills of the Migrant Community Learning Centre, which was later fully adopted by MMI.
- The Archdiocesan Mental Health Ministry (AMHM), working closely with AOHD, provided counselling support for cases under MP.

Empowering Women

An eight-weekend stay-in empowerment programme jointly organised by the Women's Ministry, the Catholic Business Fraternity (CBF) and GIFTMED was held from 7 Oct. 2022 to 19 Feb. 2023. The workshop, which empowered the B40 sector by teaching them how to generate income from their own talents, consisted of modules including goal setting, business plan development, product development, digital & social media, marketing, customer service & customer relationship management, and how to grow a business. Four bazaars were held in four churches to enable the 24 participants to practice their new skills. AOHD funded the venue, food and training materials, while CBF funded the mentors and trainers.

Training the AOHD Team

- AOHD Team Recollection was held from 21 – 24 July 2023. Theme: "Deepen our FAITH, Strengthen our HOPE, and Enkindle our LOVE". Objectives: to learn from each other's strength; to enhance spirituality; to be formed



Fr. Albet at AOHD retreat



AOHD recollection



Flood survival training



AOHD roadshow

for ministerial work; to enhance collaboration; to change mindsets; and to bond as a team.

- Humanitarian Forum & Fair, organised by CHARIS (Caritas Humanitarian Aid & Relief Initiatives Singapore), was held on 24 June 2023. The KL archdiocese was represented by four members, who also networked with other participant humanitarian organisations. (HFF enables dialogue and engagement in humanitarian initiatives.)
- Flood Survival Training programme was held by the Malaysia International Search and Rescue (MISAR) Academy on 24 Sep. 2023. Certification was given to the three team members who completed the training.
- Caritas Internationalis Management Standards (CIMS) workshop was held from 27 Mar. to 1 Apr. 2023 in Malacca by Caritas Internationalis, and participated by over 50 Caritas staff from around the world. AOHD and PIHDM sent one representative each, and the two participants were subsequently tasked with setting up CIMS.
- In partnership with AMHM, AOHD held a mental health workshop for AOHD team members on 22 Sep. 2023. Participants were given an insight on mental health, and how to manage mental health better.
- An agreement between AOHD and AMHM will enable monthly counselling for AOHD team members subsidised by AOHD.

Strengthening PIHDMs

- AOHD has embarked on a roadshow to meet PIHDMs in order to dialog, listen, learn and build relationships. The roadshow included one-on-one breakout sessions with AOHD ministries meeting their parish counterparts, a presentation to introduce AOHD's mission, vision, objectives and structure, and a proposal for the younger generation to be involved in ministries and fellowship. From July 2023, the roadshow has visited 27 parishes.
- PIHDM leaders' formation was held from 6 – 8 Jan. 2023 for 58 participants from 23 parishes. Formation included workshops and talks



PIHDM study day



AOHD Legacy Night



Street feeding with Archbishop Julian



Fun game for Orang Asli children

on Mission with Passion, and empowerment of leaders. • The guidelines for PIHDMs were adopted by the clergy at their recollection in November 2023. Every parish priest will sign and commit to it for the next three years 2024 – 2026.

Enabling Sustainability

• In conjunction with the launch of PROTEC 4 and Season of Creation, the AOHD team were allowed to work from home once a week as part of reducing carbon emission, and to carpool whenever possible. • Bins were purchased for the recycling programme for the AOHD office. The waste materials were then sent to the IPC Recycling Centre, where points (through an app) were given for the recyclable items. The points could be redeemed to buy groceries for the office. In 2023, AOHD recycled about 108 kg of waste that would have otherwise gone to landfills. The recycling programme was expected to encourage more Church offices to join the effort.

Building Networks

• Caritas Malaysia conducted its annual assembly from 14 – 16 Nov. 2023 in Sibul, Sarawak. AOHD and the KL archdiocese were represented by five participants. • In June 2023, AOHD team members visited Caritas Kota Kinabalu, Caritas Penang, Caritas Malacca Johor Diocese, Caritas Malaysia and Caritas Singapore to learn from what they were doing, and also to build a bond for future collaboration.

Appreciating Contributors

The AOHD Legacy Night was held on 10 Dec. 2023 to appreciate and recognise those who have contributed to the betterment of humanity. The five awards were: Soter Fernandez Humanitarian Award, Murphy Pakiam Human Fraternity Award, Exceptional Organisation Award, Long Service Award and Outstanding Individual Award.



Ministry for Special Needs

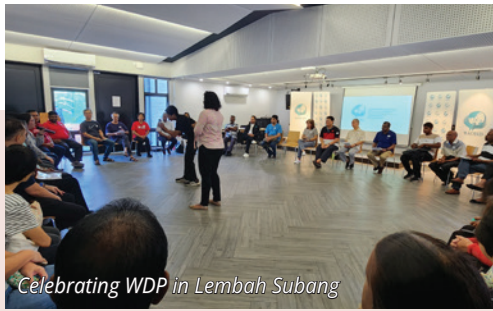
- Licence for Care Centre: Renovations and upgrading work were in progress to obtain a licence from the Department of Social Welfare (JKM) to fully operate Pusat Jagaan Istimewa Nathanael (PJIN).
- Community Wellness: On 8 July 2023, MSN held a wellness programme for the special needs community; 17 children with special needs took part. Parents wanted more of such programmes as it enabled their children to grow with their community.
- Sacramental Preparation: One student with severe autism was trained and prepared to receive first holy communion. A room in PJIN was set up for that purpose.
- Training to Serve: Three teenagers with special needs were trained to serve as altar servers and hospitality ministers. MSN leaders were also trained to communicate with the trainees.

Ministry for the Poor

- Community Service: MP conducted a one-month long community service programme for five university students, who served at soup kitchens and homes, and encountered the poor.
- Clergy Street Feeding was held on 18 July 2023 in collaboration with CJM, SSVP and MP. Participants worked with 15 priests, volunteers and leaders to feed the homeless while spending time to talk to them in order to better understand them and their realities.
- National Social Work Summit was held from 23 – 24 Aug. 2023, and was participated by MP, who were able to network and learn from other social workers.
- World Humanitarian Day: In conjunction with WHD, MP collaborated with MOA to conduct a programme on 19 & 20 Oct. 2023 for 32 Orang Asli children and their guardians. They were given a place to stay, and the programme included a movie screening, fun games, and visits to Kuala Lumpur city and Zoo Negara.

- World Day of the Poor (WDP) was celebrated on 19 Nov. 2023, with each district hosting a district-level celebration, which included mass and special programmes. Some districts held a Kindness Community Bazaar where food and necessities were distributed free to the needy.
- An online reflection was also held on 19 Nov. 2023 for PIHDM heads to reflect on the pope's message and theme. Archbishop Julian also participated in the reflection.
- Orphanage Shopping Night was held on 21 Oct. 2023, organised by MP, SSVP and a Malay youth group which wanted to celebrate their birthdays by giving back to the community. They had dinner with the children, who were then taken to buy clothes and necessities. It was a good bridge-building programme.

- B40 Skills Training: MP launched a free programme with PERKESO (Social Security Organisation) To benefit the B40 sector with basic to SPM qualification. The programme, with courses including AI technology,



Celebrating WDP in Lembah Subang



Ecology walk with Archbishop Julian



Beach cleanup with Fr. Andrew Manickam

baking, servicing air-conditioners, and event hair styling, was intended to provide skills training to enhance their lives. • Self-Sustenance: MP assisted walk-in cases, and worked with various agencies, parishes, diocesan offices and NGOs to better coordinate the situation with the aim of enabling them to be self-sustaining. MP also requested AMHM to help counsel some of them.

Women Ministry

A bereavement support group (BSG) for widow-to-widow and widower-to-widower was initiated to enable participants to move on after losing their spouses. BSG provided a neutral space for them to go through the grieving process, and to help with their basic needs. From August 2023, BSG monthly programmes included grief art therapy, talks, sharing journeys, and praying for one another.

Ministry for Migrants & Itinerants

• Migrant Sunday was celebrated in parishes on 24 Sep. 2023. Posters and videos were shared at the commission level. • Annual Conference was held from 4 – 6 Sep. 2023 in Penang. • *Migrant Got Talent* programme was held on 5 Nov. 2023 with mass at Church of St. Anthony, KL.

Prison Ministry

• Retreat: The strategy of prayer was discussed during the PM spiritual retreat from 20 – 22 Oct. 2023, attended by about 55 persons. • Christmas



Spirit: In December 2023, Christmas mass was celebrated in prisons in the districts of Selangor, Kuala Lumpur, Negeri Sembilan and Pahang. For women prisons, food and Christmas goodie bags were given to 1,200 inmates sponsored by a joint project between CPFA and Malaysian Care. For men prisons, food was cooked and distributed to all inmates.

Creation Justice Ministry

- Mangrove Planting: Over 150 mangrove trees planted, and 200 seedling bags prepared with participation from diverse groups.
- Upcycling: Several parishes adopted fabric bins for upcycling purposes.
- Spiritual Reflection: A guided reflection program was conducted with participation from various faiths and age groups.
- Ecological Awareness: Unity run covering 240 km, and tree-planting initiative to promote environmental consciousness.
- Renewable Energy Awareness: Visits to recycling facilities and discussions on solar energy solutions were conducted to encourage sustainable practices.
- World Environment Day: Forest trail experience, beach cleanup, ecological-themed Eucharistic celebration, and initiatives to collect recyclable plastics.

- Support for Underprivileged: Community-driven efforts involved street cleanups, provision of supplies, and outreach activities benefiting homes and schools.
- Tree Planting: Clergy members were encouraged to engage in tree planting, and large-scale mangrove planting with volunteers from diverse backgrounds.
- Ongoing Programmes: Educational and ecological awareness programmes, outreach activities for the needy, and sustainability-focused talks, were carried out to promote environmental conservation and social support.

Ministry for Orang Asli

(The Ministry for Orang Asli is also known as *Garam dan Cahaya Kawan Orang Asli*.)

- Housing: In several villages, repairs and renovations were carried out, which included roofing and flooring improvements, construction of new homes, and ongoing projects.
- Education: Four learning centres were operational with local teachers.

- Agriculture: Land clearing and preparation for farming projects were in progress, along with construction of a multipurpose centre for education and community use.
- Solar Power: Solar lighting initiatives were implemented for several families, alongside a pilot project for water generation.
- Food Provisions: Regular distribution of food aid to families in several villages.
- Community Initiatives: A group of children and parents participated in an educational and recreational trip outside their village.

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Programmes (State Council of Selangor & Kuala Lumpur)

• Monthly rations to friends-in-need (FINs) • Visiting and interviewing new FINs • Facilitating FINs to get aid from the Department of Social Welfare • Empowering program for single mothers to teach them flower arrangement and murukku making • Medical clinic • Learning Centre free classes on Saturdays and Sundays • Formation on Catholic Social Teaching for Selangor and KL members • Assisting applications to SOSCO (Social Security Organisation), employee's provident fund (EPF), welfare aid, and registration cards for persons with disabilities (Orang Kurang Upaya or OKU) • Helping HIV/AIDS patients for checkups in Sg. Buloh Hospital.

Success Story

One of the students in the children's home passed his SPM (secondary-school certificate) examination in 2023 with a grade A in six subjects.

Programme & Activity Highlights – Year 2024

Archdiocesan Office for Human Development (AOHD)

Flood Relief & Aid

• AOHD partnered with CREST Malaysia and other organisations for a flood relief mission to Kelantan in January 2024. They distributed supplies, built emergency rafts, and forged community partnerships. The initiative received significant media coverage. • AOHD responded to the plight of flood-hit Sabahans with supplies and manpower support for clean-up and coordination.

Capacity Building for Refugee Youth

AOHD has signed an MOU with Montfort Boys Town to enable refugee youth to enrol into programmes conducted by MBT, which provides welfare and education to underprivileged youths. AOHD will conduct the screening and faith formation for enrolees.

Migrants & Refugees

• Crossroads 2.0, organised by Young Lives, Fondacio, was held on 3 May 2024, and attended by community leaders and representatives from various organizations. The programme aimed to provide necessary skills and knowledge to navigate the challenges faced by urban refugees in the country. A follow-up, Crossroads 2.1, was also held. • AOHD participated in an ecumenical programme, which included a discussion on the difference between migrants, refugees and asylum seekers. Various speakers shared insights into their ministries, including work with migrants and refugees.



Lenten Campaign

- An LC briefing roadshow was held over weekends in January 2024 in the various districts, and included interpreters for the deaf community in collaboration with the Catholic Ministry for the Deaf.
- Videos featuring various ministries were recorded and circulated; materials, such as buntings and money boxes, were also distributed. Young adults with special needs prepared the 1,200 upcycled plastic money boxes.
- The Campaign page was hosted on the AOHD website, and all materials, including accessible content for the deaf community, were made available.

Caritas Exchanges

- AOHD hosted eight members from Caritas MJD on 26 & 27 Jan. 2024. The visit included presentations and site visits to AOHD offices and local churches.
- Caritas Kota Kinabalu director Sr. Anita James met with AOHD on 13 May 2024 to discuss greater coordination and collaboration between arch/dioceses, including the translation of materials into the local language.
- AOHD hosted a delegation from Caritas Humanitarian Aid Relief Initiatives Singapore (CHARIS) for a tour and presentation on 10 July 2024. The visit included community engagement and sharing of experiences.
- The Caritas Malaysia national assembly was held from 12 – 15 Nov. 2024.
- The AOHD team visited various diocesan Caritas offices in East Malaysia to strengthen relationships and explore opportunities for collaboration. Such trips were fact-finding missions focused on learning about the local community and their needs.
- AOHD met with Caritas Malaysia at the Penang office to discuss various issues, such as child protection policies and aid for community learning centres in Sabah.



Human Rights Day Forum



MOU with IMU Foundation



Medical mobile vehicle



Hujan the Orangutan

Exposure Visits

- An exposure-immersion programme was conducted by Dr. Gary Liew (AOHD director) on 26 Oct. 2024 for the Stella Maris Catholic Students Society to introduce them to the realities of poverty at a local shelter.
- On a Penang trip, AOHD visited a homeless shelter initiated by the Penang state government. AOHD also visited a soup kitchen and thrift shop, as well as met with community members to explore opportunities for collaboration. AOHD also met with the Church leadership in Penang to discuss areas of collaboration.

Capacity Building for Staff

- Prior to the Caritas Malaysia national assembly, Fr. Alvin Ng conducted a Training of Trainers on 11 Nov. 2024.
- Two AOHD staff attended the Caritas disaster management training workshop in Penang from 22 – 25 Sep. 2024.
- Seven AOHD staff attended a humanitarian foundation course in Singapore. Site visits included Caritas offices and social outreach facilities. They subsequently met with Caritas MJD in Johor.
- AOHD participated in the Human Rights Day Forum co-organised by the United Nations (Malaysia, Singapore & Brunei), Government of Malaysia and SUHAKAM (Human Rights Commission of Malaysia)

Medical Facilities

- A memorandum of understanding (MOU) was signed on 5 Dec. 2024 between AOHD and the International Medical University (IMU) to establish a free medical clinic for those who need medical attention. The proposed clinic would be set up in a parish office in KL. Necessary arrangements for clinic setup and staffing would be handled by the foundation, while AOHD would absorb the cost of renovation.
- The medical mobile vehicle was refurbished and equipped with new medical devices, and blessed on 26th Sep. 2024. The vehicle was available for emergency standby and outreach use.



Sustainability

- In April 2024, AOHD participated in the Planetary Health Summit, which included discussions on humanity's impact on the environment, and the challenges posed by climate change. A collaborative charter was drafted to address planetary health challenges through spiritual leadership.
- On 21 July 2024, AOHD handed over the adoption certificate and documents related to Hujan the Orangutan to the Creation Justice Ministry.

Interfaith Bridge Building

- AOHD attended the Grand Interfaith Iftar (GII) with the Muslim Council of Elders, and met with community and NGO activists. The *iftar* was co-hosted by leaders of other faith communities. (*Iftar* is the evening meal that Muslims eat to break their fast during Ramadan. The GII is intended to foster dialogue, friendship and mutual respect among religious communities.)
- AOHD hosted a presentation and dialogue when the president of the Muslim Council of Elders Malaysia visited AOHD. The dialogue was followed by a meeting with the bishops (who were on-site for another programme).

Internship

Under the Ministry of the Poor, an intern participated in outreach and case management. Another intern from the United States supported several ministries and visited partner organizations.

Publications

- Book titled *Integral Human Development: History and Memory* by Fr. Paul Dass was presented and discussed on 3 Aug. 2024. AOHD initiated the book presentation, and moderated the discussion.
- Book titled *From Anne to Zac: The Healing Journey of Autism Awareness*, written by a caregiver, and published by AOHD, was launched on 27 Sep. 2024 by Archbishop Julian Leow. Proceeds of the book sales would support families in need.

Projects

- **Retreat:** An AOHD retreat was conducted for 66 participants in August 2024. Sessions focussed on ecological themes and spiritual renewal, including a community-outreach programme.
- **Catholic Social Teaching:** Online seven-week course on Catholic Social Teaching for over 200 participants began in June 2024. Outreach programmes aligned with course themes were conducted.
- **Disaster Relief:** A representative volunteered for a flood relief effort in Penampang, Sabah, in July 2024. Essential items were distributed to affected families, and support was extended to a local childcare centre that had suffered damage.
- **Lenten Campaign Feedback:** Online session



Grand Interfaith Iftar



Engaging with resident on Amritsar Mission



AOHD recollection

in September 2024 gathered feedback on the Lenten Campaign 2024 from leaders and representatives, and also looked ahead to plan for 2025.

Social Communications

- Campaign videos were published from February to March 2024, with views ranging from 200 to over 1,300 per video. Content included key messages and community stories.
- Posters were designed and shared online to promote ministry programmes. Poster content was also distributed via messaging platforms.
- Social media: AOHD managed dedicated Facebook and Instagram pages for general and campaign-specific content. Those platforms were used to promote ministry activities and campaigns.
- AOHD website was updated, and content structured, and was in the final phase of development. Content gathering and coordination was done with a web development partner.

Missions

Exposure-Immersion

The AOHD team participated in an exposure-immersion in Battambang, Cambodia, aimed at deepening their understanding of local socio-economic and cultural contexts. The recollection included

- building assistive equipment for a local care centre
- visits to families impacted by incarceration and post-war trauma
- engagement with a social enterprise supporting persons with disabilities
- training and motivational sessions provided by a local Church leader.

• Outcome: Participants gained insight into community challenges, enhanced empathy, and expanded their global awareness and network.

CHARIS Visit

AOHD coordinated the mission visit of Caritas Humanitarian Aid & Relief Initiatives, Singapore (CHARIS), to AOHD in KL. CHARIS board members



and volunteers met the KL Archbishop, and were given a presentation and tour by AOHD on 10 & 11 July 2024.

Mission Amritsar

The Mission to Amritsar was held from 22 Nov. to 2 Dec. 2024. Participants volunteered with Pingalwara, a renowned charitable institution based in Punjab. • World Day of the Poor (WDP) was also celebrated there in collaboration with the Diocese of Jalandhar. • Participants of the missions to Amritsar and Calcutta (see below) were briefed and spiritually commissioned in October 2024. The briefing concluded with a cultural-immersion meal hosted by a local religious community.

Mission Calcutta

The Mission to Calcutta took place from 3 Dec. to 16 Dec. 2024. Participants volunteered with the Missionaries of Charity (MC), a renowned charitable institution established by St. Teresa of Calcutta. MC provides essential support and care to some of India's most vulnerable by offering food, shelter or medical assistance. Participants attended daily mass, rosary and adoration at the tomb of St. Teresa.

Ministry for Special Needs

Broader Reach: In January 2024, MSN adopted a new direction, and a broader reach. It also focussed on job-ready employment, and how MSN could decentralize its services, particularly for families outside the main urban area.

Care Centre Reopened: Pusat Jagaan Istimewa Nathanael (Nathanael Special Care Centre, PJIN) was reopened on 27 Sep. 2024 by the KL archbishop. • A meeting was held to discuss the framework for upcoming programmes, focusing on key operational matters and planning, of PJIN. • New flooring, furniture and sensory equipment were installed to enhance PJIN's environment to make it more accessible and safer for persons with special needs (PWSN). • PJIN has been registered with the Jabatan Kebajikan Masyarakat (Dept. of Social Welfare); registration certificate is valid until 2029.

Census: Forms were distributed to collect data on PWSN and their situations within MSN's scope of operation.

Lenten Campaign: • A community outreach programme for PWSN was held in March 2024 with the participation of 65 persons, which included volunteers to assist with setup and registration, and to guide PWSNs. Refreshments were provided by the local community, and space was provided by a local Church group. • An LC activity was held for special-needs students and young adults to count and pack LC donation boxes



Celebrating WDP in Amritsar



Visit to MC in Calcutta



Re-opening of PJJN



Outreach to the homeless

for distribution to various locations. • A video, featuring a mother and son, was recorded to highlight MSN's outreach programmes.

Visits: Other special needs centres were visited to learn about their daily activities, including physiotherapy and art classes.

Learning Encounter: The Global Mission Team met with MSN at the Church of Christ the Light on 24 Apr. 2024. The meeting enabled MSN to meet others who were working with PWSN, and to exchange experiences and learn from them. The session, which was spiritually based, urged parents not to lose hope, to believe in God, and to think positive.

Skills Development: A neurodiversity seminar was held on 27 June 2024 to enhance knowledge and foster connections between organizations supporting persons with disabilities (PWD). Workshops and networking opportunities focused on inclusive employment and skills development for neurodivergent persons.

Self-Expression Through Music: The Drum Circle Programme was held on 29 June 2024 at the Church of St. Ignatius, Petaling Jaya, to facilitate socialization and self-expression of PWD through music. Participants were encouraged to create their own rhythms, and share feedback on their experience.

Catechesis for PWSN: MSN met with the KL Archdiocesan Catechetical Ministry to discuss catechesis for learners with special needs. The meeting also discussed collaboration and improvement of support services for PWSN and their families.



Ministry for the Poor

World Day of the Poor: In 2024, MP collaborated with a church to host lunch for 450 people, which enabled locals to interact with the poor at an international level. The pope's WDP message was also shared at the celebration.

Outreach: • A Lenten Campaign outreach themed *Go Homeless for a Night* was held on 19 & 20 Feb. 2024. The objective was to experience what it was like to be homeless, hungry and searching for food, and to reflect on how to help others. The outreach enabled 18 participants to experience a simulated poverty situation, and their experiences were shared on an Asian news portal. • During the AOHD Retreat in Tambunan, Sabah, MP participants engaged in a social outreach to clean graves and plant vegetables, and learnt about the daily struggles of local villagers, who hosted a meal for the participants as a gesture of gratitude.

Aid to the Needy: • MP visited a shelter for the homeless to learn about its operations, and donated supplies to them. • A campaign was held in collaboration with students from Sunway University to distribute sanitary pads to 400 women in a local housing area. • Another campaign in collaboration with students saw the distribution of sanitary pads to 400 women from urban poor families. • On 16 Mar. 2024, a *buka puasa* (breaking of fast) dinner was hosted, with the help of nine student volunteers, for children at a local orphanage. • Individuals and families sought help in various forms; about 3 – 4 requests were received per week.

Street Feeding: • On 25 May 2024, 30 participants (mainly confirmation students, a parish priest and seminarians) took part in street feeding. The eye-opening experience taught the youth about helping the poor through material support and human connection. • Street feeding was undertaken on 23 July 2024 to distribute essential items to the homeless. It was a joint effort with long-time donors to support 80 people. • On 13 July 2024, street feeding was held for 40 Sunday School youth, who learnt not just to give food but also to interact with the poor with love and compassion. • Street feeding to distribute essential items to 80 homeless people was held with 25 students and 8 teachers. • In conjunction with Ramadhan (Muslim fasting month), street feeding to provide essential supplies to 80 persons was held on 15 Mar. 2024 to fulfil community service hours for 12 volunteer university students.

Skills Training for Youth: MP supported the Hospitality Unity Career Programme (conducted by a local university), which offered opportunities for youth from the B40 sector and urban poor communities to enhance their skills and access more job opportunities.



Women Ministry

Cancer Support Group: • In mid-2024, the first meet-and-greet session brought together 14 women battling cancer. They shared insights, and the importance of both medical and spiritual support. • A video interview featuring a survivor was recorded as part of a campaign to raise awareness and support.

Bereavement Support Group: • Regular in-person and virtual gatherings were held throughout the year. Themes included journaling for healing, grief sharing, memory celebration, and emotional support. • Events around Christmas, and special themes like From Grief to Joy and Happy Memories, provided opportunities for fellowship, healing, and community-building. • BSG visited widows in need, offered comfort and contributed food for shared gatherings as part of their outreach and home visits. • Regular Zoom sessions enabled continued support for those unable to attend physically. New members were welcomed and guided by peers. • A workshop *Surviving the Holidays* was conducted to help widows cope with emotional milestones and anniversaries.

Outreach and Community Engagement: • For the Lenten Campaign Outreach, volunteers visited homes to serve women and children in need. Programme included games, music and conversation to uplift and engage residents. • Public interfaith crime prevention and safety talks were held, focusing on personal security, including home, travel and public spaces.

Workshops & Formation: • A full-day women's empowerment workshop focused on topics such as resilience, faith and empowerment. Issues affecting women globally were discussed, and participants were encouraged to find their purpose. • Dedicated spiritual healing workshops addressed grief, loss and personal transition, offering tools to find peace and spiritual strength through challenging times.



Fellowship & Social Events: • A casual home gathering saw members exchange plants, share gardening tips, and bond over potluck food. It served as a meaningful way to ease stress and encourage self-care. • Birthday celebrations and informal storytelling enabled participants to share joy and build deeper connections within the group.

Ministry for Migrants and Itinerants

Pastoral & Spiritual Activities: • Coordination of parish-based migrant ministry programmes, including organizing Migrant Sunday, providing pastoral care and visiting persons of concern, arranging for visiting priests and organizing spiritual retreats and awareness programmes. • Regular coordination of masses and retreats for specific migrant communities. • Monthly prison visits focused on female migrants. • Coordination and facilitation of migrant-related liturgical activities during Advent and Holy Week.

Outreach & Social Support: • Assisted over 25 walk-ins and referred cases for multiple nationalities, offering food aid, medical and mental health support, air ticket assistance, documentation and referral to NGOs or UNHCR. • Regularly updated migrant ministries and community leaders on migrant issues via digital platforms. • Ongoing outreach to undocumented or unassisted individuals on a temporary support basis.

Education & Awareness: • Coordinated educational campaigns and programmes to raise awareness on human trafficking, differentiate between labour violations and trafficking, and promote migrant and domestic worker rights. • Implemented pilot projects to train leaders from migrant communities to identify and assist victims. • Facilitated leadership and decision-making workshops for youth leaders from refugee communities.

Health & Welfare: Organized mobile clinics for underserved migrant communities; and supported ongoing partnerships with clinics and community learning centres for basic healthcare and education access.

Capacity Building & Networking: Participated in international and regional conferences on migration, trafficking, and skills development.

Prison Ministry

Masses: • Preparations were made in November 2023 for Christmas masses in 10 prisons. • Easter Mass was celebrated, and confessions heard, from April to May 2024 in 10 prisons.

Projects: • In December 2023, an eyewear project was begun to provide reading glasses for inmates. Eye check-ups were conducted to prepare

prescriptions. • Through the Mother–Child Care Project, baby supplies were delivered monthly from May to September 2024 to a women’s prison.

Weekly Visits: In 2024, weekly visits continued in 10 prisons, and bi-weekly visits in one prison; two prisons were not receiving visits.

Training: • An induction course for new volunteers was completed in January 2024. • Induction training for new male volunteers was conducted from 10–11 Aug. and 24–25 Aug. 2024. Out of 13 participants, 11 completed the programme.

Parish Dialogues: *Turun padang* (“to get directly involved”) dialogues with seven parishes were held in July, September, October and November 2024.

Advocacy: • Catholic Prison Fellowship Association representatives attended a regional programme in 2024 to advocate for incarcerated persons. • CPFA study day for planning and reflection was held on 9 Nov. 2024.

Ministry Fellowship: The first Prison Ministry mass and fellowship was held on 17 Aug. 2024 to honour volunteers, and pray over inmates’ petitions.

Creation Justice Ministry

Formation on Caring for Creation: In February, May, July, August, September & October 2024, nine formation programmes, including a catechism class and participation in a regional conference, were held to increase environmental awareness and education.

Caring for Creation: In May, June, August & September 2024, eight focussed activities, including planting, recycling and beach cleanup, were held to promote and encourage Care for Creation. • A day of prayer for the Earth was celebrated on 1 May 2024. • The annual Creation Care Campaign was launched on 1 Sep. 2024 with prayer, mass and fellowship.

Outreach & Aid: • Three outreach programmes were undertaken in February, March & November 2024 for families and homes in need. • Aid was distributed to students in March & April 2024.

Elderly & the Environment: Two programmes – mass, walk and essay contest – on the theme of Elderly and the Environment were held in July 2024.

Animals & Pets: • Animals were symbolically adopted on 21 July 2024 in conjunction with World Environment Day. • Pets were blessed in October 2024 in conjunction with the Season of Creation.



Ongoing Projects: • Cloth bins were installed at various locations for cloth upcycling and proper disposal. • To promote sustainable travel, carpooling and group transport was encouraged to reduce fuel consumption. • Used cooking oil was collected and recycled to prevent improper disposal.

Ministry for Orang Asli

Housing Projects: • Houses in various villages were being constructed, and some houses were completed or renovated. Solar-powered lighting was being installed in several homes and community centres. • Water pumps and bore wells were installed in certain villages to improve water supply. • Construction and renovation works were ongoing in various locations, with some houses nearing completion.

Education Initiatives: Educational programmes, including computer lessons, were conducted for students in several villages.

Sustainable Farming: • Pilot projects for vegetable gardens were initiated, aimed at self-sustenance for the community. • Seedlings, such as coconut and pineapple, were distributed to help with sustainable farming initiatives.

Land Rights: • Land surveys and mapping in certain areas were completed, with ongoing support for land rights issues.

Provisions: • Food and essential supplies were distributed to various villages in preparation for seasonal challenges, such as floods. • Outreach activities included distribution of clothing and food aid, as well as medical clinics to support community health.

Community Events & Outreach: • Several outreach activities, including educational talks, health campaigns and social events, were held to raise awareness and to support local communities. • Medical outreach programmes were conducted to provide health checks, treatment, and dental care. • Social enterprise initiatives were introduced, such as training for women in crafts, and small-scale businesses, such as jewellery making and weaving.

Society of St. Vincent de Paul Programmes

• Regular visits and support for friends-in-need (FINs), providing monthly rations and conducting interviews for new FINs. • Fundraising activities, including sale of items, and organizing awareness programmes. • Involvement in parish-level outreach and medical camps, as well as assisting FINs in applications for government aid and welfare. • Partnering with various groups for joint awareness programmes.

The background of the page features a large, faint, stylized illustration of several hands in various shades of pink, orange, and yellow, reaching inwards to form a heart shape. This graphic is positioned behind the text, which is set against a solid light pink background.

Projects

- Free educational classes provided at learning centres on weekends.
- Medical clinics and assistance with follow-up check-ups for specific health conditions.
- Ongoing support for single mothers through empowerment programmes, including skills training in flower arrangement and cooking.
- Assistance with government and welfare aid applications, such as social security (SOSCO), employee's provident fund (EPF), and registration cards for persons with disabilities (OKU).
- Efforts were ongoing to provide counselling and advice, including for those living with HIV, and to organize support programmes for those battling alcohol dependency.

Homes

- Regular tuition classes and sports activities for children.
- Participation in religious services and Sunday School classes.
- Involvement of college students in educational programmes for children.
- Continued support from volunteers and corporate partnerships.
- Achievements in academics and sports by some children, with a focus on holistic development.



Caritas Malacca Johore

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Social Media

Facebook: Caritas Diocese of Malacca Johore | Instagram: caritasmjd

Main Personnel

Executive Director: Andrew Leo | Executive Assistant: Albert Tan
Ecclesiastical Assistant: Fr. Martinian Lee

Introduction

With the signing of the agreement between the Bishops' Conference of Malaysia and Caritas Internationalis, the renewed effort to strengthen the social mission work of the Malaysian Church began. Caritas Malacca Johore Diocese (MJD) was established as the diocesan arm of Caritas Malaysia to strengthen and develop increased participation of the laity in the social mission of the Church in the states of Malacca and Johore. Managed by lay members, the Board of Caritas MJD is supported by a secretariat to achieve the aims of Caritas MJD.

Social Mission

Based on the principle '**Every Catholic involved in social mission**', the core approach taken by MJD to reach the diverse population of the Church was '*Different strokes for different folks*' to take into account the varied interests that drove individuals.

Thrusts & Focus Areas

Four general thrusts and their focus areas were decided.

Thrust 1: Strengthen existing organisations, and help them become more inclusive in their activities (existing areas of service)

Focus Areas

- Leadership and personal development training: introduction of official programme to building up leadership, and the personal development of members of the organisations;
- Spiritual formations are supported as per the charism of the organisation;
- Training to become inclusive in activities of the organisation.

Thrust 2: Provide more opportunities for those interested in new areas of charitable activities to organise themselves to do works of charity as an organisation or as individuals or as one-off themed projects

Focus Areas

- Identify under service areas of charity
- Conscientise the community
- Support groups interested to act

Thrust 3: Provide support and training to all laity and interested parties to build up their interest in social work, and to provide them the skills and support facilities to act

Focus Areas

- Set up training system
- Set up / support platforms for action

Thrust 4: Develop a culture of Christian charity in the Catholic community

Focus Areas

- Communicate our values in charity through various means to the community.
- Reinforce the values by recognition, honour and other means to encourage practice of such values.

The key activities below for Years 2023 and 2024 organised and conducted by Caritas MJD exclude the various monthly/regular service outreaches and activities held by the various affiliates and partners of Caritas MJD, such as Caritas Parish Office for Human Development (POHD), Society of St. Vincent de Paul (SSVP), Diocesan Ministry for Creation Justice, Diocesan Ministry for Migrants & Itinerants, Diocesan Ministry for Orang Asli (Aru Bumi), homes and institutions, etc.

Programme & Activity Highlights – Year 2023

KEY THRUST: STRENGTHEN EXISTING ORGANISATIONS

ASSEMBLY – GROWING TOGETHER

Caritas Malacca Johore Assembly

Collaborator: • Tzu Chi Foundation (TCF) Johor Bahru

The objective of the Caritas MJD Assembly, held on 4 & 5 February, was to unite members of the Catholic social mission arm ministries in MJD under the theme *Growing Together*. The assembly's purpose was to promote unity and cooperation among participants from diverse parishes, vicariates, and social mission partners, while emphasising values of social responsibility, charity, and community service. • Through presentations, workshops (including *Crisis Response* by TCF), and discussions, the assembly sought to inspire and equip participants to address social needs, reinforce their dedication to social mission work, and collectively strive for a more just and compassionate world in alignment with the teachings of the Church and spirituality of Caritas. The assembly also aimed to celebrate achievements,

nurture fraternity, and facilitate mutual learning among its members to further strengthen their sense of community and commitment to making a positive impact.



KEY THRUST: PROVIDE SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

DISASTER RELIEF & SUPPORT

Chaah Post-Flood Cleanup

Collaborators: • Asia Crisis Response Alliance • Anglican Church of Yong Peng • Presbyterian Church of Yong Peng • Volunteers from MJD • Parishioners of the Church of St. Anthony, Chaah

Caritas MJD successfully organised its first disaster response initiative on 8 Mar. 2023, mobilising 53 volunteers from various parishes to assist victims in Chaah and Yong Peng who had been severely affected by massive flooding. • The aim was to extend compassion, charity and outreach during the time of crisis, ultimately restoring hope to families facing adversity. • The volunteers, equipped with essential gear, cleaned up affected areas, including a school, church, and homes, and provided aid, emotional support, and much-needed relief to affected families.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAMMES

Caritas FINs Outing & Financial Literacy

Collaborators: • Caritas POHDs • SSVP of South Johore

On 19 Aug. 2023, 142 friends-in-need (FINs) and volunteers from various South Johore parishes gathered at Pulau Springs Resort to foster community, joy, and financial empowerment. The programme provided a platform for underprivileged families of diverse backgrounds and ages to come together and share moments of laughter, connection, and newfound friendships. • Besides the recreational activities, a Smart Money Management workshop was conducted to empower families with valuable insights for better financial decision-making.



Caritas Kindness Bazaars

The Kindness Bazaar showcased a sustainable approach to living by emphasising the reduction of waste and fostering eco-friendly practices.

Collaborators: • CDiocesan Ministry for Creation Justice • POHDs of Masai and Plentong • Persatuan Nelayan Kampung Pasir Gudang Baru • Rotary Club Pasir Gudang

The inaugural *Kindness Bazaar*, held on 17 June 2023, aimed to provide a platform for residents in Taman Plentong Utama, Masai, to both acquire and contribute pre-loved items while promoting ecological awareness. • The bazaar, operated with 25 volunteers, showcased a sustainable approach to living by emphasising the reduction of waste and fostering eco-friendly practices. Proceeds of RM 2,000 were collected.



A second *Kindness Bazaar* was held on 3 Sep. 2023 to serve residents of Kampung Pasir Gudang Baru, and Orang Asli families in Kuala Masai. The bazaar, with 30 volunteers, featured complimentary on-site eye screenings.



Caritas FINs Concert Outing

Collaborators: • First Johor Bahru Boys' Brigade Company

The second FINs outing was held on 30 Dec. 2023 for FINs in South Johore, and featured a dinner and Christmas presentation by the First Johor Bahru Boys' Brigade Concert Band. • The programme, held at Holy Light Church (English) in Taman Molek with the theme Heroes, was participated by 49 beneficiaries and FINs.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH – BEYOND MALACCA JOHORE DIOCESE

Caritas Beyond Borders Programme, Cambodia

Collaborators: • Caritas Cambodia • Caritas Siem Reap • Catholic Church of Siem Reap

The *Beyond Borders* (BB) programme is an experiential service-learning mission to serve needy communities beyond MJD. The mission aimed to help participants live their faith through action, promoting empathy, resilience, responsibility, and intercultural skills. • The inaugural trip, from 2 – 10 Dec. 2023, enabled 15 volunteers aged 18 – 40 from MJD to serve

*The **Beyond Borders** programme, an experiential service-learning mission, aimed to help participants live their faith through action, promoting empathy, resilience, responsibility, and intercultural skills.*

disadvantaged communities in Cambodia. Volunteers raised more than RM 32,000 for the project, and to provide materials needed by the community.



The BB volunteers • served the less-privileged community at Thnal Taseth Village with educational initiatives, house repairs, and home visits to share the love and light of Christ, and to be enlightened from the exposure; • served porridge to over 80 kids at the Prek Toal Floating Catholic Church; and • witnessed community living in the floating village on Lake Tonle Sap; • toured the Angkor Wat temples, a world heritage site. • The mission team held a post-mortem gathering to evaluate and appreciate, and discuss ways to apply their learning to serve the local community; that was the start of the Young Caritas community in MJD.

KEY THRUST: PROVIDE SUPPORT & TRAINING

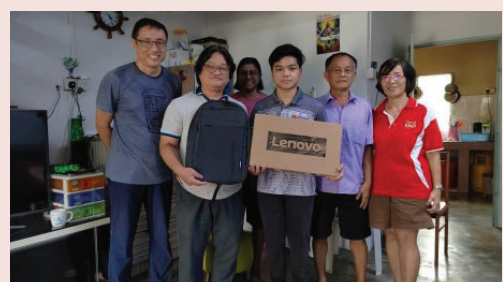
Disaster-Preparedness Training

A disaster-response training, led by the Malaysian arm of Asia Crisis Response Alliance, was held at the Church of St. Louis on 19 July 2023. The primary objective was to equip the 21 volunteers with essential disaster-preparedness skills and knowledge. • Participants took home valuable insights on how to assess and prioritise response actions, and were encouraged to adapt their plans to the evolving nature of disaster scenarios.



Caritas Enable Fund

The Caritas Enable Fund (CEF) is an initiative with the central objective of empowering economically-disadvantaged individuals and families, particularly those in the B40 (bottom 40%) household income group, in Malacca and Johore. • The primary aim was to provide practical support to enhance their access to education, employment opportunities, and healthcare, thereby promoting greater independence and overall well-being. Through the assistance of SSVP and POHDs, seven laptops and two motorised wheelchairs were donated to deserving applicants in 2023.



KEY THRUST: DEVELOP A CULTURE OF CHRISTIAN CHARITY

SPIRITUAL FORMATION

Recollection: Why We Serve the Poor

On 18 Mar. 2023, a formation session was presented by Fr. Cyril Mannayagam at the Church of St. Theresa, Masai. • The 16 participants were reminded of the profound purpose that underpins their role as volunteers, the significant impact on those they serve, and the genuine and selfless nature of their service, emphasising the importance of doing so without complaining.



Formation: Compassion As Jesus Practised

A formation programme was led by Fr. Andrew Arokia Samy on 12 – 13 Aug. 2023 at the Church of St. Louis, Kluang, for 45 participants, mainly members of SSVP and POHDs from Johore. The objective was to instil a

deep understanding of compassion with Jesus as the model. • Participants were inspired and rejuvenated to actively commit to compassionate service and advocacy to those in need, guided by the principles of justice and spiritual leadership as exemplified by Pope Francis, and as highlighted in the Gospel of Matthew chapter 25.



Programme & Activity Highlights – Year 2024

KEY THRUST: STRENGTHEN EXISTING ORGANISATIONS

ASSEMBLY – SERVING WITH LOVE

Caritas Malacca Johore Assembly

Collaborators: • Church of the Immaculate Conception Youth • Young Adults of Melaka • MJD Professional Standards Office (PSO)

In the spirit of caritas (Latin for 'charity & love'), over 100 participants representing 11 organizations in MJD gathered for the Caritas MJD Assembly at MAJODI Centre, Plentong, from 13 – 14 July 2024. • The assembly, themed *Serving with Love*, featured sharing of real-life experiences, formative talks, and programme updates, along with fun activities to foster togetherness.

Bishop Bernard Paul highlighted the importance of the work of Caritas, emphasizing the need to empower the poor to fend for themselves. • Fr. Paulino Miranda shared his experiences with the Orang Asli, focusing on the encyclical *Caritas in Veritate* (Charity in Truth), and the relevance of Catholic Social Teachings in Asia. • PSO Bishop's delegate Deacon Anthony Chua presented on the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults, outlining legislative measures and guidelines to protect their rights and welfare. Participants found the session particularly relevant, and discussed protection channels.

On the second day, Caritas MJD Board EA Fr. Martinian Lee presented on *Conversations in the Spirit – Being a Light of Hope*, which emphasized the need for synodality in ministry. • The assembly concluded with

a commissioning mass celebrated by the bishop, who encouraged Caritas members and organizations to illuminate the world through their ministries.



SOCIAL MISSION HUB

Pusat Kasih Caritas Dedication & Opening

*My prayer for
Pusat Kasih
Caritas is that
it will be a little
heaven for the
lost, the least,
the little, the
last, and the
'lepers' also.
– Bishop
Bernard Paul*

On 1 Dec. 2024, Bishop Bernard Paul, president of Caritas Malaysia and Caritas MJD, blessed and officially opened Pusat Kasih Caritas (PKC). In his address, he expressed his wish for PKC to be MJD's social mission hub – a sanctuary for service – with an open-door policy, and philosophy of “we see, we judge, we act”.

PKC will serve as a • walk-in service centre to cater to the needs of individuals and families in need; • gathering place for community carers; • venue for meetings, training and retreats. • The Caritas MJD office, and Caritas Kindness Boutique, are located at PKC.



KEY THRUST: PROVIDE SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

DISASTER RELIEF & SUPPORT

Kota Tinggi Flood Response

On 13 Jan. 2024, seven volunteers helped with the cleanup and restoration work at a primary school which was severely affected by flooding.



Appeal for Sabah Floods

Collaborator: Caritas Kota Kinabalu

On 7 July 2024, Caritas MJD made an appeal to the South Johore Vicariate parishes for bedding to help families affected by the Sabah floods. The first batch of bedding (60 kg) was delivered to Caritas Kota Kinabalu on 13 July. On 16 July, another shipment (201 kg) was sent to Kota Kinabalu by air cargo. Cash totalling RM 20,000 (about RM 11,000 from parishes, balance from Caritas MJD) was donated to the victims.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAMMES

Caritas Kindness Bazaar

Collaborators: • Diocesan Ministry of Creation Justice (DMCJ) • Caritas POHDs of South Johore

The Plentong Charity Bazaar, held on 3 Mar. 2024 at Flat Teratai Plentong, showcased both entertainment and enlightenment activities: sale of preloved items, sports activities, and educational talks, especially for children, on ecological conservation. • Led by volunteers from Caritas

POHD St Joseph, Plentong, and with the cooperation of local residents, the bazaar raised funds totalling RM 1,110, and also highlighted the power of collaboration and unity.



Second Caritas Kindness Bazaar

Collaborators: • Pertubuhan Kebajikan Shechinah Johor Bahru • Salt and Light Centre

Caritas MJD held its second semi-annual Kindness Bazaar on 7 Sep. 2024 at Pangsapuri Merak, Bandar Baru Kangkar Pulai, with the participation of over 40 volunteers, representing various local Churches and ministries.

- The bazaar featured sale of preloved items, lively festivities, and a presentation by DMCJ on plastic pollution and use of sustainable alternatives.
- The youngest volunteer, aged 12, expressed joy in helping others, and praised the spirit of collaboration. Caritas MJD looked forward to hosting future *Kindness Bazaars*, and encouraged those interested to get involved.



Friends-in-Need Outing

Collaborators: • Caritas POHDs • SSVP of South Johore

Nearly 140 participants, comprising friends-in-need (FINs) and Caritas POHDs and SSVP members from South Johore Vicariate, gathered for an outing on 27 Apr. 2024 at Teluk Ramunia, creating a vibrant atmosphere of camaraderie and enjoyment for families. • The outing, which included organized games and barbecue lunch, fostered teamwork among participants of all ages, and enabled sharing of stories and bonding.



CHILDREN & YOUTH CAMP

Orang Asli Children's Camp

Collaborator: CSS FLY students of Universiti Tun Hussein Onn Malaysia Pagoh Campus

On 10 & 11 May 2024, 12 university students conducted a camp for nearly 40 Orang Asli children at Kampung Tanah Gembor Bekoh, Tangkak. The programme, supported by Caritas MJD and SSVP Tangkak, provided a valuable opportunity for the students to engage in community service, and fostered a sense of community and collaboration. • The programme included warm-up activities, a session on creating visual content, telematch games, and cultural presentations by the students and villagers.



HOSPITAL OUTREACH

Hospital Patient Care Programme

Collaborators: • Hospital Sultanah Aminah Johor Bahru • Pertubuhan Kebajikan Sulaman Kaseh Johor (PKSKJ)

Officiated by Bishop Bernard Paul, Caritas MJD launched its inaugural Hospital Patient Care Programme on 21 July 2024, marking a significant step in its mission to provide compassionate support to patients in Hospital Sultanah Aminah, Johor Bahru. • The programme underscored the importance of community involvement in improving healthcare facilities. The highlight was the donation of two urgently-needed ECG machines to the hospital, enhancing its ability to care for patients with heart conditions. Caritas volunteers distributed over 80 hygiene goodie fun packs to children in the paediatrics ward, bringing joy and comfort to young patients. • The initiative was made possible through PKSKJ, and generous donations

from Caritas supporters. Caritas MJD is committed to continue its support for patient care through further volunteer opportunities.



CREATION JUSTICE EXPOSURE PROGRAMME

Mangrove Planting & Ecological Stewardship

Collaborators: • Diocesan Ministry of Creation Justice • Malaysian Nature Society of Johor • Jabatan Perhutanan Negeri Johor (JPNJ)

On 28 July 2024, 53 participants, including Bishop Bernard Paul and 13 staff of MAJODI Centre, visited the mangrove planting site in the Sungai Pulai Forest Reserve, Pontian. After the briefing by JPNJ, participants planted 450 saplings, 250 of which were sponsored by MJD. Participants learnt the importance of mangroves in protecting coastlines and supporting ecosystems, and discussed the importance of environmental preservation.

- They also explored the unique mangrove ecosystem at Taman Negara Pulau Kukup, and took part in a photo competition.
- The third site visited was *Uncle Tan Orchard Stingless Bee Farm*, where participants learnt the crucial role of bees in pollination. Participants took home a renewed appreciation for nature, and a commitment to ecological stewardship.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH - BEYOND MALACCA JOHORE DIOCESE

Caritas Beyond Borders Mission

Collaborator: • Church of the Holy Cross, Toboh, Tambunan, Sabah

Caritas MJD organised and sponsored a Beyond Borders mission (BBM) for a team of 12 volunteers from MJD to Rumah Kanak-Kanak Bondulu in Toboh, Tambunan, Sabah, from 10 – 17 Oct. 2024. BBM is an experiential service-learning programme initiated by Caritas MJD that offers volunteers an opportunity to serve less-privileged communities beyond MJD.

The BBM volunteer team held a series of enriching activities: interactive programmes; movie afternoons to learn values from movies; and basic English lessons in a fun, engaging environment. • The BBM included an outing to the scenic Mahua Waterfall, where the children enjoyed the wonders of nature, and a visit to the local “tamu” morning market to be immersed in local culture. • The team initiated fundraising efforts to secure food provisions for family visits in rural hillside villages, and replaced faulty equipment. (“Tamu” means meeting or gathering)



KEY THRUST: PROVIDING SUPPORT & TRAINING

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Global Leadership Summit & Meeting with AOHD KL

On 26 Jan. 2024, nine members of Caritas MJD attended the Global Leadership Summit (GLS) to engage in meaningful discussions about leadership, mission work, and community development. • On 27 January, Caritas MJD members had a meeting with AOHD Kuala Lumpur to share insights on each organisation’s ministry work. The meeting focussed on exchanging ideas on initiatives, such as the Lenten Campaign. The Caritas MJD members visited a widows’ fellowship programme, and the Cathedral of St. John, to further deepen their understanding of faith-based initiatives, and their role in promoting social good. • Caritas MJD members learnt from

the ministries and initiatives of AOHD and the local community, and also contributed their insights on global outreach efforts.



MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS

Psychological First Aid Training

On 16 Mar. 2024, Caritas MJD held a pivotal training session on Psychological First Aid at the Church of St. Joseph, Plentong, Johor Bahru. The session, with over 75 participants, aimed at empowering individuals to provide immediate support to those affected by natural disasters.



Caritas Enable Fund

The primary aim of Caritas Enable Fund was to provide practical support to economically-disadvantaged individuals and families to enhance their access to education, employment opportunities, and healthcare, thereby promoting greater independence and overall well-being.

- Deserving applicants were given 10 laptops and 22 spectacles in 2024 through the assistance of SSVP and POHDs.



KEY THRUST: DEVELOPING A CULTURE OF CHRISTIAN CHARITY

SPIRITUAL FORMATIONS

Recollection: Faith & Ministry

The formation conducted by Caritas MJD on 12 Mar. 2024 at the St. Pio Spirituality Centre, Ulu Tiram, provided participants the opportunity to deepen their faith amidst the demands of ministry. • Led by Friar John Anandan, the recollection discussed community inclusivity, and emphasized the importance of prayer and communion with God, drawing inspiration from biblical passages. Two participants reflected on their roles in the Church, and the necessity of cultivating an intimate relationship with the Divine. • Participants resolved to embrace the pillars of prayer, the Eucharist, the Word of God, and the Holy Spirit, in their missionary endeavours.



STORIES OF HOPE

Philomena's Journey: A Story of Resilience and Hope

Philomena (not her real name), an Ibang girl from a humble background, was born in 2006. Life was never easy for her family. Her father, a low-income security guard, struggled daily to provide for Philomena and her siblings. Their mother, battling a severe illness, was unable to care for them, leaving the family in a dire situation.

Villa Paulos: Hope arrived when their plight was brought to the attention of the Caritas SSVP Conference of the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Johor Bahru. After careful assessment, Philomena and her two younger siblings were welcomed into Villa Paulos (children's home in MJD) in August 2017, a place that would become their sanctuary and stepping stone to a better future.

Desire to Change: Despite the hardships she had faced, she displayed an extraordinary spirit of determination. At Villa Paulos, she took on her responsibilities with quiet diligence, always completing her duties without complaint. A disciplined and hardworking student, she spent her free time immersed in her studies, driven by a deep desire to change her circumstances.

Embracing Challenges: She began her education at SK Ngee Heng, Johor Bahru, where she successfully completed her primary schooling. Moving on



to SMK Engku Tun Aminah, Johor Bahru, she embraced the challenges of secondary education with the same relentless dedication.

Unwavering Resolve: In 2023, her perseverance bore fruit when she sat for her SPM (secondary-school certificate) examination, and passed with an outstanding six As. This triumph was not just a personal victory but a testament to her unwavering resolve, and the support she had received along the way.

Brighter Future: In 2024, she graduated from Villa Paulos, stepping out into the world with newfound confidence. She returned to live with her father and elder sister, carrying with her dreams of a brighter future. Understanding the financial constraints of her family, she made the difficult yet mature decision to work for the time being, saving diligently for her further studies.

Endless Possibilities: Philomena has already overcome immense obstacles, and with her determination, the future holds endless possibilities. Her journey was far from over – it was only just beginning.

Aaron's Journey: A Father's Determination for a Better Future

Aaron (not his real name), a devoted single father from the Semai tribe, an Orang Asli group in Pahang, had faced many hardships in pursuit of a better life for himself and his son. Initially stationed in Pos Buruk, Kelantan, Aaron moved to Penang, and later to Johor Bahru (JB), in search of better employment opportunities. Unfortunately, in both places, he fell victim to job scams, working without receiving any pay. Worse still, his employer attempted to lure him into illegal activities, prompting him to flee for his safety.

Food Queue: Stranded and disillusioned, Aaron and his young son found themselves living on the streets of JB for a long time. They survived on the free food distributed by SSVP volunteers every Wednesday in JB. Volunteers noticed the young boy regularly in the food queue, with no sign of school enrolment. Moved by their plight, they reached out to Aaron, and encouraged him to consider his son's education.

Villa Paulos: Despite being over eight years old, Aaron's son was unable to read or write. After much persuasion, Aaron agreed to accept a job as a general worker in MAJODI Centre, which allowed him to provide for his son while ensuring he received proper schooling. His son was placed in Villa Paulos (children's home in MJD), where he could be nurtured and given the opportunity to catch up academically.

Regain Dignity: Aaron soon proved himself to be a hardworking, capable, and dedicated employee, working well with others and regaining his sense of dignity through stable employment and fair wages. He continues to be employed at MAJODI, and with his newfound financial stability, he was able to care for his son during school holidays.

New Chapter: His son, in Year 5 primary school, has blossomed into an eager and fast learner. He was thriving in his studies, and enjoying his educational journey, marking a hopeful new chapter in both their lives.

Financial Review & Resource Allocation

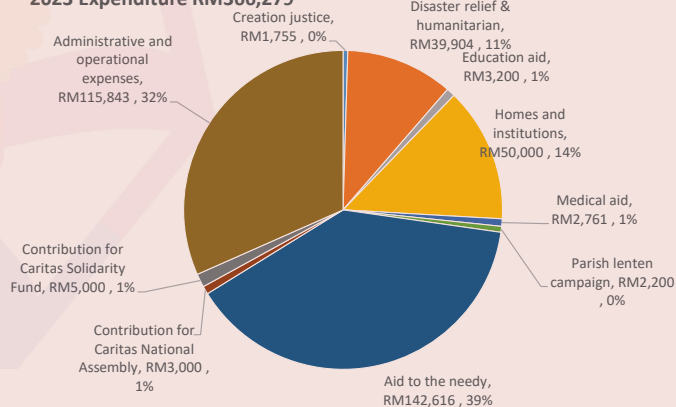
The main source of income for Caritas MJD was the annual Lenten Campaign. The accounts of other organisations under the umbrella of Caritas MJD, such as POHDs and SSVP, are not included.

Diocese of Malacca Johore

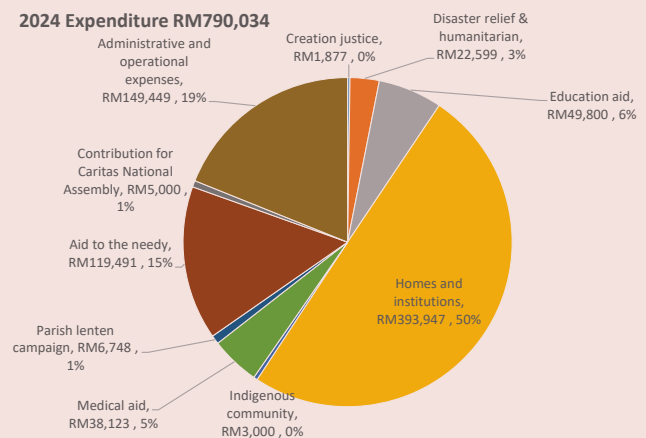
STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

	2023 RM	2024 RM
Income		
Donations	412,121	459,894
Interest Income	16,948	24,311
Other income	4,486	-
	433,555	484,205
Expenditure		
Aids & outreach activities		
Creation justice	1,755	1,877
Disaster relief & humanitarian	39,904	22,599
Education aid	3,200	49,800
Homes and institutions	50,000	393,947
Indigenous community	-	3,000
Medical aid	2,761	38,123
Parish lenten campaign	2,200	6,748
Aid to the needy	142,616	119,491
	242,436	635,585
Contribution for Caritas National Assembly	3,000	5,000
Contribution for Caritas Solidarity Fund	5,000	-
Administrative and operational expenses	115,843	149,449
	366,279	790,034
Surplus / (Deficit)	67,276	(305,829)

2023 Expenditure RM366,279



2024 Expenditure RM790,034





Caritas Penang

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Website: <https://caritaspenang.com/>

Social Media

Facebook: www.facebook.com/caritaspenang1
Instagram: www.instagram.com/caritaspenang/
YouTube: www.youtube.com/channel/UCc4LvpzMUheLRJ7Pfl_rgzg

Main Personnel

Director: Fr. Joachim Robert
The Director is supported by four Board members and three staff.

Introduction

Toward a Civilization of Love

Established in 2021 and driven by our mission to build a civilization of love by serving out of love, Caritas Penang (CP) works closely in partnership with 29 parishes (in the states of Penang, Perak, Perlis, Kedah and Kelantan), Church ministries, Malaysian and international not-for-profit organizations (NFPO), as well as government bodies, to serve voiceless and vulnerable communities.

Main Thrusts

The three main thrusts of CP are welfare, medical aid and education.

Welfare: CP provides monetary aid to support charity projects run by the 29 parishes in the diocese, Church ministries, as well as many other welfare organizations, to aid their endeavours in helping vulnerable communities;

Medical Aid: CP funds and participates in medical aid initiatives and missions, in collaboration with parishes and local and international NFPO, to ensure that vital medical interventions and medication are not beyond the reach of the poor;

Education: CP provides financial grants to nurture young minds, giving hope to youths who lack the resources and opportunities to obtain a good education.

Other Areas: CP was also actively involved in other areas, such as Migrants and Refugees, and Care for Creation.

Programme & Activity Highlights – Year 2024

Refugee Briefing by UNHCR

Caritas Penang organized an online briefing by the UN High Commissioner for Refugees to enable Church ministries and parish volunteers to provide effective humanitarian aid to refugee communities. Participants were briefed on the refugee situation in Malaysia, introduced to the relevant NGOs, and provided with various resources that the Church could use to help refugees.

Mobile Clinic for Refugees

In the Penang Island Deanery, a church hall was made available for use by Doctors Without Borders (*Médecins Sans Frontières*), an international charity that provides humanitarian medical care, to run a mobile clinic for refugees. Open once a week, the mobile clinic has benefited thousands of refugees who have limited access to healthcare.



Youth Camp on Marginalized Communities

The first-ever Caritas Penang Youth Camp – *YouMAD: You Make a Difference* – was held to expose youths to the plight of marginalized communities, and show them the vast difference their involvement and contributions could make. Held at the Church of the Sacred Heart in Kampar, Perak, 40 youths from across the diocese were trained, and were also able to experience first-hand the difficulties faced by migrants through an outreach project.

Formation on Caritas Spirit

Two spiritual formation sessions to further instil the spirit of Caritas within Penang diocese parishes were conducted. Members of Parish Caritas groups, and the social mission ministries from Penang, Kedah, Perlis and Kelantan participated in the formation held in Penang; several religious sisters and those involved in serving the needy participated in the session held in Perak.

Manual on Caritas

Taking a leaf from the Caritas Europe manual for parishes, Caritas Penang produced an 84-page manual titled *Love Your Neighbour* which contains information about Caritas and its spirituality, showcasing case studies and good practices, and providing guidelines and resources for parish-level Caritas groups. Link to the e-manual: <https://anyflip.com/bpsfx/mvec/>

Disaster Relief

Working closely with the relevant parishes, Caritas Penang provided relief in the form of cash and in-kind donations to those affected by heavy floods in Kangar, Perlis, and Kota Bahru, Kelantan; as well as fire victims in a migrant community in Sungai Petani, Kedah.

Programme & Activity Highlights – Year 2023

Serving Underprivileged Cancer Patients

In a joint venture with the National Cancer Society of Malaysia (NCSM), the Diocese of Penang (DP) has provided a three-storey building for 30 years to serve the needs of underprivileged cancer patients and their caregivers while these patients undergo outpatient treatment at the Hospital Raja Permaisuri Bainun, Ipoh. The NCSM-Caritas *Home of Hope* provides accommodation for 30 pax, counselling, transport services, food and nutrition support. DP has also provided a building in Ipoh for NCSM to set up a cancer diagnostic centre for the lower income group in Perak who cannot afford private healthcare services.



The NCSM-Caritas Home of Hope was launched by the Raja Permaisuri (Queen Consort) of Perak on 8 Aug. 2024

Awareness Talk on Refugee Crisis

In collaboration with *Doctors Without Borders*, Caritas Penang and the Parish Caritas (PC) of the Minor Basilica of St. Anne, Bukit Mertajam, held awareness talks on the refugee crisis in Malaysia. These talks had two fruitful outcomes: • support for a community learning centre for more than 50 refugee children by the PC of the Church of the Risen Christ; and • mobile clinic for refugees by the PC of the Minor Basilica of St Anne.

Refugee Initiatives

Many PCs, including four PCs from the Northern Deanery, have begun or were in the process of setting up initiatives to help refugees who need medical assistance and UNHCR documentation, and who need subsistence aid.

Common Mission

Caritas Penang has forged an alliance with the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, *Mercy Home* (Catholic AIDS Ministry, Diocese of Penang), *Sahabat Orang Asli* (diocesan ministry for indigenous communities), and *Lighthouse* (community centre for the urban poor and homeless) to create a common mission, and to address challenges together.

Coastal Cleanup

In collaboration with Tzu Chi Malaysia, Caritas Penang organised a coastal area cleanup in line with the Lenten theme *Renew Our Hearts to Care – Care for Our Common Home*, in which 60 participants collected recyclable (35 kg) and non-recyclable (303 kg) items, which were sent to the Tzu Chi Environment Protection Education Centre to be sorted and sold in aid of the needy.

Aid for Detained Migrants & Refugees

Caritas Penang collaborated with eight Penang parishes and *Doctors Without Borders* to contribute essential items (hygiene kits, detergent and diapers) to migrants and refugees who had been arrested and held in detention centres.

Awareness of HIV for Orang Asli

Together with *Mercy Home* and World Youth Day pilgrims, awareness talks were given to the Orang Asli community in Perak on the dangers of HIV and AIDS. The team also had an early Christmas celebration with the adults and children of the villages.

Highlights from Penang Diocese Parish Caritas

- Groceries and other necessities (obtained through donations) were distributed monthly to those who faced difficult circumstances.
- Funds were raised through the sale of food items during Lent in aid of poor patients.
- Soap-moulding workshops were held; parishioners produced blocks of soap from scratch, which were then distributed to people incarcerated in various prisons in the Penang Island Deanery.
- Blood donation drives and free health checks were organized.
- Orphanages and homes for the elderly were visited.
- Free haircuts were given to needy students.
- Soup kitchens were established.
- Mobile clinics for the urban poor, and medical outreaches for migrants, refugees and Orang Asli communities were conducted.
- Homes of the needy were painted and repaired.

Impact Stories

Lenten Campaign 2023 Fund Distribution

In 2023, the Penang Diocesan Lenten Campaign, themed *Renew Our Hearts to Care*, raised RM464,710, out of which RM435,496 was disbursed to 29 parishes and 9 social mission groups and charity organizations to help the people in their care. The balance was spent for Caritas Penang operating expenses.

Lenten Campaign 2024 Fund Disbursement

In 2024, the Penang Diocesan Lenten Campaign, themed *Together We Rebuild Our Church, Community and Common Home*, raised a total of RM478,186, out of which RM444,330 was disbursed to help 29 parishes and 9 social mission groups and charity organizations, which in turn have helped many people under their care. The balance was spent for Caritas Penang operating expenses.

Kempen Kasih Initiative

On 11 Feb. 2023, on behalf of Caritas Penang, the Bishop of Penang, Cardinal Sebastian Francis, contributed RM 145,000 to the 29 parishes in the diocese to support *Kempen Kasih*, an initiative which focused on welfare and integral human development.



Financial Support for Social Mission

On 21 Feb. 2023, RM 102,200 was given as financial support to ten social mission groups in the diocese for their programmes.

Aid for Disadvantaged & Marginalised

On 20 Jan. 2024, Caritas Penang contributed RM 269,200 to help flood victims, the sick, the elderly, the Orang Asli, the homebound, disadvantaged women and neglected children, those living in abject poverty, the homeless, prisoners, refugees and migrants. The aid was channelled through the



29 parishes and 9 social mission groups: • Kampung Simee Home for the Aged • Little Sisters of the Poor Home for the Aged • *Mercy Home* • Persatuan Kebajikan Hemodialisis St. Anne • Mount Miriam Cancer Hospital • St. Joseph's Home • Fr. Julien Agape Centre • New Thessalonians Apostolate (NTA) School for Refugee Children, and • Tenaganita.

Medical Mission for Migrants

A joint medical mission was organized by Caritas Penang and the Parish Caritas of the Church of Christ the King, Sungai Petani, Kedah, and the Church of the Sacred Heart, Kampar, Perak, in aid of marginalized migrant communities who had no access to healthcare.

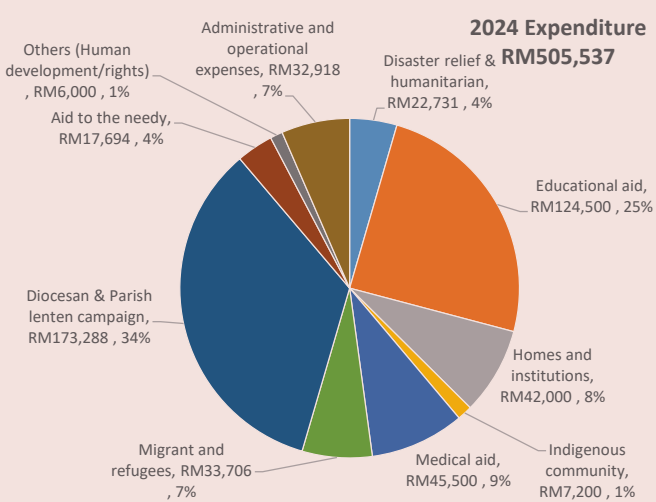
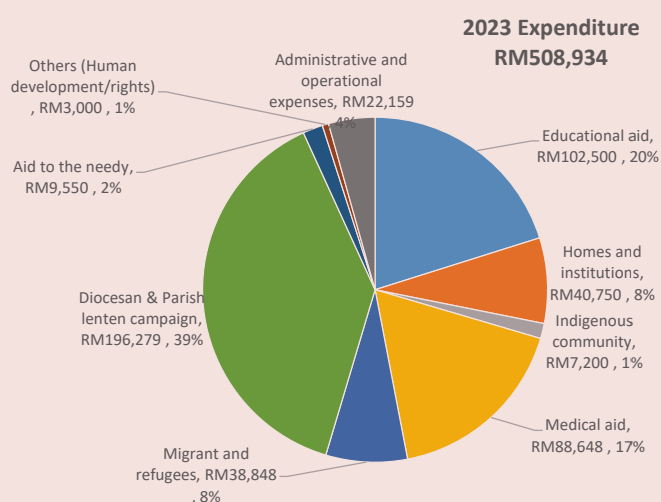
We are very grateful for the medical mission from the Church, which helps us a lot. We cannot afford the expensive medical bills, or even to travel to the city to visit a clinic or hospital. Many of us suffer from high blood pressure and gastritis, and often have fevers and flu. Our pregnant women are also not able to go to the clinics – some of them have had to give birth at our village without medical assistance. We are thankful to God that medical aid has come to us instead, through your help.
– Elizabeth Nana, 43, Indonesian migrant

Financial Review & Resource Allocation

Diocese of Penang

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

	2023 RM	2024 RM
Income		
Donations	492,291	506,426
Expenditure		
Aids & outreach activities		
Disaster relief & humanitarian	-	22,731
Educational aid	102,500	124,500
Homes and institutions	40,750	42,000
Indigenous community	7,200	7,200
Medical aid	88,648	45,500
Migrant and refugees	38,848	33,706
Diocesan & Parish lenten campaign	196,279	173,288
Aid to the needy	9,550	17,694
Others (Human development/rights)	3,000	6,000
	486,775	472,619
Administrative and operational expenses	22,159	32,918
	508,934	505,537
Surplus / (Deficit)	(16,643)	889



A large, stylized illustration of hands holding a globe. The hands are in various colors (blue, green, yellow, orange, red, purple) and are positioned around the globe, which is a light blue sphere. The hands are holding the globe in a way that suggests unity and support. The background is a light blue gradient.

Notes

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