

**Annual Report (as of 25<sup>th</sup> February 2020)**

**HUMBLE BEGINNINGS**

Under the leadership of Professor Ong Kok Hai, what started as a plan, infused with much passion, came into fruition, when “Rainbow Bridge” (RB) was launched at an inaugural meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2019, at Klesis Café, Luther Centre.

The underlying objective was to establish a multi-ethnic, non-political and non-religious organization that could play a caring role by linking diverse communities with wide ranging needs to numerous organizations (both private and public) that are in a position to donate, assist or service those needs (through a multitude of ways). The plan is, initially, to start small in Malaysia.

On 16<sup>th</sup> May 2019, several months following the application, the ROS issued the Certificate of Registration in the name of ‘**Persatuan Kebajikan Rainbow Bridge Malaysia**’, (Registration number **PPM-022-10-16052019**).



*Inaugural meeting 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2019*

To kick start RB, we were fortunate to receive donations and funding from six different individuals and a modest grant from our local council in Petaling Jaya, Selangor.

A Pro-Temp Committee was subsequently set up, comprising the following:

Chairman	Professor Ong Kok Hai
Vice-Chairman	Dr. Mervin Mohan Appana
Secretary	Ms. Cassandra Poyong
Asst. Secretary	Ms. Mariam Yap Lai Ling
Treasurer	Mr. Mah Pung

## Committee members

Puan Stella Patrick Empenit Adam (Kuching)  
Puan Charmaine Khoo Sheue Mae (Kuala Lumpur)  
Puan Hajijah bt Kailani (Johor Bahru)  
Puan Leong Suk Lin (Sandakan)  
Prof. Dr. Koh Kwee Choy (Seremban)  
Puan Teh Poh Lyn (Taiping)

## MISSION STATEMENT

“Rainbow Bridge is a caring organization that strives to create opportunities for equitable social inclusion among all levels of communities through smart partnerships between those in need and those who have, for the betterment of life”.

The key elements of the Mission Statement can be best represented visually as follows:



## LOGO & TAG LINE



Our **logo** is designed with three curved lines representing the three strategic partners, interlinked to create a bridge, which also represents our mission to connect and create pathways and opportunities. The six colors selected from rainbows represent passion, diversity and unity of our organization in reaching out to enrich and inspire its stakeholders. The bright colors reflect a sense of harmony and hope, which our organization aspires to bring to the community at large.

RB is in effect able to provide a platform which brings together people who can identify with the Mission Statement. Membership is free and is open to Malaysians of all backgrounds and ages and also to other nationals. At the time of writing, RB has sixty members, who have officially registered by filling in the membership form.

In order to keep the members and well-wishers connected, we have established various social media platforms:

- The **Rainbow Bridge WhatsApp group**, created on the 19<sup>th</sup> February 2019. This group consist of individuals who support our activities and have expressed interest to join RB. There are 99 individuals in this group and focuses on news-sharing and updating of activities and developments of Rainbow Bridge.
- With the help of an IT-savvy RB member, we have set up our own website: **www.ourrainbowbridge.org**. This serves as an important medium to connect to the world at large, to post relevant documents such as various types of membership forms and reports of various activities on a regular basis.
- We have also created our Facebook page under the name “**Rainbow Bridge**” with 158 “friends”.

## **MILESTONES AND ACHIEVEMENTS**

RB understands the importance of basic human needs; first shelter, then food, then personal hygiene and therefore, RB’s key focus was to target these issues and gearing towards their sustainability.

### **RAINBOW BRIDGE FOOD BANK & PARTNERS:**

To kick-start its activities, RB has given top priority of food sustainability for its selected communities in need. Therefore, the first major project we embarked upon was to establish the **Rainbow Bridge Food Bank (RFBF)**.

Through the initiative of Professor Ong, we are delighted to be able to link up with **Kechara Soup Kitchen** as our first RFBF partner. Kechara is a well-established NGO in food distribution. For this partnership, one of Kechara’s food providers is Tesco. RFBF beneficiaries are Rumah Titian Kaseh (RTK), Ephrathah Home and the Association of Chin Refugees (ACR).

The next milestone for RFBF is our partnership with **Hero Markets** that has agreed to be a regular food supplier of dry and fresh food for our beneficiaries.

Other contributors to the RB FB soon followed:

- **Fornix Foodstuffs Sdn Bhd** which produces and markets nutritionally enriched eggs. They are currently providing more than 300 eggs per month to RTK;
- **Brave Tristar Sdn. Bhd.**, a manufacturer of corn snacks has benefited children of ACR as well as RTK.
- Finally, one of our corporate partners; **Synerchem Sdn. Bhd.**, has independently supplied food to our various partners and beneficiaries.



*A successful partnership begins between Hero Market Managing Director, Mr. Francis Teng (MD) and Rainbow Bridge representative, Professor Ong Kok Hai*



*19<sup>th</sup> December 2019: fresh produce donated by Tesco Rawang to Ephrathah Home.*



*Dry goods from Hero Market donated to Ephratha Home*



*Dry food from Hero Markets to ACR, Pudu, KL*



*Dry food for ACR delivered by RB Member, Alexius Chung.*

## **STORAGE & INVENTORY MANAGEMENT**

RB has also successfully linked with **TiRatana Welfare Society** as our storage, logistics and store management partner. At the same time we were able to make contributions to TiRatana's fund raising event and we are also working to establish a joint food bank.



*Synerchem food donations for for  
TiRatana Carnival*



*With Most Ven. Datuk K. Sri  
Dhuammaratana of TiRatana*

## **OTHER ACTIVITIES & PARTNERS**

**Synerchem Sdn Bhd** is a food manufacturing company which also operates restaurants. As one of RB's corporate partners, they have donated five sets of computers for the benefit of 11 children (boys shelter home) in Persatuan Kebajikan Damai Cempaka KL & Selangor.

**Hitachi Capital Sdn. Bhd**, a new corporate partner, is a diversified leasing and hire purchase company providing financing to commercial businesses. They are taking their CSR Program seriously! Their staff visited Ephratha Home, Rawang at the end of November 2019 and came generously bearing donations, food, drinks and Christmas presents for and had fun and games with, the kids.

**Germalab Corporation (M) Sdn. Bhd.**, is a GMP Certified cosmetic and toiletry manufacturing company based in Shah Alam, Selangor. They formulated and manufactured a shampoo and bath gel for RB. Recently RB donated twenty litres each of the shampoo and gel to Ephratha Home, made possible by the generous sponsorship of an RB member's father.



*Computers sponsored by Synerchem*



*Rumah Titian Kaseh*



*RB Shampoo and Body Gel for Ephrathah Home*

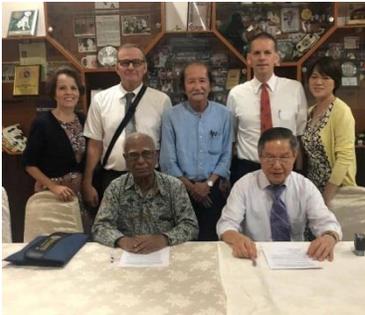


*Essential household goods donated to an old folks home by an RB member*

## OUR NGO PARTNERS

Certain activities could not have taken off so quickly and successfully without the partnership of a number of well-established NGOs, the result of which enabled RB to assist its beneficiary organizations in different ways.

RB’s first NGO partner is the **Latter-Day Saints (LDS) Charities**, a Christian organization, headquartered in Utah, USA. Through this tie-up, **Hospice Penang** received approximately RM50,000 worth of palliative care equipment, which were delivered a month after the signing of an agreement in November 2019 between LDS and Hospis Pg. Similarly, **Hospice Negri Sembilan** also benefited from LDS’s generosity amounting to another RM60,000. LDS Charities also assisted **Ming Hope**, a home care NGO in Kluang, Johor with equipment worth about RM15,000.



*Signing of agreement between Hospice Penang and LDS Charities at Royal Selangor Club, KL*



*Presenting part of Rm60k medical equipment to Hospice Negri Seremban with LDS Charities & RB.*

In 2020, RB hopes to collaborate with more NGO’s to bring about more sustainable benefits for current and potential beneficiaries.

## HEALTHCARE DELIVERY

A major initiative that we have undertaken is the establishment of the **RB Healthcare Team (RBHT)** as well as the **RB Medical Fund**. Our RBHT consists of RB members from various health professions, which include doctors, dentists, pharmacists, nurses, psychologists and nutritionists. They carry out medical examinations and give treatment for uncomplicated cases such as head

lice, female reproductive health problems, skin conditions, respiratory infections, minor wounds, etc. Other activities include eye screening for myopia and BMI assessment.

For 2019, RBHT has made home visits to (a) **Selangor Children Welfare Home, Klang** on 17<sup>TH</sup> August 2019, giving medical treatment to 27 kids and 5 adults. (b) **Ephratha Home, Rawang** on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2019 and provided health examination and treatment to 27 children. In addition, 14 kids with possible myopia were identified. Subsequently on 10<sup>th</sup> February, 13 of those kids were taken to the Tun Hussein Onn National Eye Hospital, Petaling Jaya for refraction and given prescription glasses.

In 2020, with dentists joining the Healthcare Team, dental screening and treatment will become a standard activity of the RBHT. In addition, we will be able provide dental care and hygiene products to encourage good personal oral health and practice.

For healthcare screening and treatment, we needed financial resources. As a result, we launched the **RB Medical Fund** in July 2019. Money was raised through partnership with **SimplyGiving**, a crowd funding site and also through direct appeals to our members. We have set a target of RM10,000 for the fund. As of end of February 2020 we have raised RM5,4000.

From the initial donations received, the RBHT has bought medical supplies in early August 2019 amounting to about Rm2,800 for the home visits. RB members were encouraged help identify individuals or organizations that might be interested to donate to the RB Medical Fund, by sharing the link for Simply Giving:

<https://www.simplygiving.com/nonprofit/ourrainbowbridge>



*RBHT at Ephratha Home, 30<sup>th</sup> November 2019*

## **OUR BENEFICIARY PARTNERS**

Beneficiary Partners are organizations (charity homes or service NGO's) that need some kind of assistance to sustain their activities. They are nominated by RB members, but before they are accepted, an audit is carried out by a member of the RB Exco to assess their needs. At the same time, the RB member who nominates must agree to play the role of liaison "officer" between

the nominated organization and RB in all matters relating to assistance to be given. Since RB's establishment, the following have been selected as "Beneficiary Partners":-

**Persatuan Kebajikan Damai Cempaka** is a shelter home in Salak South, Kuala Lumpur, for twelve boys ranging from 5 -17 years. RB representatives visited the home together with Mr. Gavin Lai, the Managing Director of Synerchem Sdn. Bhd. They requested for computers. Five units were purchased, sponsored by Synerchem and installed for them.

**Rumah Titian Kasih** in Titiwangsa, Kuala Lumpur is a shelter home in Salak South, Kuala Lumpur, which has over 130 dependents of all ages, of which 85% are children. They have benefited from the RB Food Bank initiative and because of the regular food supply through Kechara and eggs through Fornix, the Home is now self-sufficient in vegetables and eggs.

**Selangor Children's Welfare Home (SCWH)**, in Klang provides shelter for 68 children, from infants to 25-year olds. The oldest boy is an OKU and wheel-chair bound. The residents comprise 35 boys and 33 girls, currently being looked after by eight unpaid volunteers. RB Healthcare Team and some RB members visited the home in August 2019 to carry out medical and health screening. RB members also donated essential household goods, including food.

**Ephratha Home {Pertubuhan Kebajikan Ephratha Rawang, Selangor (1664-11-SEL)}** houses 27 children ranging from 1 to 18 year years in three separate single-storey houses. The RB Healthcare Team and some RB members visited the home at the end November 2019 to carry out medical and health screening. RB members also donated essential household goods, including food. Our corporate partner, Hitachi Capital joined us for the visit. Their contributions include essential household goods, Christmas presents for every child as well as prizes for the children's colouring competition. Synerchem, also agreed to sponsor the prescription glasses for children with myopia. Ephratha is also a major beneficiary of the RB Food Bank.

**Persatuan Kebajikan Kanak Kanak Tercacat Akal Malaysia (or IQ70+)**, in Petaling Jaya has nearly 80 dependent individuals. They are a well-managed facility that was introduced by a RB member in January 2020. They requested to be a beneficiary of the RB Food Bank and were subsequently linked to Fornix for their first supply of nutritionally enriched eggs. RB will endeavour to ensure they get a regular egg supply.



*Hitachi Capital visit to Ephratha Home,  
30 November 2019*



*Tun Hussein Onn National Eye Hospital  
10<sup>th</sup> February 2020*

## **OUR MEMBERSHIP**

RB is now only nine months old and has an official membership of 60 persons, comprising those who have formally completed the Membership Application Form. We would like to believe that this is a good indication of the interest and support for RB, but there will be on-going efforts to build up the membership. The next step is to hold an AGM and formally elect a Management Committee.

## **CONCLUSION**

The year 2019 is indeed historical for Rainbow Bridge. Not only does it mark our birth, but it is a year of many major breakthroughs i.e. the establishment of our RBHT, RFBF and also the entry of a number of key corporate partners who have made significant contributions to the community through RB. Also, these milestones would not have been possible without the hard work and generosity of our members as well as our corporate partners. Indeed, our tagline *“Bridging Communities, Creating Opportunities”* truly describes how far we have come in terms of the many benefits we have been able to bring to communities we have touched, in so short a time. We are indeed very optimistic that 2020 will bring about greater growth as more and more people and organizations of goodwill come to know of our work and journey with us to higher levels of service to the community.