

Introduction

There are many types of difficulties children face in the world today and one of it is urban poverty. Kuala Lumpur is the capital of Malaysia and growing rapidly. However, one can still find severe poverty in the heart of Kuala Lumpur.

When Sinje and the other ambassadors got to know about urban poverty in Kuala Lumpur, they wasted no time on researching with the help from Malaysian Care (local Kuala Lumpur NGO) on urban poverty and according to statistics, many children are undernourished, affecting their growth and indirectly, their studies. This is due to their family unable to feed them with proper meals and at times, they only have one meal a day which may consist of just a piece of bread or a small packet of rice to be shared among a few siblings.

The area that they are staying is also not conducive; living in a house built with old, uneven, rotten wood planks, zincs, simple cement flooring, dirty and old beds and more nearby rubbish piles and some live practically in the rubbish piles!

After a few rounds of researches and understanding more, in August 2010, Little Yellow Flower had funded 19 children between the age of 7 till 17 years old who are affected by providing them nutritious lunch meal plans on every weekday and sponsoring their tuition/ homework guidance fees to improve in their school works. The subjects taught and helped on are Bahasa Melayu, English, Mathematics, Science, Geography and History.

When we kick started the program, a sponsor sponsored all the kitchen utilities while Little Yellow Flower funded the monthly food and tuition fee. A cook from the village was hired to provide for the children. The Programmes were held in a community centre.

The Nutritious Lunch and Tuition Programme in Kuala Lumpur have largely progressed according to plan. The Nutrition Programme provides lunch for 19 children in 2010/11 to 30 children in 2012, 50 - 100 children in 2013 and 2014 After expanding to OUG in 2014, now in 2015, we are supporting 100 children in both Kuala Lumpur and OUG from January - October and 57 children in November and December.

In Kuala Lumpur, children are fed and educated in our Wonderland center while children from OUG pack their food from a stall at one of flats due to not being to secure a unit at the moment. The attendance rate is at an average of 93%.

The following annual report consists of 2 main sections. Section 1 discusses the progress of the Programme according to the objectives and indicators set. Section 2 is the annual summary of the financial report.

Section 1: Progress and Challenges

Objective 1: To provide nutrition support to 100 children identified under this programme.

Indicator 1: A total of 100 children being provided nutrition and balance meals through 20 - 22 meals per month per child for 12 months, with at least 80% of children showing increase in weight and height in accordance to their age.

There are a total of 100 children participating in the Nutrition Programme.

Food is being prepared and served at the Wonderland Center and Community Center every week day. Children attending afternoon school took their meals between 11:30am to 12:30pm before going to school. For children attending morning school, they would have their lunch after coming back from school, between 1:30pm to 3:30pm.

The average attendance of the participants is 93% throughout the year is an indicator of satisfaction and discipline in the participants. It is also the indication of the cook, who would visit the families if any child did not turn up for the programme on time. The cook has taken a lot of ownership of the programme, and a good sign of a community with members supporting each other.

The families of the participants were visited once in every half yearly and the overall feedback gathered from the parents is positive. Parents were also invited to a group briefing and discussion at the beginning of the first quarter to continue ensuring the families' participation and commitment towards the programme.

All children maintained or increased in weight over the past year except for 5-6 due to family conditions, indicating the food intake was sufficient for majority of the children's growth.

Objective 2: To provide supplementary education support to 9 participants

Indicator 2: A total of 9 children attend supplementary education programme at least three times a week at 2 hours per session in tuition center or under personal tutorship for 12 months, with at least 80% of children showing improvement in their academic performance.

4 children are sent for tuition classes to help them on their studies at night while during the day in the center, they are guided under personal tutorship by the staff.

Classes are held between 7pm to 9pm every Monday, Wednesday and Thursday. The students are taught in small groups according to age-specific categories.

The attendance to the tuition programme is at an average of 90%.

Section 2: Financial Report

Ia. Nutritious Lunch Programme - Kuala Lumpur

The average expenditure of the nutrition programme has stabilised to RM 3565.11 per month. Large purchases were done in supermarket or wet market on weekly basis, while the cook was provided with a float to purchase other smaller items. Please refer to the Table 2 for details of the year's expenditure.

Ib. Nutritious Lunch Programme - OUG

The average expenditure of the nutritious programme for Puchong for 12 months is RM 5,268.80 per month. We have did a catering way as in we got a cook to cook for the number of children and the food provide are Halal food. Please refer to the Table 2 for details of the year's expenditure.

II. Tuition Programme

A) Additional Tuition – 4 children are sent for classes for RM 260 per month

B) Personal Tutorship - RM360 is spent for revision books and relevant materials needed for the past 12 months.

III. Management & General

Consisting of full timers, caretakers' allowances, cook and cleaner's salaries for 12 months, rentals and other miscellaneous expenses in center.

IV. Others

Expenses for yearly trips.

Section 2: Table 1

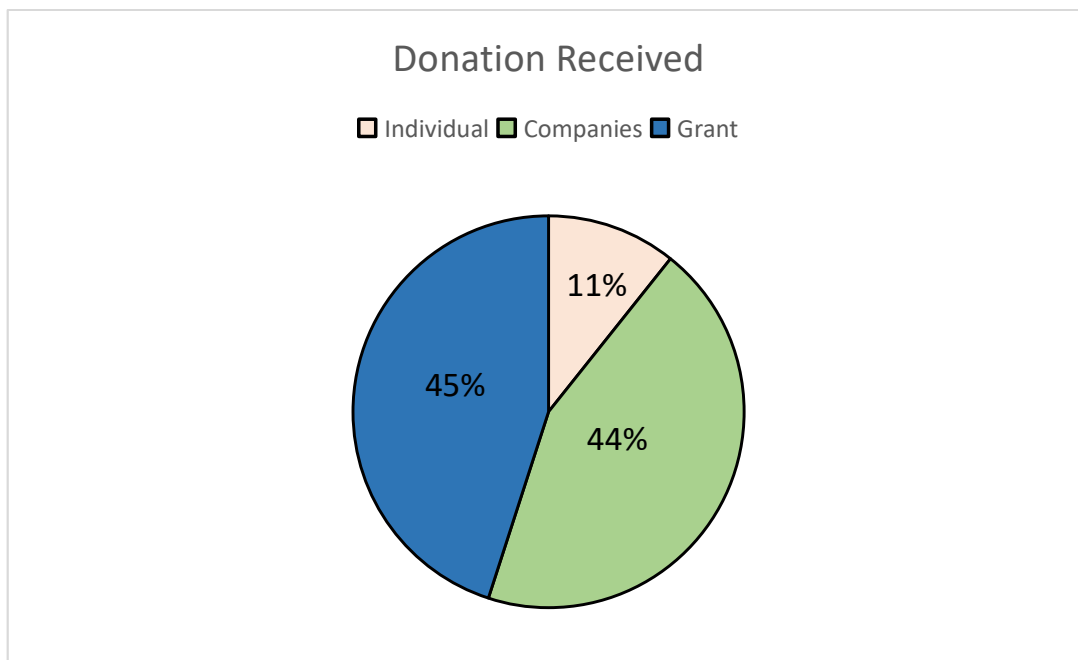
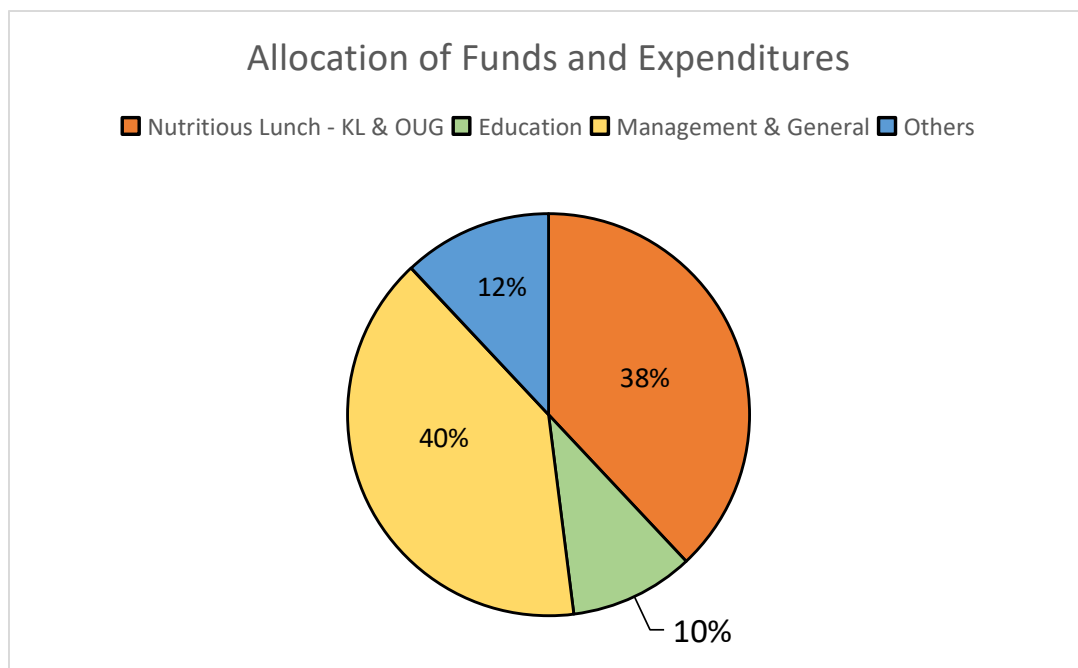


Table 2



Case Study - Kg Pandan

There are hundreds of houses made out of old wood, planks, zinc and scraps built in this area. Many are situated either next to the high tension towers or rubbish piles.

This is a very serious problem as the health of the people living in these areas will be affected as radiation are emitted, the air, soil and water are polluted. The risks the children and also adults faced are being electrocuted, being ill resulting in having cancer, leukemia, lung and chest diseases. These will also contribute to giving birth to weak and unhealthy children. As rubbish dumps attract germs and disease-carrying creatures, this will also be a danger whereby disease can be transferred when in contact with them.



Many houses are without basic necessities like electricity, water, proper toilet, bedroom or kitchen. The children are malnourished and are always hungry - sometimes having nothing to eat at all for 2 days, sometimes just a very simple meal once a day. They go to bed and sleep to sleep off their hunger.

The child has a scar on his abdomen because he tried cook for himself but instead of cooking oil, he accidentally poured petrol and burned himself.



Case Study - Kg Muhibbah

This is a vast area with many blocks of low-cost flats catered by the government but placed far from basic needs like clinics, hospitals and schools. Most of the children are also either always hungry or not schooling as they have to travel quite far.

Many parents here are single parent or extremely low income earners of RM 500-RM800 with health issues and at times they are not able to work due to being extremely sick. The furniture seen are all donated by the public so that they are able to at least sit and sleep on something soft.

Some may earn up to RM1500 per month but with a family of 8 children to feed, it is not sufficient to go through for the month.

