

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY



The Anglican Relief and Development Fund™



MALAYSIA: GIRLS HOSTEL PROVIDES SAFE HOUSING AND AN EDUCATION

Project Empowers Female Students from Marginalized Indigenous Community



Boys were the beneficiaries of a previous education project in St. Paul's Parish, Malaysia. This project will make it possible for 10 girls to receive an education and room and board in the Anglican Diocese of West Malaysia.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

CONTEXT: *Orang Asli* is a Malay term that means original peoples or first peoples. The Orang Asli are the indigenous minority peoples of the Peninsular Malaysia. (They are similar in context to the aboriginal communities of Australia). The Orang Asli comprise at least 19 culturally and linguistically distinct groups. This population of about 150,000 people live off the land where they forage and hunt for food, as well as harvest jungle produce that they sell. They are shift cultivators and, in some cases, they follow the migration of the jungle animals. Their isolated lives in forests and villages means they have limited access to good schools and other social and economic opportunities.

NEED: The Orang Asli live primarily in rural areas of Malaysia. A majority of them do not attend school or have less than an elementary level education. Poor infrastructure and general underdevelopment of their villages limit their chances of getting an education. For those families that want their children to receive an education, the distance to good schools becomes a hindrance. Without an education, these communities will remain marginalized in their ability to compete both socially and economically. Without a good education, the Orang Asli are not able to acquire competitive jobs and unemployment runs high.

SOLUTION: Funds through the Anglican Relief and Development Fund will help the Diocese of West Malaysia purchase a house that will accommodate 10 girls, giving them the opportunity to attend school and enjoy safe, affordable housing at the hostel. This will be the first time some of the girls will have heard God's plan for their lives.

LIFE IMPACT

Benefits 410 people:

- 10 girls who have an opportunity to attend high school and live in the Christian hostel
- 50 family members of the beneficiaries who have increased appreciation for education
- 50 people from 10 families who grow in their expression of Christian service as they provide mentorship to the girls as Godparents and Christian nurturing families
- 300 members of the Parish of St. Paul who gain increased awareness of how to care for the marginalized by welcoming the 10 girls into their congregation

PROJECT PROFILE

ID: ARDF-6517-West Malaysia

Lead Ministry

DIOCESE OF WEST MALAYSIA

LIVES IMPACTED 410

SECTOR Education for girls

AMOUNT REQUESTED \$26,864

COST PER BENEFICIARY \$65.52

TIMELINE 18 MONTHS

IN THEIR OWN WORDS

"Before I came to Rumah Shalom, it was very challenging for me to find someone to guide me in my education. Now, a lot of problems related to my studies are solved through [enrollment] in Rumah Shalom. I like this community. I have made a lot of friends in Rumah Shalom. Besides, I like to study with them. ... God is blessing me a lot in my education and in [my] health."

– Sken bah Ngah, 17, from Kg pawong, Simpan Pulai, Malaysia



WHAT IT'S LIKE NOW



“Getting to school can be difficult when you have to travel for hours by boat. Telang

Usan state assemblyman Dennis Ngau is worried that the number of indigenous students in most of the primary schools in middle and upper Baram, Sarawak, is dropping – especially among the Penans.”

– www.thestar.com.my/lifestyle/family/features/2015/03/24/orang-asli-issues-access-to-education-still-difficult/#LyTvUxuvmDR75Ba8.99

“The Orang Asli, the primary indigenous group, have been seen as lesser peoples to the Malaysian government over the superior indigenous group, the Malays, due to the Malay ethnic majority in Malaysia. The Orang Asli are seen as inferior even though they actually provided the Malays with resources and played a role in the government up through the beginning of the 20th century.”

– https://dsph-dev.provost.uiowa.edu/historycorps_sandbox/exhibits/show/indigenoustuggles1900/orang_asli, *The Struggle for Land Rights in Malaysia*, Gabby O’Leary, November 2014

PROJECT DESIGN

The Anglican Diocese of Malaysia will purchase an old house and renovate it for use as a Christian hostel for girls in Rumah Shalom, Western Malaysia. This hostel will be a joint effort of three Anglican churches in the region: Gereja Shalom, Gopeng and St. Paul’s Church, located in Penang, Malaysia. The churches share a vision for providing holistic training and guidance for secondary school students and helping them raise their standard of living and learn about life beyond their own communities. Day-to-day management of the home will be the responsibility of the Parish of St. John Church.

The hostel will be adjacent to an already existing boys hostel that was established two and half years ago. The house offers 1,400 square feet of space. It will be remodeled to provide adequate sleeping space for the girls and a house mother, a kitchen, common areas for relaxing and dining, and bathroom facilities. A fence will be erected to help keep the girls safe. The diocese will provide beds, utensils, toiletries, a refrigerator and food. The diocese will employ a house mother to care for the 10 girls, in addition to an existing chief warden who has been caring for the boys. They will live on site.

The girls who will stay at the hostel throughout high school – and for no more than five years – will range in age from 11 to 17. They can enter at any grade and will rotate out as each complete their schooling, giving room to new girls.

The hostel will take a holistic approach by educating the girls and working on their self-management, spiritual formation, discipleship and Christian service. The house mother will ensure school work is completed and the girls have the necessary support of volunteer tutors to help them with homework. The girls will learn how to maintain their schedules and complete their assigned tasks, which will boost their self-management skills. The girls will also hear God’s Word through daily devotions and involvement at the Parish of St. Paul. They will also be assigned to Christian couples or Godparents from the church who will help to guide their spiritual growth.

Renovation of the girl’s hostel is expected to take eight to 12 months. The girls will be enrolled once the renovations are completed. With an 18-month reporting cycle, that will leave six months to report on the girls progress as they adjust to the hostel and the school.

Measuring impact. The Parish of St. Paul building committee will supervise the renovations of the purchased house, working with the parish priest, the Venerable Stephen Soe. They will report to Diocesan Bishop Ng Moon.

PROJECT BUDGET

ITEM

Purchase of house no.453, Taman Gopeng
Renovation of the house
Fittings and furniture
Monitoring and evaluation
TOTAL

SOURCES OF FUNDS

BUDGETED	LOCAL/OTHER
\$23,360	
	\$4,672
	\$4,672
\$3,504	
\$26,864	\$9,344

HOW YOU CAN CONTRIBUTE

- For \$2,336, you can cover the renovation costs for one female students.
- For \$11,680, you can cover the renovation costs for five female students.
- For \$26,864, you can cover the renovation costs for all 10 female students.



IMPLEMENTER FINANCIALS*

This project adheres to some or all of this sector's established best practices

INCOME	2015	%	2016	%
General fund donations	\$31,596	78	\$6,627	38
Individual sponsorships	\$8,766	21	\$10,674	61
Fixed deposit interest	\$412	1	\$243	1
TOTAL	\$40,774		\$17,544	
EXPENDITURES	2015	%	2016	%
Salaries and wages	\$6,212	44	\$6,404	43
Program	\$4,020	28	\$5,713	39
Administrative	\$2,176	15	\$653	4
Travel and transportation	\$609	4	\$245	2
Renovations	\$972	7	\$-	
Donation			\$1,471	10
Miscellaneous	\$234	2	\$292	2
TOTAL	\$14,223		\$14,779	
SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	\$26,551		\$2,765	

NOTES:

*Income and expenditures reported in U.S. dollars

INCOME: Rumah Shalom reported revenue of \$40,774 from its inception in mid-2014 to June 2015 and \$17,544 by June 2016. This 57% decline could be attributed to capital donations to establish the program, and the longer reporting period of mid July 2014 to June 2015 compared to the 12 months of reporting in the 2016 financial records. The Parish of St. Paul provided 77% of Rumah Shalom's income in 2015 and 38% in 2016. Individual sponsorships for the children's education in high school resulted in 21% of the income in 2015 but increased to 61% in 2016, a 40% increase.

EXPENSES: Salaries and wages represented the largest part of Rumah Shalom's expenses at 44% in 2015 and 43% in 2016. This included the salary of an in-house warden to oversee the hostel for boys. Program expenses represented 28% in 2015 and 39% in 2016. These included the costs of meals, household expenses and a study camp for the children. In 2015, these also included the costs of furnishing the home. Administrative costs represented 15% of the total expenses in 2015 and included utilities and rental expenses when the home for the boys was under renovation. In 2016, these dropped to 4% and only included utility costs. In 2016, a \$1,471 donation helped 10 centers provided skills training for 56 high school students

RISK ANALYSIS



Low: 1, Low/Medium: 2, Medium: 3, Medium/High: 4, High: 5 

CONCEPT: 1

This investment allows the Diocese of West Malaysia to provide marginalized girls with an education and a safe place to stay while also exposing them to the Gospel. This assistance will help future leaders of the Orang Asli people meet their basic education needs, which will elevate the people group.

PROGRAM DESIGN & EXPERIENCE: 2

Diocese of West Malaysia is constantly looking for ways to meet the needs of its congregations in order to grow and remain relevant and to effectively shepherd their growing churches. It has been proactive in ensuring the needs of its congregations and communities are met in practical ways, education being one among many other initiatives. However, the hostel can only hold 10 girls at a time. While this is meaningful for the girls involved, it will take a long time to ensure the Orang Asli community has a quality education.

LEADERSHIP: 1

The diocese has a strategic plan it has followed since 2011. The girls hostel is in line with the diocese's theme for the year, which is *Enhancing Ownership*. Under the leadership of The Rev. Ng Moon, the diocese has made great strides in its outreach efforts. The Rev. Soe has a great deal of experience working in this parish and knows its needs.

FINANCIAL CONTROL: 3

The diocese, which has stable management, will oversee the project and invest \$9,344 of its funds in the project. The hostel will be managed as a separate ministry under the Parish of St. Paul, with its own financial accounting. However, the parish is in the early stages of establishing the program with only two years of unaudited financial records. It does not have independent governance as all board members are members of the Anglican Church.

SUSTAINABILITY: 2

The capital investment of purchasing the building for the hostel raises the overall cost-per beneficiary of this program. However, once the hostel is completed, the churches in the diocese will continue to pay the operational costs. The churches are also providing funds to cover the renovation of the building, demonstrating their support and capacity to sustain such an ongoing program.

EXTERNAL: 2

Over the years, indigenous people in Malaysia have been victims of the government's failure to recognize their rights. These experiences have often left the Orang Asli suspicious of outsiders' help. While the diocese of West Malaysia is only helping few girls, the project could change their opinion on the education opportunity being provided.



LEADERSHIP PROFILES

The Most Rev. Datuk Ng Moon Hing, the Bishop of West Malaysia, provides leadership to more than 245 congregations in the Diocese of West Malaysia. His background includes:

- a bishop since 2007
- appointed the fifth Archbishop of the Church of the Province of South East in February 2016
- a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from Monash University, Australia
- a bachelor's and master's degree in divinity from the Seminari Teologi Malaysia
- work as a civil engineer who took part in the construction of Lumut Naval Base and several bridges

The Ven. Dr. Stephen Soe is the chairman of the management committee overseeing the project. His background includes:

- warden of Rumah Shalom hostel for boys for the past 30 months
- a diploma in cost accounting, a bachelor's degree in theology, a master's degree in divinity and a doctorate in ministry from Singapore Bible College
- 19 years of service with the diocese of West Malaysia, including service as the internal accounts auditor

REFERENCES

"The Most Rev. Datuk Ng Moon Hing is the visionary of the diocese of West Malaysia. Without him we [would not have grown] so fast in the last 20 years. He started the Orang Asli church-planting program in Perak about 20 to 25 years ago, and this is part of his vision to enable the Orang Asli [to] excel in educational areas, as well."

– Tan Chin Ghee, business owner in West Malaysia

"The work among the Orang Asli community has been one the ministries on the heart of the Bishop of the Diocese of West Malaysia. Stephen [Soe] will certainly have the support of the bishop in this work among the Orang Asli students. ... I know Stephen's heart on this ministry. My last long conversation with him on the ministry among the Orang Asli community was less than a month ago. He will put his heart and his hand to the task. If it fails, it will not be that he has not given his best. Running a hostel for students from the Orang Asli community is not an easy task. But it is a task that many churches have seen it to be absolutely necessary. It must be done, no matter how difficult the task."

– The Rev. Hwa Chih, retired warden of St Peter's Hall, Diocese of Singapore

RESEARCHER'S STATEMENT



Rhoda Gathoga
Sr. Research Analyst
June 2017

The Diocese of West Malaysia is extending itself as an instrument of evangelization while addressing some of the long-held injustices that have left the Orang Asli communities isolated. A solid education and stable housing gives the girls the opportunity to have a new life and build on their hopes and dreams as equal participating members of their nation. As each girl graduates, they provide the space for another girl – giving this project long-term impact.

IMPLEMENTER'S INSPIRATION

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age."

– Matthew 28:19-20, RSV

HOW TO FUND THIS PROJECT

PROJECT RECAP

ID - ARDF-0617-West Malaysia
 Timeline - 18 months
 Requested - \$26,864
 Modified - 061317

For information about the Fund or Projects, write to:
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