# ANNUAL EPOR Malaysian AIDS Council

**Malaysian AIDS Foundation** 

#### ANNUAL REPORT 2016 MALAYSIAN AIDS COUNCIL & MALAYSIAN AIDS FOUNDATION

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#### Disclaimer

Unless otherwise stated, the appearance of individuals in this publication gives no indication of HIV status, sexual orientation or gender identity.

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### FOREWORD

#### FOREWORD BY YABHG DATIN PADUKA SERI ROSMAH MANSOR

PATRON OF THE MALAYSIAN AIDS FOUNDATION

Assalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh,

Salam Sejahtera dan Salam 1Malaysia,

It is heartening to note that remarkable progress has been made towards curbing the HIV epidemic, with continued reduction in new HIV infections from 5,830 cases in 2006 to 3,397 last year. I wish to commend Malaysian AIDS Foundation (MAF) as well as its partners across all sectors for sustaining the momentum.

At the end of 2016, vertical transmission of HIV continued to be under control. This is ascribed to improved coverage of antenatal HIV screening and other prevention of mother-to-child HIV transmission programme services.

Such achievement has encouraged Malaysia to adopt a bolder and more ambitious strategy, Ending AIDS by 2030 that seeks to further reduce new HIV infections by 90 percent in the next fifteen years. Nonetheless, a myriad of challenges remain along the path to ending AIDS particularly ones that unjustly affect women and girls.

In contrast to the declining trend of male HIV infections, women and girls face increasing vulnerability following the rise in maleto-female ratio of new infections and sexually transmitted HIV. The HIV situation in women and girls is further compounded by the double stigma that many of them experience for being female and living with HIV, thus limiting their access to lifesaving HIV treatment, care and support.

Unless bold measures are taken to address women and girls' susceptibilities to HIV infection and HIV related health disparities, we run the risk of the epidemic rebounding and or shared achievement going up in smoke.

Hence, women's empowerment needs to be central to all health services and programming, focusing on addressing women's sexual reproductive health and other gender-specific needs. This includes activities to enhance the capacity of community-based organisations to deliver health services to women. Similarly, the vital role of early education on healthy relationships and responsible sexual health behaviour could not be overstated.

Ending AIDS is a multisectoral responsibility, and as such intersectoral action for health must be further strengthened and its scope expanded. Together with the civil society, both the public and private sectors must make the goal of ending AIDS especially among women, girls and children a priority. Increased social protection for women and girls is also integral to ending AIDS, which must be achieved through education on prevention of spousal HIV transmission and building systems and structures to protect women from gender-based discrimination and promote gender equality.



Ending AIDS provides governments and the global public health community not only the blueprint but also the aspiration and practical foundation to kick-start this noble and rewarding initiative. As Patron of the MAF, I look forward to smarter partnerships in driving our responses forward. I am confident that together, we can work towards ending AIDS.

With best wishes,

DATIN PADUKA SERI ROSMAH MANSOR Patron, Malaysian AIDS Foundation

### **STATEMENT**

#### STATEMENT BY BAKHTIAR TALHAH

PRESIDENT OF THE MALAYSIAN AIDS COUNCIL

The year 2016 marked the beginning of a new phase in the global AIDS response, one that is characterised by the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal of ending AIDS as a public health threat by 2030.

Although admittedly ambitious and daunting, the Malaysian AIDS Council (MAC) welcomed this challenge as an opportunity to take stock of the achievements and investments as well as the lessons learned from the past decade and further enhance our role in the national AIDS response.

The result is the MAC & Malaysian AIDS Foundation Strategic Plan 2016-2020: Championing Ending AIDS, a five-year blueprint that charts the course of our actions on the path to ending AIDS, guided by the Ministry of Health Malaysia National Strategic Plan for Ending AIDS 2016-2030.

This report measures the progress that we made in the past year – the first year of implementation – against the four strategic goals outlined in our Strategic Plan. It also highlights some of the good practices that shaped our programmes and activities on the ground.

I am heartened to note that while new HIV infections and AIDS-related deaths continued to stabilise, our collective efforts have not. In fact, under the guidance of the Ministry of Health Malaysia, we have scaled up our coverage of services, improved linkages with the healthcare system and explored new approaches. In the past year, we served more than 60,000 people from key populations with harm reduction, sexual health, HIV testing and treatment as well as other services.

We also made further inroads into expanding HIV services within the prison system. Through the TEMAN project, we piloted a programme for incarcerated women who use drugs in Kajang prison, addressing their gender-specific health and social welfare needs prior to release.

Our new Strategic Plan outlined new innovations to tackle the rise in sexual transmission of HIV which accounted for an alarming 84 per cent of new infections last year. These included the expansion of the case management approach, klinik kesihatan (health clinic) model and community-based testing, all of which we embarked on beginning last year.

Our work in the past year also revealed that people living with HIV continued to be subjected to discriminatory practices, particularly in the workplace. Such cases were highlighted in the HIV and Human Rights Mitigation Report 2015. Through a collaboration with the Department of Occupational Safety and Health, Ministry of Human Resources Malaysia, we mitigated those cases and used the platform provided by the Malaysian Business Consortium on HIV/AIDS under the Malaysian AIDS Foundation to advocate for anti-discrimination workplace practices and policies.



Smart and strategic partnerships remain integral to the AIDS response. On that note, the MAC wishes to thank the Ministry of Health Malaysia for the unwavering support and for continuing to engage civil society in key decision-making and consensus-building processes. We also thank our other partners and donors, in particular the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria and the Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development.

To our Partner Organisations, we thank you for your continued commitment, dedication and service to the community. We look forward to strengthening our development and growth with you as we intensify our efforts towards ending AIDS.

Our special appreciation to immediate past President Datuk Dr. Raj Karim for her leadership, dedication and service to the MAC and community.

BAKHTIAR TALHAH President, Malaysian AIDS Council

### **STATEMENT**

#### STATEMENT BY PROF. DATO' DR. ADEEBA KAMARULZAMAN

CHAIRMAN OF THE MALAYSIAN AIDS FOUNDATION

The Malaysian AIDS Foundation (MAF) continued to make progress in 2016. Despite the volatile donor environment due to continued economic downturn, we raised a total of RM2.9 million, in terms of both restricted and unrestricted funds.

Our activities in the past year were guided by the new joint Malaysian AIDS Council & MAF Strategic Plan 2016-2020, identifying areas of priority towards closing the resource gap and ensuring that no one is left behind as we step up our efforts to end AIDS.

This led to our campaign to end AIDS in Sarawak where there is real opportunity to end AIDS ahead of all the other states in Malaysia owing to its consistently low yearly HIV notification rates.

Ending AIDS in Sarawak was marked by a series of engagements with the local stakeholders and donors which culminated in the MAF Kuching Gala to raise funds for the establishment of the state's first one-stop centre for integrated HIV care. This facility which serves as a halfway home is much needed to alleviate the burden of costs and travel borne by many underprivileged people living with HIV in the deep interiors to access free antiretroviral treatment at Sarawak General Hospital in Kuching.

We owe a huge debt of gratitude to YABhg Datuk Amar Hajah Jamilah Haji Anu who not only served as the patron of the MAF Kuching Gala but also together with her husband, the then Chief Minister of Sarawak YAB Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Dr Haji Adenan Satem provided leadership and guidance integral to the success of our campaign.

Our ending AIDS campaign continued elsewhere. In Kuala Lumpur, we launched Ending AIDS Begins Now in partnership with the Ministry of Health Malaysia as well as #MAFBear, our latest merchandise item that symbolises our care and concern for children impacted by HIV/AIDS, with the Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development.

We even went as far as the Moroccan Sahara Desert where our Red Ribbon Youth Icon Jeff Lau returned triumphantly for the second time to complete the Marathon des Sables ultramarathon – "the toughest footrace on earth" – and raise funds for the Red Ribbon Youth Club.

Recognising that ending AIDS is a shared responsibility, we empowered the people with the opportunity to contribute directly to the ending AIDS response. Through Give Me Five, individual donors can pledge as little as RM5 per month and effect change in the lives of HIV/AIDS-impacted men, women and children we serve.

Our resource mobilisation efforts in 2016 saw the delivery of such high-impact HIV/AIDS treatment, care and support programmes as PAL Scheme – the medicine assistance scheme providing free second-line antiretrovirals to underprivileged



Malaysians – under Yayasan Sime Darby and the various shelter homes under the M.A.C Cosmetics Malaysia M.A.C AIDS Fund.

We also demonstrated the value as well as the returns of investment in ending AIDS to corporate Malaysia through the Malaysian Business Consortium on HIV/AIDS Forum which attracted the participation of leading businesses and corporations.

As we continue to expand our ending AIDS campaign in 2017, we wish to take a moment to thank all our donors, sponsors, partners and supporters who helped us launch the campaign in 2016 and laid a strong foundation for us to build on.

PROF. DATO' DR. ADEEBA KAMARULZAMAN Chairman, Malaysian AIDS Foundation

# **OVERVIEW OF THE HIV & AIDS EPIDEMIC IN MALAYSIA**

111,916 Total reported HIV (Dec 2016) 3,397

**New HIV Infections** reported in 2016

18,827

93,089

Total reported AIDS related deaths (Dec 2016)

23,717 Total reported AIDS (Dec 2016)

> **Current number of** people living with HIV in Malavsia (Dec 2016)

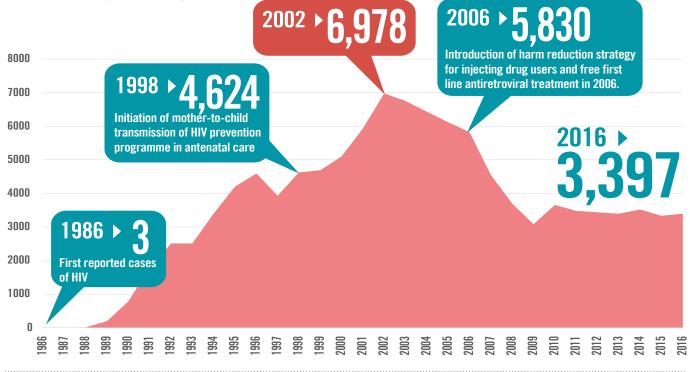
/100,000 HIV notification rate in

1

**Reported HIV in children** <13 years in 2016

**1,146** Total reported HIV in children <13 years (Dec 2016)

#### **NEW HIV CASES (1986-2016)**

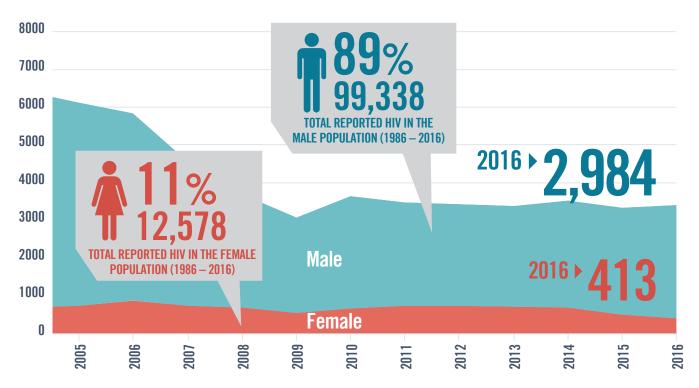


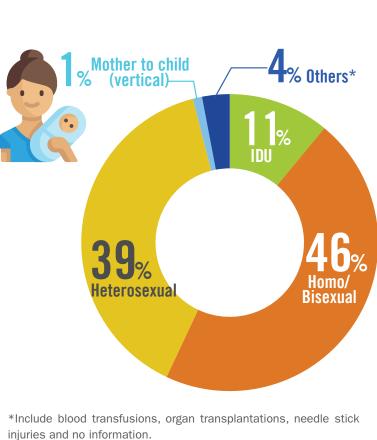




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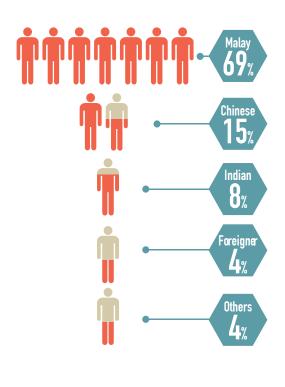
#### **HIV TRANSMISSION BY GENDER IN 2016**





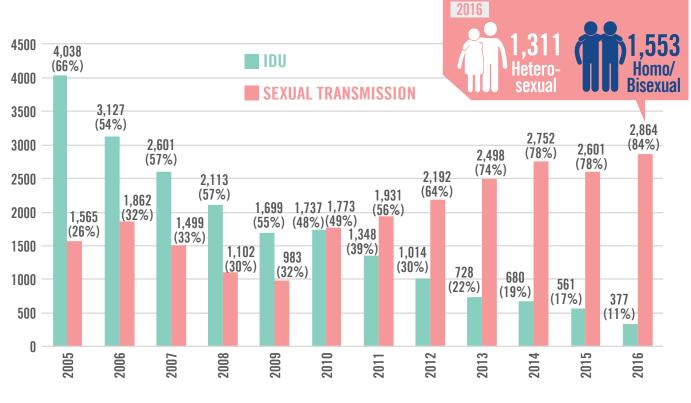
**HIV TRANSMISSION BY RISK FACTOR IN 2016** 

#### **PERCENTAGE OF HIV INFECTION BY** ETHNICITY (1986-2016)



(% of 3,397 new infections)

#### COMPARISON OF NEW HIV INFECTIONS BETWEEN INJECTING DRUG USERS (IDU) & SEXUAL **TRANSMISSION (2005-2016)**



Source: HIV/STI Section, Division of Disease Control, Ministry of Health Malaysia

## Strategy 1

Building a Value and Principle Driven Organisation

### **MALAYSIAN AIDS COUNCIL**



**The Malaysian AIDS Council (MAC)** was established in 1992 to serve as an umbrella organisation to support and coordinate the efforts of non-governmental organisations (NGOs) working on HIV and AIDS issues in Malaysia. MAC works in close partnership with government agencies, the private sector and international organisations, to ensure a committed and effective NGO-led response to the HIV epidemic. In addition to providing nationwide coverage of HIV prevention, treatment, care and support services, MAC and its Partner Organisations serve as the common voice for communities most affected by HIV and AIDS in the country.

### Executive Committee 2016-2018



### **MALAYSIAN AIDS FOUNDATION**



**The Malaysian AIDS Foundation (MAF)** was formed in 1993 to raise and administer funds to support the activities and programmes of the Malaysian AIDS Council and its Partner Organisations. MAF funds high-impact HIV prevention, treatment, care and support programmes such as harm reduction, s helter homes, financial and medical assistance schemes as well as HIV health literacy and empowerment activities for underprivileged women and children living with HIV and other key populations nationwide.

### Board of Trustees 2016-2018



## Strategy 2

Providing Leadership, Political & Organisational Commitment to the AIDS Response

### **ENDING AIDS IN SARAWAK**





The AIDS epidemic in Sarawak began in 1989, three years after the first HIV cases were detected in Malaysia. By the end of 2016, a total of 2,436 HIV infections were recorded, of which 542 resulted in AIDS-related deaths.

Sarawak is now home to 1,894 people living with HIV, many of whom face difficulties to access free HIV healthcare services provided by the government and non-government organisations due to the diversity of its geographical features.

.....

Particularly affected are communities in the rural areas and deep interiors. Stigma and discrimination continues to fuel the epidemic, the burden of which is most felt by women and children, pushing them to the margins of society and away from lifesaving HIV/AIDS health services.

This situation spurred the Malaysian AIDS Council (MAC) and Malaysian AIDS Foundation (MAF) into action, beginning with the idea of organising the MAF Kuching Gala under the esteemed patronage of YABhg Datuk Amar Hajah Jamilah Haji Anu, wife of the then Chief Minister of Sarawak, YAB Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Dr Haji Adenan Satem.

The charity benefit, themed Dedicated to the People of Sarawak, raised funds to establish the first ever one-stop healthcare centre for integrated HIV treatment, care and support in the

"

Given that the number of HIV infections in the state is relatively small, there is a real opportunity to end AIDS right here in Sarawak, ahead of all the other states in Malaysia."



Professor Dato' Dr. Adeeba Kamarulzaman, Chairman, MAF.

state. This facility was later dedicated to the memory of the late aforementioned Chief Minister whose leadership was instrumental in initiating the state Government's response to AIDS aligned with the goal of the national AIDS response to end the epidemic by 2030.

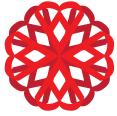
Indeed, the Sarawak Government's commitment to ending AIDS was convened from the highest level, leading to a multi-sectoral strategy involving such key actors as the Sarawak State Health Department, Tabung Baitulmal under the Sarawak Islamic Council, Sarawak AIDS Concern Society and the private sector.

It also led to the "City Getting to Zero" campaign, with its capital Kuching becoming the first city in the state to sign up for the project aiming for zero new HIV infections.

To honour the state's newfound commitment to the ending AIDS response, the Ministry of Health Malaysia brought the national World AIDS Day event over to Kuching which was launched by the Minister of Health, Datuk Seri Dr. S. Subramaniam.

The World AIDS Day festivities culminated in the MAF Kuching Gala featuring Red Ribbon Celebrity Supporters and two of Sarawak's shining stars in the music industry, Dayang Nurfaizah and Bob Yusof, as well as Aaron Aziz, Fahrin Ahmad, Dee and Ziana Zain.

### **MALAYSIAN BUSINESSES UNITE TO END AIDS**





The Malaysian Business Consortium on HIV/AIDS (MBCH) Forum charted the course for corporate Malaysia towards ending AIDS by 2030, focusing on the creation of an enabling HIV/ AIDS workplace policy environment and the value of the business sector's contribution to the AIDS response through corporate social responsibility.

The MBCH is a programme under the Malaysian AIDS Foundation (MAF) that serves as a platform for businesses to share and exchange HIV and AIDS information, best practices and key learning experiences. It also acts as a warehouse for pooling of HIV/AIDS resources, guided by the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal of ending AIDS as a public health threat by 2030.

The forum, held on 30 August 2015, was launched by Omar Bin Mat Piah, Deputy Director General (Occupational Safety), Department of Occupational Safety and Health Malaysia, Ministry of Human Resources. It also supported the Department's initiative to strengthen its commitment to safe and healthy workplaces based on objectives under the Occupational Safety and Health Master Plan 2016 – 2020 that was launched by Prime Minister, Dato' Sri Haji Mohammad Najib Bin Tun Haji Abdul Razak.

Currently, there is no compulsion to have a HIV/AIDS policy at the workplace, although businesses are encouraged to adopt the Code of Practice on Prevention and Management of HIV/ AIDS at the Workplace developed by the Department of Occupational Safety and Health Malaysia. This document underscores the value of having HIV/ AIDS education at the workplace and, more importantly, a non-judgmental and non-discriminatory work environment.

### "

Discrimination has no place in the business sector and in our society. Our goal – through the MBCH and our partnership Department with the of Occupational Safety and Health Malaysia – is to create as many safe spaces as possible for employees and professionals living with HIV to thrive and succeed."



Bakhtiar Talhah, Chair, MBCH and President, Malaysian AIDS Council.



### **INNOVATIVE APPROACHES TO HIV INTERVENTIONS**



Recognising the complexity of behaviour change as well as the reality that there is no one-sizefits-all solution, the Malaysian AIDS Council (MAC) worked with the Ministry of Health Malaysia on a number of community-based HIV healthcare innovations in line with the National Strategic Plan for Ending AIDS 2016-2030.

#### **KLINIK KESIHATAN MODEL**



The Klinik Kesihatan (Health Clinic) Model was piloted through a harm reduction project covering both the needle & syringe exchange programme (NSEP) and methadone maintenance therapy (MMT) targeting people who use drugs at Klinik Kesihatan Kuala Sungai Baru, Melaka beginning July 2015.

Clients accessing services under this project received guidance on HIV testing and treatment as well as enrolments into the MMT and other HIV/AIDS related healthcare.

The Klinik Kesihatan Model was noted for its cost-effectiveness via considered sharing of limited resources between the State Health Departments and NGOs.

It also allowed the Medical Assistants providing the services to closely monitor methadone withdrawals and compliance to antiretroviral treatment, thus further reducing operational costs and complications related to treatment failure.

Following the success of its pilot, the project was expanded to Klinik Kesihatan in other locations in Malaysia throughout 2016.

#### **COMMUNITY-BASED TESTING**



Community-Based Testing was introduced as part of the fast-track action under Strategy 1: Testing and Treatment to end AIDS of the National Strategic Plan for Ending AIDS 2016-2030.

This strategy outlines the Ministry of Health Malaysia's commitment to revising policies and guidelines to allow community-based HIV screening and offering accreditation to NGOs to function as screening centres. The programme was launched in July 2016 whereby 36 community health workers received training and accreditation to conduct HIV rapid tests and make referrals to governmentinitiated HIV treatment and care services.

This community-friendly alternative complements the free anonymous HIV testing provided at government health clinics and is hoped to boost HIV testing uptake among key populations which currently stands at less than 50 per cent.

#### "

It is indeed reassuring to note that the beginning of Ending AIDS is filled with promising innovations. While reflecting on them this World AIDS Day, I could not help but also think, with trepidation, of the barriers and challenges that might threaten their sustainability and success."



Bakhtiar Talhah, President, MAC in his World AIDS Day 2016 Message, Innovating the End of AIDS.

### HIV AND HUMAN RIGHTS MITIGATION REPORT 2015: HIV WORKPLACE DISCRIMINATION AT LARGE



Discrimination at the workplace makes up one third of the total 15 complaints documented in the Malaysian AIDS Council (MAC) HIV and Human Rights Mitigation Report 2015.

Complaints of employment discrimination – which in the reporting period overwhelmingly occurred in the tourism, hospitality, and entertainment industries – involved termination, forced resignation, demotion and nonconsensual disclosure of HIV status by panel doctor. The latter contradicts the rights and responsibilities of doctors as prescribed by the Malaysian Medical Association HIV/AIDS Charter for Doctors.

In mitigating the impact of these discriminatory practices, the MAC worked in partnership with the Department of Occupational Health and Safety, Ministry of Human Resources. In most cases, the interventions were successful, with the complainants being retained in employment and the companies in question being sensitised to workplace management of HIV/AIDS.

The report further highlights cases of discrimination against people living with HIV and key affected populations in various other sectors including healthcare, law enforcement and education.

This is the third publication in the HIV and Human Rights Mitigation Report series and was released in conjunction with Human Rights Day 2016 (observed every year on 10 December).

### "

Every single person living with HIV is entitled to their rights to health and to be free from discrimination or any forms of inhumane and degrading treatment. The protection of these basic human rights is the cornerstone of an effective AIDS response and a prerequisite for ending AIDS."

~Bakhtiar Talhah, President, MAC.

## Strategy 3

### **Community Systems Strengthening**

### **OVERVIEW**

The Ministry of Health Malaysia's National Strategic Plan on Ending AIDS (NSPEA) 2016-2030 guides the Malaysian AIDS Council (MAC) and its Partner Organisations in delivering high-impact prevention, treatment, care and support programmes for key populations (KPs). The NSPEA sets the fast-track goals of the AIDS response aimed at reaching the UNAIDS 90-90-90 targets: 90% of key populations tested for HIV and know their status, 90% of people living with HIV (PLHIV) on antiretroviral (ARV) treatment, and 90% of PLHIV on ARV adhering to treatment with suppressed viral load. It also aims to reach 80% of key populations with effective prevention activities.

The overarching principle of the strategies is to establish a continuum of prevention, treatment and care services.

Malaysia has a concentrated HIV epidemic, with high HIV prevalences above 5% among KPs namely people who inject drugs (PWID), men who have sex with men (MSM), sex workers (SWs) and transgender (TG) people. Infection rate in the general population is estimated to be less than 0.5%.

In 2016, combinations of cost-effective, evidence-based and scalable interventions were directed to the KPs in geographic areas where HIV prevalence was high. Effective linkages to HIV prevention, care, treatment and support services were created across all intervention programmes.

### 1/NSPEA 1 TESTING AND TREATMENT TO END AIDS



#### TREATMENT ADHERENCE PEER SUPPORT PROGRAMME



The Treatment Adherence Peer Support Programme (TAPS) is a hospital/ community clinic-based outreach programme. It was established to increase early access to HIV treatment and provide PLHIV with education about ARV treatment and adherence, emotional management and healthy living with HIV.

In 2016, TAPS reached out to a total of 5,987 PLHIV in 35 treatment centres through 12 Partner Organisations. Peer educators were engaged to deliver the services to PLHIV who offered them personalised information and emotional support to help them cope with the diagnosis and treatment adherence.

Key figures of TAPS programme in 2016

**13 PROGRAMMES** NUMBER OF PROGRAMMES

**3050 PLHIV** NUMBER OF NEW CLIENTS

6030 PLHIV NUMBER OF UNIQUE CLIENTS

**4251 (71%)** NUMBER OF ACTIVE CLIENT ON ARV (73% FROM UNIQUE CLIENTS)

**450 SESSIONS** NUMBER OF PEER SUPPORT GROUP AND COUNSELLING SESSIONS

#### **COMMUNITY CASE MANAGEMENT**



The Case Management approach was introduced as the result of the shift in the focus of programmes under the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM) grant from a largely HIV prevention strategy to a scaled-up programme to proactively direct KPs to HIV testing and treatment, improve their adherence to ARV and methadone maintenance therapy (MMT).

The case management programme was designed to address barriers to HIV testing and treatment and improve retention of KPs in HIV care, aligned with the goals of the NSPEA.

The pilot was conducted in 2015, showing positive results in increased uptake of HIV testing and treatment services at health clinics. Beginning July 2016, Community Case Management was initiated in 16 sites operated by Partner Organisations of the MAC with the support of the Ministry of Health Malaysia.

Case workers were tasked to engage with MSM, SWs and PWID via various channels, to provide them information and counselling, to accompany them key to HIV testing in government health clinics and to link them to care and treatment if they are tested HIV positive.

Using a client-focused approach to case management, KPs are accompanied through every step of the continuum of care, from confirmatory diagnosis to initiation into ARV to treatment adherence.

Apart from the service delivery to the KPs, the programme worked with the government health clinics to provide HIV treatment and other services such as methadone maintenance therapy (MMT) and screening for sexually transmitted infections (STIs) to the KPs.

Another key component of the programme is collaboration on workshops at the state level, whereby clinics are sensitised to issues affecting the KPs. These workshops were conducted prior to the rollout of the programme and helped to foster better understanding between the clinics and the NGOs running the programme.

Key figures in 2016

**16,614 CLIENTS** NUMBER OF CLIENTS REACHED

**3,761 CLIENTS** NO OF CLIENTS: VCT SCREENING

**366 PLHIV** REACTIVE HIV

148 PLHIV PLHIV ON ART

#### **HIV CONTINUUM OF CARE HOMES**



Increasing treatment adherence, improving the quality of health and facilitating employment and reintegration of PLHIV into society are some of the aims of the HIV continuum of care homes operated by Partner Organisations of the MAC.

In 2016, a total of 14 HIV continuum of care homes were operationalised, served 482 residents. 278 of these residents were PLHIV, of whom 200 (72%) were on ARV.

These homes were funded predominantly by the Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development, with an additional few supported through grants from other sources. Services provided by these homes included basic nursing care, palliative care, medical referrals, bereavement counselling, and psychosocial and spiritual support.

These homes also offered life skills building activities and livelihood support to the residents to enable them to become economically self-sufficient and gain employment. They also keep children and adolescents in school and provide guidance on their transition to tertiary education.

The homes conducted 31 training sessions, 110 stakeholder meetings, 633 counselling sessions throughout the year.

Key figures in 2016 **278 PLHIV** NUMBER PLHIV SERVED

**200 PLHIV** NUMBER OF PLHIV ON ANTI-RETROVIRAL (ARV)

**482 RESIDENTS** TOTAL NUMBER OF RESIDENTS

**31** TRAINING SESSIONS

**110** STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS

633 COUNSELLING SESSIONS

### 2/NSPEA 2.1 PREVENTION OF HIV THROUGH INJECTING DRUG USE



#### NEEDLE AND SYRINGE EXCHANGE PROGRAMME



Harm reduction, a strategy to reduce the impact of HIV and other drug related harms on PWID, was introduced by the Ministry of Health Malaysia in collaboration with the MAC in 2006. It comprised the Needle and Syringe Exchange Programme (NSEP) and Methadone Maintenance Therapy (MMT).

The over 40% decline in new annually reported HIV infections in the past decade was largely attributed to the harm reduction strategy.

In 2016, MAC implemented a total of 44 programmes for PWID in 554 outreach points nationwide. These programmes were funded primarily by the Ministry of Health Malaysia. Additional funding through international donors such as the GFATM was available to complement and expand the existing services.

The NSEP and MMT offered PWID access to clean injecting equipment, methadone for opiate substitution and information and education on HIV/AIDS. Other services provided to PWID:

- Primary health care
- Information education communication/
   Behavioural change communication and community sensitisation
- Access to clean needles and syringes
- Outreach and peer education
- STI prevention services, including education, testing and access to free condoms
- HIV testing & counselling and referral to HIV treatment services
- Counselling and psychosocial support
- Referral to detoxification and rehabilitation services
- Referral to MMT Programme

#### Key figures for NSEP in 2016

**3,904** NUMBER OF NEW CLIENTS REGISTERED

**29,303** NUMBER OF UNIQUE CLIENTS REACHED

2, 117 NUMBER OF CLIENTS REFERRED TO MMT PROGRAMME

**3,395,333** NUMBER OF CLEAN NEEDLES DISTRIBUTED

68% RECOVERY RATE OF NEEDLES

**100,910** NUMBER OF CUMULATIVE NSEP CLIENTS (2006-2016)

#### HARM REDUCTION IN CLOSED SETTINGS – PRISON



The TEMAN Project was an HIV/STI/ hepatitis risk reduction programme for people returning to the community after incarceration. It was adopted from Start Project and made possible through a technical support from Alliance Ukraine in collaboration with the Prisons Department of Malaysia and the Ministry of Health Malaysia.

The programme included six sessions with clients and worked with them on one-on-one basis to serve as a "bridge" for their return to the community.

The TEMAN Project uses a range of strategies to tailor the programme to the unique strengths and resources of each individual. These strategies include goal setting, problem solving, strengthening motivation, decision making, and facilitated referrals.

#### **TEMAN offers:**

- Assistance in reestablishing relationships with family and friends
- Access to psychiatrist/ psychology support
- Access and continuity of medical care & testing
- Harm reduction services
  substance abuse which includes alcohol addictions
- Rehabilitation on voluntary basis
- Job placements
- Working with probation and parole and avoiding re-incarceration

In 2016, the TEMAN Project was implemented in two places – the Seremban and Seberang Perai prisons. The project successfully reached out to a total of 81 clients, six of whom were enrolled in MMT.

MAC also piloted the TEMAN Project focusing on women who use drugs in Kajang prison beginning September 2016. It reached out to a total of 10 clients in just under four months of its implementation.

#### **FUNDS**

Funds for the TEMAN Project was made available by the International HIV/AIDS Alliance.

### 3/NSPEA 2.2 PREVENTION OF HIV THROUGH SEXUAL TRANSMISSION



#### PREVENTION & TREATMENT OF HIV & OTHER SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED INFECTIONS AMONGST SEX WORKERS, TRANSGENDER & MEN WHO HAVE SEX WITH MEN POPULATION

In 2016, the MAC through its Partner Organisations continued to deliver high-impact community-based interventions to address the rise of sexual transmission of HIV among SWs, TG and MSM in Malaysia. These interventions encompassed promotion and provision of preventive tools, behaviour change communication and effective linkages to a myriad of health services.

Services and commodities directly provided through the peer based outreach programme:

- Safe sex kits
- Psychosocial support
- Education and communication material on primary healthcare
- Behavior change communication

Services and commodities provided through referral linkages:

- HIV Testing and Counseling (HTC)
- STI Testing and Treatment
- Sexual reproductive
- health related servicesLegal aid services
- Needle & Syringe
- Exchange ProgrammeMethadone Maintenance Therapy

#### **FUNDS**

Funds were provided by the Ministry of Health Malaysia and the GFATM.

### Key figures of HIV sexual health programming in 2016

NUMBER OF HIV PREVENTION PROGRAMMES TO ADDRESS SEXUAL TRANSMISSION OF HIV

**156** NUMBER OF OUTREACH POINTS

**3187** NUMBER OF NEW CLIENTS REACHED

9266 NUMBER OF UNIQUE CLIENTS REACHED

2812 NUMBER OF VCT REFERRALS

2306 NUMBER OF STI REFERRALS

1,703,341 NUMBER OF CONDOMS DISTRIBUTED DURING OUTREACH

**BEST PRACTICES** 



#### COMMUNITY-BASED TESTING

Community-Based Testing (CBT) was introduced in partnership with the Ministry of Health Malaysia to complement the existing healthcare provider-initiated HIV testing and counselling by providing HIV testing and counselling to KPs outside of healthcare settings.

HIV testing and counselling is a critical gateway to prevention, care and treatment. By adopting a community-based approach, social, structural and logistical barriers that impede access to and uptake of HIV testing and counselling are effectively eliminated.

In 2016, a total of 36 outreach/case workers from 16 Partner Organisations were trained on the ethics of HIV testing and counselling as well as on how to encourage referrals to HIV related prevention, treatment, care and support services.

#### TEMAN PILOT PROJECT – KAJANG WOMEN'S PRISON

The TEMAN Project for women was piloted in Kajang women's prison in September 2016, recognising the need to provide women in incarceration with gender-appropriate health information and access to services and support.

It also marked the first-ever project in an incarcerated setting to address the gender-specific needs of women who use drugs.

By the end of 2016, recidivism among the participants of the project was reduced to 20%.



## Strategy 4

### **Mobilising Resources**

### **FUNDRAISING EVENTS AND CAMPAIGNS**

#### MALAYSIAN AIDS FOUNDATION KUCHING GALA

8 December 2016, Borneo Convention Centre Kuching



The star-studded Malaysian AIDS Foundation Kuching Gala, held in conjunction with World AIDS Day, featured top-notch Red Ribbon Celebrity Supporters Aaron Aziz, Fahrin Ahmad, Dee, Ziana Zain and Sarawak's very own Dayang Nurfaizah and Bob Yusof.

Themed 'Dedicated to the People of Sarawak', it was organised to raise funds for the establishment of the state's first-ever one-stop healthcare centre for integrated HIV treatment, care and support, under the patronage of YABhg Datuk Amar Hajah Jamilah Haji Anu, wife of the then Chief Minister of Sarawak.

Tuan Haji Yazlan Yahya and Bob Yusof co-chaired the organising committee.

The event signified the highest level of commitment from various key stakeholders in Sarawak to the state government-led AIDS response, particularly in improving access to HIV treatment, care and support which remained a challenge for communities living in the deep interiors.

It successfully raised more than RM 600,000, thanks to the generosity of Sarawak donors.

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Key Figure RM 600,000 RAISED

#### **ARTAID16**

1 – 7 November 2016, WhiteBox Publika, Solaris Dutamas, Kuala Lumpur

ARTAID16, the second edition of the Malaysian AIDS Foundation (MAF) ARTAID exhibition series, returned to showcase the works of 46 established and emerging Malaysian contemporary artists.

Under the theme Love for Sale, it critically explored the subject matter of "love" – in all its universality, diversity and complexity – while bringing to attention the gender disparities and inequities that continue to negatively affect women living with HIV.

Ahmad Zakii Anwar, Malaysia's eminent artist and Trustee of the MAF who conceived the ARTAID project in 2015, was back at the helm as advisor of the exhibition, with Noor Mahnun Mohamed, painter, printmaker and art writer serving as curator.

ARTAID16 was officially launched by Duli Yang Maha Mulia Paduka Seri Sultan Perak Darul Ridzuan Sultan Nazrin Muizzuddin Shah Ibni Almarhum Sultan Azlan Muhibbudin Shah Al-Maghfur-Lah. It went on to raise over RM350,000.



Key Figure RM 350,000 RAISED

#### **MALAYSIAN AIDS FOUNDATION MARATHON DES SABLES CHALLENGE 2016**



Jeff Lau, Red Ribbon Youth Icon of the Malaysian AIDS Foundation (MAF) competed in Marathon des Sables for the second time to raise funds for the MAF.

Dubbed "the toughest footrace on earth" by the Discovery Channel, Marathon des Sables is a six-day ultra-marathon spanning 251 km across harsh arid terrain in the Moroccan Sahara Desert. Its 31st edition, from 8 to 18 April 2016, marked Lau's successful comeback after achieving his extraordinary feat of being the youngest Malaysian to complete the titular race in 2014.

Recognising the critical role of young people in the AIDS response, the Ministry of Health Malaysia appointed Lau as Red Ribbon Youth Icon at the national World AIDS Day 2015 event.

Through corporate sponsorships and online crowdfunding, the campaign raised over RM 116,000, all of which went to support the Red Ribbon Youth Club, MAF's HIV education, empowerment, advocacy and leadership programme for young people.

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Key Figure RM 116,000 RAISED

#### MALAYSIAN AIDS FOUNDATION RED RIBBON POPUP STORE AT PAVILION KUALA LUMPUR

3 May – 6 June 2016, Pavilion Kuala Lumpur

The Malaysian AIDS Foundation (MAF) joined forces with Pavilion Kuala Lumpur to set up the Red Ribbon Popup Store in the premises of the popular high-end retail mall.

The opening of the popup store coincided with Ending AIDS Begins Now, a public campaign to promote the global AIDS response goal of ending AIDS by 2030 launched by Dato' Seri Dr. Hilmi Bin Haji Yahaya, Deputy Minister of Health Malaysia.

The Red Ribbon Popup Store served as an interactive space for  $\ensuremath{\mathsf{HIV}}\xspace/\ensuremath{\mathsf{AIDS}}\xspace$ 

knowledge sharing and a host of exciting fundraising activities including special appearances by Red Ribbon Celebrity Supporters.

Visitors to Pavilion Kuala Lumpur were greeted by a giant red ribbon installation placed near the main entrance of the building, as a symbol of awareness and concern for people living with HIV.

Standard Chartered Global Business Services also took part by mobilising its 1,000-strong volunteers throughout the campaign period in addition to supporting the setting up of the popup store.



**#MAFBEAR LAUNCH** 

17 May 2016, Pavilion Kuala Lumpur



Dato' Sri Rohani Abdul Karim, Minister of Women, Family and Community Development launched #MAFBear, the latest addition to the Malaysian AIDS Foundation (MAF) merchandise items to support its fundraising efforts.

The #MAFBear is symbolic of the care and concern for the 1,000 over children in Malaysia born with HIV and countless others affected by the disease, many of whom are stigmatised, abandoned and uncared for.

Proceeds raised from the sale of the #MAFBear will help to keep the MAF children's shelter home programme and education assistance scheme alive.

At the same ceremony, the Minister presented a contribution of RM 420,480, the balance of the Ministry's nine-year RM12 million-commitment to the HIV/ AIDS shelter home for programme for women and children under the care of the Malaysian AIDS Council and MAF.

#### L'OREAL PROFESSIONEL COLOUR FOR LIFE

16 - 17 May 2016, Pavilion Kuala Lumpur

L'Oreal Professionel Colour for Life returned to support children impacted by HIV/AIDS under the care of the Malaysian AIDS Foundation (MAF) by raising funds through a charity haircut drive and sale of exclusive t-shirts and matching tote bags from eight renowned Malaysian designers and brands – Datuk Professor (Dr.) Jimmy Choo, Royal Selangor, Dato' Tom Abang Saufi, Eric Choong, Melinda Looi, Winnie Sin, Samantha Lee and Sereni & Shentel.

Hair Fashion Night, a star-studded gathering of high society, celebrities and hairstylists marked the launch of the campaign.



#### **MAYBANK TREATS FAIR**

21 – 24 July 2016, Mid Valley Convention Centre, Kuala Lumpur

For the fifth consecutive year, the Malaysian AIDS Foundation (MAF) was made Charity Partner of the Maybank Treats Fair, thanks to Maybankard.

With the help of Red Ribbon Celebrity Supporters such as Ziana Zain,

Erra Fazira, Fahrin Ahmad, Najwa Latif and Nourul Wahab Depp, the event raised more than RM50,000 through charity auctions, sale of MAF merchandise items and public donations.

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Key Figure RM 50,000 RAISED





#### **MARRIOTT SPIRIT TO SERVE CAMPAIGN**

The Marriott Malaysia Business Council began its two-year partnership with the Malaysia AIDS Foundation (MAF) on its signature charitable initiative, Spirit to Serve.

Guests of the participating Marriott Malaysia Business Council hotels –Renaissance Kuala Lumpur Hotel, Renaissance Johor Bahru Hotel, Renaissance Kota Bharu Hotel, JW Marriott Kuala Lumpur, The Ritz-Carlton Kuala Lumpur, Putrajaya Marriott Hotel, Miri Marriott Resort & Spa and Mulu Marriott Resort & Spa – are being given the opportunity to contribute to the MAF through opt-in donations of RM3 from room check-outs and RM1 from food and beverage bills.



#### **GIVE ME FIVE**

Give Me Five is a public monthly donation campaign, an opportunity for every Malaysian to make their contribution to the ending AIDS response under Malaysian AIDS Foundation (MAF).

The RM5-per-month donation drive is promoted through a social media campaign led by Red Ribbon Celebrity Supporter Aaron Aziz and supported by a bevy of celebrities and social media influencers such as Tony Eusoff, Neves (from Pretty Ugly Band), Jeffrey (from Estrella), Hafizan Razali (from Bittersweet) and Joe (from Pure Vibracion).

The campaign was further supported by the Standard Chartered Global Business Services who staged a special Give Me Five flash mob in conjunction with World AIDS Day on 17 December 2016 at Pavilion Kuala Lumpur, the video of which went viral on social media.

### **RESOURCE MOBILISATION PROGRAMMES**

#### **MALAYSIAN BUSINESS CONSORTIUM ON HIV/AIDS**







The Malaysian Business Consortium for HIV/AIDS (MBCH) Forum held on 30 August 2016 introduced corporate Malaysia to inspired corporate social responsibility as well as ethical and responsible HIV/AIDS workplace management policy frameworks and best practices.

Launched by Tuan Haji Omar Bin Mat Piah, Deputy Director General (Occupational Safety), Department of Occupational Safety and Health Malaysia, Ministry of Human Resources, it also acknowledged business and corporate leaders committed to the national AIDS response.

The MBCH Forum 2016 was held in collaboration with the Department of Occupational Safety and Health Malaysia, Ministry of Human Resources and supported by the Ministry of Health Malaysia, The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), Yayasan Sime Darby and Hilton Kuala Lumpur.

More than 30 businesses and corporations across a wide spectrum of industries took part in the event.

#### **PAL SCHEME**



The Positive Audacious Living (PAL) Scheme, formerly known as the medicine assistance scheme, provides lifesaving second line antiretroviral medicines to underprivileged Malaysians living with HIV for free.

It currently supports 100 beneficiaries across 14 government hospitals nationwide under a three-year grant from Yayasan Sime Darby worth RM 1.5 million beginning 2014 through June 2017.

The Scheme is further supported by Abbvie Sdn Bhd who has provided sponsorship of antiretrovirals for 20 additional beneficiaries.

#### LEADERSHIP IN HIV/AIDS ADVOCACY

The Yayasan Sime Darby grant for the Leadership in HIV/AIDS Advocacy project has enabled the Malaysian AIDS Council (MAC) and Malaysian AIDS Foundation (MAF) to continue advocacy efforts to improve and sustain an enabling environment for the national AIDS response in the areas of community development, resource mobilization and stigma reduction.

The three-year grant, awarded in 2013 worth a total of RM 870,000, has led to continued engagement with religious authorities in the HIV & Islam programme, revitalised the Malaysian Business Consortium on HIV/AIDS and expanded the Red Ribbon Youth Club movement.



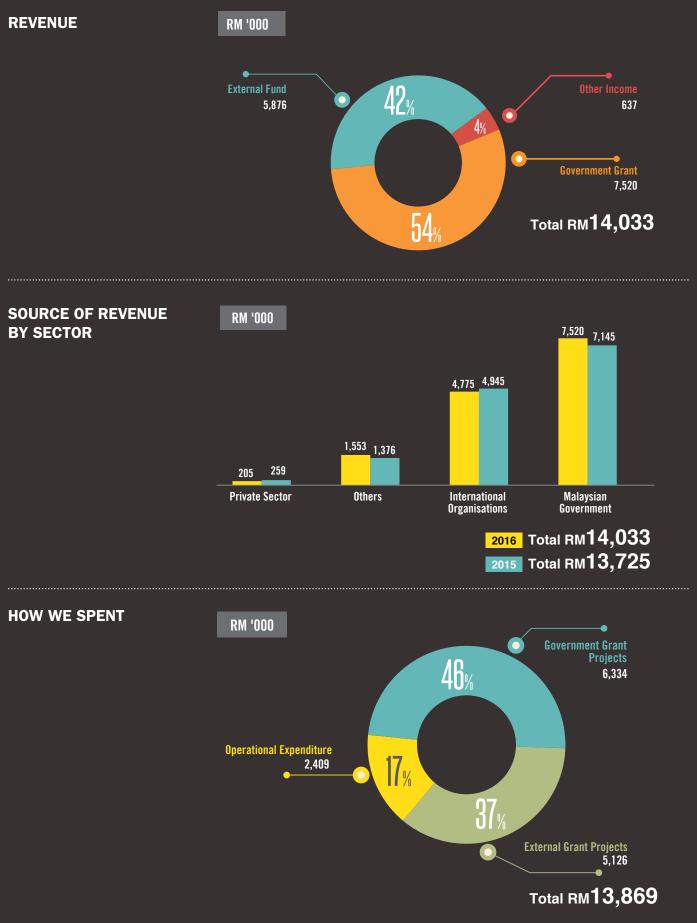
#### M.A.C AIDS FUND TREATMENT, CARE AND SUPPORT FOR PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV



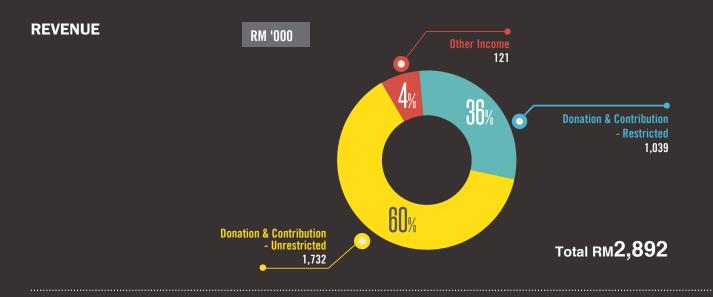
M.A.C Cosmetics Malaysia, under its M.A.C AIDS Fund, continued its commitment to the various Treatment, Care and Support for People Living with HIV programmes with a contribution worth RM 636,570 in 2016.

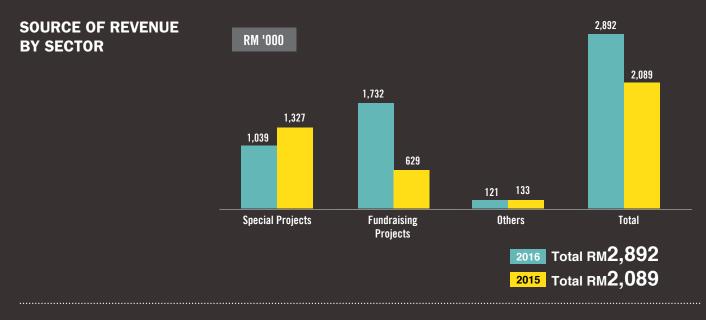
The contribution was split among six Partner Organisations of the Malaysian AIDS Council – Kuala Lumpur AIDS Support Services Society (KLASS), Persatuan Perantaraan Pesakit Kelantan (SAHABAT), Pertubuhan Wanita dan Kesihatan Kuala Lumpur (WAKE), Kota Kinabalu AIDS Support Services Association (KASIH), Komuniti Cakna Terengganu (CAKNA) and PT Foundation.

### **MAC FINANCIAL SUMMARY**

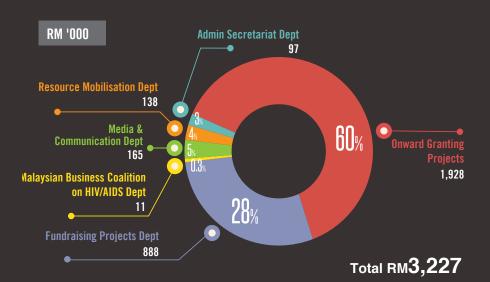


### **MAF FINANCIAL SUMMARY**





#### HOW WE SPENT



### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

#### THANK YOU TO PARTNERS, STAKEHOLDERS AND DONORS

Abbvie Sdn Bhd AMP Corporation Berhad Axiata Group Berhad Berjava Corporation Berhad BFM Media Sdn Bhd **Bingley Iskandar Sim** Borneo Convention Centre Kuching **Cocoaland Holdings Berhad** Datin Hamidah Omar Datin Lim Lee Lee Dato' Noor Azman Datuk Kelvin Tan Datuk Umar Swift DD Plantations Sdn Bhd The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria Hilton Hotels of Malaysia International HIV/AIDS Alliance Jabatan Kerja Raya Sarawak Jabatan Kebajikan Negeri Sarawak **KTS Trading Sdn Bhd** L'Oreal Professionel MAA Group Berhad M.A.C Cosmetics Malaysia Malindo Airways Marriott Malaysia Business Council Maybankard Ministry of Health Malaysia Ministry of Human Resources Malaysia Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development Modal Sempurna Sdn Bhd Musyati Sdn Bhd **Pavilion Kuala Lumpur** Pejabat Ketua Menteri Sarawak Prisons Department of Malaysia Pharmaniaga Ray Loi **Red Ribbon Celebrity Supporters** The Royal Malaysia Police Sanctuary Health Sdn Bhd Sapura Energy Berhad Standard Chartered Global Business Services Thuan See Poh **TSH Resources Berhad** Tuan Haji Yazlan Yahya VF Capital Sdn Bhd Vistana Hotels Whitebox Publika Yayasan Sarawak Yayasan Sime Darby

### **PARTNER ORGANISATIONS**

AIDS Action Research Group	04-656 5984/653 3955
Buddhist Missionary Society	03-2273 0150/2274 1141
Catholic Welfare Services (CWS)	03-2078 1570
Community AIDS Service Penang (CASP)	04-539 9510/539 8510
Drugs Intervention Community Malaysia @ KOMITED Malaysia	09-5145575
Penang Family Health Development Association (FHDA)	04-281 3144/282 5191
Selangor & Wilayah Persekutuan Family Reproductive Health	04 201 0144/ 202 0131
Association (SWP FHEHA)	03-2274 3489/2272 5817
Federation of Reproductive Health Associations Malaysia (FRHAM)	03-5633 7514/16/28
Harapan Komuniti Bhd	03-7784 3901
Kelab Rakan Pendokong Bekas Penagih Dadah Melaka (RAKAN)	06-696 6005
Kelab Sahabat META	06-457 6132
Kuala Lumpur AIDS Support Services Society (KLASS)	603-4045 6681
Majlis Belia Malaysia (MBM)	03-9173 2761/2763
Majlis Kebajikan Kanak-Kanak Malaysia (MKKM)	03-9285 0309/9281 0858
Majlis Peguam (Bar Council Malaysia)	03-2050 2050
Malaysian Christian Association for Relief (Malaysian Care)	03-9058 2102/7981 9857
Malaysian Consultative Committee of Buddhism. Christianity, Hinduism, Sikhism and Taoism (MCCBCHST)	03-2273 9298
Malaysian Indian Youth Council (MIYC)	03-4295 5023
Malaysian Medical Association (MMA)	03-4041 1375/4043 1743
Malaysian Red Crescent Society (MRCS)	03-2142 8122
National Council Of Women's Organisations Malaysia (NCWO)	03-7954 3008
Obstetrical & Gynaecological Society of M'sia (0&G)	03-6201 3009
Persatuan Insaf Murni Malaysia	03-8739 8250
Persatuan Pembantu Perubatan Malaysia (PPPM) d/a Bhg Pembangunan Kesihatan Keluarga Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia	03-8883 2188
Persatuan Pengamal Perubatan Alami, Malaysia (PPPAM)	03-8080 1384
Persatuan Perantaraan Pesakit-Pesakit Kelantan (SAHABAT)	09-774 9363
Persatuan Perubatan Islam Malaysia (PPIM)	03-9282 3034
Pertubuhan Advokasi Masyarakat Terpinggir Kuala Lumpur dan Selangor (PAMT)	06-7632 732
Persatuan Cahaya Harapan Negeri Kedah	04-733 6979
Pertubuhan Harapan Kasih	07-331 0181
Pertubuhan Kebajikan Intan Zon Kehidupan Johor Bahru (INTAN LIFEZONE)	07-228 1885
Pertubuhan Komuniti CAKNA Terengganu (KCT)	09-680 1014
Pertubuhan Komuniti Intan, Teluk Intan (PKI)	05-621 8361
Pertubuhan Wanita & Kesihatan KL (WAKE)	03-2692 6861
PT Foundation (PT)	03-4044 4611/5455
Sabah AIDS Support Services Association (KASIH)	088-712 914
Sandakan AIDS Support Group Association (SAGA)	089-226 410
Sarawak AIDS Concern Society (SACS)	082-233 173/252 300
St. John Ambulance of Malaysia (SJAM)	03-9285 1576/9281 5784
The Boys' Brigade In Malaysia	03-7784 4262
The Buddies Society Of Ipoh	019-573 1021
The Estates Hospital Assistants Association, Malaysia(EHAA)	07- 454 4631
Women's Aid Organisation (WAO)	03-7957 0636/5636
Youth With A Mission Malaysia (YWAM)	04-263 8748
Pertubuhan Pembangunan Kebajikan Dan Persekitaran Positif Malaysia (SEED)	03-2697 0655
Pertubuhan Kesihatan Dan Kebajikan Umum Malaysia (PKKUM)	016-684 3822
Malaysian Dental Association (MDA)	03-2095 1532/1495
	00 2000 1002/ 1400



Malaysian AIDS Council Malaysian AIDS Foundation