







## MALAYSIAN AIDS FOUNDATION ANNUAL REPORT 2022

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## Published

JULY 2023

#### Disclaimer

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

All HIV/AIDS statistical figures in this report were quoted from the HIV/ STD Unit of the Ministry of Health.

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## FOREWORD

Foreword by Prof. Dato' Dr. Adeeba Kamarulzaman CHAIRMAN OF THE MALAYSIAN AIDS FOUNDATION



2022 marked a significant milestone in the post-COVID recovery period as we emerged from the worst of the pandemic that has affected us all in numerous ways.

Our healthcare system has returned to its near normal capacity, enabling public hospitals to once again prioritise and carry out critical medical procedures that had been postponed during the pandemic's peak.

A sense of relief swept through the HIV fraternity when data revealed no significant difference in COVID-19 mortality rates between HIV-positive and HIVnegative individuals. This finding further validates the potency of antiretroviral (ARV) and the positive impact of viral suppression on the overall health outcome of People Living with HIV (PLHIV).

This achievement demonstrates the resilience of the Malaysian HIV response, even in the face of the most challenging times. MAF extends its heartfelt appreciation to the Ministry of Health (MOH) for their unwavering commitment to providing uninterrupted access to ARV treatment for PLHIV at all government primary care facilities during the COVID-19 crisis. We also express gratitude for their efforts in fast-tracking the vaccination process for PLHIV.

Despite the economic fragility in the post-pandemic era, MAF is thankful that our work continues to receive the trust of regular donors and new partners. The Malaysian AIDS Foundation - Sunway Red Ribbon Gala stands as a clear testament to this outpouring of support. The event raised a recordbreaking amount of RM2.5 million, the highest in MAF's history. We extend our deepest thanks to Tan Sri Dato' Seri Jeffrey Cheah and Sunway Group for their role as the Title Sponsor of this prestigious event and the incredible generosity of Monspace Group, Berjaya Corporation Berhad, and many other donors.

MAF continues to put HIV treatment at the front and centre of our plan for the long-term sustainability of the AIDS response.

At an individual level, HIV treatment significantly improves the health outcomes of PLHIV. By restoring and maintaining their immune system, ARV reduces the risk of opportunistic infections and HIVrelated complications. Access to sustained treatment helps reduce the incidence of AIDS-related illnesses, hospitalisations, and premature deaths, contributing to overall improved well-being and quality of life for PLHIV. Furthermore, by consistently taking prescribed medications, individuals can suppress the replication of the virus in their bodies, reducing their viral load to undetectable levels. This approach, often referred to as "U equals U" or treatment as prevention, is effective in curbing the spread of HIV and achieving epidemic control.

Our overarching commitment HIV treatment towards and prevention has given us a clear direction for engagement with corporate partners and donor by organisations. Investments major donors were all directed by MAF towards creating a robust foundation for HIV prevention, testing, treatment, and support services. We are incredibly grateful that our donors and supporters are aligned on what is important and urgent in the national AIDS response. This is evident in the decade-long support from Yayasan Sime Darby, our Official Strategic Partner for PAL Scheme and the HIV/AIDS Advocacy Leadership Grant, among others.

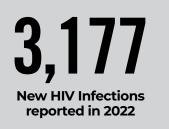
Similarly, Sunway Group is also positioning their CSR investment as part of their commitment towards ESG through their multiyear grant that helps B40 patients access treatment for HIV and chronic diseases. We also extend our special thanks to Yayasan SOCSO, PETRONAS, MAIWP, Yayasan Petronas, and many other corporate and individual donors who have supported us. Our journey to ending AIDS would not have been possible without them.

I want to thank our Patron, Datin Paduka Marina Mahathir, for her guidance and wisdom. I also appreciate the hard work and dedication of my fellow Board of Trustees, my Malaysian AIDS Council (MAC) counterparts, our Red Ribbon Celebrity Supporters and Members of the Press. And, of course, my heartfelt thanks to our Executive Director, Mr Jasmin Jalil, for leading MAF to greater heights and for the support of our Head of Operations, Mr Razif Zainuddin, and the team at the MAF Secretariat.

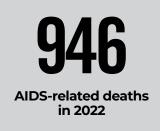
Prof. Dato' Dr. Adeeba Kamarulzaman Chairman, Malaysian AIDS Foundation

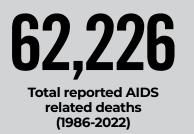
## GLOSSARY

AIDS	ACQUIRED IMMUNODEFICIENCY SYNDROME
ANTIRETROVIRAL	ARV
COVID	CORONAVIRUS DISEASE
ні	HUMAN IMMUNODEFICIENCY VIRUS
MAF	MALAYSIAN AIDS FOUNDATION
MAC	MALAYSIAN AIDS COUNCIL
МВСН	MALAYSIAN BUSINESS CONSORTIUM FOR HIV/AIDS
MAS	MEDICINE ASSISTANCE SCHEME
мон	MINISTRY OF HEALTH
MOHR	MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCES
мсо	MOVEMENT CONTROL ORDER
NSPEA2030	NATIONAL STRATEGIC PLAN TO END AIDS BY 2030
PAL	POSITIVE AUDACIOUS LIVING SCHEME
PAF	PAEDIATRIC AIDS FUND
PERKESO	SOCIAL SECURITY ORGANISATION
PLHIV	PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV
PSA	PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT
РМСТ	PREVENTION OF MOTHER-TO-CHILD TRANSMISSION OF HIV
RRCS	RED RIBBON CELEBRITY SUPPORTER
SDG	SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS
SOCSO	SOCIAL SECURITY ORGANISATION
UNAIDS	UNITED NATIONS JOINT ACTION ON AIDS
WAD	WORLD AIDS DAY
YSD	YAYASAN SIME DARBY



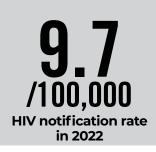






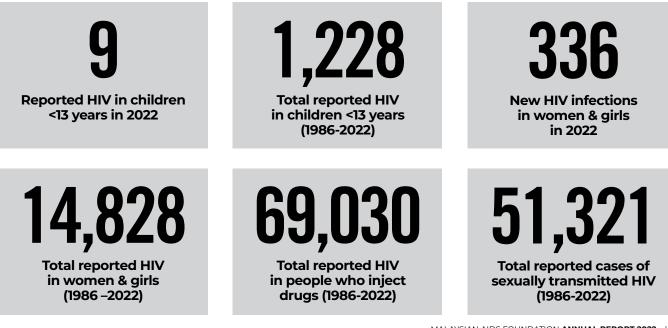
69,589

living with HIV in Malaysia (1986-2022)

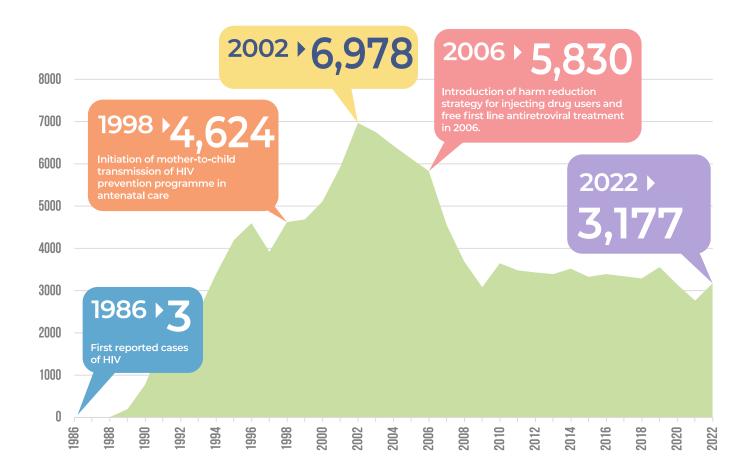


## OVERVIEW OF THE HIV & AIDS EPIDEMIC IN MALAYSIA

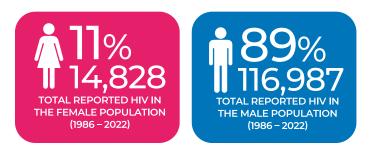
Up-to-date information from Ministry of Health Malaysia.

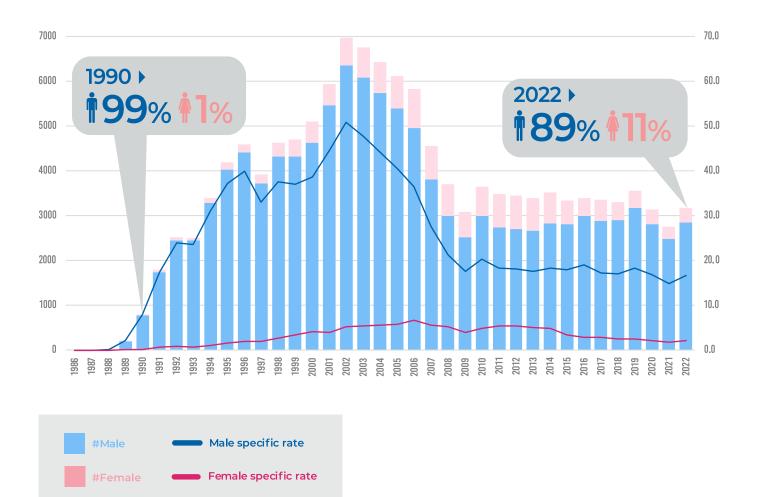


### New HIV Cases (1986-2022)



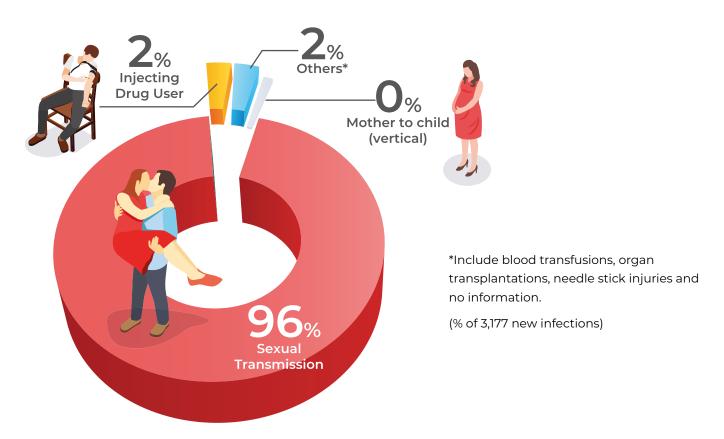
# HIV Transmission by Gender in 2022





Source: HIV/STI Section, Division of Disease Control, Ministry of Health Malaysia MALAYSIAN AIDS FOUNDATION ANNUAL REPORT 2022 | 9

# HIV Transmission by Risk Factor in 2022



## HIV Transmission by Age in 2022

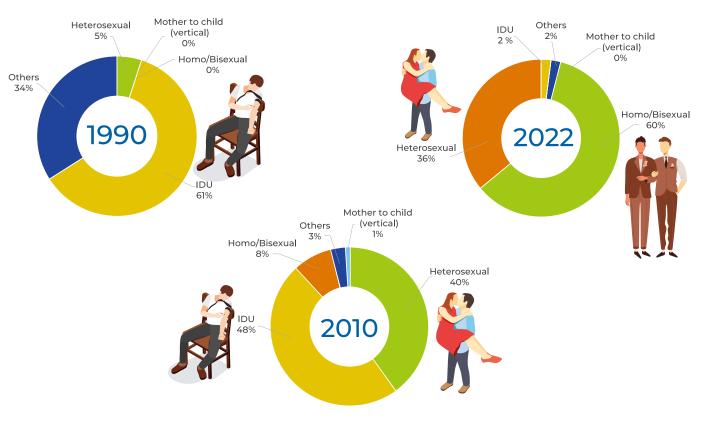


(% of 3,177 new infections)

# Comparison of New HIV Infections between Injecting Drug Users (IDU) & Sexual Transmission (2005-2022)



## Changes in HIV Landscape (1990 – 2022)



Source: HIV/STI Section, Division of Disease Control, Ministry of Health Malaysia MALAYSIAN AIDS FOUNDATION ANNUAL REPORT 2022 | 11

## MALAYSIAN AIDS FOUNDATION

The Malaysian AIDS Foundation (MAF) was formed in 1993 and fully incorporated in 2003 under the Trustees Incorporation Act (1952) to carry out the following objectives:





Prevent the spread of HIV in Malaysia



Render support to People Living with HIV in Malaysia



Protect the human rights of people in Malaysia who may suffer discrimination due to their HIV status



Provide education on matters pertaining to HIV/AIDS to the family and friends of people living with HIV/AIDS, the general public and the authorities at the national and local levels in Malaysia



Provide financial assistance or such other forms of support to bodies, organisations and institutions, including the Malaysian AIDS Council, in carrying out the activities and services described above

### Board of Trustees 2022-2024



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PROF. DATO' DR. ADEEBA KAMARULZAMAN CHAIRMAN



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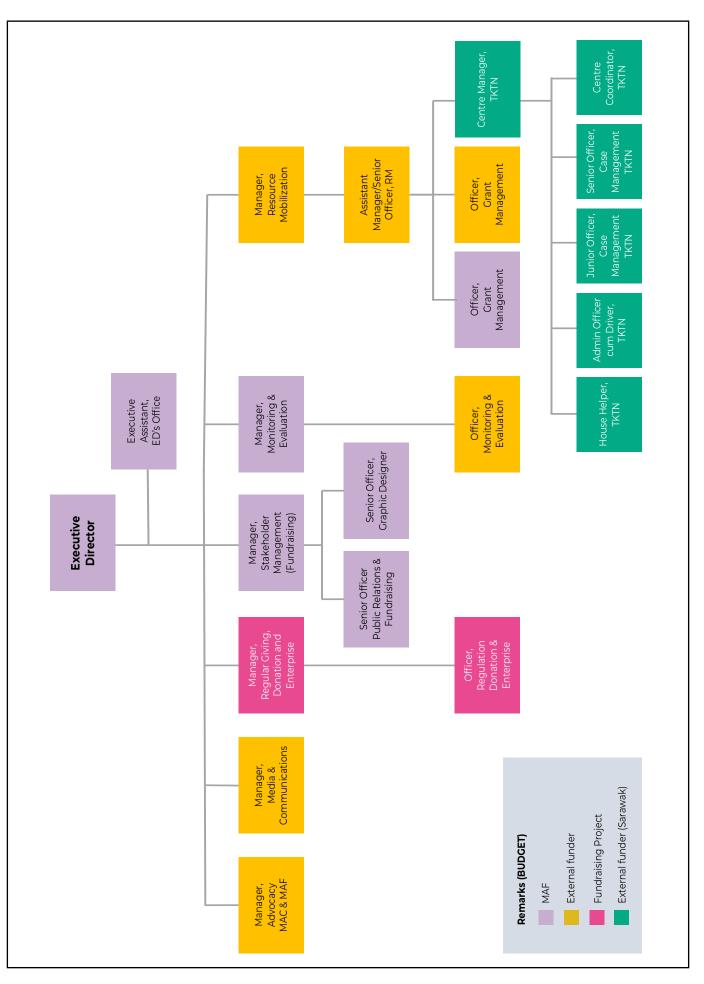
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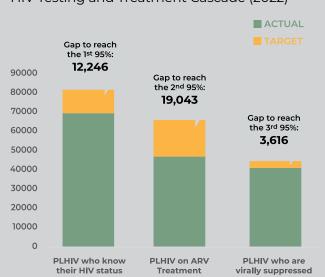
## MALAYSIAN AIDS FOUNDATION ORGANISATIONAL CHART 2022



## SUSTAINABILITY IN THE AIDS RESPONSE

## The objectives of MAF sustainability drive

- Maintaining the gains that were made in terms of epidemic control, as measured by new HIV infections, HIV-related deaths and the 90-90-90 ending AIDS target
- 2/ Maintaining good governance on AIDS programme
- 5/ Maintaining robust financing for AIDS response
  - Continued reduction of the burden of HIV/AIDS on the country
  - HIV Empowering community of People Living with
- 6/ Creating lasting change through policy transformation



#### HIV Testing and Treatment Cascade (2022)

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

Alignment of MAF programmes and activities with the Sustainable Development Goals



#### SDG 1

End poverty for households affected by HIV by promoting economic empowerment and improvement of social protection



#### SDG 3

Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages (including universal access to HIV treatment and prevention services)



#### SDG 10

Reduce inequalities, including targets on protection against discrimination, and the empowerment of people to claim their rights and enhance access to HIV services



#### SDG 16

Promote a peaceful and inclusive society, reducing exclusion, stigma, discrimination and violence against adults and children living with HIV

## FUNDRAISING EVENTS AND CAMPAIGNS



## SUNWAY-MALAYSIAN AIDS FOUNDATION RED RIBBON GALA 2022



MAF successfully raised RM2.55 million at the Sunway-Malaysian AIDS Foundation Red Ribbon Gala and Sunway-Malaysian AIDS Foundation Tun Dr. Siti Hasmah Award. The event took place at Sunway Resort in Bandar Sunway, Petaling Jaya.

In her speech, MAF Chairman, Professor Dato' Dr. Adeeba Kamarulzaman, expressed her gratitude for the unwavering support of dedicated individuals and organisations to the HIV/AIDS cause. She also emphasised the need to maintain the right level of financial investment to ensure the momentum in the Ending AIDS progress is not lost.

Tan Sri Dato' Seri Dr. Jeffrey Cheah, Gala Honorary Chair, Founder and Chairman of Sunway Group, highlighted the urgent need to ensure that no one is left behind in the fight against the HIV epidemic. He acknowledged the role played by Sunway Group in addressing the epidemic while emphasising the importance of partnering with MAF to find effective solutions for Malaysians affected by HIV.

Themed "Sustainability in the AIDS Response", the Gala focused on MAF's strategic direction in making HIV and AIDS an SDG target for Malaysia. It symbolised the collaborative efforts between MAF and Sunway Group, guided by the SDG target of Ending AIDS by 2030.

All funds raised during the Gala were directed towards MAF's Medicine Assistance Scheme, providing underprivileged Malaysians living with HIV access to life-saving antiretroviral treatment.

The Gala was attended by 450 guests, including MAF corporate partners and stakeholders involved in the mission to end AIDS. Guests enjoyed a sustainably sourced fine dining experience and were entertained by performances from



legendary Indonesian songstress Krisdayanti and MAF's Red Ribbon Celebrity Supporters.

The Sunway-Malaysian AIDS Foundation Red Ribbon Gala received support from various sponsors, including Monspace Multinational Corporation & WCEM as the Co-Sponsor, Karex Berhad and Perfect Hexagon as the Presenting Sponsors, and Berjaya Corporation Berhad as the Signature Sponsor.

During the Gala, the Sunway-Malaysian AIDS Foundation Tun Dr. Siti Hasmah Award was presented to Mohamad Raffi'e bin Jaafar for his outstanding leadership and dedication in supporting communities impacted by HIV/ AIDS. Two additional recipients, Mahfurizal bin Ameerlatfi and Komited Malaysia, were also honoured with special mention.

MAF also introduced two new awards to recognise individuals

from the corporate sector for their tireless efforts in ending the AIDS epidemic. The MAF Inspiration Award was presented to Jamie Mead, Hilton Senior Director-Operations South East Asia, Goh Miah Keat, Chief Executive Officer of Karex Bhd, and Krisdayanti. Additionally, the Founder and CEO of Monspace, Dato' Sri Dr. Jessy Lai, received the MAF Philanthropic Excellence Award for her dedicated work in ending the AIDS epidemic in Malaysia.

#### SPONSORS AND PARTNERS

- Sunway Group
- Monspace / WCEM
- Karex Berhad
- Perfect Hexagon
- Berjaya Corporation Berhad
- Gamuda Berhad
- KL Kepong Berhad
- The Body Shop Malaysia
- Sapura Group
- Affin Bank
- Tokio Marine
- Wong & Partners
- Global Oriental Berhad
- Ancom Berhad
- AIME Life
- YB Vivian Wong
- Tina Fazlita & Marcus Chan
- Malaysia Airlines
- Sunway Resort
- M.A.C Cosmetics Malaysia
- Fleur by RLD
- Gabung Cipta
- Studio 99
- PPM
- RSM Malaysia
- Mountain Dew & Pepsi
- Malay Mail
- The Edge
- Yayasan Sime Darby
- Yayasan PETRONAS

### SUNWAY-MALAYSIAN AIDS FOUNDATION TUN DR SITI HASMAH AWARD 2022

#### THE AWARD RECOGNISES OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS BY ORGANISATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS TOWARDS MEETING THE GOAL OF ENDING THE AIDS EPIDEMIC AS A PUBLIC HEALTH CONCERN IN MALAYSIA



The Tun Dr Siti Hasmah award, established in 1996 by the Malaysian AIDS Foundation, takes center stage at the prestigious Red Ribbon Gala. This distinguished accolade serves as a heartfelt expression of gratitude to individuals and organisations demonstrating exceptional courage, unwavering commitment, and profound dedication in making a lasting, positive impact on communities disproportionately affected by HIV/ AIDS. It stands as the highest level of recognition bestowed upon remarkable HIV/AIDS activists and esteemed community leaders within the nation.

MAF attaches significant importance to highlighting excellence in endeavours aimed at effectively responding to the challenges posed by HIV/AIDS. Its ultimate goal is to inspire and motivate organisations and individuals to adopt a proactive, innovative. and unwavering commitment to this vital cause.



DISTINGUISHED PANEL OF JURY OF THE TUN DR SITI HASMAH AWARD 2022

- Bakhtiar Talhah
  Chairman of the Jury, Honorary
  Secretary of MAF
- Dr Hajah Yatela Zainal Abidin CEO, Sime Darby Foundation
- Dr Anita Suleiman Head of HIV/STI Sector, Ministry of Health
- Professor Dr Ismail Baba
  Former Professor of Social
  Work, UUM
- Jubaidah Bee bt AK Nagoor Pitchay
   Tun Dr Siti Hasmah Award
   Winner 2006
- Puan Sri Tiara Jacquelina Trustee of MAF



## FIELDS OF WORK FOR CONSIDERATION

- Prevention of HIV
- Raising awareness of HIV/AIDS issues
- Treatment, care and support for people living with HIV
- Programmes to reduce HIV/ AIDS vulnerabilities for key populations
- Advocacy and protection of human rights for people living with HIV and key populations
- Resource Mobilisation for HIV/ AIDS

#### PAST WINNERS OF TUN DR SITI HASMAH AWARD

- 2022 Mohd Raffi'e bin Jaafar
- 2021 Dr Mahani Nordin
- 2019 Dr. Zaiton Yahaya
- 2018 Matron Fadzilah Abdul Hamid
- 2012 Penang Family Health Development Association
- 2008 PT Foundation
- 2006 Staff Nurse Jubaidah Bee Nagoor Pitchay

- 2004 Matron Fun Choon Kee
- 2002 Michael Chow
- 2000 Persatuan Pengasih Malaysia
- 1998 Datuk Dr Christopher Lee
- 1996 Students of Limkokwing Institute of Creative Technology

### THE WINNER OF SUNWAY-MALAYSIAN AIDS FOUNDATION TUN DR SITI HASMAH AWARD 2022



Mohd Raffi'e bin Jaafar has emerged as the distinguished recipient of the prestigious Sunway-Malaysian AIDS Foundation Tun Dr Siti Hasmah Award.

WITH AN IMPRESSIVE TRACK RECORD SPANNING NEARLY TWO DECADES, RAFFI'E HAS SELFLESSLY DEVOTED HIS TIME AND EFFORTS TO COMBAT THE CHALLENGES POSED BY THIS RELENTLESS EPIDEMIC.



For more than two decades, Raffi'e has been at the forefront of pioneering initiatives aimed at fostering constructive engagement between the transgender community and Islamic authorities. Recognising the need for understanding, acceptance, and support, he took the remarkable step of converting his own residence into a temporary shelter, offering solace and refuge to those affected by HIV/AIDS. Moreover, his altruistic endeavours extend beyond mere physical sanctuary as he consistently organises Quran classes, imparting spiritual guidance and nurturing

the spiritual well-being of individuals seeking solace under his mentorship.

Raffi'e's compassion has garnered him immense respect among the newly HIV-diagnosed individuals. Fondly known as "Abang Long" among the community, he has earned a reputation as a knowledgeable and resourceful figure, sought after for his profound insights and astute advice. Whether it pertains to crucial aspects such as treatment options, medication management, marriage considerations, or the invaluable moral support essential for their perseverance in the face of adversity, those affected by HIV/ AIDS eagerly turn to Raffi'e as their trusted confidant and mentor.

Through his tireless dedication and unwavering commitment, Mohd Raffi'e bin Jaafar has proven himself as a true beacon of hope and inspiration in the ongoing battle against HIV/ AIDS. His remarkable journey exemplifies the transformative power of compassion, knowledge, and selfless service, setting an exemplary standard for others to follow in their noble pursuit of eradicating the negative impact of the HIV/AIDS epidemic.

## AIDS SOLIDARITY FUND HIGHLIGHTS

## JEFF LAU ARCTIC ULTRA CHALLENGE 2022



The Jeff Lau Arctic Ultra Challenge 2022 was a hugely demanding race for our dedicated youth volunteer and elite ultramarathoner Jeff Lau, 31, who faced formidable obstacles and setbacks during the Montane Lapland Arctic Ultra race.

The Montane Lapland Arctic Ultra is renowned as one of the toughest ultra races globally, posing immense physical and mental challenges to participants. The race required Jeff to complete a gruelling 500km ultra marathon while pulling a 30kg sledge containing food and gear. The challenging conditions, including temperatures as low as -20°C, had to be overcome within a 10-day timeframe.

Jeff participated in the race with the goal of raising funds for the Paediatric AIDS Fund, a special programme by MAF that focuses on supporting children living with or affected by HIV, enabling them to thrive through education and social assistance.

Upon completing the race, Jeff expressed gratitude for the opportunity to raise funds for a cause that is close to his heart. Despite the hardships and the initial reluctance to participate in similar races again, Jeff found satisfaction in knowing that his efforts contributed to improving the lives of others.

### MAYBANK TREATS FAIR

Bid with Fahrin Ahmad,<br/>Loey G and Shah Shamshir,<br/>at Treats Fair #ForYouWill Malaysian<br/>Bundation



After a two-year break, the Maybank Treats Fair made a comeback on October 27-30, 2022 at Mid Valley, Kuala Lumpur. MAF was immensely thankful to have been selected as the exclusive charity beneficiary for this exciting consumer fair that promotes the utilisation of Maybank Treats Points. Through various activities such as live auction sessions, public donations, and sales of MAF merchandise, a total of RM 61,000 was raised for MAF's Treatment, Care, and Support Programme.

Our deepest gratitude goes to Maybankcard for their unwavering support as well as to our Red Ribbon Celebrities - Dato' Aaron Aziz, Fahrin Ahmad, Hafiz Hamidun, Shah Shamshiri, Winnie K, and Joey G for their participation in the Maybank Treats Fair 2022.

### MERCHANDISES







In 2022, MAF collaborated with Komuniti Cakna Terengganu to create a captivating series of merchandised items that proudly display the artistry and heritage of Terengganu.

One of the standout products available for purchase was the Tanjak Balung Raja, an exquisite traditional headgear historically worn by Terengganu's noble class. The Tanjak Balung Raja carries profound symbolism, representing prestige, strength, and authority, and is highly esteemed for its majestic beauty. Additionally, the collection includes Songket Pouches and face masks, further celebrating the rich cultural heritage.

Our partnership with Komuniti Cakna Terengganu plays a crucial role in empowering the community of People Living with HIV through a social enterprise endeavour. This initiative aids in generating income and fostering their resilience and independence.

The exclusive Komuniti Cakna Terengganu products were made available for purchase through MAF's official webstore at shop. maf.org.my and our Shopee Store.

### **REGULAR GIVING**





MAF sincerely thanks the dedicated group of over 1,500 compassionate individuals whose unwavering support through regular donations has had a profound impact on our HIV/AIDS cause. Their acts of generosity and solidarity, starting from just RM 30 per month, embody the true spirit of giving.

We are thrilled to announce the expansion of our Regular Giving program to the beautiful state of Sarawak. This significant milestone signifies our deep commitment to supporting individuals living with HIV in the region. All online donations received from Sarawak will now directly benefit those affected by HIV in the area.

We extend our deepest gratitude to all who participated in this grassroots campaign, as it showcases the incredible power of collective action and the transformative change that can be achieved when we unite. Together, we have the ability to make a tangible difference in the lives of those impacted by HIV in Malaysia, fostering a stronger and more inclusive community that uplifts and empowers every individual.

## SPECIAL PROGRAMMES



## MAF AT THE 24<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL AIDS CONFERENCE IN MONTREAL



The 24<sup>th</sup> International AIDS Conference was held from July 29 to August 2, 2022 in Montréal, Canada, helmed by Professor Dato' Dr. Adeeba Kamarulzaman, MAF Chairman, who also holds the position as the President of the International AIDS Society.

More than 13,000 HIV professionals and members of the civil society were presented the opportunity to engage in a dialogue about the current progress and future of the HIV response. The conference theme – "Re-engage and follow the science" – was reflected in numerous sessions that provided updates on global progress towards ending the HIV and AIDS pandemic by 2030, as well as cutting-edge research on HIV cure strategies, treatment and prevention.

MAF was represented by its Executive Director, Mr Jasmin Jalil, the Head of Operations, Mr Mohd Razif Zainuddin and the Manager of Resource Mobilisation, Mr 'Abdullah Salam.

Most notably for MAF, our participation in the Conference has led to international recognition of our HIV and Islam initiative, where HIV fraternities from Alliance Ukraine, Eastern Europe and several Central Asian countries have engaged with us to learn about our unique harmonisation of religious ideology with the principle and practices of harm reduction.



### CELEBRATING WORLD AIDS DAY WITH COMMUNITY AFFECTED BY HIV AND AIDS



With the return to normalcy following an extended period of caution due to the COVID-19 pandemic, MAF and our esteemed long-standing collaborator, M.A.C have once again embraced our cherished tradition of commemorating World AIDS Day in solidarity with children whose lives are affected by HIV and AIDS.

Taking place on December 4, 2022, an outing revolving around the appreciation of Malaysia's local artistic heritage was organised for a group of 30 children hailing from Rumah Solehah, as well as marginalised community members around Kuala Lumpur.

The gathering took place at Kompleks Kraf Kuala Lumpur where participants took part in tie-dye batik-making workshops, immersive pottery painting sessions, an enlightening tour of an interactive art museum, and concluded the day with a pleasant luncheon hosted by M.A.C's talented makeup artists.

This programme was truly unforgettable and we sincerely hope that it will leave a lasting impression on all participants, while also helping to combat stigma and discrimination against People Living with HIV.



### INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY CELEBRATION



In conjunction with International Women's Day, a Webinar titled "30 per cent of women in leadership now! The game plan" was jointly organised by the Malaysian AIDS Foundation, Yayasan Sime Darby, and Astro Awani, emphasising the urgent need for better diversity, equity, and inclusion in the workplace through achieving 30 per cent women representation in decision-making roles at mid and senior management levels.

During the session, MAF Chairman, Professor Dato' Dr. Adeeba Kamarulzaman, Yayasan Sime Darby CEO Dr. Hjh. Yatela Zainal Abidin, consultant obstetrician and gynaecologist Dr. Imelda Balchin, and Norlela Mokhtar, founder and chairperson of Persatuan Wahidayah Malaysia, highlighted the current situation.

Dr. Yatela referred to a recent study that showed only 17 per cent of women were represented on the boards and in senior management of over 900 public-listed companies in Malaysia, indicating the need for significant improvement in gender representation. She shared her personal experience of gender and Hijab-related discrimination earlier in her career but highlighted the positive change that has taken place, leading to her appointment as the first female CEO of Yayasan Sime Darby based purely on merit.

Norlela emphasised the importance of gender equality at all levels of society, including corporate sectors, and discussed the challenges women face in accessing HIV treatment due to stigma. Dr. Imelda stressed the need for men's support in achieving gender equality and emphasised the importance of women in leadership roles working collaboratively with men.

Dr. Adeeba Professor Dato' addressed the obstacles faced by women in Malaysia, particularly the lack of childcare, which hinders their career progression. She emphasised the necessity of affordable childcare and various forms of support. While Malaysia aims to achieve 30 per cent women representation in decision-making roles by 2030, progress has been made in some sectors, but there is still work to be done across society to achieve gender equality.

In summary, the Webinar shed light on the importance of gender equality, the benefits it brings to organisations, the need for institutional support, and the encouragement for women to believe in themselves and demand change.

### MERDEKA AWARD 2022

#### HEALTH, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PROFESSOR DATO' DR ADEEBA KAMARULZAMAN



Professor Dato' Dr. Adeeba Kamarulzaman was the recipient of the 2023 Merdeka Award for Health, Science and Technology Category.

The Award marked another feather in the cap for Professor Dr. Dato' Abeeba's long and illustrious career as an academician, HIV/AIDS researcher and activist. She holds various key positions in prestigious global and regional organisations, including the UNAIDS Scientific Expert Panel and the WHO Strategic and Technical Advisory Group on HIV. In 2020, she became the first Asian President of the International AIDS Society.

Professor Dato' Dr. Adeeba was a professor of Medicine and Infectious Diseases at the University of Malaya where she founded the Infectious Disorders Unit in 1996. Under her leadership, it has become one of the top referral centres for HIV/AIDS and infectious diseases in Malaysia. She also established the Centre of Excellence for Research in AIDS (CERiA) in 2008 which conducts vital research focusing on marginalised communities.

With her involvement in the Malaysian AIDS Council and the Malaysian AIDS Foundation, Professor Dato' Dr. Adeeba has promoted and implemented communitybased HIV/AIDS programmes nationwide. Her efforts have led to a significant reduction in new HIV/AIDS infections through innovative initiatives like the Needle Syringe Exchange Programme (NSEP). Furthermore, Professor Dato' Dr. Adeeba played a crucial role in the national COVID-19 response in Malaysia. She was chair of the University Malaya Medical Centre (UMMC) COVID-19 Task Force, the National Recovery Council, and the Johor COVID-19 Health Advisory Committee. She is highly regarded as one of the Top 20 most influential female scientists in the Muslim World and has been profiled in prominent publications including The Lancet.



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I think seeing the changes that have come about despite all the barriers and challenges keeps me motivated and of course seeing the successes in terms of the numbers of infections averted and seeing patients lead healthy and productive lives."

## GRANT MANAGEMENT PROJECTS



## MEDICINE ASSISTANCE SCHEME



ARV treatment has shown significant success in controlling HIV infections, suppressing virus replication, preventing transmission, and protecting unborn babies. However, not all individuals living with HIV can fully access these benefits due to various challenges.

ARV treatment is an integral part of the long-term sustainability of AIDS response because treatment helps to reduce the vulnerability of PLHIV and enables them to embark on a journey towards recovery and leading normal lives.

The Medicine Assistance Scheme aims to support those living with HIV, particularly addressing barriers such as stigma, discrimination, socio-economic factors, and the high cost of second-line antiretroviral (ARV) medications.

### PAL SCHEME





The PAL Scheme, funded by Yayasan Sime Darby (YSD), provides sponsorship for the 2nd line Antiretroviral (ARV) medication to support 100 low-income People Living with HIV (PLHIV).

The subsidised ARVs are prescribed and dispensed at 16 Government Hospitals throughout Malaysia.

This marks the 3rd cycle of YSD's grant support for the PAL Scheme, valued at RM 1.2million. The funding period began in 2020 and continued until 2022.

## FEDERAL TERRITORY ISLAMIC RELIGIOUS COUNCIL EXPANDING THE MEDICINE ASSISTANCE SCHEME



MAF's partnership with the Federal Territory Islamic Religious Council (MAIWP) continues to flourish with another year of extension of support for the Medicine Assistance Scheme. A donation of RM 210,000 from zakat collections was presented by Dr Yusri Mohamad, a member of MAIWP, to Professor Dato' Dr. Adeeba Kamarulzaman, Chairman of MAF, in a ceremony at the MAF Headquarters.

The donation benefited 25 individuals from the Al-Riqab Asnaf group living with HIV in Kuala Lumpur.

### SOCIAL SECURITY ORGANISATION (SOCSO)

2022 marked the second-year extension of their support to this life-saving programme. R M306,000 was committed this year to support 30 SOCSO members needing second-ARV treatment.

SOCSO's assistance to MAF is a natural progression of its dedication to safeguarding the rights of Malaysian workers, including PLHIV. Their endorsement of the Medicine Assistance Scheme demonstrated a strong belief in the potential and abilities of PLHIV to regain their health and actively contribute to society, thereby supporting the nation's progress.



SOCSO has already recognised AIDS-related complications as one of the 55 covered diseases within their healthcare benefits, ensuring the well-being of PLHIV individuals.

Additionally, their flagship programme, the Return-to-Work (RTW), assists PLHIV contributors who have experienced injuries or illnesses, facilitating their recovery and enabling them to return to work sooner, prioritising their welfare and productivity.

## LAUNCH OF MAF-SUNWAY BORNEO HOPE PROJECT



MAF and Sunway Group have established a special partnership designed to address the socioeconomic barriers to HIV treatment, prevention and care services in Sarawak and the neighbouring state of Sabah.

Officially known as the MAF-Sunway HOPE Borneo Project, support by Sunway to the tune of RM 1 million per year over the span of five years will cover the cost to run three flagship programmes under this umbrella initiative, namely the Teratak Kasih Tok Nan and the Sarawak Health Access Programme, both serving the HIV community in Sarawak, and the SAGA Health Access Programme for Sabah. HOPE stands for Health Outreach Programme for Everyone.

The partnership was officiated on July 6, 2022 at Teratak Kasih Tok Nan by Sarawak Premier, Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg. He was represented at the event by Dato' Sri Fatimah Abdullah, the Sarawak Minister of Women, Childhood and Community Wellbeing Development. The event culminated in a Cheque Presentation by the Founder and Chairman of Sunway Group, Tan Sri Dato' Seri Dr. Jeffrey Cheah, to MAF Chairman, Professor Dato Dr. Adeeba Kamarulzaman.





### Remarks by Professor Dato' Dr. Adeeba, Chairman of MAF

"It is important for us to close the gap that is hindering progress towards ending AIDS, especially in Sabah and Sarawak, where access to HIV medication is more often than not, shaped by poverty and geographical vulnerability. Long distances to clinics, travelling barriers and the lack of integrated care which requires People Living with HIV to obtain treatment for co-morbidities in multiple treatment settings are the consequence of disproportionate distribution of health services."

"We are grateful that Sunway has heeded our call for support to improve access to treatment and build on the success of Teratak Kasih Tok Nan that was initiated by our Patron in Sarawak, Datuk Amar Hajjah Jamilah Haji Anu, some 5 years ago."

#### Remarks by Tan Sri Dato' Seri Dr. Jeffrey Cheah

"Our belief that no one should be left behind is one of the fundamental reasons why Sunway is deeply committed towards advancing the sustainable development agenda. We have fully embraced the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, or SDGs, adopted by the United Nations in 2015. That includes a goal to eradicate the AIDS epidemic by 2030."

"But let me be clear. We are not here to reinvent the wheel. Sunway's role is to support and build on the good work of all our partners here today who have greatly contributed to this noble cause."



#### TERATAK KASIH TOK NAN





Teratak Kasih Tok Nan's operations started in 2017. From its humble beginning as a halfway home for HIV patients seeking treatment at the nearby Sarawak General Hospital, the Centre has grown considerably over the years – turning into a comprehensive One-Stop Support Centre that caters to the needs of the HIV community in Kuching and beyond. At the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, Teratak Kasih Tok Nan also served as a crisis centre that provides immediate relief to the local HIV community whose livelihoods were affected by the pandemic. In 2022, Sunway's support for Teratak Kasih Tok Nan has enabled us to provide support to more than 1,000 clients including their family members and dependencies.

# SARAWAK HEALTH ACCESS PROGRAMME (SHAPE)





Starting from January 2022, a brand-new hospital travel subsidy programme for HIV and other chronic disease patients was introduced by MAF Sarawak.

Under the Sarawak Health Access Programme (SHAPE), cash subsidies starting from RM30 were offered to 200 individuals from the B40 background for every return trip for treatment at the local Clinics / Government Hospitals. SHAPE is primarily offered to patients in the Kuching and Samarahan Divisions.

With the support of Sunway Group, we were able to emulate the success of the SAGA Health Access Programme in neighbouring Sabah which has been offering a similar financial scheme since 2019 in the East Coast of Sabah.

# SABAH HEALTH ACCESS PROGRAMME (SHAPE)







Thanks to the generous support provided by Sunway, we have been able to extend our assistance through the Sabah Health Access Programme (SHAPE) to a significant number of individuals.

Specifically, we have been able to support a total of 250 patients hailing from the districts of Sandakan, Kunak, Lahad Datu, and Semporna.

#### MYLADY ASSISTANCE SCHEME





The MyLady Assistance Scheme is a sustainability grant that supports Women Living with HIV in their entrepreneurial activities through a Microcredit Loan programme that comes with zero interest and favourable repayment terms. Yayasan Petronas is funding this Scheme that benefits 30 beneficiaries in Selangor, Terengganu, Kedah, Kelantan, Johor KL, Pahang, Perak, Sabah, Sarawak.

Beyond the financial assistance, the Scheme also provides comprehensive training and mentorship programmes designed to equip the beneficiaries with the necessary skills, knowledge, and guidance to grow their businesses successfully.

### ADVOCACY & RESOURCE MOBILISATION



#### LEADERSHIP IN ADVOCACY GRANT





The Leadership in Advocacy Grant by Yayasan Sime Darby funds the operational cost of a joint-advocacy secretariat for MAF and MAC, covering the salaries of three key team members are integral to HIV/ AIDS advocacy efforts aligned with the advocacy agenda spelt out under Malaysia's National Strategic Plan for Ending AIDS by 2030. Ultimately, the partnership aims to create a wider coverage of HIV prevention treatment, maintain the long-term sustainability of AIDS response and reduce AIDSrelated stigma and discrimination.

This is the third cycle of YSD's grant support for this initiative, which amounts to RM 950,000 over a period of three years. The current funding period started in March 2020 and will continue until March 2023.

#### TOWARDS ENDING AIDS BY MALAYSIAN BUSINESSES (TEAMB)



TEAMB, short for Towards Ending AIDS by Malaysian Businesses (TEAMB), is a specialised training programme developed by MAF.

Its main goal is to provide comprehensive guidance effectively to employers to address HIV and AIDS within the workplace. This innovative initiative aims to equip businesses with the necessary knowledge and resources to develop and implement robust policies that cover essential aspects such as nondiscrimination, fair employment practices. management commitment, confidentiality as well as effective communication of information and prevention strategies.

Through the TEAMB programme, employers are empowered to take proactive measures and create an inclusive work environment that prioritises the well-being of their employees while addressing the challenges posed by HIV and AIDS. By leveraging the expertise and guidance provided by TEAMB, businesses can establish solid policies and procedures that uphold the principles of equality and fairness and effectively mitigate the impact of HIV and AIDS on their workforce.

TEAMB is supported by the Department of Occupational Safety Health (DOSH) and Ministry of Health Malaysia, whose shared vision is aligned with the National Strategic Plan for Ending AIDS 2016-2030.

This emphasises the importance of a collective approach in combating the HIV and AIDS epidemic. Karex and Yayasan Sime Darby also back the initiative. All training conducted under TEAMB is claimable under the Human Resources Development Fund (HRDF).

The TEAMB inaugural training session took place on December 13, 2022 at DoubleTree Shah Alam I-City, a MAF Partner Hotel. The training was led by Mr Bakhtiar Talhah, the Honorary Secretary of MAF, a certified HRDF trainer and a corporate professional living with HIV for over 25 years. The workshop saw the participation of 30 individuals from 6 multinational companies (MNCs) and government-linked companies (GLCs).

#### **HIV CONNECT**



In 2022, the HIV Connect programme underwent a significant transformation in its focus and objectives in order to addressthe continued rise in sexual transmission of HIV.

The primary aim of this shift was to increase the number of healthcare professionals who are qualified to prescribe Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) and Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP). Recognising the pressing need for such services, particularly among key populations in urban settings, the programme sought to meet the growing demand for PrEP. To effectively implement these changes, our esteemed partner, the Malaysian Society for HIV Medicine (MASHM), took proactive steps to update the online learning model to align with the new priority. As part of their comprehensive efforts, they organised a virtual workshop in July 2022, which was exclusively tailored for a select group of General Practitioners (GPs) who displayed a genuine interest in offering PrEP services or expanding their existing HIV services to incorporate PrEP as well. The workshop placed a strong emphasis on the practical aspects of establishing and operating a PrEP/PEP-friendly clinic.

During the workshop, participants were equipped with crucial clinical knowledge pertaining to PrEP/PEP, ensuring they have a comprehensive understanding of the medical aspects involved. Furthermore, they received valuable information regarding the procurement of PrEP drugs, which played a pivotal role in facilitating the provision of these services. In addition, the workshop facilitated peer networking opportunities, enabling participants to forge connections with other prescribers Infectious Diseases and (ID) clinicians.

HIV Connect is a joint initiative by MAF and the Malaysian Society for HIV Medicine (MASHM).

### HIV & ISLAM HARM REDUCTION WEBINAR WITH ALLIANCE UKRAINE





The ISLAM & HARM REDUCTION International Webinar was jointly presented by the MAF and the Alliance for Public Health Ukraine (AU) on 13 December 2022. The webinar was supported by Yayasan Sime Darby and the Department of Islamic Development (JAKIM).

Malaysia's unique intersection between public health policy and Islamic values for harm reduction has gained international recognition and positioned the country as a respected global leader in this field. This evidence-based approach, which included the Needle Syringe Exchange Programme (NSEP) and Methadone Maintenance Therapy (MMT), led to a significant decline in new HIV cases among injecting drug users. Malaysia's experience was shared at the Webinar with national Muftis and religious leaders from Central Asian nations and countries with substantial Muslim populations.

#### SOARING HIGH WITH THE MALAYSIAN AVIATION GROUP





In 2022, Malaysia Aviation Group (MAG), the parent company of Malaysia Airlines, joined forces with the Malaysian AIDS Foundation to enhance programmes focused on HIV/AIDS treatment, care, and support for those in need.

MAG generously offered complimentary air travel within Malaysia to essential personnel and frontline workers involved in expanding HIV treatment, care, support, and advocacy efforts for communities affected by the epidemic.

Professor Dato Dr. Adeeba sincerely appreciated MAG's involvement and emphasised the partnership's significance in addressing challenges following the COVID-19 pandemic. She highlighted that this collaboration facilitated the mobilisation of resources for critical HIV/AIDS programmes, contributing to the ultimate goal of ending AIDS.

Meanwhile, Captain Izham Ismail, the Group CEO of MAG, underscored the importance of shared responsibility and reliable connectivity in supporting MAF's endeavours. This partnership aligns with their corporate social responsibility framework sustainable development and blueprint.

#### VEHICLE SPONSORSHIP BY BERJAYA CORPORATION BERHAD





MAF secured sponsorship of a 14-seater van this year courtesy of Berjaya Corporation Berhad. This invaluable support has greatly enhanced our ability to enhance connectivity and effectively serve our community. It signifies yet another milestone in our enduring partnership of over two decades.

The van was officially handed over by the Chief Operating Officer of Berjaya China Motor, Tan Say Tuan, to Mr Jasmin Jalil, the Executive Director of MAF, at their Showroom in Petaling Jaya.

### FLOOD ASSISTANCE FOR COMMUNITIES AFFECTED BY HIV AND AIDS



The monsoon floods between December 2021 and early 2022 significantly impacted our Partner Organisations and HIV-affected communities in Kuala Lumpur, Selangor, and Pahang. In response, MAF swiftly initiated relief efforts to assist over 200 clients affected by these floods. The floods resulted in extensive damage to the offices of our Partner Organisations as well as Drop-in Centres and Shelter Homes.

To alleviate the immediate financial burden, we provided cash aid amounting to nearly RM 20,000 to affected individuals. Additionally, we allocated RM 30,000 to SEED Malaysia and Komited Malaysia, enabling them to recover and refurbish their premises.



#### #SUNWAYFORGOOD



MAF has been chosen as one of the community partners for the #SunwayforGood Raya Cheer campaign, which aims to provide essential assistance such as groceries and hygiene products to around 20,000 individuals in the B40 group. Since its inception in 2017, the #SunwayforGood has positively impacted more than 500,000 people.

The collaboration between Sunway and MAF specifically focuses on reaching roughly 300 families affected by HIV/AIDS throughout Malaysia, particularly those falling within the B40 category. This partnership exemplifies Sunway's dedication to corporate social responsibility and inclusiveness.

MAF expresses its appreciation for Sunway's assistance in addressing the vulnerability of community members affected by HIV/AIDS and working towards a sustainable response to the epidemic.



#### RED RIBBON CELEBRITY SUPPORTERS





The Red Ribbon Celebrity Supporters, also known as RRCS, form a diverse group of local celebrities united in their voluntary commitment to combat the HIV/ AIDS epidemic.

Established back in 2008, the RRCS lineup continues to expand over the years, bringing into the fold both familiar and fresh faces of Malaysia's entertainment industry whose combined voices are influential in shaping public opinion of HIV/AIDS.







Presently, the list boasts renowned names like Fahrin Ahmad, Dato' Aaron Aziz, Dayang Nurfaizah, Joey G, Bob Yusof, Hafiz Hamidun, Shah Shamshiri, Winnie K, DJ Ananthaa, and others. More recent additions include Vanidah Imran, Dato' Chef Ismail, Deborah Henry, Dino Omar, Kamarul Bahrin, Sean Ghazi and Muadz.

We express our deepest gratitude to our RRCS for championing our cause and community together alongside our partners and stakeholders.



#### MEDIA & COMMUNICATION





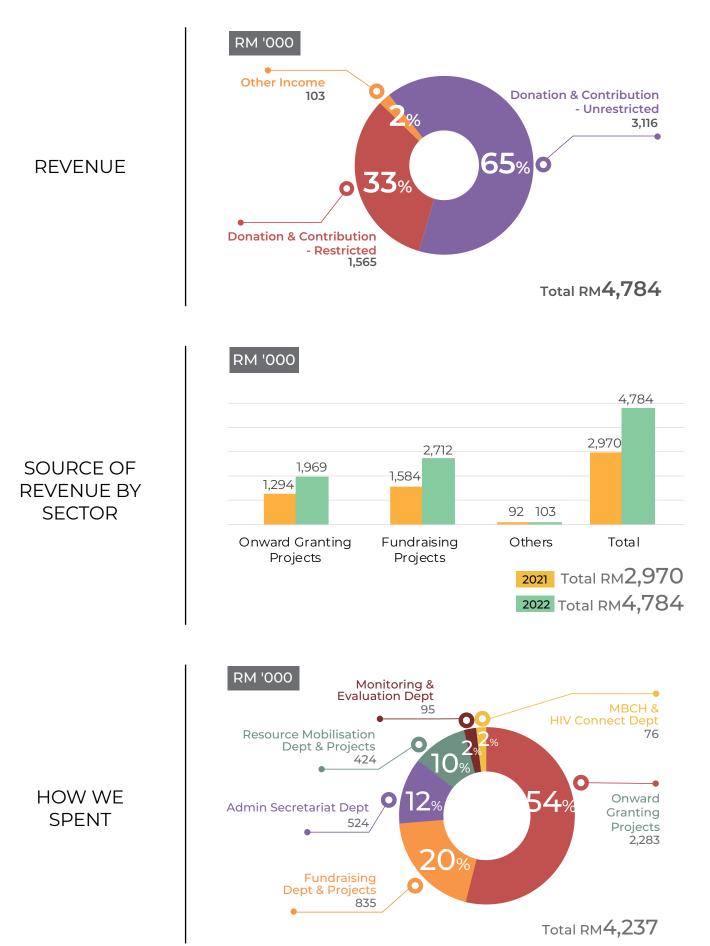
The media plays a crucial role in the fight against AIDS, enabling us to reach a wide audience with accurate information about HIV/AIDS, raising awareness, and combating stigma and discrimination.

Working hand in hand with our media partners, MAF tirelessly combats misconceptions and myths surrounding HIV/AIDS by sharing the personal experiences of PLHIV.

Simultaneously, the media aids us in education and outreach to our target audience with vital information about HIV treatment and prevention. Our media partners have been instrumental in advocating for increased funding for AIDS, influencing policymakers and donors, and mobilizing crucial resources. In essence, the power of the media lies in its ability to contribute to prevention efforts, raise awareness, reduce stigma, and rally support for an AIDS-free future.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Malay Mail, ASTRO Awani, Malaysia Tatler, The Edge, TV Sarawak and all our media partners who have been with us throughout our journey to end AIDS.

# MAF FINANCIAL SUMMARY 2022



# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

### OUR HEARTFELT GRATITUDE FOR SUPPORTING US IN OUR MISSION TO END AIDS

**AFFIN BANK BERJAYA CORPORATION BERHAD CIMB FOUNDATION** DEPARTMENT OF ISLAMIC DEVELOPMENT FEDERAL TERRITORY ISLAMIC RELIGIOUSCOUNCIL GAMUDA BERHAD HILTON HOTELS MALAYSIA **HRD CORP KAREX BERHAD KL KEPONG BERHAD** LALAMOVE M.A.C COSMETICS MALAYSIA MALAYSIA AVIATION GROUP MINISTRY OF HEALTH MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCES MONSPACE COMPANIES MYKASIH FOUNDATION PRIME MINISTER'SOFFICE PEDOMAN **IKHTISAN SDN BHD** PERFECT HEXAGON **PWC MALAYSIA RSM MALAYSIA** SAPURA GROUP SHOPEE SOCSO SUNWAY GROUP **TENAGA NASIONAL BERHAD** TOP GLOVE **TOURISM MALAYSIA TOKIO MARINE** WESTPORT BERHAD **WONG & PARTNERS** YAYASAN PETRONAS YAYASAN SIME DARBY

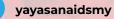
MAF also wishes to convey our deepest appreciation to the donors who have signed up for our Regular Giving Programme.

Your support is critical to our sustainability.

### MALAYSIAN AIDS FOUNDATION ANNUAL REPORT 2022



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