

Looking Heavenward

Founded in 1979, Malaysian CARE will celebrate its 40th anniversary this year. These 40 years have been filled with challenges and moments where our faith was tested, and CARE has but one way of overcoming these challenges, that is, by relying on a God who is faithful and in whom we can place our hope.

Malaysian CARE has had a clear objective of serving and partnering with the poor and needy from the very beginning. Our services imitate what God has done for people, taken from Psalm 146:7-9 NIV:

- 7 He upholds the cause of the oppressed
and gives food to the hungry.
The Lord sets prisoners free,
8 the Lord gives sight to the blind,
the Lord lifts up those who are bowed
down,
the Lord loves the righteous.
9 The Lord watches over the foreigner
and sustains the fatherless and the widow,
but he frustrates the ways of the wicked.



We serve God by serving others but this journey has not been an easy one. Over these 40 years, the two main challenges faced by CARE have been human resources and funding. A lack in any one of these two areas are impediments for the progress of the ministry.

We thank God that CARE has grown from a handful of good people to an organisation that is over 70 staff strong (not forgetting many more volunteers). Today, Malaysian CARE has expanded beyond the Klang Valley to establish three regional offices: Pusat CARE Kampar in Perak, Pusat CARE Kota Kinabalu in Sabah and Pusat CARE Miri in Sarawak.

We are thankful that God has sent a group of brothers and sisters with the calling, passion and skills to join the CARE family. Succession planning has always been a concern of the Board of Directors in CARE, ensuring that staff are given adequate training for continuous improvement, in order to ensure that CARE remains energetic and relevant.

The increase in the number of staff and ministries also require funding. We praise God

that for the past 40 years, He has provided for CARE according to our needs such as touching our brothers and sisters in Christ to send numerous timely donations. Today, CARE's annual expenditure stands at 4.3 million Ringgit—if we were to sum up the expenditure for the past 40 years since the day of CARE's inception, the sum would be colossal!

We are excited and at the same time grateful to have a God who provides, a God who is faithful and a God in whom we can place our hope. Through these 40 years, God has indeed made a way when there seems to be no way.

We have never stopped learning for the past 40 years—looking heavenward to the Maker of heaven and earth, the sea, and everything in them—He remains faithful forever.

By the grace of God, Malaysian CARE will carry on for another 40 years, and the next 40 years, and many more seasons of 40 years in the future. ■



An ordained Anglican priest, Rev. Wong Kheang Wook serves as the Secretary-General of the Board of Malaysian CARE. He also assumes the responsibility of Chairperson of Malaysian CARE's Chinese Work Committee. Rev. Wong serves full-time as the Executive Director of Pustaka Sufes. He pastors St. Gabriel's Anglican Church, Kuala Lumpur as the honorary pastor of the Chinese congregation. His other serving capacities include Chairman of Chinese Coordination Center of World Evangelism of West Malaysia Region, Board Member of Malaysia Bible Seminary and part-time lecturer on Anglicanism. Rev Wong also teaches Homiletics in Klang Valley Alliance Training Centre and adviser of Agape Services for the Blind. Rev. Wong and the late Mrs. Wong have a married son and married daughter with five grandchildren.