

# ANNUAL REVIEW 2010



WOMEN'S CENTRE FOR CHANGE

[www.wccpenang.org](http://www.wccpenang.org)



## **WOMEN'S CENTRE FOR CHANGE** **PUSAT KESEDARAN WANITA**

(formerly Women's Crisis Centre)

### **Vision**

WCC envisions an inclusive society free from violence and discrimination and where women can actualise their full potential.

### **Mission**

WCC is committed to:

- eliminating violence against women and children,
- empowering women & children, and
- promoting gender equality and social justice.

Established in 1985, WCC provides free services in counselling, emotional support, legal advice and temporary shelter for women in crisis, irrespective of their ethnicity, religion and social background. WCC also conducts various outreach programmes: sexual abuse prevention for children and youth, issues on gender violence and gender awareness for the public. WCC is a member of the Joint Action Group for Gender Equality (JAG) which actively campaigns for policy and legal reforms affecting women and children.

### **Donation & Sponsorship**

WCC is a non-profit, tax-exempt organisation and welcomes donations and sponsorships. Tax exempt receipts will be issued. Cheques should be made payable to: **Women's Centre for Change**. Payment can be made directly into our CIMB Bank account: **0742 0000555052**.

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# CONTENTS

President's Report	2 – 6
General Committee 2010 & Working Groups	7
WCC 25th Anniversary Fundraising Dinner	8 – 9
WCC Future Building	10
<b>Programmes and Activities</b>	
Service Report	11 – 19
Community Outreach Report	20 – 24
Advocacy And Networking Report	25 – 28
Diary of Events 2010	29 – 41
Appreciation & Gratitude	42 – 47

## **Contributors**

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Annie Yeap, Lau Swee Li, Lee Sook Foong,  
Tasha Merican, Tan Lean Kim & Ong Ching Yin

# PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2010

LALITHA MENON



2010 was a special year for the Women's Centre for Change, Penang marking 25 years of our existence. We reflect with gratitude on how, in 1984, three women, namely, Miki Goh-Hoalim, Rohana Ariffin and Anne Chan, took the first momentous step to start an organisation in Penang to help abused women and how they were quickly joined by others attracted to this goal. The organisation was formally registered on 1 July 1985 as the Women's Crisis Centre (WCC) and started its humble beginnings at a Municipal Council car-park lot.

Now, more than twenty five years later, WCC has transformed into a organisation of reputable standing: our services to domestic violence clients are well known amongst the public, our child sexual abuse prevention programme *Bijak Itu Selamat* (Be Smart, Be Safe) has travelled nationwide to train teachers and our efforts to lobby for legal reforms such as the Child Bill and the Sexual Harassment Bill have earned us a formidable following. Aptly, we underwent a name change in 2002 to Women's Centre for Change to reflect our expanded work areas and activities.

As WCC celebrated its silver anniversary, we deeply acknowledged all those involved in the making of WCC – members, volunteers, staff, sponsors and individuals, who have made significant contributions which enabled the organisation to grow steadily and hold true to its purpose. WCC is very fortunate to have the dedication of people who have given their time, energy and commitment and who have asked for nothing except to be proudly associated with WCC in return.

This 25th Anniversary was marked by a special milestone – the purchase of a three-storey building at the price of RM1.5 million to accommodate WCC's growth and expansion. In June, WCC members unanimously endorsed this important purchase at an Extraordinary General Meeting, recognising that the current terrace house that WCC operates from was getting too cramped for our expanding workforce and our work.



The 25th Anniversary Dinner then grew to become a huge fundraising event with good food, great entertainment and generous guests. An impressive RM400,000 was raised; a great start for the WCC Building Fund. This fundraising effort for the renovation of the building will continue into the following year and will need immense support from members and supporters.

Despite the excitement and preparations for the 25th Anniversary celebration and the new building, WCC's work with women and children remained unimpeded and we are proud to report that our small team of 10 staff and a pool of committed volunteers successfully delivered a string of activities and programmes.

WCC, together with Pusat Perkhidmatan Wanita (PPW), Seberang Perai, a women's service centre on Penang mainland, managed by WCC for the state government, handled a total of 480 new clients and conducted almost 950 counselling sessions. We provided counselling assistance to over 3,000 clients. Noticeably, PPW's counseling increased by 73% in 2010, confirming our belief that women living on the mainland were also in great need of such services. The cases we handled were mainly women facing domestic violence and marital problems. Handling violent cases sometimes comes with risks. For instance, we experienced

an angry husband who threatened to burn down the office and harm the staff when his wife refused to meet with him. WCC was forced to make a police report and install a security lock and CCTV for the office to ensure staff safety. Domestic violence takes a heavy toll on women's lives; WCC assisted in a national survey conducted by Universiti Sains Malaysia, Kubang Krian on the health impact of women experiencing violence. The research indicated that physical and mental abuse had been so bad that 58% of these respondents had attempted suicide! And yet domestic violence continues to be largely a silent crime happening behind closed doors.

WCC's support for rape survivors in hospital has been a challenge as many of the victims declined the offer of counselling or support after the medical examination. But meanwhile, Penang Hospital and other hospitals have worked with WCC towards improving their protocols in the handling of rape cases. Both the Penang and Kepala Batas Hospitals have initiated regular meetings with all agencies involved to ensure improvement of the delivery of services to women who seek help at the One Stop Crisis Centres in hospitals. Furthermore, WCC has commenced victim support at court trials by accompanying rape victims and their families to hearings and explaining the intricacies of court procedures so that they are better informed and prepared for the trial.



On our community work, the energetic outreach team went to Perak state to train primary school teachers on the popular child sexual abuse prevention programme and have received feedback that 50% of those trained had begun using the programme to teach their students. Similarly, WCC trained six Rotary Clubs in Klang valley how to give talks on child sexual abuse. We also conducted our personal safety programmes for 13 primary schools benefitting 1,641 children. As a member of the Kempen Rakyat Pulau Pinang NGO coalition which aims to raise awareness and educate the public on sexual crimes against children, WCC also taught NGOs and volunteers how to give public presentations on this topic.

For the youth, WCC went to nearly 20 schools and tertiary institutions to conduct sessions on teenage issues like relationships, gender violence and sexual assault. It is crucial that in their engagement with the opposite sex, the youth are aware of the issues of respect and building healthy relationships.



Given girls' vulnerability to exploitation, it is important that they know where to seek help should sexual violence occur. Our sessions have benefitted over 1,650 young people.

Speaking to the public on their rights and stopping violence in their lives is another important component of outreach work. WCC was invited by 17 various residents' associations, clubs and private centres to give talks ranging from domestic violence to children's personal safety. These talks were attended by 1,250 people. WCC also organised workshops to benefit specific groups such as Muslim and Indian women on their rights, trained single mothers to budget wisely and conducted support groups for ex-clients and women from

low income groups, to enhance their self-worth. In addition, the outreach team conducted 33 public training sessions either on topics specifically requested by hospitals or community groups, or on our own programmes.

Kudos to the WCC outreach staff and volunteers for reaching out to an impressive 6,185 people in 2010.

This year, WCC's advocacy work focused on engaging with civil society NGOs in Penang. WCC was actively involved, as part of the Penang Forum, in organising two major meetings for Penangites; one reviewed what progress Penang had made since 2008 and the other, conducting an election of civil society nominees as candidates for local councillor appointments. It was an eye-opening experience for over 300 people who took part in this civil society initiated local elections.

In addition to managing PPW and being a representative of the Penang State Women, Family and Community Development Committee, WCC is also actively associated with another NGO, Good Governance and Gender Equality Society (3Gs) which aims to bring about gender mainstreaming with good governance principles. WCC provided training on gender equality. The work of 3Gs is in line with one of our key missions i.e., to promote gender equality and social justice.

This year, the women's groups coalition, the Joint Action Group for Gender Equality (JAG) of which WCC is a member, also commemorated its 25th Anniversary. JAG members turned up in Parliament and issued the women's status report, *The Good, The Bad and The Ugly*, to remind parliamentarians that even after 25 years, and in spite of several positive developments, numerous promises had yet to be made good.



Overall, 2010 has been an incredible year for WCC. A very big THANK YOU to all who made it happen: the staff and volunteers who worked to carry out the range of activities throughout the year, the 25th Anniversary Organising Subcommittee for their record-breaking fundraising feat, and our sponsors and donors who gave generously towards our work and new building.



Special mention must be made to our main sponsors: Evangelischer Entwicklungsdienst (EED), the key sponsor of many of our programmes, Penang State Women, Family and Community Development Committee which enabled us, through PPW, to provide better services for women on the mainland, Lim Lean Theng Foundation for their unwavering support, Welfare Department for their regular grant, Neoh Foundation for their generous support and to Zero Fitness Centre for their generous donation from their charity event.

WCC is blessed with extraordinary people who are committed to carry out the vision and mission of this organisation to the fullest. Needless to say, as we help change and empower the lives of abused women and children, we have in the process deepened our understanding and enriched our lives. May each of you continue to give your fullest support to WCC.



**THANK YOU.**

# GENERAL COMMITTEE 2010 & WORKING GROUPS

Patron: Y.A.Bhg. Toh Puan Dato' Seri Utama Hajah Majimor bt. Shariff

## General Committee 2010

<b>President</b>	Lalitha Menon
<b>Vice President</b>	Noraida Endut Mariam Lim
<b>Secretary</b>	Agnes Maritha James
<b>Assistant Secretary</b>	Maria Francisca Belavendram
<b>Treasurer</b>	Sudandarambal Saminathan
<b>Committee Members</b>	Chin Khuan Sui Christine Khor Meow Wei Shakila Abdul Manan Lim Chooi Leng
<b>Internal Auditor</b>	Yeong Joo Kean

## Staff

<b>Executive Director</b>	Loh Cheng Kooi
<b>Programme Director</b>	Prema Devaraj
<b>Service Coordinator</b>	Annie Yeap Lay Pheng
<b>Social Worker</b>	Lee Sook Foong
<b>Project Officer</b>	Tasha Merican Mangleswary Subramaniam Nurul Nadia Jahaber Ali
<b>Administrator</b>	Tan Lean Kim
<b>Shelter Assistant</b>	Sharon Sim Joo Joo

## Pusat Perkhidmatan Wanita (PPW), Seberang Perai

<b>Coordinator</b>	Lau Swee Li
<b>Project Officer</b>	Jennie Antonisamy

## Sub-Committee

### Personnel

Lalitha, Khuan Sui,  
Mariam, Joo Kean  
*Staff:* Cheng Kooi

### Service

Maria Francisca, Chooi Leng,  
Christine Khor, Khuan Sui  
*Staff:* Annie, Swee Li, Tasha,  
Sook Foong, Jennie

### Outreach

Sudandara, Khuan Sui,  
Shakila, Mariam, Lerk Shih  
*Staff:* Prema, Tasha,  
Jenni, Mangles, Nadia

### Advocacy and Networking

Lalitha, Karen Lai,  
Christine Khor  
*Staff:* Cheng Kooi, Prema

# WCC 25<sup>TH</sup>

# ANNIVERSARY FUNDRAISING DINNER





# WCC FUTURE BUILDING

## Donate to WCC Building Fund

WCC has purchased a three storey building at 241, Jalan Burmah, Penang. This new building will enable WCC to provide better counselling facilities for women in crisis and have a training centre to conduct skills building training for single mothers and women from lower income groups as well as capacity building training for agencies supporting women in need. With better space and facilities, WCC will be able to embark on new innovative programmes for women, children and the public.

<b>Purchase Price</b>	<b>: RM1.5 million</b>
<b>Renovation (estimate)</b>	<b>: RM800,000</b>
<b>Total Cost (estimate)</b>	<b>: RM2.3 Million</b>
<b>Funds raised to date</b>	<b>: RM420,000</b>
<b>Funds to be raised</b>	<b>: RM1.88 million</b>

WCC is a tax exempt organisation. Tax exempt receipts will be issued for donations made. Cheques should be made payable to: **Women's Centre for Change** and sent to: 24-D, Jalan Jones, 10250 Penang. Donations can be made directly to WCC CIMB Account: **0742 0000555052**.

**Help us bring greater dignity to the lives of abused women and children.**



# PROGRAMMES AND ACTIVITIES

## SERVICE REPORT

Annie Yeap, Prema Devaraj, Lee Sook Foong, Tasha Merican, Lau Swee Li, Mangleswary Subramaniam and Jennie Antonisamy

### Introduction

2010 was an exciting and challenging year for the service team. Despite the busy preparations for the WCC 25th anniversary celebrations, WCC together with Pusat Perkhidmatan Wanita (PPW) Seberang Perai, the women's service centre managed by us, handled not only an increased volume of cases but also carried out various awareness and skills training programmes to enhance women's knowledge on their rights. The various services provided by WCC and PPW range from face-to-face, telephone and online counselling, as well as shelter and outreach as shown in Table 1.

**Table 1: WCC and PPW Services in 2009-2010**

		2009			2010		
	Services Provided	WCC	PPW	Total	WCC	PPW	Total
1	Face-to-face Counselling Sessions	445	251	<b>696</b>	514	435	<b>949</b>
2	Telephone Counselling Sessions	1,178	785	<b>1,963</b>	1,221	908	<b>2,129</b>
3	Online Counselling	50	–	<b>50</b>	50	–	<b>50</b>
4	Shelter	14 women & 14 children	–		14 women & 15 children	–	
5	Service Outreach	759 people	225 people	<b>984</b>	630 people	257 people*	<b>887</b>

\*For full details refer to outreach report pg 23 – 24

### Counselling Services

In 2010, WCC saw 273 new and 43 former clients which resulted in 514 counselling sessions while PPW handled 207 new and 20 former clients and provided 435 counselling sessions. In total, WCC and PPW saw 543 clients, an increase of 22% compared to 444 seen in 2009. The total face-to-face counselling at both centres rose: 16% for WCC and an impressive 73% for PPW. This was due to not only the increase in client numbers but also an increase in follow-up sessions by our social workers.

**Number of client in 2009 – 2010**

	2009		2010	
	New Client	Former Client	New Client	Former Client
<b>WCC</b>	248	40	273	43
<b>PPW</b>	156	–	207	20
<b>Total no.</b>	<b>444 clients</b>		<b>543 clients</b>	

## Types of Cases

Table 2 shows that domestic violence and marital problems were the two major types of cases handled by WCC and PPW. Cases of domestic violence at both centres have risen compared to the previous year. It is encouraging to note that out of the total 130 domestic violence cases handled, 68% had lodged police reports before they came to us for help. Women are now more aware about their rights and safety. Another 12 clients lodged police reports after they came to WCC.

88% of the domestic violence clients suffered from both physical and emotional abuse. Others complained that their husbands used harsh words and humiliated them and some were prevented from visiting their families and friends. Out of 130 cases, only six women applied for Interim Protection Orders (IPO); others did not apply because they did not feel threatened and some had already left their abusive husbands.

**Table 2: Breakdown of New Cases Handled by WCC & PPW in 2010**

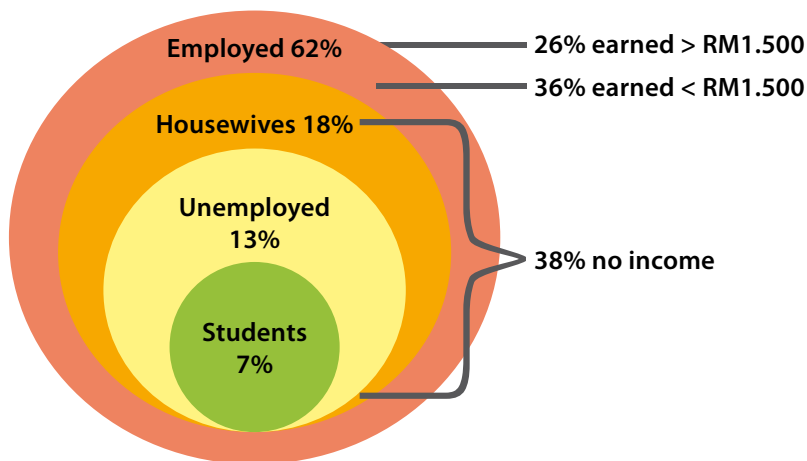
Types of Cases	WCC		PPW		WCC & PPW	
	No. of Cases	%	No. of Cases	%	Total no. of Cases	%
Domestic violence	82	30	48	23	130	27
Marital Problems	72	26	76	37	148	31
Rape	27	10	1	0.5	28	6
Relationship	25	9	31	15	56	12
Sexual Harassment	8	3	1	0.5	9	2
Incest/Child Sexual Abuse	6	2	2	1	8	1
Legal Advice	17	6	16	8	33	7
Information seeking	28	10	25	12	53	11
Other	8	3	7	3	15	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>100</b>

Marital problems accounted for 31% of our total cases. Of the 148 who came, 40% complained that their husbands were engaging in extramarital affairs and they wanted to know their legal rights. Another 40% related to breakdown in communications. Most cited differences of opinion in parenting issues, financial problems, and relationships with parents-in-law. Some requested marriage counselling and hoped for reconciliation; the rest wanted to file for divorce.

WCC handled 27 cases of rape, a significant decrease compared to the 35 cases seen in 2009. This was partly due to a 10% decrease in rape cases attending the One Stop Crisis Centre (OSCC) at Hospital Pulau Pinang (HPP). Of the 42 cases referred to WCC, almost a third of the cases were not contactable once they were discharged from the hospital. In some instances, the WCC social workers were only able to speak to a family member. Others remained unreachable via the contact number they gave.

### Client's Socio-economic Status

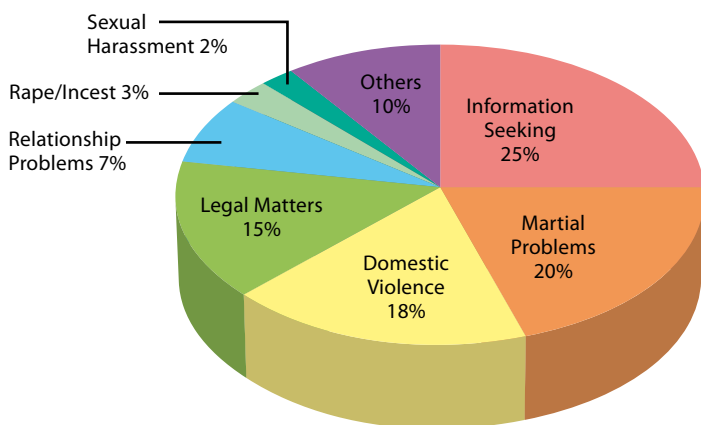
Most of the women who seek help from WCC and PPW are from the lower income group. 74% earned less than RM1,500 or had no income at all. 75% have only secondary education, 9% primary education and 3% were illiterate.



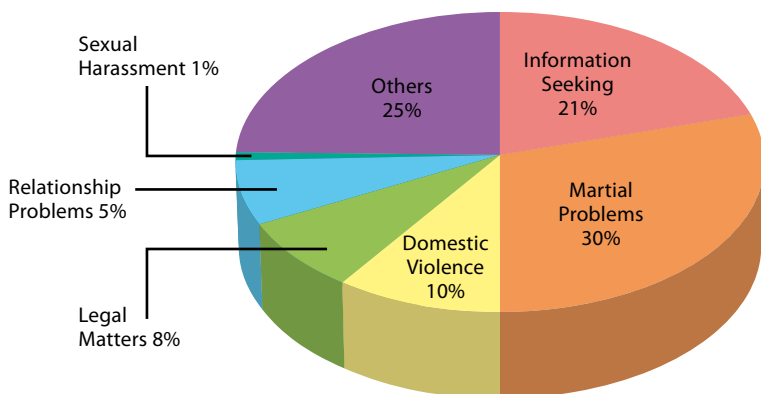
### Telephone Counselling

Of the total of 2,129 telephone calls received by WCC and PPW, 828 were new and 1,301 were follow-up calls. This is an 8.5% increase from 2009. Telephone counselling has increased steadily over the years. The large number of follow-up calls resulted from our social workers monitoring the situation of the clients.

**Figure 1: Types of Telephone Calls in 2010**



**WCC**  
Total calls: 1,221 calls



**PPW**  
Total calls: 908 calls

The types of calls to WCC and PPW are shown in Figure 1. Combining the figures, 23% of these calls sought information about job vacancies, financial aid, debt alleviation, and contact numbers for other agencies. 25% of the calls related to marital problems (i.e., extramarital affairs, communication breakdown); 14% were about domestic violence and legal queries made up 12% of the calls. Callers from the mainland who needed counselling were referred to PPW.

## Online Counselling

Online counselling numbers remained unchanged compared to 2009. WCC received only 50 emails – an average of four per month. We also handled 18 follow-up emails related to sexual harassment, domestic violence and marital rights. The types of requests in emails varied from information on job opportunities, debts, community resources, maid abuse to financial support. The others were on domestic violence, divorce procedures, sexual harassment and marital problems.

## Shelter

The numbers of clients seeking shelter remain unchanged from the previous year. In 2010, WCC provided shelter to 14 abused women and 15 children. The length of stay varied from less than a week to one month. This year, there were several cases of foreign wives and migrant workers. Despite differences in ethnicity and background, the women were able to communicate, share experiences and provide support and companionship to each other.

WCC referred some of the women to other shelters, namely, Women's Aid Organisation, Good Shepherd Home and Rumah Darul Sakina. Only three decided to return to their husbands while the rest chose to make a new start. WCC helped two women move to new homes by finding low cost housing, coordinated and mobilised volunteers to help with their relocation and sourced financial aid for continued living expenses.



***Saya berasa gembira semasa berada di WCC kerana dapat tidur cukup, dapat makan dengan sempurna, mempunyai kawan-kawan serumah. Saya berasa lebih rapat dengan anak-anak. Saya sangat gembira.***

*51 year old Client*



## Service Outreach

Apart from handling clients who come to the centres, both WCC and PPW were also active in giving talks and conducting trainings on the issues relating to violence against women to raise the level of awareness and sensitise service providers in the community. In addition to this, PPW also ran a woman's support group.

## Working with Service Providers



### Talks to Medical Personnel

WCC continued with its second year of the Rape Survivors Support Network in collaboration with the One Stop Crisis Centre (OSCC) at HPP. Throughout 2010, WCC worked with HPP and initiated contact with OSCC Hospital Seberang Jaya (HSJ) to establish protocols to support rape victims. As part of the Continuing Medical Education (CME) programme in hospitals, WCC gave talks to more than 130 doctors and nurses at both HPP and HSJ. HSJ receives almost twice the number of cases of rape at their OSCC compared to HPP. In addition, WCC also gave a presentation to 40 doctors and nurses at Gleneagles Medical Centre on WCC's work to support victims of abuse.

A positive development took place this year with HPP and Hospital Kepala Batas initiating twice yearly inter-agency meetings aimed at improving delivery of services to women who attend OSCC for help. These meetings involved stakeholders - staff from Emergency and Trauma Units, medical social workers, gynecologists, psychiatrists, welfare officers, police officers and other NGOs who seek to provide a more holistic approach to support and care for victims of sexual violence.

### Lectures to Medical Students

Hospital staff are frontliners when victims of violence against women (VAW) seek medical help. Every year, WCC gives talks to student nurses and medical students of Lam Wah Ee Hospital Nursing College, Penang Medical College and this year, to Penang Adventist Hospital Nursing College as well. In 2010, WCC was able to reach a total of 210 students to raise their awareness on VAW and the role medical staff can play in assisting abused women.

### Talks to Police Officers

WCC was invited by the Penang Police Headquarters Sexual Crime Unit and the Bahagian Agama dan Kaunseling, Pasukan Gerakan Merin, to give two lectures to 250 police officers. The talks entitled "The Role of WCC in Handling Sexual Abuse Cases" and "Sexual Harassment: What it means" was held in November and December respectively. WCC explained the role of WCC in helping women and highlighted some difficulties clients faced dealing with the police, emphasising the need for professionalism in their work. The police officers, on their part, expressed their frustrations over domestic violence complainants repeatedly withdrawing their cases.

### Support Group for Women

PPW's Women Support Group which started in 2009 continued to receive good responses. This year, seven sessions were carried out. A total of single mothers and lower income group women, mostly ex-clients attended these sessions. Activities included talks on self-development, parenting skills, domestic violence, self-protection techniques, craft classes and also a movie focusing on domestic violence issues. These women expressed they felt empowered through these sharings and learnings.



## Other Service Initiatives

### Domestic Violence Research

This research is the first national study which compiled data on the health impact of women experiencing violence. This 2008-2010 project, led by Universiti Sains Malaysia Kubang Kerian, culminated in a national workshop on 1 and 2 December to disseminate the findings to health care providers and NGOs.

The total number of respondents nationwide was 316; WCC, as part of the team, interviewed 112 of our former domestic violence clients. The findings revealed that these women experienced not only physical violence but also sexual and emotional abuse. 85% of these

women reported injuries like cuts, bruises, scratches, eye injuries, broken teeth. 25% had received injuries so severe that they had to be hospitalised.

Apart from women's organisations' service centres, the police and hospital/health centres were the other most common agencies where abuse woman victims sought help. Unfortunately, only 33% of the victims were satisfied with police assistance and 38% with hospital/health care services. These findings will be useful for direct action both at practitioners' and policy levels; they will also be used to develop screening and examination protocols in hospitals, and to enhance awareness of the needs of these victims among health care providers.



***After I left him, one day when I was walking along the road he kidnapped me. He took me home and chained me. He tore off my clothes and asked three men to have sex with me while he videotaped the incident. I shouted, cried and begged them for help. They molested me only. After that, he tied me to the window grill and asked me to choose between drinking the poison or acid. He said he wanted to see me die. I choose the poison.***

***I then felt suffocated, dizzy, my heart burnt and blood came out from the nose and mouth. He refused to send me to the hospital and chained me up throughout the night. The next day when he left the house, I rolled myself to the front door, shouted loudly to the neighbour for help.....***

*Client with 5 children, ages 3 to 11 years.*



## Internship

WCC has become a regular training venue for students serving internships as they regard WCC as a place to learn about abused women's problems and ways of intervention. In 2010, WCC received 10 students from different fields such as counselling, psychology, law, and public administration. Local interns were from University Tunku Abdul Rahman, Universiti Utara Malaysia, and Monash University; while the three international students came from Canada, Myanmar and the US. Based on their interests and skills, the interns were assigned to WCC's service, outreach and advocacy work.

**JANGAN RAHSIAKAN!!!**

**DIROGOL** Rape 强奸

**DIDERA** Domestic Violence 家暴

**DIPUKUL**

**DIRABA** Sexual Harassment 性骚扰

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Laman web:  
[www.wccpenang.org](http://www.wccpenang.org)  
**04-228 0342**

PUSAT PERKHIDMATAN WANITA (PPW) S. PERAI  
67A, Tkt 1, Jalan Perai Jaya 4, Bandar Perai Jaya  
13600 Perai, Penang  
**04-398 8340**

**Ambil Tindakan Segera!**  
Seek Help Now! 立即求助!  
உடனடி நடவடிக்கையை எடுக்கவும்!

Tajuk:  
MMK Pembangunan Wanita,  
Keluarga dan Komuniti Pulau Pinang

## Resource Development

In 2010, WCC and PPW jointly produced a colourful poster entitled *Jangan Rahsiakan!* and a counselling card to promote our service as well as raise public awareness about not keeping sexual violence a secret. The posters were distributed to local police stations, district health clinics, district welfare departments as well as the NGO networks. In addition, a number of pamphlets were reprinted for distribution and the WCC pamphlet *When There Is Hurt At Home* was translated into Mandarin.

## Conclusion

Without a doubt WCC and PPW have both made an impact on reducing the level of violence in the lives of many women and children. The service components of crisis intervention and post crisis support are crucial elements to the well being of many women facing violence. In addition, WCC's work with service providers helps ensure a more sensitised delivery of services to women in need. With a rising trend of violence against women and the breakdown of families, the challenge for the service team is to further enhance these services so as to reach the increasing numbers of those in need.

Prema Devaraj, Tasha Merican, Jennie Antonisamy, Mangleswary Subramaniam and Nadia Ali

Every year, the outreach team, consisting of staff from both WCC and PPW and our volunteers, reaches out to women, men and children through empowerment and prevention programmes via workshops, training sessions, public talks and exhibitions. Our activities in 2010 reached nearly 6,200 individuals! Our three main work areas are child sexual abuse prevention, reducing gender violence and sexual exploitation among youth, and promoting gender awareness and rights for women.

### Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Programme

This programme began in 1999 and has now grown to include multilingual materials (VCD, books, pamphlets) to help children learn about personal safety against sexual abuse. WCC, with the cooperation of local education departments, has also been training teachers in at least 5 different states over the last 10 years. We note that more teachers have incorporated our programme into their lessons. This year, WCC has also begun to train interested individuals how to give talks on child sexual abuse to the community.

#### Working with Children

In 2010, the outreach team together with its merry band of volunteers conducted the personal safety programme, *Bijak Itu Selamat* (Be Smart Be Safe) to 1,641 children (10-12 year olds) from 13 schools, one children's home and two community organisations. This programme helps children differentiate between good (Ok) and bad (Tak Ok) touch, what to do if touched inappropriately and not to keep secrets about bad touches. WCC also works with younger children by adapting the programme.

#### Working with Educators

2010 saw the outreach team training teachers from districts of Larut, Matang & Selama and Tapah in Perak how to conduct the *Bijak Itu Selamat* programme. Through a collaboration between Soroptomist International Ipoh, Perak Women for Women (PWW) and WCC, a total of 165 primary school teachers and counsellors were trained. Feedback from our Perak collaborators indicated that more than 50% of teachers who attended the first training session are teaching the programme to their students.

In addition to this, WCC continued to work with Institut Pendidikan Guru (IPG) Kampus Pulau Pinang, training 27 final year trainee teachers who had their practicals in primary schools in Penang. Six of them were able to conduct the *Bijak Itu Selamat* programme to over 400 children in the schools at which they were stationed.



## Working in Partnership/Coalitions

WCC took part in a Klang Valley Rotary Clubs community project, Child Sexual Abuse Prevention involving six sponsoring Rotary clubs (Shah Alam, Titiwangsa, KL North, Metro KL, Sungei Way and Bandar Utama). Since the project launch in August 2010, WCC has been to Kuala Lumpur in August and November to conduct two 2-day training sessions to 45 people on how to deliver a simple talk on child sexual abuse. Rotary hopes to support those trained to reach out to parents and children in communities so as to spread the information on child sexual abuse prevention and help those who have been victimised to speak out.

## KEMPEN RAKYAT PULAU PINANG



WCC is also a part of Kempen Rakyat Pulau Pinang, a coalition of 22 community groups who are concerned about the increasing number of sexual crimes committed against children. Kempen Rakyat's objectives include raising public awareness about sexual crimes against children, supporting victims and families and empowering parents, teachers and care givers to teach children about personal safety. Launched in October 2010, Kempen Rakyat has organised a number of public events to spread its message. WCC's involvement included speaking at the launch, planning events for Kempen Rakyat via its monthly meetings, as well as conducting training to 46 people on how to give a simple talk on child sexual abuse. Through Kempen Rakyat's activities, the public have more access to WCC resources which are on sale or distributed at these events.

## Materials

Due to popular demand, WCC together with PPW updated and reprinted our child sexual abuse prevention materials including 'Teaching Children to be Safe: A Guidebook for Teachers', a cartoon booklet, 'Nina and Her Secret', and a pamphlet on child sexual abuse.

## Working with Youth

Given their vulnerability, gender violence and sexual exploitation among the youth continues to be a concern. WCC communicates with the young through various programmes related to gender, relationships, respect, sexual exploitation and personal safety. In 2010, the team reached out to a total of 1,652 youth



from 13 schools, four community organisations (Lions Club, Soroptomist International, Catholic Students Union and the Holy Spirit Cathedral) and two colleges (Surya College and Institut Pendidikan Guru Kampus Pulau Pinang). WCC also introduced a new component on cyber violence to highlight the dangers posed by sexual predators through the internet, (e.g. Facebook) and handphones.

WCC's youth work involves both girls and boys. 1,080 girls took part in WCC programmes which covered the issues of personal safety, sexual assault and teenage friendships. 330 boys participated in WCC's programme *Perlakuan Remaja* (Teenage Behaviour) which looks at their ideas and behaviour towards women. The numbers have fallen compared to the previous year as WCC no longer has a designated male member of staff working on this project. WCC also conducts mixed group sessions with more than 240 young people on teenage relationships and gender. In the gender workshops, participants learn about the relevance of gender in their lives, the different approaches to gender equality (formal, protective and substantive) and the different types of discrimination individuals face in society.

## Training of Facilitators on Respek

Working together with the Perak Women for Women in Ipoh, WCC was able to conduct a two-day training session for 35 participants on the *Respek* programme in July. WCC also gave in-house training to 10 volunteers on how to conduct a two-hour session for youths using modules from WCC's *Respek* manual. Some of these volunteers have since helped WCC staff teach these modules at schools.

## Working with Women

Apart from numerous activities with children and youth, WCC also reached out to 578 women in the community, partnering with PPW and other organisations, conducting specific workshops and awareness-raising sessions on women's rights.

### Workshops on the Rights of Muslim Women

In April, WCC actively supported a forum *Hak Saya Sebagai Seorang Wanita* with Sisters in Islam and Kanita, USM at which 50 women consisting of NGO representatives, members of academia as well as women from the community, participated. The forum topics covered women's rights on maintenance, divorce, polygamy, division of matrimonial assets based on the Syariah Legal system in Malaysia and gave the participants a platform to meet, exchange experiences and discuss ways to assist other women facing problems in these areas. In May, WCC, in collaboration with Jamaah Islah Malaysia (JIM), Dewanita and other Muslim NGOs, organised a seminar



*Wacana Rebut Harta Rebut Anak*, focusing on divorce, maintenance and child custody issues. This was open to the public and 160 people, mainly women, attended.

### **Workshop on Gender and Rights of Women**

In October, WCC conducted a workshop *Kebahagiaan Rumah Tangga Menjamin Kebahagiaan Wanita* organised by Biro Kepenggunaan Puspanita for 90 Puspanita (Persatuan Suri dan Anggota Wanita Perkhidmatan Malaysia) members from various governmental departments. The workshop discussed issues related to gender, how workloads are shared at home (or not!), domestic violence and issues facing working women. Most of the workshop participants were happy with the interactive approach and asked for more such workshop.

### **Workshops for Tamil Speaking Women**

WCC organised specific workshops on skills-building and awareness-raising for Tamil-speaking women on the mainland who are not aware of their rights. A half-day dialogue was first held with 11 women community leaders to brainstorm the various issues facing women in their communities, analyse the sources of the problem and possible actions they could take. Subsequently, a two-day workshop, "Learning about Your Rights", was held in August at the St Anne's Domus in Bukit Mertajam for 15 Tamil-speaking women.

The participants were introduced to the issue of gender, handling domestic violence, and identifying local resources for help. WCC also worked with 24 participants from the Praise Lutheran Congregation in Bukit Mertajam on a half-day programme, "Know Your Rights", in July, and 31 participants from Persatuan Ibu Tunggal dan Kebajikan Umum, Seberang Prai Selatan in November. The feedback from the Indian community indicated that while domestic violence was a common problem, the issues of poverty and exploitation at the workplace (e.g., low wages, unjust working conditions) were also problems they wanted help on.

### **Workshops for Single Mothers**

Many of our ex-clients indicated that they were struggling not only to manage their finance but also faced parenting issues as single mothers. This year WCC and PPW were able to conduct two budgeting workshops *Mengurus Kewangan Anda* to a total of 145 women on the mainland, one in Bahasa Malaysia and one in Mandarin.

Participants learnt how to manage their finances, budget, invest, and save, and also to start small scale businesses. Resource persons from Agensi Kaunseling and Pengurusan Kredit (AKPK), Bank Negara, SL Synergy Enterprise and a professional financial planner were roped in at these workshops. We also collaborated with Lembaga Penduduk dan Pembangunan Keluarga Negara (LPPKN) Pulau Pinang to conduct a parenting workshop entitled *Ilmu Keluarga* in July for 52 women. This too was well-received.





## Single Mothers Portrait Event

Struggling single mothers often neither have the time nor the money to have a family portrait taken. On International Women's Day in March, WCC and PPW in partnership with Help-Portrait Penang, and with the support of the Penang State Women, Family and Community Development Committee, brought 42 single mothers and 76 children together for a memorable family portrait event. The Help Portrait volunteers (photographers and make-up artists) gave these mothers and children makeovers while we busied ourselves coordinating the event and entertaining the children. Many of the mothers were moved to tears when they saw the beautiful family portraits of themselves and their children.

## Talks in the Community

Giving talks in the community has become an important part of WCC and PPW's work. They help raise awareness on violence against women including domestic violence, sexual harassment, child sexual abuse and sexual assault. These talks are organised by various community groups including the Women's Rights Awareness Association, Rotary Club Penang, Residents Association of Permatang Tinggi and YMCA-YWCA. WCC was invited to 40 such talks, reaching some 980 people. Apart from receiving basic information about the issues, people were told where to seek help should the need arise.

## In-house Training

This year, WCC conducted six in-house training sessions between April and July to enhance the skills of volunteers and staff. Topics covered included gender equality, civil and syariah family law, domestic violence, sexual assault and child sexual abuse. WCC also held a volunteer get-together and discussed the issue of human trafficking to help broaden our understanding of the violations which affect women.

These sessions were conducted to 98 people. WCC aims to build a pool of volunteers to support WCC community programmes and encourage a greater role in volunteering.



Reaching out to people, whether on the island or the mainland, remains an important part of WCC and PPW's work. Feedback from the community, not only grounds the outreach team but adds critical input to our programme planning and implementation. We are often humbled by the strength of those facing adversity and the warmth with which we are received in the communities we reach out to. The passion of the outreach team is unwavering because we know that change for the betterment of women and children is possible.

## ADVOCACY AND NETWORKING

Prema Devaraj and Loh Cheng Kooi

**W**CC continues to advocate for the rights of women through a variety of involvements both locally and nationally, either directly or through NGO coalitions. WCC's advocacy work in 2010 has seen an in-road into the issues of gender equality and good governance through involvement with the state government and an NGO coalition, Penang Forum. Issues pertaining to rights of victims of sexual crimes, sexual abuse of indigenous women and children, reproductive and social health education also continue to be part of the ongoing advocacy work.

### Engagement with the State Government

Since March 2008, the Penang State Government has provided avenues within which WCC has been able to promote its mission statements on the eradication of violence against women, women's empowerment and gender equality. The following is a brief description of activities and input.

#### MMK Women, Family and Community Development

WCC is represented at the Penang State Committee (Majlis Mesyuarat Kerajaan-MMK) on Women, Family and Community Development, attend its regular meetings and help in the planning of activities and projects

pertaining to women's development. WCC also manages Pusat Perkhidmatan Wanita Seberang Perai (PPW), a service centre for abused women and children on the mainland, which is sponsored by MMK.

#### Penang Local Government Consultative Forum

WCC participates in the Penang Local Government Consultative Forum which is held several times a year to discuss matters relating to local governance. It brings together various stakeholders including NGOs, state assembly representatives, government departments, local municipal councils of the island (MPPP) and the mainland (MPSP) and professional bodies.

### Good Governance and Gender Equality Society

The Good Governance and Gender Equality Society (3Gs) was set up in 2009 through the MMK Women, Family and Community Development Committee. The main aim of 3Gs is to promote good governance and substantive equality between men and women at all levels of society. WCC has actively provided input and support into 3Gs' activities and



organisational administration. Over the past year, WCC has planned and conducted three workshops on gender equality. Participants at these workshops included representatives from political parties, NGOs, Penang municipal councillors and heads of departments and interested individuals.

WCC was also involved with "Gender Mainstreaming: Justice for All", an exciting conference organised by 3Gs from 31 July to 1 August. The conference deliberated issues and concerns that women face trying to achieve higher levels of participation in key sectors of society. It also discussed the extent to which gender mainstreaming could be utilised towards the betterment and empowerment of Malaysian women and ended with a Declaration on the empowerment of Penang women in the context of good governance. WCC staff and volunteers supported 3Gs by playing key roles in conference planning and implementation and in the drafting of the 3Gs declaration.



Photo credit: 3Gs

## Engaging with Penang Forum

An informal network of Penang based NGOs and individuals came together to form Penang Forum (PF) in 2008 which provides a platform for civil society to discuss issues pertaining to good governance and the sustainable development of Penang. WCC is involved in PF and works together with other groups in PF to organise yearly forums. In 2010, PF organised two forums, PF2 and PF3.

PF2, Penang: *Has Anything Changed after Two Years?* was held in March and was attended by some 170 participants, including representatives from 35 Penang-based NGOs. The programme included an overview of the challenges, achievements and missed opportunities faced by the Pakatan state government and discussions on local planning and democracy.



In November, PF3 was organised to elect civil society nominees to serve as MPPP and MPSP councillors for the year 2011. It was an initiative to open up the process of selection of councillors and promote the future possibility of holding local elections in Penang. Over 300 people attended: 24 'candidates' stood for 'elections' for potential councillor posts in MPPP and MPSP. The entire day's proceedings ran smoothly and it was an exercise on how civil society could help to deepen democracy in Malaysia.

In December, WCC was involved in Local Democracy Week (LDW), an initiative evolving out of Penang Forum 2. Coordinated by Suaram, LDW saw a week-long series of activities aimed at increasing the level of public participation in issues related to local democracy in Penang. WCC participated in a variety of events during the week including a “Freezemob” at Queensbay Mall, a roadshow as part of Kempen Rakyat Pulau Pinang ‘Stop Sexual Crimes against Children’, set up a promotional stall at Party in the Park where WCC’s video entitled *Malaysian Women – Our Journey* was presented as part of the programme, and also spoke at Speakers Corner.

The Penang Forum steering committee, where involvement is on a voluntary basis, comprises representatives ranging from Aliran, Jerit, Malayan Nature Society, Penang Heritage Trust, Persatuan Orang Cacat Anggota Malaysia, Sustainable Independent Living and Access, Suaram Penang, Penang Transport Council, Penang, Tanjong Bungah Residents Association, Taman Sri Nibong Residents Association, to 3Gs and WCC.

## **Advocating the Rights of Victims of Sexual Crimes**

Following WCC’s book *Seeking Justice for Victims of Sexual Crime* in 2009, WCC has begun to support victims of sexual crime at court trials. WCC is concerned that generally victims have little knowledge about court processes, receive little support during the trial process and may not even turn up at the trial. WCC met with the Penang state prosecution unit in April to express our concerns and expressed our interest to provide victim support and hold watching briefs for them in court. WCC subsequently held a watching brief during the rape trial of a 4 year old victim and supported the family members as well.

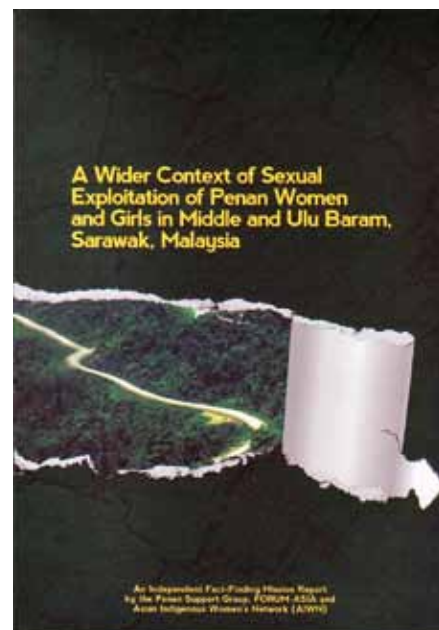


## **Joint Action Group for Gender Equality (JAG)**

This year was a relatively quiet year with regards to WCC’s involvement in JAG with sister organisations like WAO, AWAM, SIS and Empower. Nevertheless, WCC endorsed a series of JAG press statements made in response to various issues such as the federal court and its reluctance to deal with the conversion issue, piecemeal amendments to the Employment Act to deal with sexual harassment, the removal of reservations to the UN CEDAW and law makers who break the law. This year marks JAG’s 25th year in existence and in a special briefing to members of parliament JAG produced *A Women’s Status Report – The Good, The Bad and The Ugly*.

## NGO Report on Sexual Abuse on Penan Women

In late 2008, WCC was part of a National Task Force, set up by the Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development to investigate the allegations of sexual abuse of Penan women and children which confirmed these allegations were true. Frustrated by the apparent lack of action by the authorities and seeking a more in-depth analysis of the actual situation, the Penan Support Group (PSG), a coalition of 36 NGOs, of which WCC is one, conducted a non-governmental fact-finding mission. This was done in collaboration with Forum Asia and the Asian Indigenous Women's Network. The mission's report, *A Wider Context of Sexual Exploitation of Penan Women and Girls in Middle and Ulu Baram Sarawak, Malaysia* was published in July 2010. The report highlighted a systemic pattern of violence committed against the women and girls, including threats, harassment, abduction, rape, physical assault, coercion into marriage and desertion upon pregnancy. Various Sarawak government officials continued to deny and discredit the NGO mission's findings. Nevertheless SUHAKAM agree to set up a subcommittee on indigenous peoples' issues as a result of a meeting with PSG in July.



## Reproductive and Social Health Education

WCC, alongside other individuals and NGOs nationwide, have been involved in the formulation of the sex education curriculum. WCC has been presenting our materials to the Ministries of Education, Health and Women, Family and Community Development over many years. In August WCC attended a Roundtable meeting on Reproductive and Social Health Education organised by the Curriculum Development Division of the Ministry of Education in Putrajaya. Reproductive and Social Health Education, (instead of "sex education"), will not be taught as a separate subject but incorporated into the existing health education subject. The national guidelines produced covers six topics: human development; relationships; marriage and family; self-esteem; health and sexual behaviour; society and culture. At the meeting, WCC stressed the urgency of starting such education early and the need for trained facilitators to implement the programmes.

# DIARY OF EVENTS 2010

## JANUARY


<b>3</b>	WCC held its Strategising Meeting with the General Committee, key volunteers and staff at Tg. Bungah Beach Hotel focusing on WCC's work and future direction.
<b>4 January – 23 April</b>	Loh Ban Ing, Universiti Utara Malaysia, began her 4-month internship.
<b>11 January – 16 April</b>	Lim Chai Leng, Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman, began her 3-month internship.
<b>16</b>	WCC programme director Prema Devaraj conducted a session on Understanding Gender for 20 university students on the invitation of the Catholic Students Union.
<b>19</b>	WCC executive director Loh Cheng Kooi participated in INTEL Malaysia's stakeholder dialogue conducted by Corporate Social Responsibility (CRS) Asia. Lim Kah Cheng, WCC member representing Penang Forum, also attended.
<b>23</b>	General Committee Meeting.
<b>27 January &amp; 23 March</b>	PPW coordinator Lau Swee Li together with volunteer Vivien Lee gave talks on Puberty to SMK Berapit Bukit Mertajam students.
<b>30</b>	PPW held its Women's Support Group meeting at Seberang Prai; volunteer Elaine Wong presented a session on helping women find strength in themselves.

## FEBRUARY


<b>5</b>	<p>WCC outreach team: Prema, project officer Tasha Merican, PPW project officer, Jennie Antonisamy, together with WCC volunteers, Poh Lerk Shih, Ban Ing, Nor Azlan Mohamed Nasir and Nadia Ali went to Kampung Bujang, Kedah, to conduct two child sexual abuse programmes for 30 women and 50 children.</p>	
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20	General Committee Meeting.
25	Prema gave a talk on <i>WCC Sex Crimes Research Findings and the Rape Survivors' Support Network</i> to 40 doctors and nurses at Gleneagles Medical Centre.
25	WCC held a volunteers meeting with 16 new volunteers to promote volunteerism for WCC.

## MARCH

6	 <p>For International Women's Day, WCC and PPW in collaboration with Help-Portrait Penang organised a portrait session for 42 single mothers and their children at the Penang Town Hall.</p>
7	WCC, as part of Penang Forum, organised the 2nd Penang Forum <i>Has Anything Changed after Two Years</i> for 170 participants at the Caring Society Complex.
9	Tasha, Jennie and intern Lim Chai Leng attended a national seminar on <i>Kasih Sayang Antara Generasi Membanteras Penganiayaan Sesama Insan</i> at Cititel Hotel.
12	WCC was invited by the Kulim Lions Club to run a half-day workshop on <i>Teenagers and Sexual Assault</i> for 34 female secondary students of SMK Chio Min, Kulim.
<b>23 March – 16 April</b>	Htay Htay Myint, an intern from Myanmar attached to PAN-AP began her internship at WCC.
19	WCC service coordinator, Annie Yeap, gave a lecture on <i>Violence against Women</i> to 28 medical students at Penang Medical College.
20	Prema spoke about <i>Volunteerism as a Life Style</i> to 20 students at the Student Community Convention organised by Kampus Sejahtera, USM.
20	WCC 25th Annual General Meeting at Caring Society Complex.
<b>21 - 24</b>	EED financial officer, Silvia Luthin, visited WCC for updates.
24	Prema, Tasha and Swee Li met up with Dr. Azleen, Head of Emergency and Trauma Unit, Hospital Seberang Jaya, to discuss rape survivor support at the hospital.

27	Prema facilitated a 2-day Workshop on <i>Introducing Gender Equality</i> organised by the Good Governance and Gender Equality Society (3Gs). WCC Vice-President, Mariam Lim, staff Annie and Tasha attended.
28	Tasha spoke about WCC's work and services at the Women's Day celebration organised by Women's Bureau of Bestari Community, Padang Tembak.
30	Puan Aina and two interns from Counselling Unit of Penang Hospital visited WCC to discuss supporting abused victims.
31	Annie and Sook Foong delivered a 2-hour lecture on <i>Domestic Violence</i> to 30 student nurses at Lam Wah Ee Hospital.

APRIL	
1	Prema met with Penang Hospital's consultant psychiatrist to promote closer relationships and the monitoring of support for rape victims.
3	Prema trained 12 volunteers on gender, gender violence and gender equality.
3	A <i>Thank You</i> party was held for 35 volunteers and members to celebrate the success of the <i>Portrait for Single Mothers</i> event on 6 March.
5 April – 27 May	Ooi Soo Lee, Monash University, began her internship at WCC.
6 & 27	 <p>Jennie and WCC's new project officer, Mangleswary Subramaniam, conducted <i>Bijak Itu Selamat</i> programme at SK Batu Lancang for 184 Std. 5 students.</p>
8	Prema, Tasha and Jennie conducted a session on <i>Gender Equality and Gender Violence</i> for 30 students at Institut Pendidikan Guru.
9	Prema, assisted by Sukhveer Kaur, spoke to volunteers at the Penang General Hospital about the Rape Survivors Support Network.
10	WCC president, Lalitha Menon, conducted a legal training session on divorce matters for the staff, counsellors and para-counsellors from other agencies.



<p><b>13, 21, 22 &amp; 28</b></p>	<p>Tasha supervised 6 trainee teachers from Institut Pendidikan Guru trained by WCC in conducting the <i>Bijak Itu Selamat</i> programmes for primary students.</p>	
<p><b>16 &amp; 23</b></p>	<p>Tasha with WCC members, Tang Kae Shih, Poh Lerk Shih and intern Soo Lee conducted a talk on <i>Sexual Assault and ICT Violence</i> for 200 secondary students.</p>	
<p><b>22</b></p>	<p>Prema conducted a briefing on WCC's role in supporting rape survivors to 20 doctors and nurses from One Stop Crisis Centre at Penang Hospital.</p>	
<p><b>24</b></p>	<p>PPW and WCC organised a seminar <i>Mengurus Kewangan Anda</i> for 100 lower income women and single mothers on how to manage their finances at Dewan Dato' Hj. Ahmad Badawi.</p>	
<p><b>24</b></p>	<p>Sook Foong and Tasha attended a 1-day forum on <i>Hak Saya Sebagai Seorang Wanita</i> by Sisters in Islam in collaboration with Kanita, USM and WCC.</p>	
<p><b>24</b></p>	<p>Prema trained 16 WCC volunteers on <i>How to Give Talks on Domestic Violence</i>.</p>	
<p><b>28</b></p>	<p>WCC had a dialogue with Penang Legal Advisor Office Prosecution Unit. WCC representatives Lalitha, Mariam Lim, Kah Cheng, Karen Lai, and staff Cheng Kooi and Prema discussed how we can support and ensure that victims of sexual crimes have better access to justice.</p>	

## MAY

<p><b>3 May – 30 June</b></p>	<p>Liz Tan, Monash University, interned at WCC.</p>
<p><b>5</b></p>	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <div style="flex: 1;"> <p>At SMK Georgetown, WCC member Lerk Shih conducted a session on WCC's VCD story <i>Lelaki Matang Trang Tang Tang</i> and Tasha spoke about <i>ICT Violence against Women</i>.</p> </div> </div>

7	At a get-together session for WCC members and volunteers, Emma Franks and Cindy Ruble gave a presentation on human trafficking.
8	PPW conducted its Single Mothers' Support Group session for 22 participants.
10	Prema and Tasha trained 10 WCC volunteers on <i>How to Give Talks on Personal Safety for Teenagers</i> .
12	<p>Annie with WCC member Ng Lee Y'ng conducted a session on <i>Mabuk Cinta</i> for 60 Form 4 female students while Michael Thomas talked on <i>Perlakuan Remaja</i> to 100 male students of SMK Valdor, Seberang Perai.</p> 
14	Annie gave a lecture on <i>Gender-based Violence as a Public Health Issue</i> to 28 medical students from Penang Medical School.
15	Prema conducted a half-day workshop on <i>Good Governance</i> organised by 3Gs for municipal councillors and civil servants.
22	At Karnival Rakyat Harmony organised by Badan Kebajikan Masyarakat Nibong Tebal, WCC members, Yuslinov Ahmad, spoke on <i>Women Legal Rights</i> , Thomas on <i>Why Men Commit Violence against Women</i> and Tasha on <i>Gender Issues</i> .
23	Wanita Jamaah Islah Malaysia Penang in collaboration with other Muslim NGOs and WCC organised a half-day awareness programme <i>Rebut Harta Rebut Anak</i> on divorce, maintenance and child custody issues for 160 participants.
<b>24 May – 26 August</b>	Soo Hoo Pei Ying from Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman began her 3-month internship.
25	 <p>WCC outreach team conducted a 1-day training on <i>Bijak Itu Selamat</i> programme for 100 teachers, organised by Soroptomist International Ipoh and Perak Women for Women.</p>
26	Mangles, Prema, and intern Liz Tan were invited by Rotary Club Penang to talk about our Rape Survivors Support Network work at Traders Hotel.
30	WCC treasurer, Sudandara and Tasha presented a session on <i>Domestic Violence Act</i> to 100 participants, organised by Jabatan Kebajikan Pulau Pinang and Kelab Sukan Rekreasi.


## JUNE

<b>1 &amp; 3</b>		<p>Tasha, Mangles, Jennie and volunteer Erin conducted the <i>Bijak Itu Selamat</i> programme for 282 Std. 4 to 6 students at SK Genting.</p>
<b>7</b>		<p>PPW and WCC organised a half-day dialogue with Indian women leaders from mainland to discuss issues and problems faced by Indian women.</p>
<b>8 – 10</b>		<p>Cheng Kooi participated in a Workshop on Fundraising and Communications for Penang NGOs, organised by Resource Alliance Malaysia at Hydro Hotel.</p>
<b>12</b>		<p>Annie was invited by Women's Rights Awareness Association and Residents Association of Permatang Tinggi to give a talk on <i>Children Personal Safety</i> in Mandarin to 50 parents.</p>
<b>12</b>		<p>Legal enhancement training on Muslim family law by syariah lawyer, Ahmad Munawir Abdul Aziz for WCC staff, counsellors and para-counsellors from other agencies.</p>
<b>15 June – 20 August</b>		<p>Carly Owens from City College of New York interned at WCC for 2 months.</p>
<b>17</b>		<p>Cheng Kooi participated in the meeting organised by the Labour Department for Employers, Societies, IPT and NGOs.</p>
<b>18</b>		<p>Prema delivered a talk on Rape for 100 doctors, nurses and medical staff at Hospital Seberang Jaya. Staff Mangles, Jennie and intern Addie Lim attended to promote WCC resources.</p>
		
<b>19</b>		<p>WCC assistant secretary, Maria Francisca was on a radio talk show, <i>Minnal FM</i>, to promote WCC and PPW services to the Indian community.</p>
<b>19</b>		<p>Mangles and project officer, Nadia Ali attended a Workshop <i>Connecting Information Communication Technology with Violence against Women</i>, organised by Empower, at Holiday Villa, Subang Jaya.</p>

19	PPW organised a session on <i>Basic Skills of Pedicure and Facial Make-up</i> for the Women's Support Group.
20	Upon invitation from Resident Association Taman Permata Bukit Mertajam, Jennie, assisted by WCC member Meyuri Michelle and intern Addie, conducted the <i>Bijak Itu Selamat</i> programme for 49 children.
21	Nadia represented WCC at the Fiesta Feminista Organising Meeting at AWAM, Kuala Lumpur.
21-24 June & 13 July	WCC vice president, Mariam, member Khuan Sui and WCC staff were at the Sessions Court to give support to the family of a 4-year old child allegedly raped in a kindergarten at Bukit Dumbar, Jelutong. WCC Member Karen Lai was WCC's watching brief lawyer.
26	WCC Extraordinary General Meeting at YMCA.
26	Sook Foong presented on <i>Understanding Domestic Violence</i> while Cheng Kooi was one of the panellists at the seminar organised by Persatuan Perkhidmatan Komuniti Taiping.
30	WCC outreach team conducted talks on <i>Sexual Assault, ICT Violence and Perlakuan Remaja</i> for 120 Form 2 to 4 students at SMK Zainal Abidin.
30	Sudandara together with Annie delivered a talk on <i>When There is Hurt at Home</i> at a seminar organised by Women's Affairs Department of Pusat Islam, USM.

## JULY

1	 <p>WCC celebrated our official 25th anniversary with 65 members at Flamingo Hotel.</p>
3	WCC staff and volunteers conducted a 2-hour session on <i>Teenage Relationship</i> for 56 youths from Holy Spirit Cathedral.
4	WCC members Rosmawarni Roslan and Norliza Bahari represented WCC at the Seminar <i>Kemelut Remaja Masa Kini - Pembuangan Bayi</i> , jointly organised by Persatuan Titian Kasih and Belia Negeri Pulau Pinang.
5	Cheng Kooi attended the <i>Konvensyen Majlis Pembangunan Wanita dan Keluarga Negeri Pulau Pinang</i> at Cititel Hotel.
8	Tasha spoke on <i>Domestic Violence and Child Sexual Abuse</i> to 300 participants from government agencies, secondary schools and the Teluk Bahang community.

10	WCC staff and members facilitated a workshop on <i>Ilmu Keluarga</i> jointly organised by PPW, WCC and Lembaga Penduduk Pembangunan Keluarga Negara (LPPKN) Club for 50 single mothers and lower-income women at the Bukit Mertajam Country.
10	Sudandara, Prema and Mangles conducted a workshop in Tamil on <i>Know your Rights</i> for 24 women at Praise Lutheran Centre.
14	Thomas conducted the programme <i>Perlakuan Remaja</i> for 100 Form 1 to 5 students at SMK St. Mark.
16 July, 6 August & 23 September	Annie delivered lectures on <i>Violence against Women</i> for the Penang Medical College students.
17	Prema and Tasha organised a training session on <i>Bijak Itu Selamat</i> programme for eight volunteers.
24 – 25	Prema and Nadia conducted a 2-day training on <i>Working with Teenagers</i> for 32 participants including Rotary Club representatives upon invitation from Perak Women for Women.
25 & 29	WCC staff and volunteers promoted WCC's services and sold anniversary souvenirs at Little Penang Street Market.
26	Tasha, Mangles, Jennie and Thomas conducted a <i>Personal Safety</i> programme for 73 Form 4 students of SMK Teknik Balik Pulau. 
31	Annie, assisted by intern Liz Tan, gave a talk on <i>Children's Personal Safety</i> upon the invitation of the women's committee of Jawatankuasa Kemajuan dan Keselamatan Kampung (JKKK), Simpang Ampat in Seberang Perai Selatan.

## AUGUST


3 – 26	Julianne Gu from the Faculty of Law, University of Toronto, began her internship at WCC.
4	Prema spoke briefly on the importance of raising awareness in personal safety for both adults and children at the launch of a project on <i>Child Sexual Abuse Prevention</i> by Rotary Clubs in Kuala Lumpur.
6 – 7	WCC member and staff conducted a workshop <i>Learning about your Rights</i> for 15 Tamil-speaking women, organised by PPW and WCC in Bukit Mertajam.

9	WCC committee member Khuan Sui represented WCC at a Penang Council Consultative Forum meeting.
10	Thomas conducted a <i>Perlakuan Remaja</i> programme for students at SMK Georgetown.
10 & 23	WCC members and staff conducted the <i>RESPEK</i> programme for 65 Form 1 girls at SMK Georgetown.
14	<p>At PPW Women's Support Group session, a single mother with three children spoke about <i>Handling Children's Emotions</i>.</p> 
14	Nadia conducted the <i>Ok Tak Ok</i> programme for 8 children aged 9 to 13 years while WCC member Meyuri conducted another session for 20 children aged 4-10 years at St. Joseph Children's Home.
17	Annie conducted a lecture on <i>Violence against Women</i> for students from the Adventist Nursing College.
21	Datin Annie Chin, received a donation for WCC at the launch of Dragon-i Restaurant in Gurney Plaza.
24	WCC conducted the <i>RESPEK</i> programme for 65 Form 2 girls at SMK Convent Butterworth.
24	Prema represented WCC at a roundtable discussion on <i>Reproductive and Social Health Education</i> by Ministry of Education in Putrajaya.
24 – 25	Tasha participated at the Consultation on the Rights of the Child Convention at Naza Hotel.
25 & 26	Jennie conducted the <i>Child Sexual Abuse</i> programme in Tamil at SRJ(T) Sungai Jawi and SRK(T) Sungai Bakap for 150 and 74 students respectively.
28 – 29	 <p>In partnership with the Rotary Clubs of Bandar Utama, Titiwangsa, Shah Alam, Metro KL, KL North and Sungei Way, Prema conducted a 2-day training workshop for 26 facilitators on <i>How to give talks on Child Sexual Abuse Issues</i>.</p>

## SEPTEMBER


<b>3 &amp; 24</b>	WCC attended a meeting to plan a 1-year campaign To Stop Sexual Crimes against Children.
<b>17</b>	Tasha and Thomas conducted a Gender Sensitisation session for 34 Surya College students in Butterworth.
<b>22</b>	SMJK Chung Hwa invited WCC to give a talk on Personal Safety and Sexual Assault to 75 female Form 1 students. Annie, Kae Shih and Lee Y'ng conducted the session.
<b>25</b>	WCC promoted our services at Penang International Youth Day at Prangin Mall.

## OCTOBER

<b>2</b>	WCC celebrated its Silver Anniversary Dinner cum Fundraising held at Gurney Hotel. Over 600 guests attended the function and RM400,000 was raised for our new building.
<b>5</b>	Annie gave a lecture on <i>Domestic Violence and the Role of the Health Care Providers</i> for 44 nursing students of Lam Wah Ee Nursing College.
<b>9</b>	WCC representatives Prema and Kah Cheng spoke at Kempen Rakyat Pulau Pinang: Stop Sexual Crimes Against Children launch at Tanjung Bungah Hotel. More than 200 people attended the launch which was officiated by the Chief Minister of Penang.
<b>15 &amp; 22 October, 10 &amp; 15 November</b>	WCC staff and members conducted a <i>Bijak Itu Selamat</i> programme for 515 Std. 4–6 students from SK Hamilton, SJK(C) Pai Tek, SK Hutchings and SK Convent Green Lane.
<b>16</b>	<p>In conjunction with World Mental Health Expo Day, WCC Promo Gang set up an exhibition booth and Tasha and WCC Member Lerk Shih spoke on <i>Violence against Women</i>.</p> 
<b>18</b>	Cheng Kooi and Annie participated in a dialogue organised by the Malaysian Association of Social Workers and Jabatan Kebajikan Masyarakat Malaysia on the proposed Social Worker Bill.
<b>20</b>	WCC president Lalitha attended the <i>Seminar Memperkasakan Hak-Hak Ibu Tunggal</i> , organised by SUHAKAM, in Hotel Hilton, Petaling Jaya.

21	WCC conducted a 1-day seminar on <i>Kebahagiaaan Rumah Tangga Menjamin Kebahagiaaan Wanita</i> for 90 Puspanita members at Gurney Hotel.
26	Annie represented WCC at a Roundtable meeting on <i>Review of the One Stop Crisis Centre (OSCC)</i> of state hospitals at Petaling Jaya.
30	Mangles, Nadia and Jennie attend a 2-day workshop on <i>Understanding Gender Better</i> , organised by 3Gs at Red Rock Hotel.

## NOVEMBER

1, 2, 3, 11, & 12	WCC outreach team and members conducted the <i>RESPEK</i> programme for 440 students at SMJK(C) Union, SMK Sri Mutiara, SMK Convent Pulau Tikus and SMK Tunku Puan Habsah.
6	WCC promoted our services at Bukit Jambul Complex.
6	<p>At the <i>Kempen Rakyat</i> training on <i>Prevention of Sexual Crimes and Support of Child Victims</i> organised by Children's Protection Society, Lalitha spoke about the challenges in handling sexual abuse crimes in court.</p> 
6 & 21	The WCC Promo Gang were at SUARAM's <i>Program 50 Tahun di bawah Kekejaman ISA</i> in Komtar Walk to promote WCC's services and sell our 25th Anniversary souvenirs.
9	WCC outreach team trained 47 teachers and school counsellors how to conduct the <i>Bijak Itu Selamat</i> programme in Batang Padang District in Perak.
10	Penang Hospital held an Interagency meeting to discuss efficient cooperation and improved services for clients. Prema represented WCC.
12	WCC outreach team conducted the <i>Gender Sensitisation</i> programme for 50 students at Institut Pendidikan Guru.
12	Prema gave a talk on <i>Sexual Harassment</i> to 200 police officers.
13	PPW screened the movie <i>Night &amp; Fog</i> at the Women's Support Group meeting. Annie spoke about domestic violence, knowing one's rights and how to protect oneself.
13 – 14	WCC member Karen Lai and Prema were facilitators at the KOMAS Freedom Film Festival at the Caring Society Complex.

Credit: Priscilla Ho

14		<p>A <i>Thank You</i> party was hosted by Datin Annie Chin's for staff and volunteers who helped in WCC's 25th Anniversary Dinner cum Fundraising Event.</p>
14	<p>The Penang Forum organised PF3 – an election for local councillors for 2011. WCC committee member Datin Khuan Sui stood for election and won.</p>	
15	<p>WCC's staff and members conducted a half-day programme, "Youth against Social Ills" organised by Soroptomist International Penang for 44 students of SMK Tg. Bungah.</p>	
18	<p>Prema, assisted by Cindy Ruble, gave a talk on <i>Women Creating Safe Spaces</i> at the World YWCA-YMCA Week of Prayer and Work Fellowship.</p>	
20	<p>A workshop on <i>Tip-Tip Keselamatan Diri untuk Wanita</i> was organised by PPW for 12 participants.</p>	
20 & 21	<p>Upon the invitation from six Rotary Clubs in Selangor, Prema, assisted by Mangles, conducted a 2-day training on <i>How to give a Basic Talk on Child Sexual Abuse</i> to 17 participants.</p>	
25	<p>Cheng Kooi collected a generous donation from Lam Wah Ee Hospital charity event.</p>	
26 & 27	<p>PPW and WCC organised a 2-day training on <i>How to Give a Talk on Child Sexual Abuse</i> for 46 participants at B-Suite Hotel, Penang.</p>	
28	<p>Mangles, Jennie and volunteer Julie Jane conducted a workshop on <i>Isu-Isu yang dihadapi oleh Wanita-Wanita India di Komuniti</i> organised by Persatuan Ibu Tunggal dan Kebajikan Umum, Seberang Perai Selatan for 31 participants.</p>	

## DECEMBER

1 & 2	<p>WCC's staff and volunteers participated in a workshop on <i>Enumerators Feedback on the Domestic Violence Research Findings</i> by Universiti Sains Malaysia Kubang Kerian in Kelantan.</p> <p>Cheng Kooi presented on <i>Applications of Research Findings</i> at the USM Kubang Kerian National Workshop on "Health Sector's Response to Domestic Violence: Capacity Building For NGOs and Health Care Providers".</p>	
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1	Annie gave a talk on the <i>Role of WCC</i> in Handling Sexual Abuse Cases to Investigation Officers of the Sexual Crime Unit from 5 districts of Penang.
4	 <p data-bbox="949 343 1219 497">A workshop on <i>Manage Your Finances</i> was organised by PPW and WCC for 40 Chinese-speaking participants.</p>
4	40 children of our single mothers were at Sunshine Square Bayan Baru to receive free school shoes, bags and stationery, sponsored by Suiwah Corporation.
5 – 12	WCC set-up an exhibition booth to promote our services during Local Democracy Week, organised by SUARAM.
8	Prema and Swee Li attended a meeting at the One Stop Crisis Centre (OSCC), Hospital Kepala Batas, to discuss efficient co-operation and improved services for clients.
9 – 11	WCC member Karen Lai was a panel speaker at the 2nd Congress of Asian Association of Women's Studies <i>Debating Gender Justice in Asia</i> held at City Bayview Hotel.
12	WCC set up an exhibition booth to promote our services during the Human Rights Day celebration at Dewan Sri Pinang.
14 December – 7 January 2011	Koay Kar Ming from Universiti Utara Malaysia interned at WCC for 4 weeks.
16	Annie and Sook Foong represented WCC at the Mesyuarat Penyelarasan Program Bantuan, Unit Perancang Ekonomi Negeri Pulau Pinang (UPEN).
22	Lembaga Perancangan dan Penduduk Keluarga gave 10 hampers to WCC's low income women clients.
26	WCC's Promo Gang, members and volunteers conducted a year end sale of WCC's 25th Anniversary souvenir items at Little Penang Street Market.
30	<p data-bbox="376 1479 638 1824">WCC organised a Round Island Exposure Trip for its staff, members and volunteers. 15 adults and 3 children visited the Tropical Spice Garden, Tropical Agro Farm, Balik Pulau town and the Kek Lok Si Temple.</p> 

# APPRECIATION AND GRATITUDE

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- Zero Fitness Dance Studio
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- Lam Wah Ee Hospital
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### Individuals (in cash and in kind)

- Adeline Lim
- Ae Yit Yuen
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- Chen Wee Seng
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- Dr. Zainariah bt Mohd. Zain
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- Ong Kim Suan
- Phang Lee Looi
- Sit Chin Mee
- Tan Heng Ghee
- Tan Siew Tee
- Teoh Boon Tat
- Teoh Gin Kheng
- Vivien Ng
- Yap Yee Ling
- In loving memory of  
Dr. & Mrs. Yeoh Eu Hock
- In loving memory of  
Khaw Cheng Hum

# WCC 25th Anniversary cum Fundraising Dinner Event



## Organising Committee

- Datin Annie Chin Lye Kheng ( Chairperson)
- Datin Chin Khuan Sui      • Mariam Lim      • Agnes James

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Annie Chin, Chin Khuan Sui,  
Mariam Lim, Loh Cheng Kooi  
and Annie Yeap

### Silent Auction

Lee Laine, Poh Lerk Shih

### Event Decorations

Focal Concepts Sdn Bhd

### Souvenir Book

Mariam Lim, Agnes James and Loh Cheng Kooi

### Dinner Event Emcee

Nora Beh

### Video: *WCC Reaching Out, Changing Lives:*

Ambiga Devy, Lee Sook Foong, Mariam Lim,  
Nadia Ali and S.Mangleswary

### Video: *Malaysian Women, Our Journey*

James Lochhead, S.Sudandara, Shakila Manan,  
Noraida Endut, Prema Devaraj, Annie Yeap,  
Lau Swee Li and Tasha Merican

### Call WCC! Dancers

Janet Pillai, Ambiga Devy, Chee Sek Thim,  
Karen Lai, Yeong Joo Kean, Ang Ban Siang,  
Petra Oon, Nur Muna Mazlan, Aloyah Bakar,  
Agnes James

### Sing my sister, sing Dancers

Aida Redza, Prema Devaraj, Tan Kim,  
Uvarajan Shanmugam, S.Mangleswary,  
Nur Saizatul Akmal Saharudin,  
Muhammad Sufian bin Suhaimi,  
Mohamad Ridzuan bin Mat Zain,  
Chang Wea Shinn, Shariza Kamarudin,  
Gowri Krishnan, Nadia Ali



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- Church of the Immaculate Conception
- Exabytes Network Sdn. Bhd.
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- Jabatan Kebajikan Masyarakat Negeri Pulau Pinang
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- KANITA, Universiti Sains Malaysia
- Kementerian Pembangunan Wanita, Keluarga & Masyarakat
- Lam Wah Ee Nursing College
- Legal Aid Centre, Penang
- Lembaga Penduduk dan Pembangunan Keluarga Negara
- Lions Club of Kulim
- Pejabat Pembangunan Wanita Negeri Pulau Pinang
- Penang Counselling Group
- Penang Medical College
- Penang Office for Human Development
- Perak Women for Women (PWW)
- Persatuan Kebajikan Sinar Ceria Taman Sejahtera, Bukit Mertajam
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- Persatuan Pengajian Sadhhu Vaswani
- Puspanita, PDC
- Rotary Club of Bandar Utama
- Rumah Darul Sakinah
- Rumah Kebajikan Seri Cahaya
- Rumah-Rumah Nur di Pulau Pinang
- Shan Children's Home
- Sisters in Islam (SIS)
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- Liz Tan Lee Soo
- Loh Ban Ing
- Ooi Soo Lee
- Soo Hoo Pei Ying

*and our sincerest apologies to those that we may have inadvertently left out.*



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