2020

# ANNUAL REPORT



www.radion-international.org



"When there's darkness around you, **shine your light** even brighter."

— Jeanette Coron



RADION International is a Christian relief and development agency.

We are dedicated to **serving vulnerable and underserved communities.** 



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### TOTAL AMOUNT RAISED

\$402,969

FY2020 saw a 29% decrease in overall donations due to the cancellation of onsite fundraising channels due to the pandemic. Funding through private donations and sponsorship programmes remained strong.

**OPS EXPENSES** 

22.7%

Percentage of admin, accounting, and fundraising costs against total expenditure in FY2020.

### STAFF STRENGTH

**16 + 30** 

Full-timers

Adhoc / Support Staff

The change-makers on the RADION team across the 3 locations we serve in.

### **LOCATIONS**

Singapore
Phetchabun
Chiang Mai



JAN - FEB

• First reports of Covid-19 emerge.

MAR - APR

- First Covid-19 death.
- Thailand issues Emergency Decree after surge in infections.
- Tourism industry badly affected after border closures.
- Circuit Breaker in Singapore.

MAY - JUN

- Report of Covid-19 clusters in Phetchabun.
- Economic disruption leaves millions unemployed.
- JUL AUG
- Singapore out of Circuit Breaker.
- Emergency Decree extended in Thailand.
- Global cases top 40 million.

SEP - OCT

NOV - DEC • First shipments Covid vaccines.

- Set up the Hope Scholarship to help put low-income students through university.
- Launched **Masks for HOPE** to produce masks and create jobs in the community.
- Dreamcentre disinfected and prepared for use as field hospital.
- Launched Forward Food programme in Chiang Mai & Phetchabun to reach families in need.
- Kickstarted **#KeepGoing** a virtual marathon to inspire hope.
- Held our first-ever online Youth Action Symposium.
- Organised **Christmas outreach** in Khek Noi.
- Gift of HOPE -year-end online gala.



RADION is into its 14th year and I am amazed how year on year the team continues to work despite harsh conditions and regular disappointments. I continue to learn much about the meaning of love and giving, and none more than in the past year given the Covid crisis. It has been tough and we have each felt the effects of the pandemic, some in more tangible ways than others. We have all had to make certain changes, whether in mindset or behaviour to this crisis.

We often hear of the term post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) bandied about in such times. However, we must also recognise the concept of <u>post-traumatic growth</u> which asserts that we can experience exponential psychological development in times of hardship. It is up to us how we choose to perceive our reality, and here at RADION, we have chosen to see the pandemic not as a set-back, but as a **set-up**.

We have renewed faith in serving the vulnerable and underprivileged. Through several new initiatives, we are heartened to see how the kids we have been journeying with for the last decade are starting to help other younger kids as well. This feeds into our long-term vision of building self-sustaining environments that are empowered by those whom we serve.

Thank you to all on the team for their tireless work and to all our beneficiaries and donors, we are heartened by your continued support and belief in our work. This pandemic has helped us relook our approach to work and filled us with excitement for the year ahead!



2020 saw one of the worst financial crises ever as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, which itself has claimed 2.6 million lives at the time of writing, destroyed livelihoods, and brought already fragile economies close to breaking point.

Businesses and livelihoods have been affected, and that's an understatement. RADION's finances were not exempted. With a 33% dip in revenue, the possibility of cutting jobs, terminating programs – scaling down our operations – stared at us starkly in the face.

Yet, we persevered. The entire staff team chose to double our outreach efforts, and opened up our multi-purpose hall to serve as a COVID quarantine site, despite. Each staff contributed new ideas to generate alternative revenue for RADION. Some dipped into their personal reserves to kickstart small social businesses where [a portion? All?] funds went to RADION, others started integrated farming projects to bolster our street kids' food supplies... (don't understand how the online livestream inspires hope for suicidal ppl)

While the staff innovated, each of you – our donors, supporters, friends – continued to display your trust in what we do by giving financially. For this, I am immensely grateful.

RADION recorded a financial deficit of \$31,402.78 in 2020. This is the first time we have experienced a deficit since our inception. The sum is relative to the figure of \$200,000 that we projected at the onset of the pandemic.

However, 2020 was not simply a pandemic year but also a year that saw us challenge ourselves on all fronts, a year of seeing our core team grow, mature, and blossom into their roles to impact children, youths, and the families we serve.

On behalf of the directors, leadership, staff team, and all recipients of our work, thank you for your faithful giving and investment in lives. By believing that **Every Life Matters**, you push us further, inspiring us to be a beacon of light to many in this season!

# THE BOARD



**Dr Joel Yang**Chairman of Board of Directors

Joel is a Clinical Psychologist, having completed his training in Australia and practicing since 2008. He started his career working in psychiatric hospital and community mental health services.

Moving into academic settings, he served as Head of Counselling at the Singapore Institute of Management University, and worked at Yale-NUS College as well.

He currently runs a private psychology consultancy, Mind what Matters, and is convicted to destigmatise mental illness and promote mental health. He is passionate to help others (and himself) continually evolve and engage in driven and meaningful lives.



**Mr Alvin Tay**Non-Executive Director

Alvin Tay was the Editor of The Business Times, a financial publication of Singapore Press Holdings (SPH), from 1 September 2002 to 1 December 2016. He then moved on to become the Managing Editor of the English/Malay/Tamil Media Group of SPH before retiring on 1 March 2018.

Mr Tay is currently the Deputy Chairman of The RICE Company Ltd, a not-for-profit organisation which reaches out to children and youths from low-income families through the arts.

As Business Times Editor, Mr Tay also served on the Board of The Old Parliament House Limited from 2003 to 2011. From 2012 to 2016, he was the co-chairman of ChildAid Singapore, an annual charity concert that raises funds for The Business Times Budding Artists Funds and The Straits Times School Pocket Money Fund.



**Dr Boon Jiabin**Non-Executive Director

Dr Boon is a member of the College of Family Physicians Singapore and a Family Physician in private practice.

He graduated with a Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) and subsequently obtained his Graduate Diploma in Family Medicine (GDFM) from the National University of Singapore. Practicing with utmost dedication to his patients, Dr Boon was awarded the Singhealth Best Junior Doctor Award.

# THE BOARD



Mr Sonny Chuah Non-Executive Director

Sonny has retired from the corporate world after 40 years in the air-conditioning, refrigeration, material science and facilities management fields. He spent 15 years of his life in regional roles covering the Asia Pacific countries. Currently freelancing as a consultant to keep abreast of the technologies and share his knowledge and experience to the industry.

A Mechanical Engineering graduate from Perth, Western Australia he was active in the Overseas Christian Fellowship before returning home after graduation. Started working in Malaysia in 1973 then to Indonesia for a year before settling down in Singapore after getting married to a fellow OCFer from Singapore.



Mr Eugene Wee Founder / Executive Director

Eugene graduated with a BSc (Hons) Business Computing & Information Technology from University of Wales (UK). He pursued a career in the Singapore Ministry of Defence (MINDEF) for 6 years and thereafter went into corporate training and consultancy. His work with MINDEF earned him a commendation for life-saving, and he was later also awarded the Good Service Medal.

Eugene represents RADION International in the Economic & Social Council (ECOSOC), United Nations' central platform for reflection, debate, and innovative thinking on sustainable development.

# **OUR ADVISORS**

The Advisors are selected to provide input according to their specific fields of expertise. Their collective knowledge has been invaluable in enhancing RADION's strategic projects as well as broaden our networks.



**Mr Tan Cheng Hai** Technology Advisor

Cheng Hai is the founder of Zenith Intellutions Pte Ltd, a specialist firm providing consultancy services for advanced satellite, sensor and Internet of Things (IoT) technologies.

He previously held the appointment of Director, Business Partnerships for a Singapore start-up company SGLab Pte. Ltd., and had served in Singapore's Ministry of Defence (MINDEF) for 30 years. In MINDEF he held various senior appointments and has served in the Defence Research and Technology Office that managed research & development of advanced technological systems for the Singapore Armed Forces.

Currently, he serves on industry advisory board at School of Engineering and Technology, PSB Academy and board of advisors, Equatorial Space Industries Pte. Ltd.



**Ms. Giam Lay Hoon** Legal Advisor

Ms Giam is a qualifed lawyer by training and has experience in fund management, investments, legal, corporate governance, compliance and regulatory issues. She is an Advocate & Solicitor of the Supreme Court of Singapore and started her career in the prestigious Singapore Legal Service

Ms Giam has been the Company Secretary and in-house counsel of Temasek Holdings Pte Ltd and Senior Vice President of Mapletree Investments Pte Ltd, and its group companies. She is also a personal investor in private innovative companies involved in neuro feedback technology, entertainment and movies, and data storage and technology.

# **OUR ADVISORS**



**Mr Foo Hee Kiang** Strategy Advisor

Hee Kiang is fully retired from corporate life. He previously served as Vice President (General Affairs) of the Singapore Water Association, overseeing the association's communications and international relations.

He was also a Senior Advisor to the Executive Chairman and Group CEO of Hyflux Ltd, responsible for industry relations and business collaborations.



**Mr Peter T. Phan** Strategy Advisor

Peter currently serves as SVP, Head of Digital and Transformation Services, in Trusted Services Pte Ltd, having worked at BHP Billiton and Accenture previously. He is a seasoned business and technology leader with 25 years of experience, spanning across Fortune 100 global multinational corporations to technology start-ups.

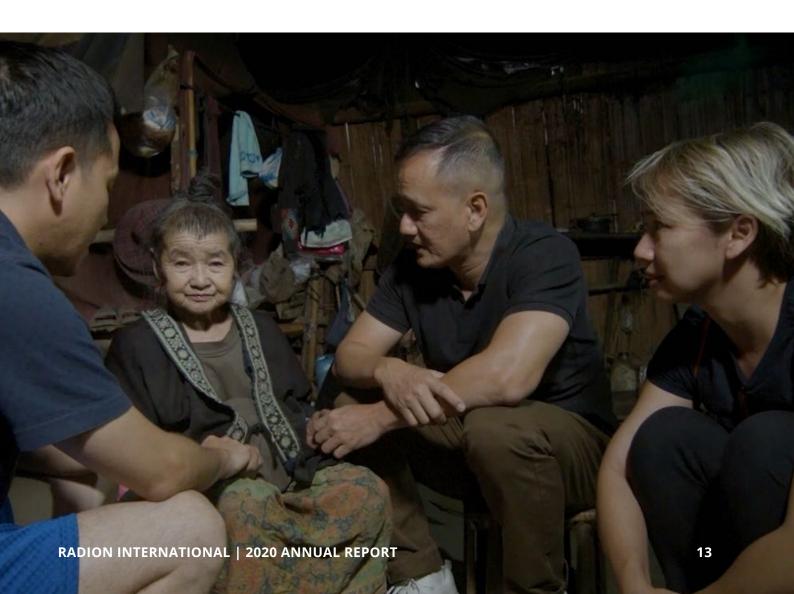
Because of his technical background, his many years in consulting, and as well his roles in leadership, both in small and large companies, Peter has been exposed to a wide array of business and technical challenges across many industries.

# GOODWILL AMBASSADORS

We thank our goodwiill ambassadors **Gurmit Singh** and **Vernetta Lopez** for graciously championing our cause, and for giving their time and expertise in several RADION events over the years.

**Gurmit Singh**, is a Singaporean actor, host and comedy performer. A former artiste of Mediacorp, he is best known for his role in Phua Chu Kang Pte Ltd, for which he won the Asian Television Awards prize for Best Performance by an Actor (Comedy) five times, from 1998 to 2001 and in 2003.

**Vernetta Lopez** is an actress, radio DJ, professional emcee and voice over artiste. She's known for her role as Denise in the long running sitcom, 'Under One Roof' and is a well-known radio personality on Gold 905FM.





COUNTRY HIGHLIGHTS

# SINGAPORE

# **PROGRAMMES**

We believe that Singapore can be a city of good. We see encouraging signs – Youths in Singapore are already deeply concerned about social issues such as the income divide, social justice and action. They are equally keen to contribute to solutions to the issues they see.

This is why in 2019 we set up The Singapore Chapter – our full-time coordination centre for awareness & youth development work. This enables us to further our mission in nurturing youths for good works, and to inspire projects that will impact lives at home and in our region.

### **Awareness**

Promoting critical thought and deeper understanding of societal issues.

- #KeepGoing Virtual Marathon
- Gala Fundraisers

### Youth Development

Encouraging the next generation towards good works that impact lives.

- Youth Action Symposium
- MMM Conference





### Co-Founder, Homeless Hearts of Singapore

Project Light

# YOUTH ACTION SYMPOSIUM

Singaporean youths are increasingly concerned about social issues. Many have turned to online activism, to voice their concerns and frustrations. While an increase in social awareness is needed and welcome; it is equally important to turn our concerns & ideas into initiatives & deeds.

Hence, RADION's inaugural Youth Action Symposium was held in December 2020 to provide a broad and balanced perspective on social issues; while nurturing thought and inspiring youths to co-curate a better Singapore.

In this half-day online event, our audience heard from change-makers such as Abraham Yeo (Homeless Hearts of Singapore) and Madeleine Lam (Project Light) who shared their journeys though a panel discussion and Q&A session, covering local and regional initiatives respectively.



M istakesM issionariesM ake

MMM was conceived to help Singaporean Christian youths understand the realities and challenges of doing works of social ands spiritual impact.

This is an online series where fellow Singaporeans who are serving overseas are invited to share candidly about their work - the struggles they faced, and the mistakes they made. Through this open sharing, we hope to inspire more youths towards works that serve the vulnerable and which brings hope to their lives.



"because every new day is an opportunity to make a difference."

"because I am a cancer warrior. I need to keep going to fight cancer."







# **#KEEPGOING**

In conjunction with RADION's 13th Anniversary, we organised #KeepGoing - a virtual marathon to spark hope. In a year that was a perfect storm for many, we wanted this to be a campaign to encourage, inspire, and to draw us together in spirit even if we may be physically separated by social distancing measures.

In our first-ever campaign, over 600 runners across 10 countries responded, and together we ran a total of 38,348km. #KeepGoing will be back in 2021!



COUNTRY HIGHLIGHTS

# THAILAND

# THAILAND PROGRAMMES

We run long-term projects across 2 cities in Thailand - Phetchabun and Chiang Mai. Our programmes are aimed at serving the last, the lost, and the least - ranging from protecting children at-risk, job-skills training, to caring for the elderly.

In response to the pandemic and economic downturn in 2020, we ran special projects - ground-up initiatives to alleviate anxieties and improve well-being of people in our community.



### StreetKIDS

Protection & Recovery for Children at-risk.

### VillageCARE

Dignity for the elderly.

### Community Development

Empowering people in making long-term change.

### **Special Projects**

Ground-up initiatives to address pressing needs.









# **STREETKIDS**

StreetKIDS is a **rescue and recovery programme for children who have suffered abuse and who come from high-risk backgrounds**. This programme seeks to transform their lives by giving them a safe environment to grow, learn, and rebuild their dreams.

The children that StreetKIDS reaches out to are child survivors of violence and other high-risk backgrounds such as drug abuse.

Without intervention, these children risk becoming outcast from their own communities.

Our recovery programme revolves around the child, helping each boy and girl recover from emotional trauma, regain confidence, and assimilate into society.

This is a sponsorship programme where our sponsors play an important role in the recovery journeys of the children. Their kind support in 2020 meant that each and every child received the chance to grow to their fullest potential.

# **OUR SHELTERS**

We run 2 shelters in Phetchabun and in Chiang Mai for 42 children across (up to) 4 phases of the StreetKIDS programme.

### Phetchabun

STK1

16 children

### Chiang Mai

STK2 STK3

STK-T (Transition)

26 children

This year, we saw a total of **9 children** successfully graduate from their primary and secondary schools. They will move on to the next phase of their recovery under the StreetKIDS programme.











# VILLAGECARE

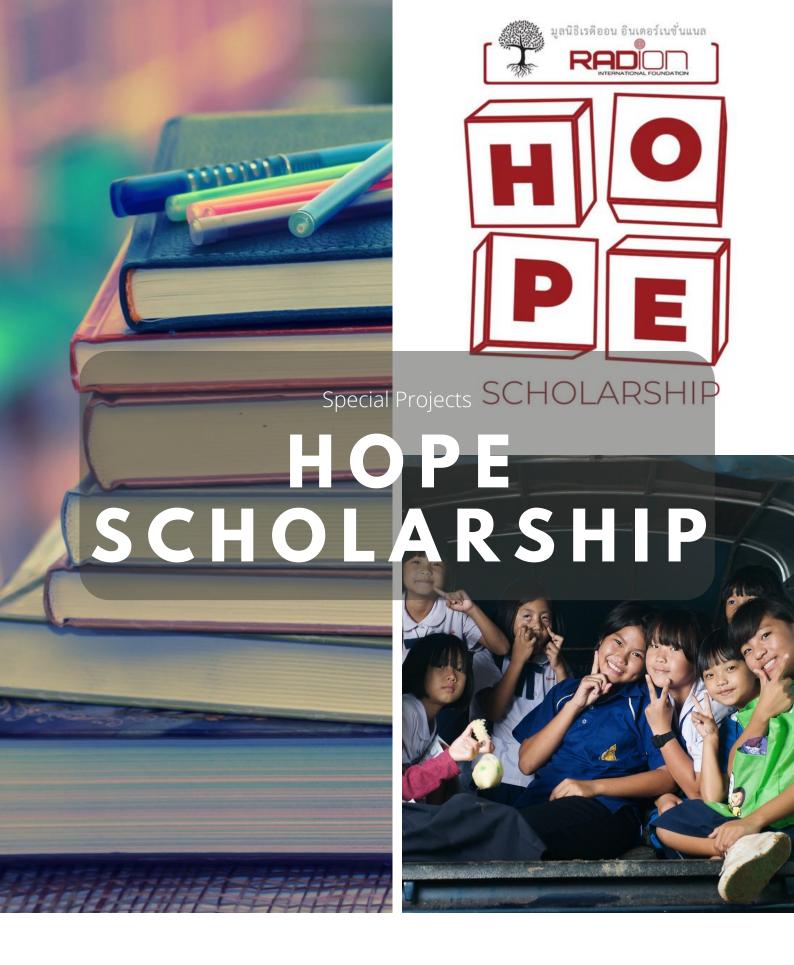
VillageCARE serves to protect the dignity of our recipients as they near end-of-life. Our team organises weekly visits and provides basic assistance such as food, clothes, and medicine to support vulnerable households that either have a disabled or elderly member.

Many of our beneficiaries are in the last laps of their lives. Hence we go beyond material support by also offering friendship and a listening ear - giving them emotional support in times of crisis.

VillageCARE is a sponsorship programme where a sponsor is paired to an elderly recipient. We thank our sponsors for making a difference in the lives of the elderly.



Masks for HOPE was started in response to the immediate needs when the pandemic first broke out. In addition to providing jobs for womenfolk, this initiative served to protect our community by providing masks to vulnerable households.



We created the Hope Scholarship to put Thai students from low-income homes through to University. In the inaugural year of this Scholarship, we enrolled our first batch of 7 students.



As with most countries in 2020, Thailand experienced an economic downturn that impacted businesses and livelihoods. So under an initiative codenamed FORWARD FOOD, our staff team were out in action to hand out care packs to low-income families, hoping to ease their anxieties - one care pack at a time.



We gave out care packs to communities in Chiang Mai and Phetchabun, targeting households that do not have easy access to relief aid.



Khek Noi was locked down when the pandemic was at its peak. We ran community awareness campaigns to highlight the threat of Covid-19 and the importance of hygiene. We made sure to also take care of the local officials and staff who were working round the clock to keep the village safe. When the threat of the virus loomed, we responded to the health ministry's request to prepare the Dreamcentre as a field hospital.

# OUR FINANCES

2020 was an unprecedented year for many, as the pandemic upturned lives and ravaged economies across the world. Against this backdrop, we were not able to hold our usual fundraising events and projects, resulting a decrease in donations year on year.

Nonetheless, we strived to ensure that help and services rendered to our recipients and the community at large would not be impacted. By streamlining our operations and with the support of sponsors and private donors , we were able to keep key programmes like StreetKIDS and VillageCARE fully funded, and also reach the larger community through special projects like Masks for HOPE and Forward Food.





Our group expenditure for FY2020 stands at **\$415,667** across Singapore and Thailand.

Our combined revenue stands at \$402,969.

Administrative, accounting and fundraising costs accounted for **\$94,206**, or **22.7%** of group expenditure in FY2019.

The remaining **\$321,461, or 77.3%** of group expenditure went towards direct services to our beneficiaries, programme management, and special projects.

Your generosity ensured that no one was left behind in 2020.

	FY2019	FY2020	Remarks
Group Income	\$568,696	\$402,969	29% decrease year-on-year.
Group Expenses (OPEX)	\$474,296	\$415,667	12.4% reduction in expenses through streamlining.
Gross P/L	\$94,400	-\$12,698	
STK Building Project (CAPEX)	\$282,272	-	Phase 2 of Project put on hold until 2021.



Total Expenses	FY2020 \$415,667	
<u>THAILAND</u>	\$286,363	
StreetKIDS!	\$159,070	(55.6%)
Community Development	\$20,323	(7.1%)
Village Outreach	\$10,010	(3.5%)
Humanitarian Relief & Special Projects	\$19,590	(6.8%)
Admin & Fundraising	\$77,370	(27.0%)
<u>SINGAPORE</u>	\$129,304	
Awareness	\$54,626	(42.3%)
Youth Development	\$57,842	(44.7%)
Admin & Fundraising	\$16,836	(13.0%)

# % EXPENSES BY COUNTRY Singapore 31.1% Thailand 68.9% ALLOCATION OF EXPENSES (OVERALL) Admin & Fundraising 22.7%

77.3%

Programmes



\$1,508,076

The total value of RADION's financial assets going into 2021.

Our accounts are externally audited in Thailand and Singapore

Financial Assets	Thailand	Singapore	Total
Bank Balances	\$146,637	\$176,881	\$323,518
Fixed Assets	\$1,002,739	-	\$1,002,739
Long-term Investments	\$181,181	-	\$181,181
TOTAL VALUE	\$1,002,739	\$176,881	\$1,508,076



### Singapore

### **Youth Action Symposium**

The youth conference will be back in a rebooted format to engage youths and to catalyse social impact in Singapore and our region.

### **MMM**

This quarterly series featuring Singaporean missionaries will resume this year.

### **#KeepGoing**

The virtual marathon to inspire hope will be back this year!

### **Gala Fundraiser**

Depending on the vaccination progress, we hope to bring this event back this Q4!

### **Thailand**

### **HOPE Scholarship**

Our initiative to put Thai kids from low-income families through University.

### **Community Grants Programme**

A project to encourage and increase community-led welfare initiatives.

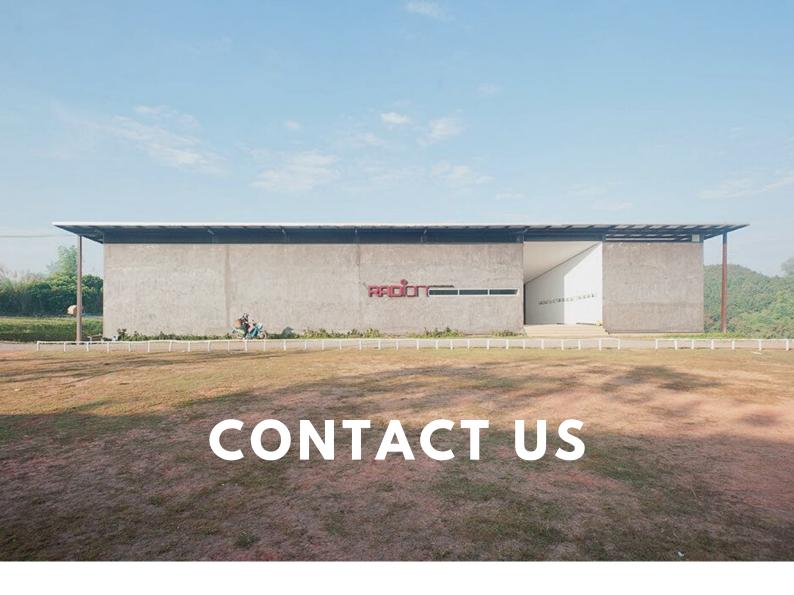


2020 was about remaining faithful to our mission, holding steadfast to our belief that every life matters. It required us to be adaptable and nimble, so we can be a helping hand to those in need. It called for resilience, as the pandemic unleashed various challenges that stretched us beyond our comfort zones.

To our volunteers, donors, and partners, thank you for believing in this work of impacting lives. Your generous support ensured that no one under our care was left behind. We will do our best to maintain that record.

With the devastating impact the pandemic had on economies and livelihoods, we will continue serving the vulnerable through StreetKIDS, VillageCARE, and the Community Development programmes.

Thank you for journeying together. May our collective actions bring hope to many this year!



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