## Outreach Team supporting HOME AWAY FROM HOME

Upon Malaysia closing its borders on 17<sup>th</sup> March, the following news followed:

- The Ministry of Manpower (MOM) together with tripartite partners swiftly went into action to help find temporary accommodations for affected workers.
- Malaysian workers unable to find accommodation slept at MRT stations and other public spaces.



How distressing it was for the stranded workers who were totally unprepared for the situation!

Hence, the project HOME AWAY FROM HOME was started as a collaboration between a group of churches and NGOs to provide urgently needed shelter and solace for the stranded workers.

Transit Point @ Margaret Drive, occupying the premises formerly belonging to Queenstown Polyclinic, was only recently

opened as a shelter managed by New Hope Community Services (NHCS) to house the homeless. It is now used to temporarily accommodate some of the stranded Malaysian Workers.

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NHCS was calling out for donations of necessities for the workers housed there.

We got a list of some of their requirements. When the Outreach team got notice of the needs, we immediately

mobilised some helpers to assemble the items. We even went to Giant Supermarket @ Beauty World to get some.

Rev. Fredric shared in a sermon reminding that God is working in these bad times by turning it into His instrument for good.

The second Greatest Commandment of our Lord is to love our neighbours.

Who are our neighbours? They are the people in our midst, the people living nearby. In bad times like this, it is *Kairos* time for us Christians to be also engaged as God's instrument for doing good in showing love to our neighbours.

Each of us is like a musical instrument playing a note of a different pitch. With collaborations across churches, the different notes come together to produce a comforting symphony that soothes the souls in need of support.

We can agree with Pastor Andrew Khoo, the founder and CEO of NHCS: "As Christians, I think this has to be our natural response to the needs out there."

It is a blessing to be able to bless others!

John Lee

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