

5 July 2020

**Attention: St George's Church**  
**From: SGC Missions Committee**  
**Re: Report on St George's Response to the Covid-19 Crisis**

The St George's Church family has responded with generous support for the acute needs arising from the Covid-19 pandemic - focusing on migrant workers and members of our church community. However, we are suspending fund-raising efforts as we have sufficient resources for the needs at hand.

Allow me to provide a breakout by recipient:

- 1. Alliance of Guest Worker Outreach SG (AGWO)** is a consortium of churches, and individuals which assembled during the Celebration of Hope event last year, focused on outreach to Singapore's migrant workers. When the pandemic hit, thousands of workers were confined to their dormitories without adequate provision for food. At the peak of the crisis, AGWO was providing over 15,000 meals per day at the peak of the crisis – working in close collaboration with government agencies. Following a recent MOM directive, the meal support programmes have been suspended effective end June 2020. Government agencies are requiring all employers to take on full responsibility. AGWO continues to supply a few hundred meals for those workers in situations where employers are bankrupt or otherwise unable to help. Pastor Sam Gift, leader of AGWO, informed me they have adequate funds to (a) cover the meals they have already distributed and (b) the residual needs this coming week. He added that the parent organization HIA (Hope Initiative Alliance) continues to provide kits of sundry & medical needs to the workers.

Collections from SGC members for AGWO : S\$6380. All funds received have been forwarded from SGC to AGWO in monthly instalments.

Post June - Phase 2 : AGWO is developing plans as dormitories are re-opened and workers return to jobsites. To minimize contagion risk, workers will be restricted to only 2 hours of recreation per week outside their dorm. The 2 hour break will be distributed over seven days/week - rather than all workers having Sunday off as in the past. With the cooperation of the MOM, AGWO is organizing locations where the workers can play sports, take computer courses, etc. There will be a need for church support (funds and volunteers) for these programmes. AGWO expects to advise more information soon.

***We are suspending collections from St George's members for AGWO.*** As needs arise in phase 2, we can review the situation - and may consider applying leftover amounts from our Adopt-A-Dorm (AGWO) funds.

2. **Adopt-A-Dorm Programme:** In April, AGWO invited St George's to support three dormitories in Western Singapore housing 500+ shipyard workers. Our support entails approx. S\$900 of weekly supplies of bread, milk powder, eggs, coffee powder, detergent, and instant noodles delivered by wholesalers. SGC members provide paper inserts with Bible verses in 3 languages: Telegu, Bangla, and Tamil. A few workers have asked for Tamil Bibles – which have been provided in paper and electronic formats. The facilities have Covid-19 infections, so will continue to be under quarantine / isolation for another 6-8 weeks. I expect we will continue with 8+ weeks of supplies @ a cost of S\$900/week.

Funds raised: S\$27,159 up to end June 2020.

Funds Disbursed: S\$6,946.17 up to June 24, 2020.

Balance on hand: S\$20,212.83 up to June 24, 2020.

Note: Two more deliveries have already been made in July, but not yet counted above.

***We are suspending collection of funds for Adopt a Dorm as we have reserves over the anticipated needs for the coming 2 months.***

3. **Anglican Crisis Relief Support Singapore (ACROSS):** ACROSS has been supplying multivitamins & meals to 1,000 foreign workers, formed 3 media production teams (Tamil, Mandarin & Bengali) to develop education content to support social cohesion, and provided smart TVs to selected dormitories. (TV funds were underwritten already). St George's Fund-Raising for ACROSS: S\$13,180. All funds received are forwarded in monthly instalments from SGC to ACROSS.

***We are suspending collection of donations for ACROSS at this time.***

#### 4. **CARE / Vicar's Crisis Programme**

This programme is for needs arising within our church family. It is managed by a sub-committee led by the Vicar, under the Missions & Outreach Committee.

Existing Vicar's Crisis Fund:	S\$5000
+ Donations Received:	S\$17,760
- <u>Less amounts disbursed (5 cases) :</u>	<u>S\$9533.50</u>
= Balance Remaining:	S\$13,226.50

***We are suspending our collections, but will maintain the CARE programme as we anticipate there more community needs arising - as the pandemic runs its course.***

Of course, we are prepared to re-visit the situation with all of the programmes as the situation unfolds. We wish to thank the St George's Church community for its generous support.

***Larry Bradley***

***Chairman***

***Missions & Outreach Committee***

***St George's Church Singapore***