

HISTORY OF THE BUILDING PROJECT

In 1997, Prof Ken Nakazawa (immediate past chairman of Asia Community Service) secured a RM 30,000 grant from Mitsubishi Foundation towards the building project. This was followed by a RM 418,000 pledge by Nippon Foundation in 1998. In the same year, a charity dinner under the patronage of the then Penang Governor and His Consort which was held at Hotel Equatorial raised RM 93,000.

Despite financial backing, we did not seem to be making headway. We faced difficulties in obtaining approval for the conversion of land and the building plans. Throughout this period of negotiation, we exercised much patience.

Nevertheless, we were determined to fulfill our pledges to potential user members whom we had identified in the community. In 2000, we started the Stepping Stone Centre in a rented premise in Taman Sri Indah with financial support from the Postal Savings International Voluntary Aid (POSIVA).

Newly appointed architect firm, BYG came into the picture in 2000 and re-submitted fresh applications to the local authorities. In 2001, we managed to convert the land usage and in mid-2002, we obtained the planning permission and the approval to build.

After successful tendering, the main contractor was appointed in August 2002. Five months later, the building was fully constructed. The Occupational Certificate was issued in June 2003. Lions' Club International Foundation contributed RM 79,000 towards the purchase of equipment and furniture. Finally in August 2003, after intense preparation and excitement, 13 members, supported by four full-time staff proudly started work in the new building in August 2003.

This building project would not have taken off the ground without the support from many, many people – both local and overseas. There is still a shortfall of RM 25,000 for the building. An estimated expenditure of RM 8,000 per month is required to sustain this project.

We are grateful for the contributions and grants that we have received from overseas. However, the future of this project must depend on the local community not just to sustain the work begun but moreover to continue enhancing the lives of people with disabilities towards independent living.

List Of Advisors & Contributors of Building Project. . . .

Architect	Mr Ben Yeoh and Team from BYG Architecture
Civil & Structural Engineer	Mr S.W. Teoh and Team from Jurutera Perunding LOT
Mechanical & Electrical Engineer	Mr C.F. Teh and Team from Pen Konsult Sdn Bhd
Quantity Surveyor	Mr S.C. Ma and Team from Kuantibina Sdn Bhd
Land Surveyor	Jurukur Mas
Main Contractor	Rimbaco Sdn Bhd

The above-mentioned team of consultants have not just given their professional services on a pro-bono basis but also provided us with much advice and given us tremendous moral support.

Donors in kind include Inset Sdn Bhd for its contribution of 5 pieces of Turbine Ventilators; various equipment and furniture from the Lions Club International Foundation and Nippon Foundation; and the bicycle shed from the Rotary Club of Seberang Jaya.

Special thanks to Dato Dr Hilmi Yahaya, Dato Kee Phaik Cheen, Mr Kyo Hoshino, all relevant local authorities including Jabatan Perancangan Bandar dan Pembangunan, Jabatan Bangunan, Pejabat Daerah Balik Pulau and members of the JKKK for their support.

List Of Cash Donors of the ACS Stepping Stone Support Centre Building Project

Year	Particulars	Amount (RM)	Total (RM)
1997	Mitsubishi Foundation	30,000.00	
	Japanese Women's Association	6,000.00	
	Kotoko Suzuki, Mrs	600.00	
	Tadao Matsumoto, Mr	1,500.00	
	Kiyoshi Kitazawa, Mr	900.00	
	Abe, Mr	300.00	
	Gifu Women's Group	300.00	
	Penang Japanese School Students	489.91	
	Total	40,089.91	40,089.91
1998	Kyo Hoshino, Mr & Mrs	5,000.00	
	Ken Nakazawa, Mr	28,140.00	
	Ryotai Tanaka, Mr	2,940.00	
	ACE Japan	88,920.92	
	Yusuke Kunugi, Mr	1,500.00	
	Hitachi Semiconductor	20,000.00	
	Chu Meng Heng, Mr & Mrs	200.00	
	Chew Lay Kean, Ms	100.00	
	Reiko Kugimiya, Ms	1,096.00	
	Nippon Foundation	418,304.25	
	Fujikura Federal Cables	3,000.00	
	Penfabric Sdn Bhd	3,000.00	
	Sunny Precision	10,000.00	
	Oriental Shimomura Drawing	3,000.00	
	Tomen Precision	2,000.00	
	Hitachi Metals Electronics	500.00	
	Kayoko, Ms	200.00	
	Fatty Chemicals	1,300.00	
	Tan Kah Kee, Dr & Mrs	400.00	
	CGL Lembaga Pengawas Pusat Sumber	300.00	
	DIC Compounds	5,000.00	
	Wong Chee Mun, Mr	100.00	
	Chia Tong Yong, Dr	100.00	
	C.B. Saw, Mr	10.00	
	Towam Sdn Bhd	300.00	
	Nichibei Parts Sdn Bhd	200.00	
	Tadao Arai, Mr	500.00	
	Koay Suan Phaik, Mdm	30.00	
	Art Tech Ed Centre	50.00	
	Quah Chai Huah, Mdm	100.00	
	Ewe Choo Aun, Mr	100.00	
	Leong Kum Weng, Mr & Mrs	200.00	
	Mary Teh, Mrs	100.00	
	Teoh Bee Nar, Ms	100.00	
	Shin Taima Trading	300.00	
	Jonne Quah, Mr	100.00	
	Tan Kheng Liat, Mr	500.00	
	Kenji Akeoka, Mr	500.00	
	Latiff Mirasa, Dato	200.00	
	Annie Peh, Ms	50.00	

	Cheah Soh Kiam	50.00	
	Purushottaman, Mr & Mrs	100.00	
	Teoh Mei Na, Ms	200.00	
	Tan Soo Cheng, Datin	200.00	
	T.S. Thong, Mr & Mrs	100.00	
	Lim Chin Tat, Mr & Mrs	100.00	
	M/S BAG	1,000.00	
	Unique Wire Cut Sdn Bhd	100.00	
	Fukui & Friends at Tanaka Electronics	1,600.00	
	Teo Chin Heng, Mr	200.00	
	Hiroko Arai, Ms	100.00	
	Pakardingin	200.00	
	Akio Suzuki	1,000.00	
	Satoko Shiga, Mrs	2,000.00	
	Tatsue Kato, Mrs	1,000.00	
	Huco Lim, Mr	100.00	
	Lui Teik Hock, Mr	500.00	
	PEMS Production Sdn Bhd	200.00	
	Ooi Kuan Lay, Ms	100.00	
	Goh Ka Tin, Ms	100.00	
	Koh Mooi Yim, Mdm	200.00	
	Tan Kim Teik, Mr	50.00	
	Sundram, Mr & Mrs	100.00	
	Koh Chooi Sim, Ms	200.00	
	Eastrade Electronics	100.00	
	Charity Dinner Collections	79,773.63	
	Logaraj, Mr	100.00	
	Gaya Car Rental	500.00	
	Hari Kharen, Mr	100.00	
	Total	688,514.80	728,604.71
2002	Yuko Honda, Ms	832.89	
	Ruri Gakuen	6,454.00	
	Staff of Arthur Andersen	234.00	
	Toshakyo Group	1,410.00	
	Jenny & Linda Yong	100.00	
	Fukui Community Network	1,462.00	
	Ooi Kwai Sim, Mdm	20.00	
	Neoh Yew Bok, Mr	20.00	
	Pertubuhan Bunga Tanjung	50,000.00	
	Total	60,532.89	789,137.60
2003	Molly Lim, Ms	100.00	
	Tan Cheng Ghim, Dr	250.00	
	Mdm Ooi Kwai Lim, Mdm	20.00	
	Chan Fai Keong, Mr	200.00	
	Maureen Anne Muthu, Ms	50.00	
	Tan Cheng Siong, Mr	300.00	
	Ben Yeoh Guan Beng, Mr & Mrs	10,000.00	
	Looi Chooi Beng, Mr	50.00	
	Eastern Garment Manufacturing	500.00	
	Au Ka-Neng, Mr	570.00	
	Tan Jun Han, Mr	500.00	
	Choong Lee Keong, Mr	100.00	
	Robert Bosch (M) Sdn Bhd	500.00	

	Tan Yi An, Mr	200.00	
	Lim Chin Wei, Mr	100.00	
	Loh Chong Eng, Ms	500.00	
	Low Kheng Hock, Mr & Mrs	50.00	
	Kuay May Jiuian, Ms	25.00	
	Paul Wong, Mr	75.00	
	Saeko Honjo, Ms	300.00	
	Sheirley Teoh, Mrs	200.00	
	Teoh Sau Jin, Mr	50.00	
	Teh Bee Fong, Ms	200.00	
	K.M. Chu, Mr & Mrs	200.00	
	George & Elaine Tan	200.00	
	Lim Swee Gaik, Mdm	1,000.00	
	K.P. Thum, Mr & Mrs	120.00	
	Leong Gaik Yee, Ms	100.00	
	Ng Choon Kent, Mr	50.00	
	Theresa Faust, Ms	3,120.00	
	Lions' Club International Foundation	79,708.48	
	Jason Ooi, Mr	200.00	
	Leong Xin Nee, Ms	50.00	
	Tatsuko Nakazawa, Mdm	95,250.00	
	H. Tsuchiya, Mr	6,600.00	
	Alfred Teh Eong Liang, Dato	7,000.00	
	Khor Soo Kee, Mdm	200.00	
2004	Lee Ean Kee, Ms	100.00	
	Nageswaran Kanagasabai, Mr	50.00	
	Eng Teknologi Sdn Bhd	10,000.00	
	Total	218,788.48	1,007,926.08

EXPENSES INCURRED TO DATE

Land & Earthworks	RM 400,000.00
Submission Fees	RM 40,000.00
Building Cost	RM 535,000.00
Furniture & Equipment	RM 100,000.00

	RM 1,075,000.00
