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Inner City Ministries (ICM)

INNER CITY MINISTRIES

Annual Report 2022

Dear all,

We have been so encouraged to see God strengthen and protect us over and over again in the past year. We trust in our Heavenly Father to lovingly move us forward. We're so grateful for how He has sustained our staff, our volunteers, and our supporters to galvanize our mission around the city. In the past year we have seen God's extravagant love and His provision. We would like to acknowledge how God has worked through our partner churches, individuals and NGOs. You've given generously of your time, space, talents, and finances to bring the light of the gospel through various programs and events. It is such a privilege to serve alongside you all. Every year, you demonstrated a deep love and commitment to Inner City Ministries, and I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude. Thank you so much and may God bless you continuously.

As the Government is lifting up most of the Covid restrictions, Inner City Ministries has been making the necessary adjustments to pursue various opportunities. We are now able pre-schedule all of our events at the beginning of the year, which you can find in our website. I hope this will provide more opportunities for our volunteers and supporters to engage in ICM's work. We are looking forward to serving alongside all of you as we experience the amazing works of God throughout the year.

With best regards

Emmanuel Lepcha

Executive Director Inner City Ministries



COMMUNITY CRISIS FUND

During the 5th Wave of Covid, ICM launched the Community Crisis Fund to support vulnerable communities who were deeply affected by the pandemic and other life crisis. Many of those in our community, who are able to work, are in industries that were heavily impacted by COVID restrictions.

With the support of many of you and the community of Hong Kong, we raised over HKD \$300,000 to support families as well as received many donations of food, medical and hygiene items. With both the fund and the generous donations, we were able to distribute medical and hygine supplies (medicine, masks, sanitizer, RAT tests), food vouchers, rental assistance, and a lot more. The generous contributions from resource partners helped over 350 families dealing with being unemployed, underemployed, elderly, low-income, single parent households and refugees.

IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS

- Since early April 2022, we received over 40 applications for rental assistance. And we have helped them by paying 50% of their rent for two months to alleviate their financial distress and anxiety.
- Food vouchers for low income families, single moms and refugees. Over 100 families have received supermarket vouchers worth of HKD 1500/family.
- Over 5 families have received support to pay their medical expenses.

"So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith..."

Galatians 3:26

I am so grateful to have had such a wonderful year of growth and learning with our kids. Our program focuses on spiritual growth, educational enrichment, and fun activities that both teach and entertain. It has been a true joy to lead and serve with a team and volunteers from various churches and institutions.

Beginning of the 2022 :

With the fresh start of a new year, Kid's Club partnered with several key volunteers who were ready to lead our kid's club services. However, it didn't go as planned due to the pandemic. We realised how difficult this separation would be for us, the volunteers and especially for our kids. Without meeting in-person, we quickly had to figure out creative ways to disciple the young in our community and to stay connected. We worked hard to provide that connection during the lockdowns through online programming and gifts that were delivered to families in isolation.

As April came to a close, we were finally able to meet the kids in person again with some restrictions on numbers. This opened up wonderful opportunities to meet the kids in person and allowed us to continue building closer relationships.

Summer came with a blast:

As part of our 2022 summer program, we were able to host a Summer Fair for almost 50 kids as well as two weeks of Vacation Bible School (VBS). The Vacation Bible School (VBS) was a fantastic way to teach kids about the Bible while also having fun! We held two one-week VBS programs which includes things like Bible study, crafts, games, and more. In total, 62 children had the opportunity to join our Vacation Bible School program.



Exploring:

Bonding with others is an important part of life. Whether it's bonding with family, friends, or a significant other, it's important to invest time in strengthening those relationships. We felt there was a need for bonding between our kids and the volunteers.

Generally the kids only get to interact with our committed volunteers on Saturdays, so we wanted them to develop a closer link. In September, we held sharing and bonding activities. Through this, both new and old volunteers were able to get to know the children outside of their regular activities. The awkwardness and shyness were effectively broken by doing this. This also helped the kids pay considerably more attention to the volunteers during the lessons because there was now a renewed sense of trust.

Additionally, we were able to take 25 kids to a live musical performance organized by the Hong Kong Chorus Society. We are thankful for the experience because it was our first time attending. Additionally, we held a costume party and celebrated the fall season in October. It was made possible by working together with volunteers from CAIS, the Watermark community Church, and the International Christian School.

God's Faithfulness until the end :

We wanted to get the kids involved in various performances for the Christmas outreach program on December 14 which held in the Auditorium at St Andrews Church to bless the entire community. Although we only had 6 Saturdays to practice with around 40 kids ranging in ages from 3 to 10, everything went more smoothly than expected.

I was on the verge of panic all through the rehearsal time. I learned through this experience that I should not try to handle everything on my own. God told me that I can seek the help that He has provided which for this event, included the assistance of volunteers from the Watermark Community Church, Island ECC, Christian Alliance International School, International Christian School, Community Church, St. Andrews Church and other individual volunteers. With out them, the entire practice time frame and the performances would not have been possible. There were over 400 people in attendance at the event including many families who don't regularly get to attend our ICM events!

Christmas Performance

"Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing." 1 Thessalonians 5:11

Musical Performance



2022 started with many obstacles, including the 5th wave of the pandemic, that brought many hardships to all of our families. However, it brought many good fruits as well by the grace of God. Through God's faithfulness, he blessed me with the opportunity to serve him & his people in ICM as a full-time staff member overseeing our teen's ministry. ICM has always been a second home to me. I have had the privilege to be a part of the teen's ministry while growing up and am currently involved with youth fellowship. Throughout my time with ICM I have expierenced the comfort, shelter, love and support of God from the staff & former volunteers. I thank God for his never-ending love and kindness.

A majority of teens desire connection and want to be a part of a group with their peers. When teens feel that they are not able to experience that connection, it can lead to a sense of being lost. I experienced this in my life and it shaped my personality and character. As I matured, I learned that I could only find what I needed in God. God led me to ICM as a teen and I found what I was searching for in the staff and students. As a young adult, God brought me back to work among the teens that need help and someone to listen to their needs. And it is a huge blessing to build relationships with them and bring them closer to God's love.

Amid the hindrances and obstacles, we experienced God's Spirit leading and guiding us as we continued in humility and courage. Despite not being able to meet physically in the earlier months of 2022, we were <u>able to continue</u> connecting with



our Teens Fellowship online via Zoom. We got them involved in icebreaker games, worship, teaching, small group discussions and prayer. We praise God that we were able to resume our face-to-face services as restrictions were loosened later in the year. We now regularly have 20 teens (including 3 new teens) attending our fellowship. We covered a series called "JESUS CENTERED LIFE" about what it is like to live a life like Jesus.

We were also blessed to have been sponsored by Roche Diagnostic for our football classes for our teens and young kids in collaboration with Leap Soccer School that provided us with jerseys and the venue.

PLANS WITH PRAYER FOR 2023

We're thrilled to see what God has planned ahead in the life of these young adolescents. Apart from having our Saturday Teens fellowship, we have initiated a tuition programme every Wednesday evening to help them with their homework's and studies. We're also praying that God will provid us with volunteers that are willing to serve and build relationships with them as they continue to grow.

As we have begun a Saturday Teens Fellowship, we pray that God will bring in new members that have not known Christ in their life. Also, we pray that God will provide volunteers that will impact them and build a relationship with our teens in our regular Saturday Teens Fellowship.

Last year, unfortunately we were unable to run our Kingdom Warriors (a one-week residential programme out of the city, where they can spend more time soaking in God's word of life). This was due to the school holiday schedule change for Summer 2022 which did not leave enough time for the camp. However, in 2023 we are looking forward to seeing God use Kingdom Warriors to bring the life of Christ back into their hearts.

We plan for many activities collaborating with our Youth's and Men's Ministry such as the following: Sports, Hiking, BBQ, Movie nights and other outdoor activities. These outings will give them the opportunity to interact with one another and build relationships in Christ.

Please continue to pray that they will be able to open their hearts to God and learn that there's more to life in Christ than what they see from the world. Pray they can make an impact to their friends & families and to be a living witness of Christ! 2022 has been an exciting and challenging year in our young adult ministry. At the beginning of this year, due to pandemic restrictions from January until mid of April, the Friday youth fellowships met online via zoom. We followed the format of having icebreaker games, worship, sermon, small group discussions, and prayer. Despite the challenges that the pandemic continues to bring, we praise God for His faithfulness and grace, as we saw opportunities for the youth to fellowship and serve in person.

From the middle of May, we were excited to open the opportunity for youths to join us in person while still giving online as an option. Meeting in person helped the youth reconnect and build stronger relationships not only with one another but with God as well.

Since last year God had open a door for us to reach out to high school students sharing the joy and love of Christ. We were regularly visiting two local high schools and built relationships with the teachers and students. This year more than 600 students heard

> the Gospel and two students from Bethel High School are now regularly attending our Friday Youth Fellowship.

> > This past summer of 2022, we had a total of 13 youths who joined Mini DTS (a week discipleship training program). The theme for this year was called *"Overcome the world" based on 1 John 4:4.* It

was a life-changing week for all the participants. A week filled with constant revelation, healing, friendship, learning, and transformation. Hello My name is Pun William. I turned 17 years old this year and this is my testimony from Mini DTS. In the beginning, I had many doubts because I thought there would be many people who were much more older than me. I thought everyone would be too serious and we wouldn't get along. But during the Mini DTS I learned that all the brother's, sisters, and uncles were good people and not always serious.

They shared the experiences they have had and the things God has done for them and how they learned to love and respect life. This helped me realize I don't need to be so hard on myself. I can relax and believe that God will walk with me every step of the way and I am glad that I joined the mini DTS.

A brother named Akash whom we met during our downtown outreach a long time ago visited us with the help of one of the social workers. He was in desperate need of a change from addiction and wanted to get involved with a community where he is accepted and loved. Praise God! He has found Jesus in his life and has been attending Friday Youth Fellowship on a regular basis.

We didn't have any outdoor activities in 2021 because of Covid restrictions but in 2022, by the grace of God, we were able to do some sports and activities such as Kayaking, Movie night, BBQ, and picnics. It gave us an opportunity to interact, make new friends, and build relationships with one another.



PRAYER FOR 2023

We are excited to see what God is going to do in the lives of our young people in 2023. We have exciting plans ahead such as doing a devotion on every Thursday besides Friday youth fellowship. We will join a football game between our youth, young adult, and men's group once every Saturday.

Also, we will continue doing one-toone ministry to disciple them in their walk with Christ.

Our young people are facing numerous challenges in their lives. Their schedules are incredibly busy and they are faced with a tremendous amount of pressure with school and work. The enemy is trying so hard to distract these young lives from following Christ. The purpose of our Men's Ministry is to build a strong trusting relationship through social activities and to impart the love of Jesus. We believe this will overflow into the rest of the family. Praise the Lord, we had 4 new brothers who have continued to join our men's group this year.

Our first in-person gathering in April started with a home visit. This was our prayer from last year to visit the families of our men's group. We thank God for opening a door. This year two brothers welcomed us into their home for fellowship. It was so nice to see everyone faceto-face.

We hosted a rooftop barbeque night for brother Dibak since he was moving to the UK. He has been a part of our men's group from the start and has been an encouragement for everyone. He is still active and in touch with us even though he is now in the UK. Sharing and encouraging our brother with God's word and life experiences.

During our Christmas outreach, the men performed a gospel drama and dance. Through this drama, we showcased the tragic lifestyle of the Hong Kong Nepali family. This included how broken marriages affected the whole family. But God brought reconciliation to the whole family through the gospel.

 Men's Group

Hi my name is Niraj Roka. I was born and grew up in a Buddhist family. It's been almost 3 years since I moved to Hong Kong. I learned about Jesus when I was in Nepal but in Hong Kong I felt like a lost sheep. I became busy with work and hanging out with friends late into the night. One of my friends introduced me to ICM. Since then I have regularly attended the men's fellowship on Saturdays. Meeting new friends and sharing life experiences together has really encouraged me in my walk with the Lord.

I feel so much love and that I am accepted by this group of brothers. Because of this, I do not hesitate to share any of my struggles. I'm so blessed to be a part of this family.



PRAYER FOR 2023

We are so thankful to God for all his provision and guidance throughout 2022. We are excited about what God is going to do in the lives of our men's group in the year ahead. Gathering our men for fellowship and any other activities has been a difficult experience for me. I've felt frustrated at times but it has challenged me to keep pressing forward for His glory. I have seen an abundance of transformation by the grace of God in the lives of our men's group.

We have exciting plans for our men's group for 2023. We plan to include more outdoor activities such as football in collaboration with youths and teens. These outings have mental and physical health benefits. It also helps us to build relationships with one another. We want to continue reaching out to the families of our brothers with the hope of the Gospel through our house fellowship.

Your prayers are highly appreciated.

Community Care Ministry

LOST AND FOUND

Jesus said: I came to seek and save the lost.

Whenever I get lost, if I can not find my way out on my own, I ask for guidance to help me reach my destination. When I finally reach my destination, then I am grateful and happy.



In the same way, I was seeking God's will whether to continue in my secular job or pursue going to Bible College to study and be equipped to serve the Lord.

Then I had a dream as I was standing at the entrance of Chung King Mansion and two Nepalese orphan girls whispered to me to come to Bombay, India. When I woke up, I read from my devotional, My Utmost for His Highest, for 24th January 1997 from Acts 26:16-18: "Jesus said to Paul: "I have appeared to you for this purpose ... to open their eyes, in order to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who are sanctified by faith in Me."



The right directions had been given so I went to Bombay Bible College. While there I had an opportunity to serve in the Red light district where I met two young women who were born in that area and we got the opportunity to rescue them and send them to rehab.

Since I have been called to serve here in ICM in Hong Kong, I have met many more young and old who are also lost in this busy

city and looking for the right direction. During ICM's Community Outreach program to our street-cleaning friends, we met a woman named Sita. She was going through the numbness of not knowing the purpose of her life. She thought she was useless and only a burden for herself and to this earth. Her husband had a heart attack and was half paralyzed. She went to all kinds of treatments, hospitals, witchcraft, and spirit mediums and spent lots of money trying to find answers and help. Even she was encouraged to become a fortune teller and to learn the art of witchcraft by some spirit mediums. She was ill-treated and physically abused by some of the other practitioners of witchcraft. Sita was not finding any answers but felt more lonely and in despair.

On the day we met Sita and her husband on our Community Outreach day, one of our staff talked with them and prayed for her husband. This was a revalation for Sita as she saw that someone cared for them. We invited them to visit ICM and we were then able to share more about Jesus when they came to our centre. Both of them accepted Lord as their Savior and started attending Church.

> One day God prompted me to visit her and give her a Cross as a Christmas gift. So I went,

prayed with her and gave her the gift. When she opened it, she started to cry with joy. "God knows that I was searching this cross. I praised and thank Him for His love towards me and even know the desire of my heart. Jesus is in my heart and no one can snatch me away from His love" she said sobbing : "I realized I was LOST actually, but now I am FOUND by my SAVIOR and LORD JESUS CHRIST, who loved me and He is the one seeking to embrace me. So I will sing of His goodness throughout my life' Now wherever she goes, she takes this cross, always holding closely in her heart. Sita is so grateful to the Lord for what He has done and how she placed the ICM team in her life to help guide her to Him.



I thank God for the friends at ICM! My name is Asha. Jai Mashi (translation: "Victory in Jesus", the traditional greeting between Christians in Nepal) to all dear friends.

Before I came to know Jesus as Savior, I had some

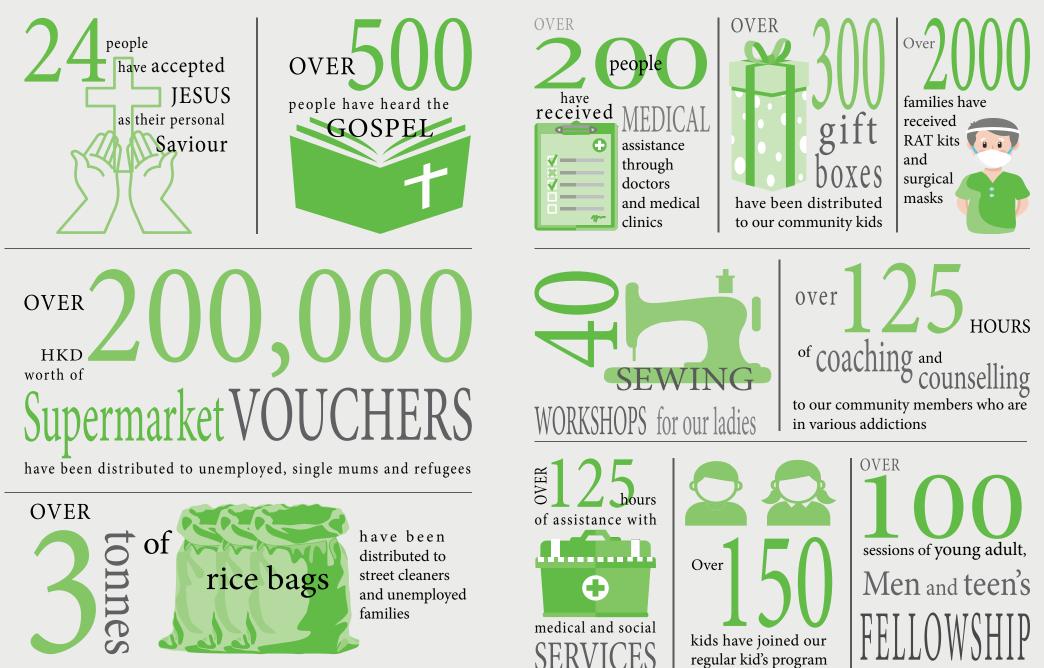
friends who invited me to the Moms In Prayers fellowship at ICM. I initially joined ZOOM because of Covid-19. My children were also introduced to Kid's Club on Saturdays. Though we couldn't attend often, they sent gifts to our kids and provided other help during the Pandemic.

When restrictions allowed, I started going to church with my friends and came to know He is the only True, Living, and Faithful God. Then I accepted Him as my Saviour. Soon afterwards, I was searching for a picture of Jesus and the Cross for my home to provide me a daily reminder. I thank God that he knew my desires as I was surprised by just such a gift from Didi (older sister) Caroline, a member of the ICM Staff. I was touched by the love of God. He cares for our needs and answers the prayers of our hearts. So I thank Didi for these precious gifts. May God bless her abundantly. To Almighty God who knows the desire of our heart, be Glory and honor forever and ever Amen. Jai Mashi and thank you and thank you, Lord. Hello, my name is Nanda Kumari Pun. I am a wife and a mother of 2 children. I came to ICM in 2010 through a friend and learned about the parenting course from Sister Caroline.

Since I was a housewife, I was able to join the parenting class, sewing group, and the Moms in Prayer group. Before joining the class, I didn't have much idea about parenting, sewing, or even who Jesus was. There used to be a lot of problems in my family too. But as I started coming to ICM, I slowly began to understand and learn more. Through prayers and wisdom from above, I was able to handle and tackle the troubles at home. Thanks to the staff in ICM, I began my journey with Christ and was baptized in 2017.

In 2022, I was given an opportunity to join as a staff member of ICM. Though I don't have much of a background in sewing, I wanted to use whatever knowledge I had to help others through sewing ministry and in other ways too. The sisters, who attend our women's groups, are involved in taking care of kids, household chores, part-time work and community programs and all these things are necessary. However, knowing the One who is the way, the truth and the life is most essential. That's what my prayer and my goals are; for these sisters to experience the peace and joy that I received after encountering Christ.

Regardless of what life throws at you, through prayer, we can bring our struggles, sorrows, and pain to Christ. Having received this gift freely from God, I want to share it freely with others as well.





We want to express our sincere gratitude to all of our generous donors and our thankfulness for your faithful partnership with Inner City Ministry. Every year, God has graciously supplied the needed resources for this Ministries through all of you. We want you to know, that we never take this generous provision for granted. The good work of Inner City Ministry continues to grow and expand its mission because of the grace of God through our loyal ministry partners.

HELP OUR CAUSE

Your support and contributions will enable us to meet our goals and helps us overcome challenges to reach the vulnerable. Your generous donation will fund our mission.

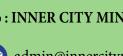
Ways you can donate to us :

- Bank transfer
 Bank : HSBC (Bank Code No 004)
 Inner City Ministries Ltd
 Account No : 508 203767 001
- *PayMe Business* Scan the following QR code to pay directly
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Inner City Ministries Ltd FPS ID : 100093996

Cheque please make it payable to : INNER CITY MINISTRIES LTD

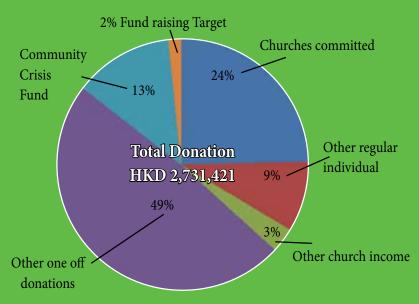
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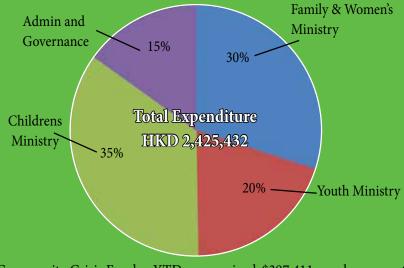
INNER CITY MINISTRIE...

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Inner City Ministries Budget 2022 - Income



Inner City Ministries - Expenditure by Ministry-2022



Community Crisis Fund : YTD we received \$397,411, we have spent \$277,538 mainly for food/grocery, medical and RAT kit purchases and Rent.

Our Partners

On behalf of Inner City Ministries, we would like to express our gratitude towards all our well-wishers, supporters and prayer partners. None of the things we do in this community would be possible without the cooperation and support of you all. Thank you for being a part of the journey.



Alliance International Church **Bethel High School** Boxes of Hope CantoGather Clearwater Bay Baptist Church Christian Alliance International School C & MA Hebron Church Community Church Hong Kong Concordia Lutheran School NP Cornerstone HK Dr. Kai Yum Cheung Mission Foundation Dr. Ma Mei Foo Clinic Evangelicael Free Church of China International Church Favor Motor Good Ideas Catering Hearty Dental Care Centre - Dr. Siling Pang Harvest Mission Community Church Int. Fellowship of Christian Short Team Missions

Island Evangelical Community Church Kely Support Group Kwei Wah San College Mums in prayer Indian Fellowship Pentecostal Church of HK (Tai Po) Church P & P Management Services Limited Roche Diagonostics Hong Kong Limited St. Andrew's Church Union Church Vine Church Watermark Community Church YWAM Harbour City nal Church

UPCOMING EVENTS

- July 9th-15th July (Mini Discipleship Training School)
- July 16th- 22th July 2023 (Kingdom Warriors residential program for TEENS)
- 7th August- 18th August (Week-1, Vacation Bible school)
- 14th -18th August (Week-2, Vacation Bible School)
- Community outreach (please find the dates in our website-up coming events)
- Family fun outing
- Kid's Carnival
- Community Christmas outreach
- Dental workshop
- Every Saturaday 2-4 pm (Kid's Club)
- Every Saturday 6-8 pm (Teen's Fellowship)
- Every Friday 11 am 12:30 pm (Bible Studay)
- Every Friday 7 pm- 9 pm (Young adult's fellowship)
- Every Friday 2 pm-4 pm (Mums in prayer)
- Every Wednesday 6 pm-8 pm (After school tututoring)
- Every Wednesday 2 pm-4 pm (Sewing classes)
- Every Wednesday 10 am-11:30 am (Cantonese class for mums)

For more details please visit to our website - https://innercityministries.org/

