

# SUMMER MINISTRY REPORT

August 2022



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**“With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.”**  
**Matthew 19:26**

Once again, thank you so much for the incredible love and generosity that supporters like yourself is bringing to families in need. Despite all the challenges and uncertainties that 2022 has brought so far, God continues to provide many ministry opportunities. None of it would have been possible without your support. Even as the fifth wave of COVID-19 swept through the city huge groups of volunteers and individuals still came out to support our work. We received enormous amount of food and medical supplies during this time, and I want to express my gratitude towards your fervent prayer, support and love for this ministry.

As the number of COVID-19 infections made daily records in Hong Kong during the fifth wave, most of the city once again returned to school and work online to minimize the transmission of the virus. During this time, we had to get creative and find new ways to maximize our reach and continue to expand our exposure in the community. Below are some of the few ways ICM was able to continue our work in the first half of 2022.

## **Food packages and medical supplies**

In the past 6 months we have been able to distribute hundreds of care packages full of food and medical supplies to families in isolation due to COVID-19. Our staff along with the help of volunteers set aside their fear of infection and went out personally to deliver these packages and to spend time caring and praying for these families. Despite precautions taken, most of our staff contracted the virus during this operation but God is good and they have all recovered and are doing well.



# Community Crisis fund



According to a survey conducted by Hong Kong Unison, an organization that advocates for ethnic minority groups in the city, 48.9 percent of 937 ethnic minorities interviewed between early March and mid-April said they were unemployed. We found that some of the members were surviving on savings or by borrowing money. Some even encountered mental issues due to the impact on their livelihoods.

At this time, we appealed to our support churches and partners to help and open up a short-term relief fund to support those who were seriously impacted by COVID-19. The fund assisted with food packages and supplies for those in quarantine, rental assistance and food vouchers for the jobless and other practical needs of those facing difficulties. In total we were able to raise HKD\$ 392,411 which was used to help:

- Over 40 families with rental assistance for two months
- Over 500 families with food packages and medical supplies
- Distribute 1.5 tons of rice to street cleaners and elderly
- Distribute over 50,000 RAT kits to our kids and community members

Hi, I am Bijaya Rai and I want to express my gratitude towards Inner City Ministries and give my sincere thanks to all the supporters of the ministry. As the single bread winner for my family of 5 I have many sweet stories about the struggles of raising the three little girls God has blessed me with and this pandemic has given me even more stories. Due to the COVID-19 situation, more hardships were added to my family.



The way ICM reached out and helped me financially (through the Community Crisis Fund) during this struggle reminded me of God's great grace. We don't deserve it but we are always surprised by it. Thank you so much and I will always be grateful towards Inner City Ministry.

# Mini Discipleship training School

This summer we were able to host our one-week residential discipleship training school (mini DTS) from July 17th to July 23rd for those between 20-35 years of age.



Our mini DTS program is designed to engage our young adults through various teachings and activities that help them build a trusting relationship with God and with each other. During this time, many discover their true identity in Christ and their part in God's purposes. Our participants find the teaching new and refreshing as many of them come from more traditional teachings and this provides them a space to freely explore who God is and what it means for them personally. This year we had 15 participants and three of them were from a drug rehabilitation center.



Hi, my name is Amar Gurung. I gave my life to God in a rehab center a year ago. I feel blessed to get this new life in Christ Jesus after struggling with addiction for many years. I am still living and volunteering in the rehab which is why I did not have much contact with the outside world and not acquainted with the church meetings or gathering with non-addict Christians. DTS was one the most memorable moment in my life. I got a chance to meet fellow Christians and it felt like a family even though we didn't know each other well. I experienced what it is like to be part of the family of God. I also learned the value of sharing life stories and testimonies with others. I felt other people's testimonies as more valuable than mine and always felt hesitation to share mine, but I was surprised people were touched and encouraged by my testimony. That's when I knew every life story and testimony is worth sharing. Finally, I really enjoyed the worship sessions and classes which were insightful and beneficial in my walk with God.

# 2022

# VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

We had an intense two weeks of Vacation Bible School (VBS) from Aug 15 to Aug 26 where we were able to engage new kids from the community. The first week we served those finishing K1 to K3 and the second week was for those finishing P1 to P4. We had 60 kids take part in VBS with had the help of over 30 volunteers from the churches, institutions and community. During VBS children learn about God through fun, age-appropriate activities and meet new friends in a fun-filled environment. The daily life lessons help every child learn how to be a good person and a friend to others. This also provides us with a good opportunity get acquainted with their parents and start building a trusting relationship with them.



## SOCCER TRAINING PROGRAM

Sponsored by Roche Diagnostics HK in collaboration with LEAP Soccer Academy, our kids and teens between the ages of 8 and 15 have been provided an opportunity to join soccer training. This soccer training program gives our kids a chance to have fun, get some exercise, improve skills and make new friends. This may be a challenge for them to participate in something and be a part of a team rather than spending hours on social media. This is also a great way to relieve stress.



# Community outreach



There is a group of people that go un-noticed on many occasions yet everyday they put themselves at risk of infection to keep our city clean. As the number of COVID-19 cases in Hong Kong continues to climb, our street cleaners play a vital role in maintaining public hygiene.

Tens of thousands of local street cleaners face an imminent shortage of face masks – an essential item in their daily work, to keep them safe from COVID-19. Since the beginning of the fifth wave ICM has been helping this vulnerable group by providing them with masks, hand sanitizers, RAT kits, medical supplies as well as bags of rice. Once to twice a month we go down to our local refuse center in Jordan and Yau Ma Tei to pass out these care packages and to spend time talking and praying with them.

## OUTREACH TO HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS



We have partnered up with two local high schools and have been visiting them regularly to run a cultural program with dance and dramas. This is one new approach of outreach that God has opened for us as a ministry, and we are grateful to be working with these schools regularly as it allows our team to build trusting relationships with the students. As a result of these outreaches, two students came out to help with our VBS and many have heard the Gospel.

## FOOD VOUCHER SCHEME

The food voucher program was developed to assist our community members experiencing difficulties. This program is especially designed to help the unemployed and single moms. Every month we are helping 20-25 families with HKD 500-1000 worth of food vouchers per family depending on their needs.

# DENTAL WORKSHOP

We were able to organize a dental workshop for our community with the help of Society of Preventive Dentistry of Hong Kong and HKU Dentistry. In this workshop they received oral screening/clinical examination, teaching about good brushing and flushing with disclosing agent and provided one to one consultation on cavities risk. Altogether 63 people from our community participated in the workshop.



## CLP WORKSHOP

This is a project where we collaborate with CLP Power Academy to encourage our community members and especially those who have dropped out of school to pursue further studies. The program was developed by IVE Engineering and CLP Power Academy to equip learners with trade-specific knowledge and skills in electrical and mechanical engineering enabling them to develop careers in the engineering field in relations to utilities, buildings and infrastructure development. Currently 6 participants are enrolled in the diploma course.

## FIRST AID TRAINING



Our families often have concerns about their kids' injuries and some serious accidents they encounter through their work in restaurants and construction. This year we enlisted the help of a qualified First-aid trainer to provide a training program for our community to help spread awareness of emergency medical aid and to equip them with skills for these situations.

# COUNSELLING PROGRAM IN REHABILITATION CENTER

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Outreach to those stuck in the bondage of drugs has long been part of ICM's ministry. We counsel those who are dealing with drug abuse issues regardless of nationality, age, gender or types of drugs. We help to facilitate their journey to recovery when they are ready. We also partner with Operation Dawn to visit those on their rehabilitation journey by bringing Biblical teachings, fellowship and prayer twice a month. We also continue to provide counselling and fellowship to the brothers who have completed the program and returned to the community.

## STAFF UPDATES

This past month we bid farewell to our beloved Nikki Sherpa with a heavy heart. She was looking after our sewing and family ministry. She served our community for almost two years and was a great addition to our team and ministry to our families and especially to our moms. We know that God has a great plan for her family as they relocate to the UK.



God has provided us with Nanda Pun to continue the sewing and family ministry. She was a member of our first sewing workshop in 2012 and since that time we have gotten to know her whole family and they have come to know and accept Jesus Christ through ICM.

Due to the growing number of our teen's community, we have been praying for a full-time staff to develop this ministry further. This year God provided us with Yabesh Pulami Magar. In fact, he has been part of the ICM community since he was an infant and has recently completed his internship with us. He journeyed through ICM as a Kid's Club member than as a teen and then a member of our young adult group and now he has joined us a member of staff. It is such a privilege for us to witness how God's plan unfolded in his life and brought him to this place.



# Volunteer opportunity

- Kid's Club volunteers (every Saturday, 1pm-4pm)
- Teen's ministry (Every Saturday, 6pm-8pm)
- After school tutoring for 10-16 years of Age (Math, Chinese etc.)
- Day care during sewing workshop (Wednesday and Thursday 2pm-4pm)
- Family Christmas outreach (Tuesday Dec 13th, 6-9pm)
- Community outreach once a month (Reach out for more details)



## PRAYER POINTS

- Pray for our new family members those who have heard the gospel. May God protect the seed that has been sown in their hearts.
- Pray for our community kids who have heard the good news during VBS and in kid's club. May God protect them and one day they will be a great witness for this community.
- Drug issues and/or mental health issues have been a great challenge within the community as we see numbers rising. Please pray that God will guide us with wisdom to help with those struggling in these areas.
- Good health for the staff. Many of our staff has major health issues.
- Pray for the growing number of teens and Yabesh as he settles into his new role. May God lead them and guide them with new ideas and strategies.
- Pray for the men's ministry to grow and make more disciples to bring our more male members of the family. Currently we have 15-20 Men coming to our regular fellowship.
- Pray that God would open the door for the Gospel in the lives and hearts of high school students.
- Pray especially them to have a spiritual hunger and be open to hearing the Good News of Jesus.