



MINISTRY OF WOMEN, FAMILY &
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

PRESS STATEMENT

FROM ROADSHOWS TO REFORMS: A Year Of Impactful Initiatives By Malaysia's Ministry Of Women, Family, And Community Development

2023 has been a transformative year for us. As the new Minister of Women, Family, and Community Development in Malaysia at the time, I embraced the responsibility to lead with empathy and insight. Throughout the year, I have engaged with numerous stakeholders, learning invaluable lessons from their experiences.

This year marked significant achievements for our Ministry. We successfully conducted 13 roadshows across all states to promote the Anti-Sexual Harassment Act. Additionally, our Wanita Bangkit@KPWKM program by the National Welfare Foundation (YKN) positively impacted 9,430 women, including small entrepreneurs and those severely affected by the pandemic. These women received guidance and support from seasoned mentors, in collaboration with YKN.

To safeguard the rights and wellbeing of our children, our ministry has established the Child Development Department, operational since September 1. Our hope is for the department to become an independent agency in the future. We have also initiated a child safety advocacy program in six schools across Kuala Lumpur, Sabah, and Sarawak, with plans to expand it to 300 schools next year.

This year also closed with hopeful plans for 2024, specifically for the care and support of persons with disabilities. We will develop a comprehensive course module for the care and support of persons with disabilities, aimed at fostering their holistic potential development. In conjunction with this, we increased the allowance for disabled trainees in the Community-Based Rehabilitation Program (PPDK) from RM150 to RM300 per month, affirming our commitment to their empowerment and welfare.

In an effort to address the issue of declining fertility rates among the population, which has been ongoing for the past five decades, the country's first Subfertility Centre under The National Population and Family Development Board (LPPKN) will be established in

Shah Alam, Selangor next year, involving an allocation of RM171 million and is expected to commence operations in 2029.

With the continuous rainy season upon us in Malaysia, I urge everyone to stay vigilant about potential floods. Being informed and prepared is vital for our safety. Familiarize yourselves with the nearest evacuation centres (PPS) and stay updated on weather forecasts. I also urge each of you to extend a helping hand to those who may need assistance, particularly the elderly and vulnerable members of our communities. Sharing information and helping neighbours with emergency planning can make a significant difference in ensuring everyone's safety. Together, through awareness and proactive measures, we can safeguard our communities and loved ones.

Looking ahead, we are committed to enhancing the care economy; crucial for strengthening our nation's social security net. This ambitious goal requires collective effort and collaboration, not only amongst government agencies but also from NGOs, community associations, private sector entities, and active participation from the general public. Our focus in the years ahead will be on developing policies and programs that address the diverse needs of our population, from childcare to eldercare, ensuring accessible and high-quality services for all. This initiative is not just about providing care, but also about creating sustainable job opportunities, fostering a culture of empathy and support, and building a resilient and caring society that can thrive in the face of future challenges.

As we approach the new year, many of us anticipate celebrations with family and friends. However, let's also remember those facing adversity, loneliness, or grief during this time. Be kind to others and take this opportunity to give back to others.

On behalf of the Ministry of Women, Family, and Community Development, I extend a warm Merry Christmas to those celebrating, and a Happy New Year to everyone. As we enter the new year, let us commit to fostering an inclusive, caring and safe nation for everyone.

DATO' SRI HAJAH NANCY SHUKRI
MINISTER OF WOMEN, FAMILY & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
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