AGEING IN AN INCLUSIVE SOCIETY:

SOCIAL SUPPORT SYSTEM FOR OLDER PERSONS IN MALAYSIA

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[Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development]

Senior Officials Meeting | MOST | 20 March 2017
1. DEMOGRAPHIC AND SCENARIO
2. NATIONAL POLICY FOR OLDER PERSONS
3. SOCIAL SUPPORT SYSTEM FOR OLDER PERSONS
4. THE WAY FORWARD
DEMOGRAPHIC & SCENARIO

Malaysia: Aged Nation by 2030

Fertility Rate
Mortality Rate

Life Expectancy: 77.2 years

Source: Malaysia Department of Statistics, Malaysia
Old-Age Burden Dependency

Old-age dependency ratio

2030 = 16.6%
2020 = 1:9
2010 = 1:13
1980 = 1:19

2010 = 7.4%

Source: MyAgeing UPM Malaysia
We must be fully aware that while the developed countries became rich before they became old, the developing countries will become old before they become rich.

- Gro Harlem Brundtland, WHO’s Director-General
NATIONAL POLICY FOR OLDER PERSONS (NPOPs), 2011
New policy after the NPOPs 1995 ended in 2005

PHILOSOPHY

The National Policy on Older Persons acknowledges the older persons as citizens with varied background and experiences, have the rights to enjoy a comfortable and respected life and contribute to the development of the nation.

POLICY STATEMENT

The National Policy on Older Persons is the Government’s commitment to create older persons who are independent, with dignity, high sense of self-worth and respected by optimizing their self-potential through a healthy, positive, active, productive and supportive ageing to lead a well-being life.
Five Dimensions Framework

- Economy (Productive Ageing)
- Environment (Supportive Ageing)
- Spiritual (Positive Ageing)
- Social (Active Ageing)
- Health (Healthy Ageing)
OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES OF NATIONAL POLICY FOR OLDER PERSONS, 2011

OBJECTIVES

- Develop caring communities to increase awareness on aging phenomenon
- Create an effective and integrated delivery system on older persons
- Facilitate access to lifelong learning
- Enhance older persons’ participation in community
- Ensure protective and safe environment for the older persons
- Encourage application of research findings on older persons program planning, monitoring and evaluation

STRATEGIES

- Promotion & Advocacy
- Lifelong Learning
- Security & Protection
- Governance & Shared Responsibilities
- Participation & Unity across Generations
- Research & Development
## Governance Structure: National Policy for Older Persons, 2011

### National Advisory and Consultative Council for the Older Persons
- **Chairperson:** Minister of Women, Family and Community Development
- **Chairperson:** Secretary-General
- **Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development**

### Technical Committee

### Sub-committees

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### Implementation
- **Coordinating Ministry:** National Policy for Older Persons, 2011
- **Monitoring and Reporting**
SOCIAL SUPPORT SYSTEM FOR OLDER PERSONS

Institutional care

Rumah Ehsan (2)

Nursing homes

Home-based and community care

Independent

Partially dependent

Fully dependent

Rumah Seri Kenangan (9)

Rumah Sejahtera (69)

Care Centre (310)

Activity Centre (51)

Family

HOME HELP SERVICES (5,892)

Mobile Care Services (17,480)

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
ACTIVITY CENTRES
Pusat Aktiviti Warga Emas (PAWE)

- **ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMMES** provided at the centres: indoor/outdoor games, health services and therapy, religious studies, skills training, volunteer services, economic empowerment programme and lifelong learning.

- **51** Activity Centres for Older Persons located throughout the country to organize activities and provide socialization platform for older persons.
HOME HELP SERVICES

- **OBJECTIVES**: To provide care for Older Persons who are living alone.
- The service is available throughout the country via smart partnership with NGOs.
- Currently, there are 2,150 volunteers providing services to 5,892 Older Persons.
This mobile care unit (UPWE) is a transportation service to shuttle older persons to hospitals/clinics.

The service is operated by Central Welfare Council of Malaysia under the supervision of Department of Social Welfare.

From 2008 until December 2016, this service has benefited 17,480 Older Persons.
Homes for older persons are established to provide care and protection for better quality of older persons’ life.

Currently there are 9 Government run Home(s) (Rumah Seri Kenangan-RSK). An average of 1,800 residents have benefitted from the service at any time.

There are also private run home(s) under the Care Centres Act 1993. There are currently 310 homes and 7000 residents have benefitted at any time.
The home is established for older persons with chronic illness or physically bedridden.

The objective is to provide comfortable and tranquil surrounding, care, treatment and shelter.

There are 2 homes operated by the Government throughout the country.

At any time, 240 residents on average can be housed in these homes.
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

OBJECTIVE:

- Help to ease the burden of care expenses faced by family of caregivers.
- Promote better care to the target group and bedridden Chronic Patient.
- Improving the quality of life of the target groups involved.
- Avoid or minimize the entry of the relevant target groups to Welfare Institutions.
- Improve family welfare.

Bantuan Orang Tua (Elderly Financial Aid)

Criteria

- Aged 60 years old and above;
- Single with no next of kin; and
- No fixed income

RM 300 per month

Bantuan Pesakit Terlantar (Financial Aid for Bedridden Clients)

CRITERIA

Applicant is caregiver who is family member of PWDs / Bedridden Chronic Patient.

- Malaysian citizen residing in Malaysia.
- Is providing care to a PWDs family member / bedridden Chronic Patient full time.
- Household Income not exceeding RM3,000 per month.
- Families in need and cannot afford

RATE: RM 300 per – month
OBJECTIVE:
Assisting older persons to purchase artificial/support equipment thus enabling them to improve their mobility.

CRITERIA
- Provide recommendation from the doctor or medical specialist

RATE: Actual rate of artificial/support equipment
Respite Care is an alternative service to assist older persons needing temporary placement.

It helps the guardian/children of the older persons who are unable to attend to their loved ones due to various temporary circumstances.

Services provided include care and protection including basic needs.

Currently, DSW is promoting the service at RSK Cheras as a pilot project.
ANNUAL GRANT FOR NGOs

• Annual Grants are provided for NGOs that give services to Older Persons.

• In 2016, 25 NGOs received financial assistance from the Government.
THE WAY FORWARD

• Expand community based and outreach program
• Enhance multi sectoral collaboration at national and international level
• Promote volunteerism
• Advocate positive aging and aging in place
• Strengthen caregivers and care providers with relevant skills
• Productive Welfare and Economic Empowerment Program.
THANK YOU

Terima Kasih

"Aging is not lost youth but a new stage of opportunity and strength." Betty Friedan (1921-2006)