

Protecting Trafficked Survivors

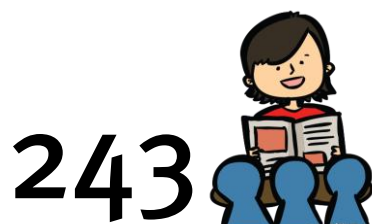
SUKA Society advocates for a victim-centric approach to protecting trafficked survivors. This report details the programme's progress and impact from 2025.



REPORT OVERVIEW

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Here is a snapshot of our impact from our Anti-Trafficking in Persons (ATIP) Programme 2025



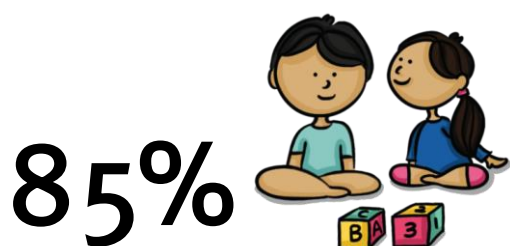
Therapeutic sessions conducted for women, men and girl trafficked survivors



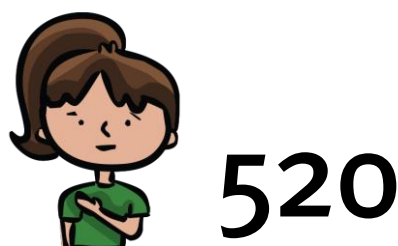
Protection shelters for children, women and men benefitting from our programme



Nationalities of survivors, including Malaysians, benefitting from therapeutic sessions



Overall positive response from women and children survivors to both therapeutic programmes and well-being improved



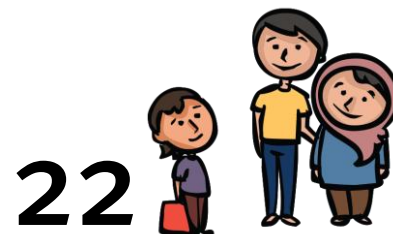
Trafficked survivors impacted from the programme



Cases assisted as a Victim Assistance Specialist (VAS)



Cases assessed and assisted as a Protection Officer (PO)



Survivors provided safe passage and returns to home country



Events advocating for women's rights and violence prevention



Communities of repatriated trafficked survivors visited during follow up visit to Medan, Indonesia

FOREWORD

Our involvement in combating human trafficking since we began working with government protection shelters in 2011 has always been focused on the survivors of this heinous crime. We constantly ask ourselves how to ensure that survivors remain at the centre, not only of our work, but also as the primary concern of all stakeholders involved in combating human trafficking, including government agencies, NGOs, and the general public.

Over the years, we have seen improvements not only in the USTIP ranking, from Tier 3 to Tier 2, but also in the practical care provided to survivors at protection shelters. Our involvement in recent years as Protection Officers and Victim Assistance Specialists, supporting survivors through the justice process, reflects a growing level of care in how survivors are handled.

However, there is still a long way to go. In Southeast Asia, the Office of the UN High Commissioner reported on 20th February 2026 that 300,000 victims from 65 countries have been trafficked into scam centres across the region, with Malaysia being both a major source country for victims and a hub for fraudulent recruitment linked to these operations. At government protection shelters, we provided therapeutic care to 520 survivors throughout 2025. The cases we handled as Protection Officers and Victim Assistance Specialists are increasingly complex, filled with tragic experiences of coercion, abuse, and exploitation inflicted on victims.

Nevertheless, working with survivors continues to drive us to push for stronger protection and better care. In 2025, our team worked with 75 volunteers to provide therapeutic care to victims at government protection shelters in Kuala Lumpur, Rembau, Melaka, and Johor. As an NGO, we also contributed to the development of the National Action Plan on Anti-Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP 3.0). In addition, we made a meaningful visit to Medan, Indonesia, to follow up with former survivors and understand how they have reintegrated into community life. It was encouraging to see that the support we provided in Malaysia is being continued by partner NGOs in the survivors' home countries.

This report reflects both the progress made and the challenges that remain in ensuring meaningful protection for trafficked survivors.

None of this work would be possible without the collective effort of volunteers, partners, government agencies, and fellow NGOs. As we move forward, we remain committed to strengthening protection, deepening collaboration, and ensuring that every survivor is given the care, dignity, and opportunity to rebuild their lives.

Anderson Selvasegaram
Executive Director



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2025, the Anti-Trafficking in Persons (ATIP) programme continued advancing survivor-centred protection, psychosocial support and systemic advocacy across Malaysia. During the year, structured therapeutic sessions and protection services were provided to five government protection shelters, supporting 520 survivors from 11 countries with 243 psychosocial interventions.

Case management remained a core component of the programme, with 57 Protection Officer cases and 49 Victim Assistance Service (VAS) cases handled in coordination with relevant agencies. In collaboration with authorities and cross-border partners, 22 survivors were voluntarily repatriated and monitored to reduce vulnerability to re-trafficking. Follow-up efforts included a visit to Medan, Indonesia to visit survivors who have returned home.

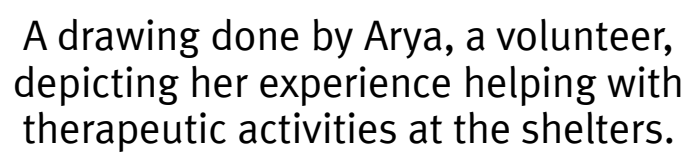
The programme also contributed to capacity-building and policy-related processes. Two training sessions were held for government protection officers on victim management and trauma-sensitive interviewing techniques. SUKA Society participated in civil society consultations on the National Action Plan on Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP 3.0) and in discussions following the 2025 U.S. Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Report, providing input based on field experience.



Other activities included awareness initiatives, commemorative events, academic collaborations, and media engagement, with the aim of incorporating survivor perspectives into public discussions and policy considerations. The programme continued to work with government agencies, enforcement bodies, legal institutions, civil society organisations, academic partners, and international stakeholders to support coordinated responses to trafficking.

The ATIP programme will remain focused on victim-centric care, reintegration support and collaboration with partners. Priorities moving forward include strengthening therapeutic approaches, improving reintegration pathways, expanding capacity-building efforts, and supporting prevention initiatives.





PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

Background

Human trafficking is ranked third among international crimes, after drug trafficking and the illegal arms trade. Unlike drugs and weapons, trafficked humans are treated as commodities—bought, sold, and resold multiple times.

According to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), a total of 202,478 human trafficking victims were detected globally from 2020 to 2023. They also reported that according to the most recent data within those years, 42% of detected victims are trafficked for forced labour, 36% were trafficked for sexual exploitation, and 22% trafficked for other purposes such as forced criminality, begging and marriages.¹ These alarming figures highlight the urgent need for comprehensive action to combat human trafficking and forced labour worldwide.



Women and girls account for about 61% of trafficking victims detected globally within recent data of 2020-2023, with 33% trafficked for forced labour and 92% trafficked for sexual exploitation.¹



38% of detected victims from recent data of 2020 to 2023 were identified as children, marking a significant 31% increase since 2019, with 30% trafficked for forced labour and 31% trafficked for sexual exploitation.¹

The Situation in Malaysia

In 2025, Malaysia was found to have retained a Tier 2 status according to the U.S. State Department's Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Report. There has been significant progress in Malaysia's efforts to combat human trafficking, such as funding anti-trafficking activities, increasing approvals of victims to work legally, amending several labour laws involving the protection of foreign domestic workers and launching a new trafficking data system and establishing an advisory group with involvement from NGOs.

But there are recommended areas for improvement. These include strengthening victim identification, increasing efforts in investigations and prosecutions, abolishing recruitment fees, and expanding cooperation with civil society and NGOs. However, some experts and NGO groups have opined that the Tier 2 status does not reflect on-the-ground challenges such as justice outcomes and transparency in anti-trafficking councils.

The government confirmed 160 trafficking victims among the 635 potential victims identified in 2025 alone. Of the 160 confirmed victims, 34 were exploited in sex trafficking and 126 were exploited in forced labour, highlighting the ongoing challenges Malaysia faces in combating human trafficking.² While advancements have been made, sustained and enhanced efforts are crucial to effectively address and eradicate this dire issue.

As a signatory to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), Malaysia has a duty to protect vulnerable women and children from trafficking and exploitation. In addition to prevention and prosecution efforts, survivors of trafficking must be made aware of their rights and given proper assistance, including access to legal aid, safe shelter, healthcare, and psychosocial support. All support must be trauma-informed and uphold their dignity and recovery.

¹ United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (2024). *Global Report of Trafficking in Persons 2024*.

² U.S. State Department. (2025). *2025 Trafficking in Persons Report: Malaysia*.

PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

Programme Objectives

SUKA Society partners with government protection shelters under the Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development (KPWKM) to strengthen protection systems and ensure survivors of human trafficking receive holistic, survivor-centred care that prioritises dignity, safety, and long-term recovery.

Our Key Focus Areas:



Therapeutic Support

Providing trauma-informed care through art and play therapy, counselling, and confidence-building activities like yoga, martial arts, and creative expression.



Skills Development

Empowering survivors with practical skills such as sewing, cooking, and craftwork to support future employment.



Education for Children

Offering hands-on learning in English, Math, and Science to children at the Rembau shelter.



Safe Returns Programme

Facilitating the safe reunification of trafficked children with their families and ensuring follow-up care to prevent re-trafficking.



Survivor Support and Assistance

Providing specialised support in helping victims navigate both their trauma recovery and the criminal justice system.



Social Report and Case Assessment

Supporting victim protection, including case assessments, social reports, and access to essential services



Training for Shelter Officers

Equipping officers with the skills to communicate, empathise, and support survivors effectively.



Advocacy and Engagement

Pushing for policy improvements and better care standards through active participation in government, UN and NGO-related consultations and workshops.

THERAPEUTIC ACTIVITIES

SUKA Society facilitates a variety of therapeutic activities for trafficked survivors aimed at supporting their healing and recovery. These activities provide a safe and supportive environment where survivors can express themselves creatively, process their experiences, and rebuild confidence. At the same time, the programmes are designed to support both their physical health and emotional well-being as they move through their recovery journey.



Survivors learning about the functions of a brain during a Education and Enrichment session.

Therapeutic Activities Categories	Total
Education and Enrichment	22
Empowerment & Advocacy Program	27
Healing and Therapy	86
Health and Emotional Wellness	44
Residence Relation Program	15
Skills Development	49

Each subcategory includes a range of activities that help survivors strengthen their coping abilities, build practical knowledge and develop skills that support their personal growth and future independence.

“

Volunteering with SUKA Society turned out to be far more than I expected. What began as a short-term volunteering commitment to gain exposure quickly evolved into one of the most profound learning journeys of my life. The most rewarding moments for me were witnessing these survivors of human trafficking slowly come out of their shells, embracing the moment, and begin to laugh and learn with newfound confidence. To reach someone who has been through so much and help them feel comfortable enough to find their voice again is an experience I cannot adequately put into words.

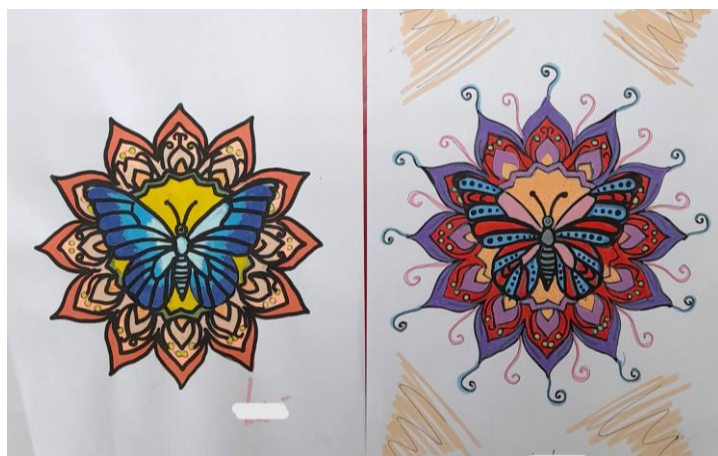
Taysshan Gunalan (Volunteer)

”



Taysshan helping a survivor decorate the board for World Day Against Trafficking in Persons.

THERAPEUTIC ACTIVITIES



Mandala art made by survivors during a therapy session encouraging them to express themselves through art.



A volunteer teaching football skills to child survivors at the boys' shelter as part of the Health and Emotional Wellness activity.

Healing and Therapy activities offer a safe, non-verbal outlet for expressing emotions and coping with trauma, while **Health and Emotional Wellness** sessions—such as yoga, meditation, music, and exercise—promote relaxation and emotional balance alongside self-care and health awareness initiatives.

Survivors are also taught practical skills during **Skills Development** activities like cooking, sewing, and crafting to build self-sufficiency and support future livelihoods or entrepreneurship. **Educational and Enrichment** sessions help address learning gaps through engaging lessons in core subjects, particularly for children.

The **Resident Relations Program** fosters community through social, recreational, and team-building activities that encourage connection, cooperation, and mutual support.



Survivors decorating a banner together for World Day Against Trafficking in Persons.



Two women survivors making dessert for a cooking competition held at the shelter as a Residence Relation activity.



A survivor working on sewing a cover for a heat pack as part of their Skills Development activity.

THERAPEUTIC ACTIVITIES

The **Empowerment & Advocacy program** focuses on raising awareness, promoting rights, and amplifying survivors' voices. This is done through activities like observing key international days, hosting awareness talks, and organizing film screenings. Overall, the program aims to educate, inspire, and empower survivors to support each other and actively engage in human rights advocacy within their communities.



World Children's Day

On 20th November, the World Children's Day celebration at the RPKKJ Boys' Shelter focused on empowering the boys and affirming their right to grow in a safe, supportive and nurturing environment.

A volunteer, Master Shihan Palmani from KaratePal Academy, had a motivational session to encourage the survivors to build confidence, resilience and self-belief. He also held an introduction to basic self-defense which emphasized the importance of personal safety and self-protection.

Additionally, the boys got to express themselves with play and creativity by creating their own DIY Lamps and playing bingo. The celebration reminded them that every child deserves opportunities to learn, feel valued and look forward to a brighter future.

International Women's Day

On 6th March, 26 women at the RPWZT shelter celebrated International Women's Day with an inspiring session on the history and significance of International Women's Day which highlighted the strength and achievements of women worldwide. This was followed by self-defense training led by Master Shihan Palmani from KaratePal Academy, which equipped the women with practical skills to protect themselves, prevent harm, and build confidence in their personal safety.

The celebration continued with collaborative vision boards, motivational bookmark colouring, and group games. Each woman was also gifted a customized cosmetic set from Kaara Asia, which delighted many of the survivors.

These activities boosted self-belief, resilience, and empowerment, leaving a lasting impact on how the women view themselves and their ability to face challenges.



MONITORING & EVALUATION OF THERAPEUTIC SERVICES

As an organization, it is crucial that the work we do produces the desired improvements and change. To ensure that the support we provide translates into tangible improvements in the lives of survivors, we have integrated monitoring and evaluation (M&E) practices into our therapeutic services.

One key method of gathering feedback is through exit interviews conducted with survivors leaving the protection shelters. These survivors will leave the shelter after their case has been settled and are either returning home to their home countries, or have found other arrangements. The exit interviews serve to assess the effectiveness of our services, identify areas for improvement, and understand the emotional and psychological well-being of those we serve.

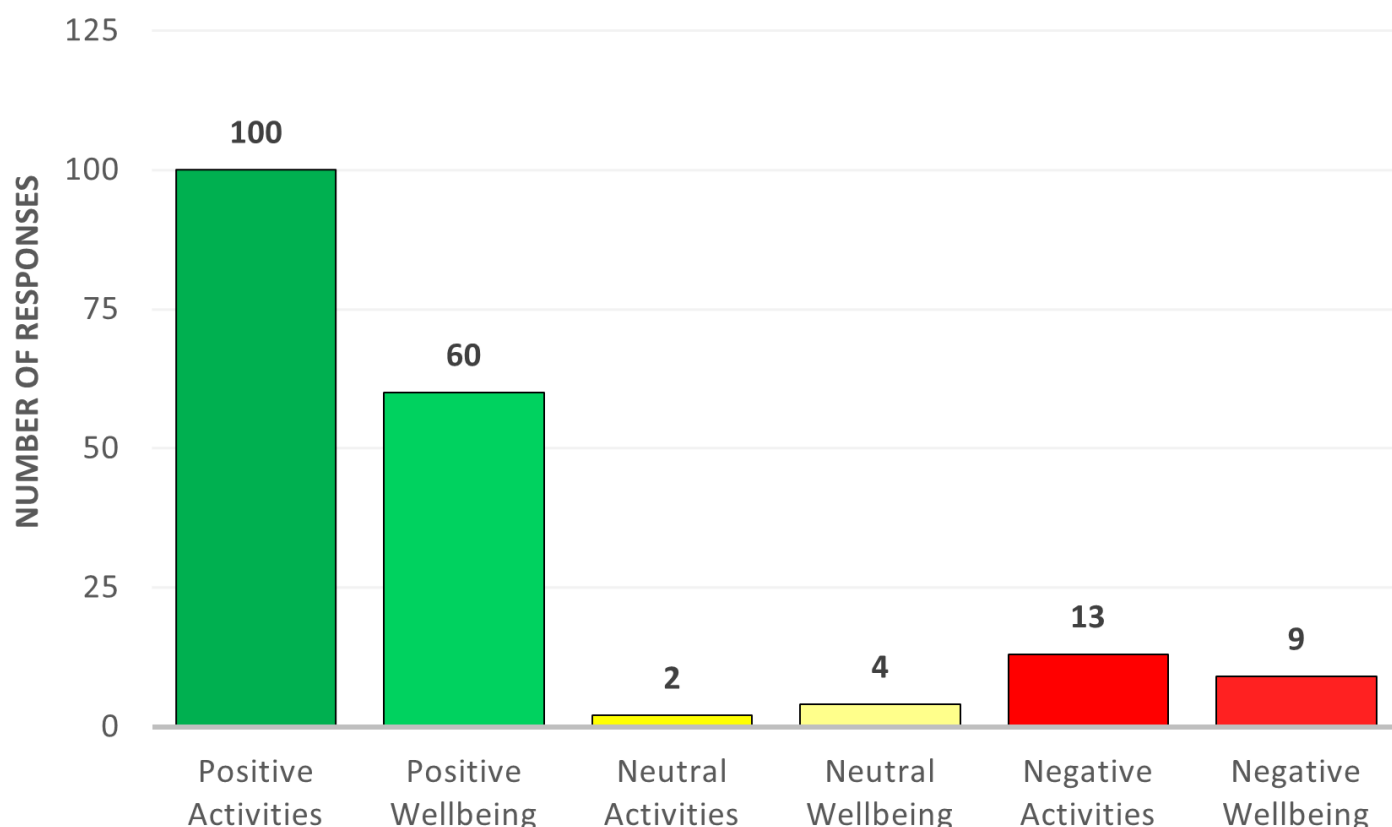
In 2025, exit interviews were conducted with a total of 20 survivors of human trafficking. Using the assessment framework, two primary dimensions were measured: feedback toward activities and the personal wellbeing and emotional state of survivors. Each dimension was evaluated across positive, neutral, and negative indicators, generating a comprehensive dataset of 188 responses.

The evaluation framework assessed eight positive indicators, six neutral indicators, and seven negative indicators related to both activity engagement and psychological wellbeing. This multi-dimensional approach enables a nuanced understanding of program impact on survivor experiences.



MONITORING & EVALUATION OF THERAPEUTIC SERVICES

2025 M&E RESPONSES



The program achieved an exceptional positive response rate of 85.1% (160 out of 188 responses), indicating strong program effectiveness in meeting survivor needs. This high rate demonstrates that the majority of participants derive meaningful benefit from the therapeutic activities offered.

Neutral responses represented 3.2% of total responses (6 out of 188). Notably, most of the neutral responses related to personal wellbeing and emotional state, with only two neutral responses regarding the activities. This indicates that while some participants were unable to form opinions about the activities, the majority had no issues. Additionally, some survivors experienced difficulty expressing or processing their emotional state.

Negative responses accounted for 11.7% of total responses (22 out of 188). 13 responses (6.9%) related to dissatisfaction with the activities themselves, while 9 responses (4.8%) related to ongoing psychological distress despite program participation. This distribution is significant for understanding program limitations and areas for enhancement.

MONITORING & EVALUATION OF THERAPEUTIC SERVICES

Positive Feedback Analysis	Therapeutic Impact Survivors consistently reported positive emotional outcomes from program participation. Key themes included temporary relief from stress and anxiety, ability to forget worries during sessions, feelings of happiness and relaxation, and development of positive coping mechanisms. The therapeutic activities successfully provide psychological respite from the distress of their circumstances. Skill Development and Empowerment Multiple respondents noted the value of learning new skills that they could use upon return to their home countries. This finding is particularly significant as it demonstrates program impact beyond immediate therapeutic relief, contributing to survivors' sense of agency and future prospects. Several survivors specifically mentioned having lacked opportunities to learn arts and crafts in their home countries due to continuous work obligations. Social Connection Survivors expressed enthusiasm about SUKA's visits and program sessions, indicating that these activities provide meaningful social connection and structure to their days in the shelter. The anticipation of sessions suggests they serve as positive focal points in an otherwise uncertain and stressful situation.
Neutral Feedback Analysis	Interpretation and Context Neutral responses in the wellbeing dimension should be understood within the context of trauma. Emotional numbness, reluctance to reflect, and difficulty processing feelings are recognized trauma responses. The low percentage of neutral responses (3.2%) suggests that the program successfully engages most participants emotionally, while the small number of neutral responses indicates areas where additional support or alternative approaches may be beneficial. Uncertainty and Confusion Two respondents expressed uncertainty about what to do during drawing and colouring sessions, suggesting possible need for clearer instructions or additional facilitation support during these activities. This represents an opportunity for program refinement rather than a fundamental program flaw. Emotional Guardedness Two respondents indicated reluctance to discuss their feelings, choosing to keep their emotions private and cry alone when distressed. An additional two respondents appeared emotionally numb, showing unwillingness to reflect on their current state or wellbeing. These responses reflect common trauma responses and protective mechanisms rather than program deficiencies.

MONITORING & EVALUATION OF THERAPEUTIC SERVICES

Negative Feedback Analysis

Activity Preferences and Dislikes

Eleven respondents were able to articulate specific activities they did not prefer, which demonstrates critical thinking and personal agency. The ability to express preferences, both positive and negative, is developmentally healthy and should be viewed positively as it indicates survivors feel safe enough to voice opinions.

Specific Activity Concerns

One respondent reported feeling stressed during drawing and colouring activities, suggesting these particular activities may not suit all participants. One respondent also noted that morning sessions can be tiring, though they feel fine once sessions begin. These concerns are minor and addressable through program adjustments such as offering alternative activities or adjusting the sessions' timing.

Ongoing Anxiety and Distress

Three respondents indicated they continue to experience stress and anxiety despite program participation. This is an expected finding given the acute nature of their trauma and current circumstances. The therapeutic activities are designed to provide temporary relief, not to fully resolve trauma, which typically requires longer-term, specialized mental health intervention.

Trauma Intrusion

Six respondents reported continuing to think about their past and finding it difficult to let go of painful memories. This represents the most significant negative finding, affecting approximately 30% of participants. Intrusive memories and difficulty letting go of trauma are hallmark symptoms of post-traumatic stress and indicate the need for more intensive mental health support beyond recreational therapeutic activities.

Non-Program Issues

One respondent expressed unhappiness about food distribution in the shelter, perceiving partiality. While this feedback is valuable for overall shelter operations, it falls outside the scope of the ATIP therapeutic program and should be addressed through shelter management channels.



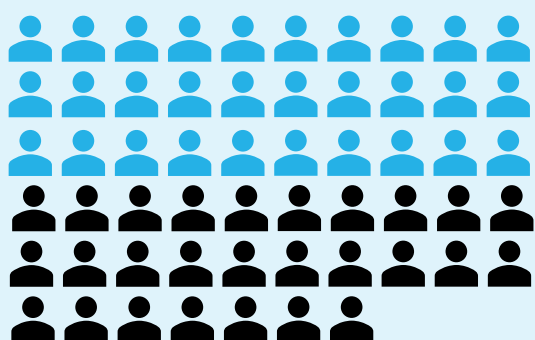
CASE ASSESSMENT AND SURVIVOR SUPPORT

Protection Officer

As a Protection Officer (PO), SUKA Society is tasked with supporting victim protection which includes case assessments, social reports and access to essential services.

Based on the social report, the court will determine whether the survivor qualifies for a Protection Order, which enables prosecution of alleged perpetrators in court, ongoing protection and legal safeguards for survivors, and the opportunity for survivors to pursue claims such as unpaid wages and compensation prior to repatriation.

PO Cases Assessed



57 cases — 30 granted a Protection Order.

Victim Assistant Specialist

With the role of a Victim Assistance Specialist (VAS), SUKA Society provides specialized support in helping victims navigate their trauma recovery and the criminal justice system. We also help facilitate repatriation and safe returns of victims to their countries of origin.

As a VAS, we work collaboratively with various stakeholders including law enforcement, prosecutors, social workers, NGOs, and other service providers, always advocating for the victim's best interest.

49

cases supported

25

repatriated safely

Countries
of Origin



Bangladesh



India



Myanmar



Indonesia



Sri Lanka



I received a lot of support and encouragement when I was at the shelter, especially from SUKA Society. They taught me to remain strong and patient throughout everything I was experiencing. Their support calmed and relieved me as I followed the processes they assisted me in. When I found out I was able to return to my country, I was so happy because it meant I would be able to meet my family again. I missed them a lot, and being able to meet them and spend time with them again made me grateful that my prayers had been answered.

Natalie, an Indonesian survivor





A survivor's abstract drawing depicting their wish to return home.

SAFE RETURNS PROGRAMME

Safe returns entails the repatriation and reintegration of trafficked victims with their community and ensuring they are not trafficked. Repatriation involves returning survivors to their country of origin, while reintegration ensures they can re-establish social, economic, and psychological stability.

Over the course of 2025, SUKA Society successfully assisted 22 survivors with repatriation and reintegration. A total of 19 survivors returned to Indonesia and three survivors were repatriated to Sri Lanka.

Engagement Visit to Medan, Indonesia

To better understand the needs and challenges of survivors as well as to broaden our advocacy and awareness efforts, SUKA Society also visited Medan, Indonesia in May 2025 to engage with former survivors of human trafficking who had been repatriated, as well as to strengthen collaboration with NGOs actively working in the areas of repatriation and reintegration.

During the visit, a gathering was arranged with representatives of local NGOs and several former survivors. These local NGO partners had formally played crucial roles in the repatriation process, such as receiving survivors at the airport and ensuring their safe return to their respective home to avoid re-trafficking.

SUKA Society's support in repatriation and reintegration focuses on:

- **Trauma-Informed Care:**

Ongoing collaboration with countries of origin to ensure survivors receive continued trauma-informed support, including medical, educational, and psychosocial care throughout the repatriation and reintegration process.

- **Information and Guidance:**

Preparing survivors for return by providing clear information on factors to consider before repatriation, travel logistics, immigration procedures, and onward travel to their final destination—often requiring escorts to smaller towns or villages.

- **Service Referrals:**

Supporting survivors with securing travel documents and referring them to local NGOs or services upon return, ensuring access to health, counselling, and livelihood support for sustainable reintegration.



A gathering connecting local NGOs with several former survivors who were repatriated to Indonesia.

SAFE RETURNS PROGRAMME

Engagement Visit to Medan, Indonesia



SUKA Society's team meeting and connecting with local NGOs in Medan, Indonesia.

The meeting gave SUKA the opportunity to meet representatives of the NGOs in person, as well as connect them with the survivors, providing them a safe platform to reach out to for psychosocial and reintegration support.

Home visits were also paid to several survivors to gain first-hand insights into their social, emotional, and economic adjustment after returning home. The survivors shared some of the struggles and triumphs they had gone through since arriving home. The team also held a discussion about human trafficking and how to avoid it with a survivor's family.

Encouragingly, the survivors have demonstrated significant progress in rebuilding their lives. One survivor is currently working as a Kumon teacher while another has successfully established herself as a businesswoman. These outcomes reflect the impact of sustained reintegration support, community acceptance, and survivor resilience.



Meeting with a former survivor of human trafficking who was repatriated to Indonesia to follow up with her.

Another positive outcome has been the establishment of a survivor-led WhatsApp support group. Initiated by one of the survivors, the group serves as a peer-support platform where members share updates, discuss challenges, encourage one another, and celebrate personal and professional milestones. This initiative has strengthened solidarity and mutual assistance among survivors.

Overall, the visit reaffirmed the importance of continuous follow-up, strong local partnerships, and survivor-centered approaches in ensuring safe, sustainable reintegration and reducing the risk of re-trafficking.

CAPACITY BUILDING & ADVOCACY

SUKA Society plays a key role in strengthening anti-trafficking efforts through targeted training, advocating for systemic improvements, and collaboration with key stakeholders. Through our initiatives, we aim to promote a victim-centric, trauma-informed, and rights-based approach across sectors, ensuring coordinated and effective responses to human trafficking.

Training Programmes

In 2025, two key trainings were conducted for stakeholders—a session on interviewing methodology for Protection Officers and a team building session for shelter personnel. The session for Protection Officers aimed to strengthen their practical skills in managing trafficking-related cases and improving survivor engagement. Through interactive discussions and reflective exercises, participants examined how communication styles, empathy and professional awareness affect information gathering and protection outcomes.

The team building session covered “Understanding Different Personalities” which helped the shelter staff recognize diverse working styles and psychological drives to improve team cohesion, reduce workplace friction and enhance service delivery.

No.	Date	Training	Topic	Group	No. of participants
1	24 th – 26 th June 2025	Training on Management of Trafficking Victims under the Anti-Trafficking in Persons and Anti-Smuggling of Migrants Act 2007 for JKM Officers	Interviewing Methodology for TIP Survivors	Government (JKM) Protection Officers	24
2	24 th Nov 2025	Staff Team Building Training @ Rumah Perlindungan Kanak-Kanak Lelaki, Johor	Understanding Different Personalities	Shelter (JKM) Management Staff/ Protection Officers	8



A team building session focused on personality awareness and cohesive team dynamics conducted for JKM Shelter Management Staff and Protection Officers.

CAPACITY BUILDING & ADVOCACY

Awareness & Advocacy



A consultation workshop hosted by NSO MAPO with CSOs to shape Malaysia's National Action Plan on Anti-Trafficking in Persons [NAPTIP 3.0].

SUKA Society is also committed to awareness and advocacy efforts which foster a more informed and responsive society. We engage in initiatives such as roundtables, interviews, talks, media engagements, and consultations with government agencies.

In 2025, we raised awareness by mainly participating in consultations with government agencies and contributing to programs like the National Action Plan and the U.S. TIP Annual Report which allows us to advocate for systemic change at a national level.

Date		Advocacy & Consultation
1	18 th Aug 2025	Civil Society Organization (CSO) Consultation Session for National Action Plan on Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP 3.0) at CCEC, Nexus Bangsar.
2	10 th Nov 2025	World Day Against Trafficking in Persons (WDATIP) Celebration at Marriott Hotel, Putrajaya. Hosted by MAPO Council
3	21 st Nov 2025	Roundtable Discussion on the 2025 Trafficking in Persons Report Findings at the US Embassy, Kuala Lumpur with key NGOs

NGOs Roundtable Meeting at the U.S. Embassy



On 21st November, SUKA Society attended an NGOs Roundtable Meeting at the U.S. Embassy in Kuala Lumpur. The session provided a platform for open dialogue between NGOs and U.S. Embassy representatives on the current human trafficking landscape in Malaysia, in light of the 2025 U.S. Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Report.

SUKA Society contributed insights from our direct work with trafficked and at-risk children and survivors in Malaysia. We shared field-based perspectives on victim identification challenges, protection gaps, and the importance of trauma-informed and survivor-centred care within shelters and reintegration programmes.

The roundtable reaffirmed the importance of sustained engagement between civil society and international partners, recognising that collaborative efforts are essential to advancing survivor protection and strengthening Malaysia's overall anti-trafficking response.

CAPACITY BUILDING & ADVOCACY

Awareness & Advocacy

We also empower survivors by holding activities and campaigns that help survivors understand the issue of human trafficking and equip with ways to rebuild their lives after the abuse they suffered.

In 2025, in addition to the annual campaigns, world days, and film screenings, we also held health awareness talks on breast care as well as sexually transmitted diseases. A simple session on self defence was also run by a volunteer in three different shelters to help survivors build confidence and learn how to protect themselves.



Federation of Reproductive Health Associations (FReHA) conducting a health awareness talk at a women's shelter.

Advocacy & Empowerment Events 2025			Shelter & Date/No.
1	International Women's Day		- RPZWT- 6th March - RPWKL- 7th March
2	World Day Against Trafficking in Persons		- RPK Johor- 29th July - RP Melaka- 30th July - RPWZT- 31st July
3	World Children's Day		RPK Johor- 25th November
4	16 Days of Activism (Stop Violence Against Women)		RPWZT- 27th November
5	World Human Rights Day		RPWZT- 10th Dec
6	Film Screening		- RPWZT- 19 - RP Melaka- 2 - RPK Rembau- 3

	Awareness Talks & Workshops	Conducted by	Shelter & Date
1	Breast Examination and Self-Care	MBPJ Staff–Ms. Pungodi	RPWZT- 20th March
2	Prevention Against Sexually Transmitted Diseases	FReHA Malaysia–Dr. Chan Jin Mae	- RPWZT- 16th July - RPWLK- 25th July
3	Introduction to Self Defence & Martial Arts	KaratePal Academy–Master Shihan Palmani	- RP Melaka- 28th May, 8th October - RPK Johor- 25th November

“From my experience providing health awareness on sexually transmitted infections (STIs) to survivors of human trafficking who were sexually exploited, I have come to acknowledge the deep pain they have endured. At the same time, I am constantly reminded of the resilience of the human spirit in the face of adversity. Although the nature of this work can be heartbreaking, having the support of like-minded organisations such as SUKA, and drawing inspiration from the work they do, helps make the burden we carry in this field a little lighter.

Dr. Chan Jin-Mae
Selangor Darul Ehsan and Wilayah Persekutuan Family
Reproductive Health Association (SWP FReHA)





Survivors learning about the importance of breast cancer awareness during an awareness talk.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

SUKA Society would like to extend our deepest gratitude and appreciation to all our partners, supporters and volunteers for their commitment towards the Anti Trafficking in Persons programme. We are especially thankful to the Anti-Trafficking in Persons and Anti-Smuggling of Migrants Council (MAPO), Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development (KPWKM), and all SUKA Society volunteers for their assistance, partnership and support in our efforts in combating human trafficking in Malaysia.

We would also like to acknowledge our corporate sponsors for their partnership and support in providing various supplies, goodies and pro bono services for the survivors.

- FBS Malaysia
- Grace Community Services
- Huntsman Global Business Services (GBS)
- KaratePaL Wellness Academy
- Karra Asia
- Legion Mariae Mother of Mercy (M) Group
- MBPJ Clinic
- OneSixty International
- Selangor & Wilayah Persekutuan Kuala Lumpur Family Reproductive Health Association (SWP FREHA)
- Spoonful of Hope
- TECH Community Network
- Ting Dental Surgery

Last but not least, our heartfelt thanks go to our individual sponsors for their generosity in supporting our work with much needed supplies.

- Mr. Andelinus Luxman
- Coach Bobby
- Ms. Connie
- Mr Desmond Lim
- Ms. Harveena Kaur
- Ms. Melinda Looi
- Ms. Mutiara
- Ms. Pathma
- Ms. Rhubini
- Ms. Sarveena Kaur
- Ms. Sheila Varghese
- Mr. Watson
- Coach Wong



PROGRAMME EXPENSES 2025

Anti-Trafficking In Persons

No	Details	Total (MYR)
01.	Programme Manpower Overhead and Casual Wages (Programme Coordinator, Programme Facilitator)	201,866.40
02.	Festive Events for Trafficked Survivors	12,536.48
03.	Therapeutic Services	7,552.76
04.	International Day Celebrations for Trafficked Survivors	4,403.48
05.	Safe Returns Programme	2,983.50
Total Yearly Programme Cost		229,342.62

How Can You Help?

If you're interested in helping out, our ATIP programme usually runs weekly activity sessions for human trafficking survivors, and we're delighted to have volunteers join us! These sessions are conducted to help provide therapeutic relief from their traumatic experiences. We also welcome donated resources for workshops, arts & craft sessions and festive occasions. You can also conduct fundraising and awareness events to advocate for the protection and care of trafficked survivors.

Contact Details

For more information regarding the ATIP programme, please contact us at enquiry@sukasociety.org.

📍 SUKA Society
P.O. Box 013 Jalan Sultan,
46700 Petaling Jaya, Selangor, Malaysia

☎ Contact No: 03-7877 4227

🌐 Website: sukasociety.org

📷 Instagram: @sukasociety

📘 Facebook: SUKA Society

