



Resilience In Adversity

"My husband, violent. He drunk and beat me. He never give any money for our family, then mortgage loan he also never pay anything. That time I really struggled." Mdm Asha* took steps to protect herself and her two daughters Uma* and Aruna* from her husband, which caused him to leave the family. Despite being a homemaker and not fluent in English, Mdm Asha stepped up to take on the role of sole breadwinner by working in blue-collar jobs to sustain her family.

Mdm Asha and her children are not Singaporean citizens, so her daughters' school fees are almost \$1,000 per month. With such hefty expenses – including her ex-husband's unpaid mortgage loan – on a single income, Mdm Asha found it extremely hard to make ends meet. At one point, her daughters were doing homework at home without a table, lights or an internet connection. Yet Mdm Asha values education, and Uma and Aruna have been motivated to study despite their limited resources and guidance. Uma's lifelong ambition is to become a doctor.

Mdm Asha was introduced to New Life by her daughter's schoolteachers. She received food vouchers and subsidies for her daughters' school fees under New Life's financial assistance programme, Project Love. Mdm Asha was also grateful for her caseworkers, Janice and Yvonne. "Mdm Janice and Mdm Yvonne, they give a lot of support for me, they make me stronger. Keep telling me, you can do it, you are a strong woman. Mdm Janice told me that if I am staying here, I need the PR status, I must do the full-time job. So after that I changed from part-time to full-time job, thank you so much for the advice."

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— Mdm Asha

Mdm Asha also participated in New Life's community outreach event Blessed2BLESS (B2B) in 2023. In addition to the financial assistance she was already receiving, B2B provided Mdm Asha's family with vouchers for household necessities and back-to-school supplies. May Leng, a New Life volunteer, brought Mdm Asha's family out for a meal and helped her shop for essentials using the vouchers provided.

*Names have been changed to protect identities.

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— Mdm Asha

May Leng said of Mdm Asha, "She is strong to be able to raise two daughters on her own. I admire her courage to face adversity. I was glad to be able to talk to her daughters and serve the family in a meaningful way."

Mdm Asha hopes to earn enough to pay off the mortgage and keep her children in school until Uma graduates and starts working, which could take about three more years. She also hopes to improve her English and upskill to better-paying jobs. Despite challenges such as not being able to provide her daughters with stronger academic support, Mdm Asha is determined to give Uma and Aruna a good life. "My plan is my daughters will be in education, then they will get a good job. Here is very safe for me and my daughters, not like my hometown. No other help or support, only New Life. [New Life is] helping me always, that's why I can stay here."



Give Families in Adversity the Keys to a Better Life!

New Life's Project Love financially assists many lower-income families like Mdm Asha's, especially those whose children pay higher school fees, such as transnational families. We believe that no child should be deprived of education due to financial reasons, so that they can achieve better life outcomes.

You can help these families meet their needs and move towards a better life by donating to Project Love on Giving.sg.

Support Lower-Income Families

All donations are 250% tax-deductible.



Volunteers like May Leng provide vital social support for families in need through befriending. This year, Blessed2BLESS (B2B) is looking for volunteers to bring joy and friendship to families in need between 9 November to 15 December.

Encourage families like Mdm Asha's through sharing a meal and conversations by registering at the link below! Training will be provided. You may serve on any one of our B2B launch dates or at any time during the event period.

Volunteer with B2B

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