

BOLD Association for Children with Special Needs, Penang



ANNUAL REVIEW

2019



Our Mission

is to support the rights of Children with Special Needs to:

Early Diagnosis, **E**arly Intervention

Family Centred Services

Inclusion in Mainstream Education

Learn the necessary skills to lead a full life in the community

Distinctive Features of our programmes:

- Involving & empowering families
- Using research-based, best practice intervention strategies
- Identifying & addressing the specific needs of individual children
- Constant upgrading of knowledge and skills
- Off-site outreach
- Emphasizing inclusive education to build an inclusive society for persons with different needs & abilities



Dato' Dr. Sharom Ahmat

I am happy to report that in 2019 BOLD, in partnership with ACS, reached out to 500 Children with Special Needs (CSN) through 8 intervention programmes, serving different age groups and different needs. In addition, we organized advocacy and awareness talks and workshops for parents and teachers. A big Thank You to our dedicated staff and committed team members who worked tirelessly all year round to bring our services to our target groups.

BOLD charges are minimal for on-site programmes while outreach programmes are free for CSN most in need. So our work is possible because we receive funding from the Penang State Government, local foundations, corporates, as well as donations from social organizations and individuals. Our grateful thanks to ALL our donors. Your generous support enables BOLD to continue helping CSN from year to year.

2019 marks an important milestone in BOLD's history. We began as a working committee of the Penang Education Council in 1998 so 2019 marks our 21st year! In December this year, the BOLD committee held a strategic review with staff and team members to identify our strengths and weaknesses, and plan for the next decade so that BOLD will do even better in its mission of serving CSN.

May 2020 bring health, happiness and wealth to all BOLD's supporters and workers so we can continue to provide better services to more Children with Special Needs.

IMPACT of BOLD's WORK in 2019

STORYTELLING

Reached out to **256** children

TRAINING & TALKS

Reached out to **256** teachers & parents

FOCUS ON LITERACY

Reached out to **85** children

PARENTS' SUPPORT GROUP

Reached out to **46** parents

KEM MEMBACA

Reached out to **43** children

PLAY & SOCIAL GROUPS

Reached out to **35** children

FOCUS ON LITERACY (FOL) is an intervention programme for 5-8 year olds facing difficulties in learning the basic skills of reading and literacy in at least one language. In 2019, FOL benefitted a total of **85** children and **43** during the Holiday Kem Membaca. At Pusat BOLD-PSDC, **57** children received assistance in Malay and Mandarin. Whereas at BOLD-ACS Centre **20** children received the intervention. Committed team members at SJKT Sungai Ara continued to assist **8** children with reading difficulties.

A two-week **KEM MEMBACA** (26 November to 6 December) was conducted at both BOLD centres. For the first time, BOLD-ACS conducted sessions in Mandarin apart from Bahasa Malaysia session. Total number of children enrolled at both centres is **43**. On the last day of Kem, a special video was shown to children and their parents. The children were thrilled to see their action photos taken throughout the Kem.

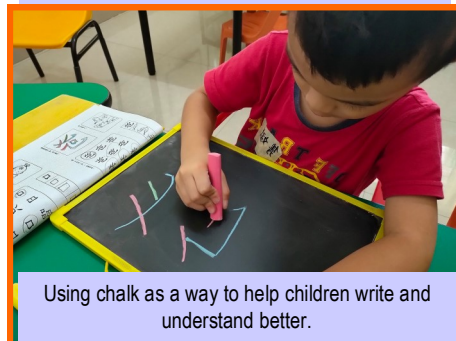
STORYTELLING sessions conducted externally and internally by BOLD were a great hit in 2019. A total of **256** children benefitted from the weekly sessions from March to November. From the sessions, 1 child made quite an incredible achievement when he started to address his teacher as 'Cikgu'. A number of pre-school teachers are now incorporating storytelling in their sessions.



Guessing game to help enrich a child's vocabulary.
Susiela with her student at SJKT Sungai. Ara.



Activity during Kem at BOLD-ACS, children using water, an important expressive medium.



Using chalk as a way to help children write and understand better.



Curious boys. Using touch, storyteller Felicia explains the life cycle of a butterfly.



Children during Social Group session. Socializing with others is crucial to improve their skills.



Playing together is important at Play Group sessions on Saturdays.



Monthly Parents' Meeting mediated by Shirley.



PIBG involvement, training parents & volunteers at SK Sungai Gelugor.

PLAY GROUP, an intervention programme for 3-5 year olds with developmental delays/disorders in the areas of social, communication and language skills, is conducted weekly on Saturday afternoons. A total of **26** children enjoyed fun-filled play activities of various action songs and indoor games. **SOCIAL GROUP** targets children from ages 6 to 8 years. Activities were designed to increase their socialization and learning skills so as to help focus and stay on a task. Nine children benefitted from the weekly sessions on Wednesday afternoons.

PARENTS' SUPPORT GROUP brings families together to exchange experiences and support for each other. A total of **40** parents attended Parent's Support Group meetings in 2019. During school holidays, **6** parents participated in 'Children Behaviour Workshop' conducted by Shirley Loo.

A series of **TRAINING** sessions on "Best Practice Methods of Teaching Early Literacy" were conducted for **105** non-profit pre-school teachers. A total of **256** teachers, parents received knowledge from BOLD talks. Sixty one staff, volunteers and teachers benefitted from 5 in-house trainings to upgrade skills and knowledge.

FIRST STEP EARLY INTERVENTION

focuses on children with developmental delay from birth to 4 years old. At First Step, working 'one-to-one' with young children and their care-givers is essential to meet the child's specific needs. Small groups for older children is also available to prepare for inclusion into pre-school. In 2019, **44** children benefitted from this programme at First Step in Gelugor while **49** benefitted at First Step in Seberang Jaya.



Parents involvement, an important bonding process that enhances the development of children.

JOM TOY LIBRARY continued to bring the joys and pleasures of play to children in the rural areas. In 2019, JOM made consistent visits to 4 programmes *Pemulihan Dalam Komuniti* namely Paya Keladi, Pinang Tunggal, Sungai Batu and Kuala Juru benefitting a total of **60** persons. Jom Toy Library offers a variety of play materials to develop children with special needs growth.



Curiously looking at a tool from a bag.

WORLD PLAY DAY is celebrated annually by children around the world. It is to raise awareness that playing with children is an important tool for a child's development. In 2019, Pantai Pasir Panjang in Balik Pulau was chosen to celebrate the day. A total of **30** children participated with their parents, assisted by staff and volunteers.



Fun-filled gathering at Pantai Pasir Panjang, Balik Pulau.



First time Respite at ACS-Seberang! Children with Respite team members.

RESPITE offers a short term care courses to parents/guardians who have children with special needs. Having 'me time' for parents/guardians is crucial to help lower decrease their stress level. At Respite, from 29 to 31 of May, 11 staff and volunteers supported **5** children with mobility disorders. Meanwhile in November **5** more children enjoyed interactive games and activities and bonded with their carers.

In 2019, BOLD provided **SUPPORT FOR INCLUSION** to some **25** children in 6 pre-schools. The pre-school in SJKT Sungai Ara and the Tzu Chi pre-school in Macalister Road received the bulk of this support. Our consultant made a total of **16** visits to pre-schools where she advised teachers on various strategies for supporting children with special needs in general classrooms such as behaviour management, encouraging participation in class, and identifying appropriate learning goals for the children. As part of our efforts to foster inclusion awareness, BOLD continued to promote our 'We Are Friends', a children's book series at workshops, conferences and through social media.



Dr. Lee Soo Hoon guiding a child on his motor skills.



Educators listening attentively to Dr. Lee's tips on positive teaching.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2019

President: Dato' Dr. Sharom Ahmat

Vice President: Dr. Hamima Dona Mustafa

Honorary Secretary: Ms Lim Kah Cheng

Assistant Secretary: Ms Ivy Loo

Honorary Treasurer: Ms Yep Beng Hong

Honorary Executive Director: Dr. Tan Liok Ee

Members:

Ms Chia Kien Eng

Ms Irene Teoh

Ms Khor Ai-Na

Ms Poh Heem Heem

Ms Shirley Koay



Committee Members (seated on chair) accompanied by staff & team members

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR WORK

As a non-profit NGO, our charges for services are nominal and, in some cases, totally free. We depend entirely on sponsorship, donations and various sources of funding to sustain our programmes and improve our services.

Donations can be made in Cash/Direct bank-in to **CIMB 8003946993** or Cheques (payable to BOLD for Special Needs Penang).

ALL DONATIONS ABOVE RM100 TO BOLD ARE TAX EXEMPT UNDER SECTION 44(6) OF THE INCOME TAX ACT 1967. Receipts will be issued upon request.

ACTIVITY CENTRES & CONTACT NUMBERS

Pusat BOLD-PSDC

81 Cangkat Minden Jalan 5, 11700 Gelugor, P. Pinang (04-659 8611)

Pusat BOLD-ACS

1 Lorong Sutera Prima 4, Taman Sutera Prima, 13700 Seberang Jaya, P. Pinang (04-398 4358)

First Step Early Intervention

227 Jalan Pemancar, 11700 P. Pinang (04-658 5396)

Rumah Pemancar

227-A Jalan Pemancar, 11700 P. Pinang

Jom Mobile Toy Library: (016-448 7006)



Web

www.boldspecial.com

FB

BOLD for Special Needs Children, Penang

BOLD Focus on Literacy