

# Global Fund Grant Round 10 for Malaysia

Global Fund Round 10

The year 2011 has been an exciting one for HIV prevention in Malaysia. The Malaysian proposal submitted to the Global Fund for Round 10 in 2010 has been approved for a category 2B and program implementation has been scheduled to begin in July 2011. Following the approval of the grant, the Malaysian AIDS Council has been appointed as the Principal Recipient to oversee the implementation of the needle syringe exchange and sex worker outreach program in Malaysia. The MAC underwent a detailed assessment by PricewaterhouseCoopers, the Local Fund Agent (LFA), in March, and successfully negotiated the grant with the Global Fund signing the Phase 1 agreement at USD 5.6 million to implement programs through 14 sub-recipients by establishing 27 service delivery sites across Malaysia. Within the two focus groups, the programs will be aimed towards a combination of outreach work and stakeholder sensitization.



The signing of the grant was a long and complicated process that would not have been possible without the technical support that was provided by Grant Management Solutions (GMS). GMS is a technical support facility created as a stipulation of the United States' donation to the Global Fund in order to provide technical support for countries receiving Global Fund grants. Technical support from GMS has come in the form of an 8-member team of consultants that have assisted MAC from the pre-grant signature through the LFA assessment.

A Monitoring and Evaluation System Strengthening workshop was held the week of 13 -17 June with support of the GMS team and the United Nations Theme Group on HIV/AIDS. This workshop invited the SRs and various other organizations, including the Ministry of Health, to participate identifying the gaps in the current M&E system and in creating a new Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) system for Malaysia. The workshop was a great success and allowed representatives of the participating SRs to voice their opinions and concerns with the current system, and contribute to how the new system should complement towards harmonising the HIV prevention efforts in Malaysia.

The Malaysian AIDS Council is looking forward to implementing the new programs that will be funded through the Global Fund. The programs will be implemented on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2011 throughout Malaysia and will be another step in preventing the spread of HIV/AIDS. With the help of the grant from the Global Fund, MAC begins an exciting two and a half years in HIV/AIDS prevention.

## PAL needs you!

Positive Audacious Living (PAL) Scheme



The Malaysian AIDS Foundation (MAF) unveiled its **PAL Scheme**, a medical assistance scheme aimed at providing access to second-line highly active anti-retroviral (HAART) medication for underprivileged Malaysians living with HIV. The PAL Scheme launch ceremony, held at the Tesco Academy Kuala Lumpur in Bandar Manjalara, Kepong, was officiated by Professor Dr Adeeba Kamarulzaman, Chairman of MAF and Faizal Tahir, a Red Ribbon Celebrity Supporter and spokesperson for PAL Scheme and witnessed by corporate associates such as Abbott Laboratories (M) Sdn Bhd, Tesco Stores (M) Sdn Bhd, and Maybank Berhad, and officials from government ministries and agencies.

**PAL**, wordplay of its campaign slogan *Positive Audacious Living* was conceived as a rebranding tool of the existing Medicine Assistance Scheme which was introduced by MAF in 1998. Accessibility to HAART has helped Malaysians living with HIV prolong and improve their quality of life.

"Through our long-term commitment and history of advocating for HIV and AIDS causes, we have pioneered initiatives aimed at improving the livelihoods of Malaysians living with HIV, particularly those who come from underprivileged backgrounds and members of the marginalised communities. Due to the high costs to support second-line HAART, we believe that the only way forward for PAL Scheme to achieve its goals is for its core funding to be self-sustained through strategic collaborations and partnerships with corporate organisations, with supplemental contributions from the general public. This move will, hopefully, enable more Malaysians Living with HIV to benefit from this Scheme and lead meaningful lives, InshaAllah (by God's willing)," said Professor Dr Adeeba Kamarulzaman, Chairman of MAF in her speech. Under the rebranded PAL Scheme, singer/songwriter and fervent Red Ribbon Celebrity Supporter, Faizal Tahir, will serve as the official spokesperson to create more synergy and publicity for the brand through his magnetic voice and charismatic presence in public service awareness campaigns through mass media, social media platforms, corporate and public events as well as via its dedicated website, [www.saveyourpal.com.my](http://www.saveyourpal.com.my).

In line with its corporate social responsibilities to support the HIV and AIDS cause, Abbott Laboratories (M) Sdn Bhd has generously provided the initial financial assistance to facilitate the rebranding process of the PAL Scheme. "There is a saying that if you are planning for lifetime, educate people. Abbott is proud to be partnering with MAF to champion, in our mutual effort, to educate people about HIV and PAL Scheme. In Abbott, people are in the centre of our universe, hence this is our chance to represent people living with HIV to tell their stories through this campaign and at the same time appeal to public to extend their hands and hearts for this noble cause," explained Muru Annmalai, General Manager of Abbott Laboratories (M) Sdn Bhd. For more information, log on to the official PAL Scheme website, [www.saveyourpal.com.my](http://www.saveyourpal.com.my).

## CALENDAR

### PAL Scheme



[www.saveyourpal.com.my](http://www.saveyourpal.com.my)

For more information contact  
Zarinah @ +603 40451033

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Did you know you that if you donate RM50.00 and above to Malaysian AIDS Foundation (MAF) you will get tax exemption?

For more information contact  
Shanthini @603 40451033

Let us welcome the new addition to our Partner Organisations family;

1. Kelab Sahabat META, Negeri Sembilan
2. Pertubuhan Komuniti CAKNA Daerah Kuala Terengganu
3. Sandakan AIDS Support Group Association, Sabah
4. Persatuan Cahaya Harapan Negeri Kedah

For more information contact Najib  
@603 40451033

### ADVOCACY MEETINGS

Exhibition at Sri Pentas, Bandar Utama in conjunction with ntv7 Feel Good Run

Sayang & Cahaya Showcase by Dayang Nurfaizah in support of Malaysian AIDS Council at the Hard Rock Cafe, Kuala Lumpur

Exhibition at Hard Rock Cafe in conjunction with Dayang Nurfaizah's Showcase

For more information contact Guna  
@ +603 40451033

## Majlis AIDS Malaysia | Yayasan AIDS Malaysia

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Ketua Pengarang: En. Jasmin Jalil (Advocacy Division)

Pengarah Kreatif: Dr. Zaki Arzmi (Evaluation & Development Division) & En. Azahemy Abdullah (Advocacy Division)

Kompilasi & Pendedaran: En. Roslan Osman (Resource Center Dept.) & Cik Farhan Jaiyidah (Resource Center Dept.)