

Bottom-Up Resilience – Civil Society Responses under COVID-19 in Singapore

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Credit: William Cho



COVID-19 TIMELINE

Feb 7	Dorscon Orange
Apr 7 to June 1	Circuit Breaker (Partial lockdown)
June 2	Phase 1 Safe Re-opening
June 19	Phase 2 Re-opening

44,800 cases
*about 95% from
 Migrant worker dormitory*

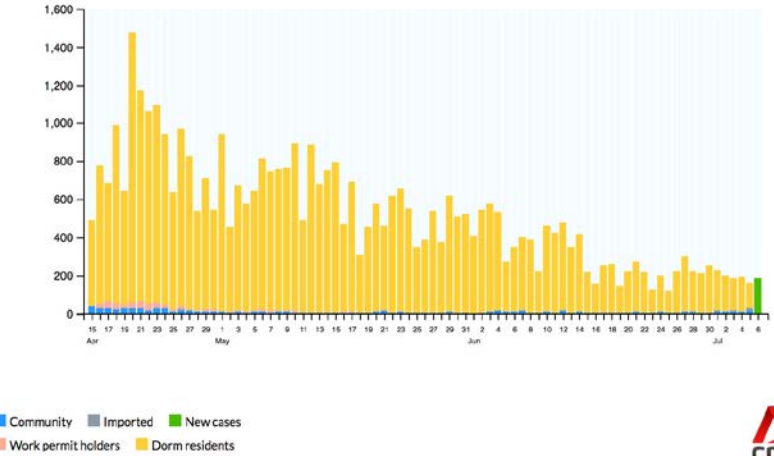
Discharged 40,441

26 deaths

SINGAPORE COVID-19 CASES

As of May 20, MOH has updated its definition of community cases to include work permit holders not living in dormitories.

Last updated: Jul 6, 3.50pm



COVID-19 Pandemic bring to light the underbelly of society

Homeless

Low income

Elderly and living alone

Migrant workers

720,800 work permit holders

Majority from Bangladesh, India & Myanmar

200,000 in 43 purpose-built dorms

120,000 in factory-converted dormitories



Credit: Giving.sg



Credit: Suhaimi Abdullah/Getty Images. WORKER DORM

Coronavirus: Families scraping by
in tougher spot now



Credit: Touch Community



Adam (not his real name), 54, who was working as a cleaner, with his wife and children in their one-room rental flat. ST PHOTO: KEVIN LIM

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Credit: Straits Times

Taking care of Migrant Workers *You'll never be alone*

INDIVIDUALS

NUS students volunteer as **translators for migrant workers** – request from doctors (Bengali, Burmese, Chinese, Tamil, Telugu, Thai and Bahasa Indonesia)

University dormitory converted into a Community Recovery Facility. NUS students **conduct “classes” for migrant workers** recovering from Covid-19. Deliver 2,000 T-shirts.

CIVIL SOCIETY

Alliance of Guest Workers Outreach (AGWO) delivers **7,000 meals to migrant workers for Hari Raya Puasa**. Crowdfunding

Migrant workers and kids in virtual singalong of If We Hold On Together to raise funds for migrant workers



Credit: NUS OSA website



credit: <https://www.facebook.com/AoGWO/>



VIRTUAL SINGALONG

<https://www.facebook.com/VoicesofSingapore/>



Homeless

- Religious places offer their venues as shelter
- NGO offer **“Home Away from Home”** for stranded Malaysians during lock down
- **“Mask Sewn with Love”** for vulnerable groups – individuals offering to sew masks from home



Credit: New Hope Community Services



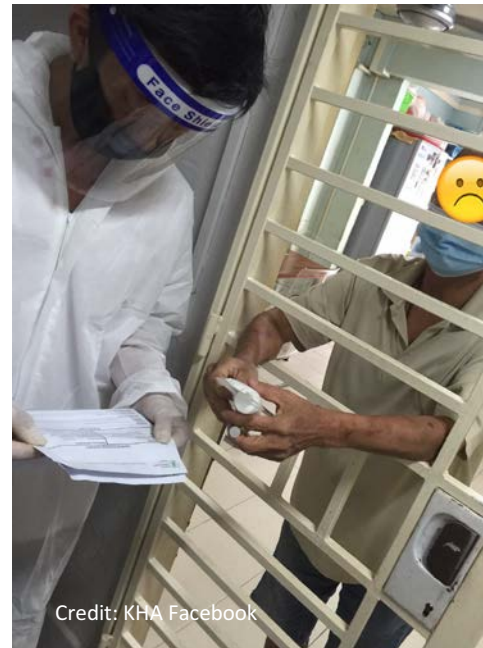
Low income, Elderly

Computers Against Covid - Fixing old laptops for those needy students for their home-based learning.

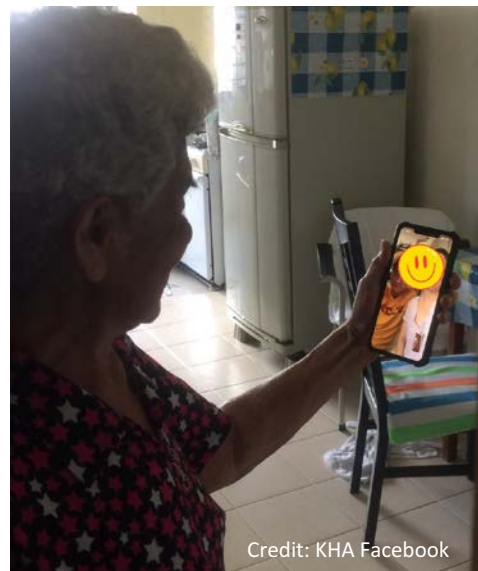
The Ministry of Education (MOE) has loaned out an estimated 20,000 devices, including laptops and tablets.

Free food by Raydy Beehoon - COVID-19 forced his beehoon stall to shut - so NTU undergrad Lee Ray Sheng cooks for hundreds of folks in need

Keeping Hope Alive (KHA) 让希望活下去
义工
Volunteers go door to door to check in on rental flat residents and offer essential aid – video call with family, health and medicine check, grocery delivery



Credit: KHA Facebook



Credit: KHA Facebook

More Than 900 Families Don't Have A Laptop For HBL. Volunteers Are Trying To Fix This Problem

Mumbrella Asia • 1.3k views • 2020-04-18 11:34



<https://news.nestia.com>



Two of Ray Sheng's managers, Anran (left) and Zechary (right), with Ben. (Photo: Lee Ray Sheng)