



**Asia Community Service (ACS)** was established in Penang in 1996 with the vision to empower young children and adults with disabilities and their families to achieve an inclusive and meaningful role for them within the community.

**BOLD Association for Children with Special Needs, Penang (BOLD)** was established in 1997 with the objective of empowering children with special needs to enter mainstream education with the support of the necessary intervention services.

Together, we run shared programs serving children with different kinds of special needs:-

**FIRST STEP** Early Childhood Intervention Centres (Gelugor and Seberang Jaya) servicing 80 Children with Developmental Disorders/Delays from birth to 5 years.

**JOM MOBILE TOY LIBRARY** is a community outreach to about 140 children with severe disabilities living in rural areas of Penang Island and Mainland.

**RESPITE CARE SUPPORT SERVICE** in Gelugor offers short term care to children and young persons with disabilities so that parents and care-givers can have a break.

**SUPPORT FOR INCLUSIVE EDUCATION** services ensure the successful inclusion of children with special needs in mainstream education.

**TRAINING AND ADVOCACY** are conducted on a regular basis for parents and volunteers.

In addition, ACS and BOLD Penang separately also run the following programs:-

**Stepping Stone Work Centre** is a workplace in Balik Pulau for members with intellectual disabilities. The members work in various creative arts stations such as weaving, batik painting, tie & dye, handmade paper, soap making, pottery, bakery and recycling. The aim is to train and support them to be more economically independent by having access to job opportunities.

**Play Groups** for young children with special needs in social, communication and language skills

**Focus on Literacy** programs help children with reading difficulties to acquire basic functional literacy in either Malay or Chinese.

**Storytelling Sessions** develop oral language fluency, social and communication skills and general cognitive development.

As non-profit community based organizations, ACS and BOLD Penang depend on public support and goodwill contributions to maintain and grow our services. Our services, programs and workshops reach more than 700 families every year.

All donations to both organisations are tax exempt under Section 44(6) of the Income Tax Act 1967.

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