

Brightening lives,
empowering sight



MAB
MALAYSIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND

Vision

MAB aspires to create equal opportunities for visually impaired person so as to enable to enjoy the same quality of life as the sighted.

Mission

To empower persons with visual impairment by providing them with services & opportunities for greater participation, involvement and integration into society as well as to promote prevention of blindness.

Objectives

- To aid visually impaired individuals in overcoming their visual challenges
- To provide them with skills for employment, enabling secure jobs and independence
- To enhance their quality of life and promote full integration into society
- To contribute to preventing blindness
- To educate the public and raise awareness about visual impairments' needs and capabilities

Functions

To achieve our vision, mission, and fulfil the objectives of the Association, MAB shall:

- Take necessary steps to enhance the quality of life for individuals with visual impairments through rehabilitation, education, vocational training, placement, and aftercare services
- Provide advice and make recommendations to the government and relevant authorities on matters concerning visually impaired individuals
- Encourage and support the implementation of programs aimed at preventing blindness

Introduction to MAB

The Malaysian Association for the Blind (MAB) has been serving visually impaired individuals since 1951, expanding its nationwide activities from overseeing their well-being to providing educational programs, rehabilitation courses, vocational training, and placement services. Their facilities include a Braille Library, Braille Publishing Unit, Audio Production room, Information Technology Unit, Accessibility, Advocacy and Welfare unit, and Marketing and Sales unit.

MAB established an eye hospital in 1986 and extends its services to rural areas through community-based rehabilitation schemes. With a focus on integration and improving quality of life, MAB continually evolves its offerings to meet changing needs, relying on public donations for support and expressing gratitude to its generous contributors.



ICT Department

- Empowerment of visually impaired community through short and long-term ICT training
- Source of information for visually impaired on latest assistive technology in the market and providing technical assistance for their devices
- Advocate for digital accessibility and its importance to government agencies, corporate entities & the public
- Digital accessibility training & assessment services for government agencies & corporate entities



Research & Development (R&D) Department

The R&D Department, established in 2018, under the chairmanship of Dr. S. Hadi, researches pressing issues for the blind and visually impaired, recommending solutions for the community well-being. They also conduct in-house and external research, advocate based on findings, and collaborate with academia to promote inclusivity.



Key Strategies established by the department are:

- Gather key information & statistics
- Publication & research library
- Produce research reports & news
- Reports compilation
- Establish knowledge exchange network

Gurney Training Centre

Introduction:

Established in 1953 and equips the blind with a wide range of skills to prepare them for employment and social integration.

Services provided:

- Technical education, skills training, and residential life programs for employment preparation
- Vocational training runs in two semesters: January to June and July to December
- Empowers blind individuals for employment through TVET
- Offering adjustment training and raising awareness about capabilities and needs
- Accredited training centre under the Department of Skills Development (JPK), Ministry of Human Resources (MOHR)

Target Audience & Admissions:

- Visually impaired or blind, aged 18 - 45
- No strict SPM requirement
- Have a basic 3M (reading, writing, counting)
- Good level of physical and mental health.
- Support in various competencies

Courses offered:

- Office Management
- Computer System Operation & Administration
- Massage Therapy
- Reflexology
- Audio Production
- Contact Centre Training Program



Short-Term Upskilling Program :

- Sport Massage Level 1
- Physical Health Therapy
- Pre-U Intensive Program

Skills Training Program Summary:

A. SKM Certifications - Duration: 1 ½ Year (15 months + 3 months Industrial Training)

- Office Administration Level 3
- Computer System Operation Level 3
- Computer System Administration Level 4
- Massage Therapy Level 3
- Foot, Hand & Ear Reflexology Level 3

B. MAB Certifications

- Contact Centre Training Program
 - Duration: 6 months (3 months + 3 months Industrial Training)
- Audio Production Level 2
 - Duration: 6 months
- Audio Production Level 3
 - Duration: 12 months

Radio MAB

Established on April 12, 2021, with support from the Jariah fund campaign and the Ministry of Communication & Multimedia, MAB radio airs on the Zeno FM platform Monday to Friday from 3:00 pm to 7:00 pm. As a pioneer online community radio for the blind and visually impaired, Radio MAB provides information, inspiration, and alternative entertainment under the slogan "information without borders."



Taman Harapan Agricultural Training Centre

Taman Harapan was established in 1958.

Services provided:

- Training and rehabilitation residential centre (Duration: 3 to 8 months)
- Techniques of gardening, nursery, and hydroponics
- Rattan and mengkuang handicrafts
- Daily living skill and counselling
- Braille and computer skill
- Fardu Ain (Muslims only)



MAB Rehabilitation & Training Centre (Kinta Valley)

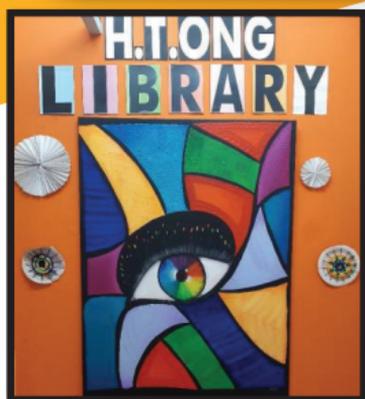
MAB's rehabilitation and training centre began its operation in August of 2012.

Services under the unit are:

- Daily Living Skills: Learning essential tasks for independent living
- Orientation & Mobility: Mastering techniques to navigate safely in various environments using white canes and other necessary items for the visually impaired community
- Computer Literacy: Acquiring skills to use computers and assistive technology effectively for communication and tasks
- Braille: Reading and writing in braille for the visually impaired individuals
- Islamic Studies/ Moral Education: Reading and writing of the Quran in braille format for independent study and spiritual and also teaching practices of manners, memorization and fiqh
- English Communication: Developing proficiency in spoken and written English for social, academic, and professional interaction
- Physical education: Help the trainees muscle and bone formation to be maximal and recognize his/her own potential to stimulate intellectual growth and social interaction in the surrounding environment.
- Social skills: Practices on how blind will interacting skills, communicate and train socialization skills with others/public



H.T. Ong Library



The H.T. Ong library, established in 1959, has attracted patrons from various organisations, including corporations, colleges, universities, and NGOs. It offers a wide range of reading materials in various formats, including printed and non-printed materials, Braille books, MP3 and MP4 resources, audio books, and video recordings. The library offers over 5000 reading materials, including Braille books in Bahasa Malaysia and English, and audio books in Bahasa Malaysia, English, Mandarin, and Tamil. It also has a children's corner, established in 2016.



3 main volunteering services:



Book Typing



Ad-Hoc Reading



Audio Book Recording

Services in MAB Library:

- Braille & audio book production
- Braille & audio book lending services
- Sighted book lending services
- Children's corner services
- Postal lending services
- Volunteering services
- Printing, scanning, embossing & lamination

Low Vision Clinic

Our Services:

MAB low vision clinic was established in April 2022 and services provided as below:

- Support team for the visually impaired community
- Specialised consultation with certified low vision optometrists
- Conduct assessments to determine eye health
- Prescription and supply of low vision devices
- Training on the utilisation of low vision devices
- Providing referrals for examination at eye hospitals
- Counselling for low vision individuals
- Fortnightly pro bono optometric services by UCSI, MSU, and UITM
- Facilitation of sponsorships for visual and optical aid, and electronic devices
- Eye screening services at schools, private sectors, colleges, and other locations



MAB Family Clinic:

- Free general healthcare for the blind and their family members
- Free consultation, prescription of medicines, and dressing
- Promote a healthy lifestyle among the blind
- Referral cases to hospital if needed

Accessibility, Advocacy, & Welfare Unit

A. Accessibility and Advocacy:

- Conduct training and workshops for the public, government, and corporates on universal design, Disabled Related Services Training and access to information for the bisually impaired person
- Advocate the relevant agencies on issues hindering blind individuals' economic independence and universal design
- Organise programs to educate the blind on universal design, information accessibility including web accessibility, printed and digital material
- Educate the blind on their rights under the Disability Act 2008
- Create engagements with Local authorities, Government, contractors and architects to provide a barrier-free environment
- Involve in access audits together with ministries and agencies such as Ministry of Transport to ensure blind community can access the building or environment easily

B. Welfare:

- Identify and refer blind client to relevant agencies for education, training, employment, and financial assistance
- Offer physical and emotional support, especially to newly blind client
- Provide financial assistance to the blind community
- Make a visit to blind client's home and hospital when the client admitted
- Provide orientation & mobility training to blind who needed
- Provide counselling session to blind & community
- Identify, collect Volunteer data and provide Volunteer Services to Blind in need
- Coordinating elderly blind club
- Create engagements with related agencies such as hospitals, Social Department etc



Deaf Blind Multi – Handicapped

This unit was established in 2011, for children with multiple disabilities, who are unable to attend regular schools.

- Age Group: 1-12
(Mondays - Thursdays: 9.00 a.m. – 12.00 p.m.)

Services

- Advocate for early intervention and provide a full range of educational services and training to enable them to achieve their optimum potential
- Support and strengthen families and provide them with information and resources
- Day training centre
- Parents Counselling to improve the standard of care by providing updated information and resources
- Home visits

Programmes Conducted

- Orientation and Mobility
- Daily Living Skills
- Motor Skills
- Communication
- Social Skills
- Cognitive Skills
- Functional Academic



Strategy & Placement Unit

- Conduct opportunity surveys for industrial and commercial positions in both public and private sectors
- Seek employment placements for trained visually impaired individuals
- Provide follow-up and after-care services concerning their employment and general welfare
- Assist with loan applications for equipment needed for their new job placements, if necessary
- Explore new job opportunities for visually impaired individuals pursuing higher education



Youth, Sports, and Recreation Unit

- Organise sporting events for visually impaired individuals
- Provide recreational activities for our clients
- Promote the talents of visually impaired individuals
- Enhance the abilities of visually impaired individuals through sporting activities
- Providing youth programme



Braille Publishing Unit

Established in January 2006 with the aim of publishing Braille textbooks and literature for the blind, the Braille Publication unit (BPU) aspires to enable the blind to have access to the latest information in all fields. In 2022, the BPU received a contract for Braille textbooks from the Special Education Division (Bahagian Pendidikan Khas) of the Ministry of Education.

BPU Services:

- Transcribe text in print to Braille
- Convert printed charts/plans/maps/etc. to embossed tactile graphics
- Produce Braille textbooks
- Name cards & catalogues
- Menus & labels
- Instructions, schedules & forms
- Educating visitors on Braille production



Repair And Services Unit

This unit provides the following repair services:

- Perkins braille machine
- Thermoform machine
- White canes and other braille items

Other services included:

- Provide braille repair courses to the public, schools, and companies
- Selling braille and thermoform spare parts



Sales Unit

The sales unit aims to improve the lives of visually impaired individuals by promoting gadgets, assistive devices, and technologies to facilitate their integration into society, whether in the fields of education, recreation, or employment.



Business Development Unit

This unit plays a crucial role in MAB's revenue generation and the facilitation of product and service sales for the visually impaired community while ensuring sustainable income streams and promoting economic empowerment among visually impaired individuals.

Services provided:

- Promoting and marketing handicraft items made by visually impaired individuals within MAB through product promotion, market research, diversifying sales channels, and fostering community engagement
- Organising massage roadshows and handicraft exhibitions
- Managing MAB Shoppe, which sells and advertises goods and services, including full body massages and foot reflexology



MAB Shoppe
NP2K-01 (Basement 2),
Zone C Parking, North Court,
Mid Valley, Kl

Fundraising and Public Relations

- Manage social media presence, ensuring frequent and relevant content
- Regularly update the public on current events and developments
- Cultivate and maintain public interest in initiatives for the visually impaired
- Develop informational materials to educate the public
- Solicit donations to support association endeavours
- Coordinate publicity for MAB's functions and events
- Build relationships with media outlets
- Organise awareness-raising events for the visually impaired community



Administration Unit

- To oversee the entire operation of the association and its units
- To handle all matters concerning the MAB in general

Finance Unit

- To receive all donations and issue tax exemption receipts
- To process all payments
- To invest the money not immediately used in legitimate ways

Donation / Derma

TAX EXEMPTED / DIKECUALIKAN CUKAI

Chief Executive Officer
Malaysian Association for the Blind
P.O. Box No 10687
50722 Kuala Lumpur

Yes, I would like to help the Malaysian Association for the Blind by:/
Ya, saya ingin membantu Persatuan Bagi Orang Buta Malaysia
dengan cara:

(Please tick where applicable/Sila tanda yang mana berkenaan)

- Donation. I hereby enclose/Derma. Bersama-sama ini disertakan
RM.....
- Cheque/Cek No.

- Bank in
Bank account no. 21417400050041 at RHB
(Kindly fax or email bank-in slip)

- Please Charge RM _____ to my Credit card:
- Auto Debit: Monthly /Bulanan Yearly /Tahunan Onetime Only /Sekali Sahaja
- VISA MASTER CARD Expiry Date: _____
- Credit Card No: _____ Security Code: _____
- | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|

Nama / Name :

No. Kad Pengenalan / IC Number :

Signature _____ Date: _____

Address/Alamat: Company/Syarikat Home/Rumah

.....

..... Postcode/Poskod:

Tel: Company/Syarikat Home/Rumah:

H/P/Telefon bimbit: Fax/Faks:

Email/Emel:

All cheque / Postal Order / Money Order should be crossed A/C payee and made payable to
(**'Malaysian Association for the Blind'**)

Sumbangan melalui cek / Kiriman Pos / Kiriman Wang mestilah berpaling dan dibayar kepada
(**'Persatuan Bagi Orang Buta Malaysia'**)

Thank You For Your Support/Terima Kasih Di Atas Sokongan Anda:

(**Tax Exempt** Receipt will be issued to all donors/resit akan dikeluarkan kepada setiap penderma)

What is Braille?

It is a form of writing, which was invented by Louis Braille, a French inventor who lived in the first half of the nineteenth century. At the age of three he became totally blind and needed a lot of help from family and friends to carry on with his lesson.

When he grew up, Braille was determined to make learning easier for blind children by enabling them to read and write. As a blind person cannot see letters of the alphabet, he argued, why not make it possible to feel them instead?

The system he invented is known as braille. Every letter is represented by a different arrangement of raised dots.

 Just six dots are the basis of the whole system.

'A' is represented by one raised dot at the top left-hand corner.

When you have worked out all the other letters below, try writing your own name in braille.

A 	B 	C 	D 	E 	F 	G 	H 	I 
---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

J 	K 	L 	M 	N 	O 	P 	Q 	R 
---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

S 	T 	U 	V 	W 	X 	Y 	Z 
--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

My Name in Braille



mab_malaysia



Malaysian Association for the Blind



<https://mab.org.my>



MAB

MALAYSIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND

Kompleks MAB

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