Headquartered in Singapore, Mercy Relief was established in 2003 to respond to human tragedies and disasters in Asia Pacific. Today, we are Singapore’s leading independent disaster relief agency with dedicated leadership, capacity building expertise and an affiliate network operating across the entire disaster management cycle.

Mercy Relief provides emergency aid within 72 hours of an international appeal in the aftermath of a disaster. The objective of our longer-term sustainable development programmes is to uplift and empower communities in five key areas: water and sanitation, shelter, sustainable livelihoods, healthcare and education.
The world continues to face disasters and more people find themselves being displaced by disasters than they are uprooted by conflict. 2019 was no exception.

We are incredibly humbled and honoured to work alongside survivors, vulnerable communities, our overseas partners and voluntary welfare organisations across the Asia Pacific region. Their tenacity and resilience to fight against seemingly insurmountable odds, reclaim their lives and secure a better future gives us the motivation and strengthens our commitment to provide much needed humanitarian aid and support across the region. Back home in Singapore, Mercy Relief has also been working tirelessly to provide a platform for Singaporeans from all walks of life to join hands and contribute aid and support to our fellow neighbours.

Mercy Relief responded to Typhoon Hagibis in Japan, as well as Typhoon Phanfone, which struck the Philippines. With the unwavering support given to us by our corporate and individual donors, we were able to help the lives of 97,295 survivors in the various disasters through a variety of measures, including providing immediate relief and aid of hot meals distribution when disasters strike and helping survivors rebuild their lives through the repair of infrastructure, post-disaster. All these were made possible with the generosity of our kind donors and the hard work of partners and staff on ground.

Building upon the momentum and hard work put in by the staff and coupled with the support of the Board of Directors, 2019 finished on a positive high note, with stronger financial results and monetary donations. We look forward to this continued upward trajectory.

As we move into the new decade, Mercy Relief will be rolling out several new initiatives to increase the depth and scope of our humanitarian work. Firstly, we will be enhancing our drive to raise funds through a bold strategic plan and awareness campaigns with the hope to scale Mercy Relief’s impact both locally and regionally, as well as to allow us to plan the groundwork to reach out to more communities affected by natural disasters.

As environmental calamities increase in scale and affect a larger number of communities, it is our foremost priority to do our part for the environment and address climate change to the best of our ability. This includes a need to reduce our carbon footprint. As such, Mercy Relief will continue to focus on fine-tuning our long term sustainable programmes and streamline our processes in order to improve efficiency and expedite processes. This will allow us to identify areas where we can do more for the affected communities.

On behalf of Mercy Relief, we would like to express our heartfelt appreciation and thank you for all your support in more ways than one. Your kindness, generosity and contributions have helped us touch more lives and provide more timely aid to those in dire need whenever natural disasters strike. I would also like to extend my sincerest gratitude to the staff of Mercy Relief - all that they do is a labour of love.

Together, let us continue to make a difference in the lives of survivors of disasters in our neighbouring countries.
Upholding good governance is Mercy Relief’s (MR) utmost priority. The organisation adopts a rigorous selection of Board and staff members as well as the implementation of impeccable internal controls and processes. MR believes that exemplary governance are key to attaining the funding required to sustain the long-term initiatives for communities in need.

Our board of directors steer our charity with their years of experience. Their leadership, guidance and mentorship have shaped Mercy Relief into the sustainable and impactful charity it is today. With our board’s wisdom and foresight, we look forward to many more years of empowering disaster-stricken communities across Asia.

**EXEMPLARY GOVERNANCE PRACTICES**

**Coherent Strategy**
It is crucial for all staff to have a clear understanding where the charity is heading. Strategic planning, vision, mission and core values, as well as short and long-term goals, are reviewed annually. The Board takes into consideration that the final plan is aligned with MR’s vision and stays relevant in current and future changing landscapes before giving its approval. This strategic plan is communicated to all staff during meetings and is incorporated into their work plans and subsequently into their respective key performance indicators. Prior to the start of the new year, staff are made aware of how their roles are aligned with MR’s plan and how their performances will lead to the fulfillment of the objectives. Impact reports about projects, performance, financials and governance of MR are also regularly shared with the Board to ensure alignment with the strategic plan.

**Implementing A Risk Management Framework**
A risk management policy has been laid out to implement an organisational philosophy that ensures risk management is a fundamental part of MR’s objectives, plans and management system. A process was developed to record the risks in a risk register, stating the risk items, causes, impact and mitigation plan/date. The management team is held accountable for these risks and develop/implement measures/strategies to manage/mitigate the risks on a regular basis. Any key issues are promptly escalated to the Board for their advice.

**Building A Resilient Communication Channel**
MR has both a contact email address and a contact telephone number that facilitate feedback from all stakeholders and allow all parties to make enquiries about MR and how they can extend their help to MR. There is also a whistleblowing policy in place. MR’s whistleblowing framework provides a platform for individuals to disclose any observed improprieties that involve MR’s employees, without fear of reprisal. All instances of whistleblowing will be independently reviewed and investigated by the Board.

The regular Board, Executive Committee (EXCO) meetings and annual general meeting (AGM) are available communication channels for staff and board members to voice their feedback, opinions and concerns. According to its Constitution, a Board meeting shall be held at least once in three months and during the months where no Board meetings are held, EXCO meetings will be called by the Chairman to ensure that decisions are made in a timely fashion.

**Conflict of Interest**
All Board members and staff of MR are required to observe the conflict of interest policy and make full disclosure of interests, relationships and holdings that could potentially result in conflict of interest. The Board members and staff have fully complied with the conflict of interest policy. There are no staff members who are close relatives of the Executive Director or the Board members.

**Enlisting the Right People**
Prospective employees are assessed and evaluated on their relevant experiences, skill sets and high ethical standards through MR’s stringent hiring and interviewing processes. This applies to prospective new Board members too. The current Board comprises a diverse group of professionals with a wealth of experience in business development, medical, legal advice, marketing, audit, governance and fundraising.
SINCE OUR INCEPTION
(2003 – 2019)

2,500,000
lives impacted

26
countries

65
post disaster projects

84
immediate relief operations

SGD 44.6 million
funds distributed in relief

Afghanistan | Bangladesh | Cambodia | China | DPR Korea | India
Indonesia | Iran | Iraq | Israel | Japan | Laos | Lebanon | Maldives
Malaysia | Myanmar | Nepal | Pakistan | Palestine | Philippines
Sri Lanka | Timor Leste | Taiwan | Thailand | Vietnam | Yemen

AREA OF FOCUS

Livelihood
Shelter
Healthcare
Water & Sanitation
Education
In 2019, with your generous support, we responded to five disasters and implemented six post-disaster projects in six countries around Asia Pacific.

We have impacted > 97,295 beneficiaries in 2019.
One of the worst natural disasters to hit Japan in a decade, Typhoon Hagibis left Honshu island in destruction when it brought heavy rainfalls that triggered landslides and floods. The unprecedented downpour submerged many areas in the waters and saw 7 million people placed on non-compulsory evacuation orders. More than 40,000 houses were flooded, and numerous electric infrastructures were damaged.

For 19 weeks, Mercy Relief and its ground partner, Association for Aid and Relief Japan, gave out hot meals to the communities in Nagano, Fukushima, and Miyagi prefectures. Subsequently, it also funded the repair work of facilities in 2 social welfare centres, and a research project centred on understanding the needs of disabled people in Tokyo. This helped authorities and organisations gain knowledge of their needs and how to meet them effectively.
**COTABATO EARTHQUAKE**

**OCTOBER 2019**

Earthquakes ranged between magnitudes of 6.1 to 6.6 struck the Cotabato province of the Philippines in October 2019, damaging structures and agriculture. At its peak, over 71,969 families were displaced. Close to 47,500 houses were totally damaged or partially damaged in the disaster.

Mercy Relief worked with Citizen’s Disaster Response Center and Mindanao Interfaith Services Foundation to conduct needs assessments and to deliver hot meals to the affected communities.

**DAVAO DEL SUR EARTHQUAKE**

**DECEMBER 2019**

A 6.9-magnitude earthquake struck Davao del Sur, Mindanao, on 15 December 2019 and affected more than 378,000 people, of which approximately 108,000 of them were survivors of the October earthquakes. The quake saw the destruction of thousands of homes, schools and healthcare facilities, and recorded 210 injuries and 13 fatalities.

Mercy Relief worked with Citizen’s Disaster Response Center to conduct needs assessments and delivered hot meals to the affected communities. Non-perishable food items, clean water, and plastic sheets were also distributed.

**TYPHOON KAMMURI**

**DECEMBER 2019**

Typhoon Kammuri (known locally as Tisoy) hit Northern Samar on 3 December 2019 and brought violent winds and intense rainfall to the region. More than 2 million people were affected as the typhoon swept through their villages and destroyed their fishing boats, the main source of their livelihood.

Working hand in hand with local partners, Leyte Center for Development and Southern Tagalog People’s Response Center, Mercy Relief conducted needs assessments and prepared hot meals for families in evacuation centres in 7 communities in the municipality of Mapanas, as well as 6 communities in Palapag, Northern Samar.

**TYPHOON PHANFONE**

**DECEMBER 2019**

Typhoon Phanfone (known locally as Ursula) swept through the Visayas islands in the Philippines, on Christmas Eve and continued through Christmas Day. The disaster destroyed 2,300 villages and affected 1.9 million people. An estimated 378,000 houses, 400 schools, and 32 public structures were damaged.

Mercy Relief worked with Southern Tagalog People’s Response Center to assist the affected communities and delivered hot meals to them. Food packs were also distributed to 3 areas in Occidental Mindoro.
NEPAL EARTHQUAKE

Also known as the Gorkha Earthquake, this disaster in 2015 killed nearly 9,000 people and injured nearly 22,000, making it the worst natural disaster to strike Nepal since 1934. Mercy Relief and multiple partners provided emergency food, hygiene kits and medical supplies along with emergency healthcare services and treatment. Since then, we have been leading community reconstruction efforts, including school reconstruction efforts in Lisankhu Pakhar rural municipality, Sindhupalchok district of Nepal. Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) media training to create awareness on the importance of building earthquake-resilient structures were also conducted for the communities.

Bangladesh

BANGLADESH REFUGEE CRISIS

As violence in Myanmar had rapidly escalated, so did the number of refugees seeking refuge in Bangladesh, from ethnic and religious persecution. Among other health issues, a main problem that had arisen is the reproductive health for women and girls in the refugee camps. The pregnancy rate of an estimated 20% in these camps is much higher than that in their native Myanmar where only 4.7% of women are pregnant or are new mothers. However, Rohingya’s conservative values limit the sexual and reproductive health care midwives can provide.

Traditional Birth Attendant Training Project @ Camp 16

Mercy Relief partnered HEED Bangladesh to provide Traditional Birth Attendant training and health education by selected birth attendants at the HEED health centre’s community outreach activity sessions.

Maternal & Child Health Centre Project @ Camp 9

Mercy Relief, working with Human Aid Bangladesh Foundation (HABF), provided daily medical consultation services with a laboratory service and medicine dispensary at the HABF health centre. We also conducted health education to raise the awareness of Maternal and Child Healthcare among general health matters in the Rohingya language.
Over the span of less than a month, three earthquakes measuring between Magnitude 6.4 and 6.9 struck the island of Lombok in Indonesia in August 2018. Officials reported at least 80% of structures in North Lombok were damaged or destroyed, with a total of 363 people killed and over 1,000 injured. The sequence of earthquakes also caused more than 417,000 people to be displaced.

To date, Mercy Relief has partnered Yakkum Emergency Unit (YEU) to distribute carpentry tools and train beneficiaries on building safe houses through their Well-being Project. Together, we also repaired wash facilities and rehabilitated accessible toilets and houses for people with disabilities.

On 28 September 2018, a shallow, large earthquake struck Minahasa Peninsula in Indonesia, followed by a localised tsunami that struck nearby Palu. The combined effect of the earthquake and tsunami led to the deaths of an estimated 4,340 people, making it the deadliest earthquake worldwide in 2018.

Mercy Relief has been working closely with Yayassan Pusat Kajian dan Perlindungan Anak (PKPA) to train teachers and students in disaster risk reduction at schools as there was a lack of disaster preparedness support facilities and guidelines. The project involved establishing school committees for disaster preparedness teams, disaster risk reduction and first aid training, as well as provision of disaster risk reduction facilities.

In the dry season of February to June every year, the community struggles with water shortages due to rain water catchments drying up. As a result, they have insufficient water for daily activities and livelihood, which makes them vulnerable to disaster, climate change and market demand.

Through a partnership with Myanmar Heart Development Organization (MHDO), Mercy Relief empowered beneficiaries to take ownership of their water needs by providing training on building farms to 90 disadvantaged households. Additionally, we built clean water systems and school latrines and set up four Water Management Committees.
OUR LOCAL OUTREACH

We left no stone unturned in our community education and outreach efforts. In line with our mission to lead and instil humanitarian values in our society, Mercy Relief organised public awareness roadshows and educational talks to share about the work we do.

Mercy Relief was the adopted charity at one of the largest travel fairs here. We were honoured to share stories about our sustainable projects implemented across Asia with the public that visited our booth. A big thank you to NATAS for having us!

An official cheque handover ceremony was held by Mercy Relief and RLAF Foundation at our office. Over $240,000 which included a $20,000 donation by Muslim Converts’ Association of Singapore (MCAS), was raised to support the communities affected by the Sunda Strait Tsunami in December. Thank you RLAF and MCAS for your generosity!

Changi Regional Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief Coordination Centre organised a training session where our International Programmes team attended alongside with 200 personnel from 25 militaries and other representatives from civilian organisations. This three-day exercise provided our team with deeper insights on disaster preparedness and collective awareness by offering space for a dialogue and building relationships between various stakeholders in disaster response.

Our long-term partner, GEX Ventures held their annual Global Economics and Property Investment Convention (GEPIC) 2019 and all proceeds raised from this event were donated to Mercy Relief. Thank you GEPIC for appointing Mercy Relief as your charity of choice!

Our team was invited to a communal Iftar event hosted by the Muslim Converts’ Association of Singapore (MCAS). The interfaith event was well-attended by ambassadors and representatives from Muslim and non-Muslim organisations. One of the highlights of the evening was a cheque donation presented to Mercy Relief in support of our ongoing efforts in Asia. Thank you MCAS for your generous gesture!

A team of three friends in their 50s embarked on a four months self-funded journey by land from Singapore to London to help create awareness and raise funds for Mercy Relief. Staying true to their mission, the trio also made pit stops to visit our project sites in Kathmandu, Nepal. Thank you, Alvin, Andy and K.A Chua for going the extra mile for our beneficiaries.

February

March

April

May

June

July
Thank you all who came to dance at Mercy Relief’s first charity Zumba. Held at Our Tampines Hub, it was heartening to see diverse groups of both women and men of all ages and dance competencies come together for a good cause. Thank you to our instructors, Jasmine, Nira, Zhywee and James for their commitment and not forgetting our volunteers who were there to support us.

Mercy Relief was delighted to host a visit by NTU students. Our Senior Executive of International Programmes and Corporate Outreach, Aishah Mutalif, discussed the role of MR within the humanitarian landscape in Asia, while our Senior Manager of International Programmes, Khairul Massuan, recounted stories from his decade-long journey in the sector. We were also thrilled to offer the students a more relatable perspective through our intern, Xiao Hui, a student from the University of Brunei, who shared the challenges she faced and overcame during her time at our charity and the highlights of doing humanitarian work.

We wish to express our gratitude to all who supported Mercy Relief’s charity movie screening of “Frozen 2.” It turned out to be an enjoyable day for everyone. Our very special appreciation goes out to the anonymous donors who generously bought tickets for beneficiaries of other charities so they too would be able to enjoy the movie. We also thank our kind event sponsors who contributed to our event’s success!

In collaboration with Vita Green Waste Management, Mercy Relief conducted a door-to-door collection of preloved items. All proceeds received from the sale of the recycled items enabled us to continue uplifting the lives of vulnerable communities across Asia.

Our inaugural charity movie screening of “Fast & Furious Presents: Hobbs & Shaw” was held at Our Tampines Hub. Thank you Sports Car Club, Irblaw and Singapore Manufacturing Federation for their tremendous support and in-kind sponsorship which contributed to the success of our event.

Start Small Dream Big! Annual Kidz Fiesta, is a part of Learning Vision’s annual “Start Small Dream Big” project which aims to teach students to give back to the society. We had an awesome day interacting with the children and parents. Thank you Learning Vision Changi Airport for having us!

We are proud to have been invited to participate in Nan Hua Primary School’s Make-Difference Fair in celebration of Children’s Day. By sharing our organisation’s vision and mission with young minds, we hope to ignite a sense of empathy and compassion in the future generation. Local produce from relief site, Baseco, Manila sold included Habi Bags such as coin purses, pencil cases and pouches made from plastic packaging discarded by factories. Proceeds raised from the sale help lift the community out of poverty and to also gain a new lease of life.
Our heartfelt gratitude to our partners, supporters, volunteers, and participants for supporting the work we do to empower communities across Asia.

**Corporate Partners**
- Caritas Humanitarian Aid & Relief Initiatives, Singapore
- Changi Regional Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief Coordination Centre
- Darul Aqam Singapore
- Foodbank Singapore
- HELP Logistics of Kuehne Foundation
- Home Team Behavioural Sciences Centre
- Humism Pte Ltd
- Merci Marcel
- NATAS
- Singapore Civil Defence Force
- Singapore International Jewelry Expo
- Singapore Post Limited
- Vita Green Waste Management
- Wisma Geylang Serai

**Overseas Ground Partners**
- Aksi Cepat Tanggap
- Association for Aid & Relief Japan
- Bridge for Fukushima
- Citizens’ Disaster Response Network
- Disaster Response Center
- Human Aid Bangladesh Foundation
- Japanese Federation of the Deaf
- Leyte Center for Development
- Mindanao Interfaith Services Foundation
- Myanmar Heart Development Organization
- Southern Tagalog People’s Response Center
- YAKKUM Emergency Unit
- Yayasan Pusat Kajian dan Perlindungan Anak (PKPA)

**Schools**
- Dunman High School
- Hwa Chong Institution
- Learning Vision Changi Airport
- Nan Chiau High School
- Nan Hua Primary School
- Nanyang Technological University
- Paud Terpadu Negeri Bahari
- Ping Yi Secondary School
- Railaco Vila High School
- Singapore Institute of Management
- University of Brunei
Reserve Policy:
Mercy Relief’s programmes are principally funded by donations from the public and sponsors. We work closely with our key sponsors for our funding needs and aim to hold adequate funds to meet our operating expenditure and outgoing programmes. The Board has agreed to maintain a cash cover of 18 months, which is equivalent to the reserve ratio of 1.5.

Donation Policy:
Mercy Relief does not make donations to any external parties. Mercy Relief receives donations largely via NVPC’s Giving.sg platform or online through its website. Tax deduction receipts are issued for all qualifying donation amounts of $10 and above where donors’ particulars are available.

Total Annual Remuneration of Top 3 Executives:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Remuneration</th>
<th>Board</th>
<th>No. of Executive</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Remuneration Board</td>
<td>No. of Executive</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>$100,000 – $150,000</td>
<td>0</td>
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</table>

SPHERE Standard in Humanitarian Aid:
Mercy Relief voluntarily commits to the SPHERE standards in Humanitarian Aid, and it applies to our various areas of work. This is in line with supporting the SPHERE vision in which all people affected by disasters or conflicts are able to re-establish their lives and recover their livelihoods in ways that respect and promote their dignity.

Mercy Relief also commits to the Core Humanitarian Standard on Quality and Accountability (CHS) which sets out Nine Commitments that organisations involved in humanitarian response can use to improve the quality and effectiveness of the assistance they provide as well as to facilitate greater accountability.

Board Meeting Attendance:
Under the year in review, there were a total of four scheduled Board meetings to discuss key strategic issues. A record of the Directors’ attendance at Board meetings during the financial year, which ended on 31 December 2019, is set out below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S/N</th>
<th>Name of Director</th>
<th>No. of Meetings Held</th>
<th>No. of Meetings Attended</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Suhaimi Bin Rafdi</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Satwant Singh S/O Sarban Singh</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Vincent Ling Chi-Hsin (Lin Jixun)</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Mohamad Saiful Bin Saroni</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Nalini Naidu</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Alwi Bin Abdul Hafiz</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Chairol Fahmy Bin Hussaini</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Lam Wy-ning</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Koh Yee Ling, Cheryl (Xu Yiling)</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Ng Siew Hoong</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Tan Soh Wah</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Vivien Lai Oi Ting (Resigned on 30 August 2019)</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Wong Pakshong, Jennifer Mei Yin (Resigned on 30 August 2019)</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Neo Sing Hwee (Resigned on 18 April 2019)</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mr Satwant Singh has served on the Mercy Relief Board for more than 10 years. The Board benefitted from his legal expertise as well as his knowledge of the company’s past projects, trends and perspectives that define our history, for informed decision making.
HOW YOU CAN HELP

MAKE A CASH DONATION

All proceeds raised will help us scale our impact both locally and prepare ourselves to reach out to more communities affected by natural disasters regionally. By helping us, you will be transforming the lives of many survivors. Cash donations are also eligible for a 250% tax deduction.

For online donation, please visit www.giving.sg/mercy-relief/mercy_relief_impact_fund or scan the QR code below:

Or make a cheque payable to:
Mercy Relief Limited

ADOPT A PROJECT

At Mercy Relief, our staff and partners conduct regular ground consultations and discussions to better identify and meet the needs of vulnerable communities. The journey to empowering communities through our projects requires 18 months to ensure successful implementation. As a sponsor, you will be duly updated with project progress every step of the way, coupled with a final project report upon completion.

0 – 3 months
We match your donation to a selected project to meet the most immediate community needs.

5 months
Our partners and staff begin project implementation.

5 – 9 months
We gather information and document project progress through field visits, data collection and consultations.

9 – 12 months
We complete the final implementation phase.

12 – 15 months
We conduct an evaluation of the project and its impact, together with our partners.

18 months
We compile photos, data, impact evaluation and project details and send you a report.

Find out more: https://www.mercyrelief.org/join/donate

BE OUR INTERN

Make your internship count by choosing to serve in Mercy Relief. We welcome all interns all year round! Simply specify in your application your period of availability. We require a minimum of 3 months, full-time, 40 hours per week, Monday – Friday.

Send us your application at intouch@mercyrelief.org with your CV and tell us all about your passion and skills to change the world.

SIGN UP AS A VOLUNTEER

Sign up as a volunteer for our events and roadshows online! Be our ambassador and help us spread the word about our centre or help us at our fundraising events.

Drop an email to us at volunteer@mercyrelief.org

SHARE OUR STORIES

Follow us on social media and share our stories with your friends and loved ones!

Facebook: @mercy_relief
Instagram: @mercy_relief
Thank you for empowering communities in Asia.