



Spreading Love in Fitra Qaseh Refuge Home Malaysia: A Community Service Activity

Fardinal¹, Menhendry¹, Nofriadi¹, Nasrullah¹, Irinah binti Abdullah², Hooi Peng Lim², Ruzita Sumiati^{1*}, Hadif Pratama¹, Rendi Firmansyah¹

¹ *Mechanical Engineering Departemen, Politeknik Negeri Padang, Padang, Indonesia*

² *Mechanical Engineering Departement, Politeknik Ibrahim Sultan, Johor, Malaysia*

*Corresponding author email: Ruzita.sumiati@gmail.com

Abstract

Fitra Qaseh Orphanage is a shelter for children who have been abandoned by their parents due to social problems within the family. due to social problems within the family. Fitra Qaseh Orphanage which is known as the Fitra Qaseh Refuge Home is located in Johor Bahru City, Malaysia. Fitra Qaseh currently currently accommodates 53 children ranging from 1 month to 17 years old. The problem that faced by Fitra Qaseh is the development of suggestions for the residents' outdoor play and activities. Fitra Qaseh outdoor activities, providing motivation for residents of Fitra Qaseh shelter homes in the form of in the form of education, religious knowledge, protection and affection, Providing assistance to fulfil the daily needs of residents both food and fulfil the daily needs of residents both food and clothing for daily needs residents of the Fitra Qaseh protection house. For this reason, Ibrahim Sultan Polytechnic (PIS) and Politeknik Negeri Padang (PNP) collaborate in the context of international community service International. The aim of this collaborative community Service activity is to address issues that arise at the orphanage. The community service is implemented using the applicative method, which directly solves the problems that exist in partners. The step of activity is survey, collecting data, plan resolve the problem and action. The result of this program are The results of this activity are that the facilities and infrastructure of the orphanage have been repaired, assistance has been provided and children have been motivated to keep learning to reach their goals.

Keywords: Orphanage, International Collaboration Community Service, Spreading Love

1. Introduction

All children have the same rights to development and growth (Daiute, 2017). However, some children are unable to fully exercise these rights due to factors such as poverty, neglect, or lack of parental or familial support, resulting in their placement in orphanages (Hailegiorgis, 2018). A children's home is a social welfare institution responsible for providing substitute care in meeting the physical, mental, and social needs of its foster children, thus affording them ample, appropriate, and adequate opportunities for personality development in accordance with expectations (Fatima, 2023). Foster children are often considered to have a low social status in the wider community, because orphanages are considered a place to ask for people's pity (Ahad, 2016). Thus, the mentality of orphanage children will be brought down by this treatment in the community (Research, 2008). In addition, the background, experiences that they bring from various environments that have been experienced will have an impact on their psychological and social formation (Gilbert, 2008). The above phenomenon provides an overview of the condition of foster children. There is a need for proper handling and care to overcome this condition (Harker, 2003). Therefore, the team from mechanical engineering Politeknik Negeri Padang and Politeknik Ibrahim Sultan collaborated to hold community service activities aimed at addressing issues faced by orphanages, particularly in the areas of motivation, education, and infrastructure improvement. The team utilized their knowledge in mechanical engineering to provide assistance.

The object of this international community service activity is the Fitra Qaseh Orphanage. This activity collaborates between Politeknik Negeri Padang and Politeknik Ibrahim Sultan Malaysia Fitra Qaseh Refuge Home is a child protection facility located at Jalan Sabar Taman Dato Onn, Larkin Johor Bahru, Malaysia. It provides refuge for children who have been abandoned by their parents. At present, there are 53 residents at Fitra Qaseh, ranging in age

from 1 month to 17 years. The residents of Fitra Qaseh are children who are abandoned due to social problems from their parents, such as fathers who are imprisoned, divorced mothers and fathers, poverty and sexual behaviour from biological fathers.

At this shelter, children are provided with protection, care, education, religious knowledge, and taught to be self-sufficient in household chores such as cooking, sweeping, and doing laundry. Children of appropriate age will be enrolled in school, while those who are not yet of age will be cared for by caregivers at the Fitra Qaseh shelter. Fitra Qaseh Shelter House operates solely on donations from the community, both material and financial. The condition of the shelter is depicted in Figure 1.



Figure 1: The initial condition of Fitra Qaseh Refuge Home

In general, the problems faced by the Fitra Qaseh shelter include the physical condition of the building in the form of no large space covered by a roof for children to play, the need for educational motivation so that they strive to achieve their goals for life in the future and problems in meeting the daily needs of the residents of the Fitra Qaseh shelter. The aim of this collaborative community Service activity is to address issues that arise at the orphanage.

2. Methods

The community service is implemented using the applicative method, which directly solves the problems that exist in partners. Figure 2 displays the stages of the activity.

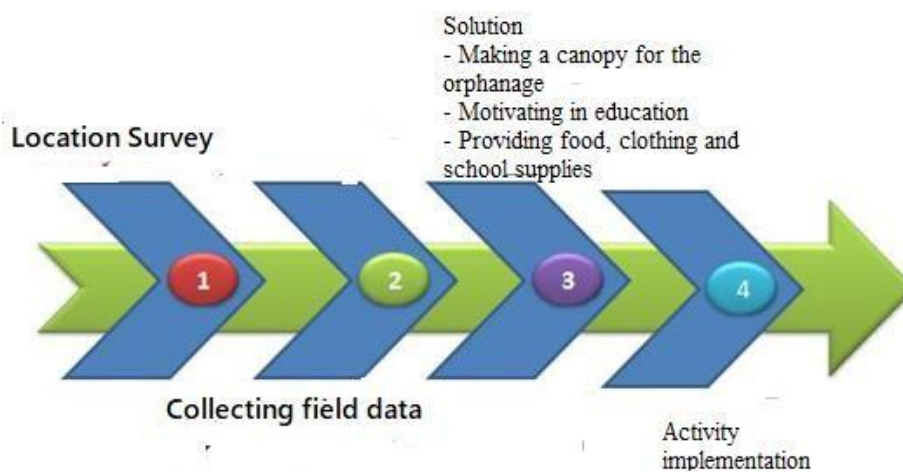


Figure 2: CSR Method

The above schema outlines the methods employed by the community service team:

1. Conducting field surveys to assess the situation and issues faced by the orphanage.
2. Recording problem data based on survey results to find solutions.
3. Planning activities to solve partner problems including:

- Creating a canopy to expand the space and play area for children in the orphanage.
 - Introducing the world of education to children in orphanages to motivate them to attend school for their future.
 - Providing assistance with basic needs such as food, clothing, and school supplies.
4. Implementation the plan at the orphanage location.

3. Results and Discussion

Based on the activities that have been carried out, which are conducted in two stages:

1. Phase I activities (PIS Implementation)

Activities that have been carried out by PIS against the fitra qaseh orphanage. This activity was carried out on 30 September 2023 with a team of PIS mechanical engineering lecturers and students.

- Maintenance infrastructure

Improving the electrical wiring system and making a canopy to expand the room, fence repair, and improvement of some other suggestions. Figure 3 shows the implementation of the activity.



Figure 3: shows the repair activities of Fitra Qaseh facilities by JKM PIS.



Figure 4: Fitra Qaseh's house after canopy installation

Figure 4 shows the condition of the orphanage after a canopy was installed, creating a more spacious room for activities. The spacious room can be used for children to engage in daily activities and play. The orphanage is made safer and more comfortable by the fact that it is fenced around the perimeter. This means that there is no need to worry about the children playing on the terrace.

- Charity activities and sharing knowledge (Self-motivation)

This activity involves bringing children from orphanages to PIS and introducing them to the world of education. This activity aims to motivate children to remain enthusiastic about going to school despite their current conditions. In addition, the children were also invited to play games to keep them happy, documentation can be seen in Figure 5.



Figure 5: Game activity

2. Phase II Activities (PIS and PNP Implementation)

This stage was conducted on 6 December 2023 with the involvement of PIS and Politeknik Negeri Padang. The activities include providing motivation and giving joint donations from PIS and PNP. The picture of the activity can be seen in Figure 6.



Figure 6: Service activities in the form of providing assistance and motivation

4. Conclusion

The results of this activity are directly beneficial to the residents of the Fitra Qaseh shelter. With the implementation of this activity, the children of Fitra Qaseh residents became motivated to continue learning even in an atmosphere with limitations. Residents feel happy because they get protection, love, education and religious knowledge, so they are eager to stay in school. With this activity the manager felt helped because he received donations of food, clothing, school equipment and also cash.

Acknowledgments

This paper was supported under PIKI scheme with number of contract: grant from DIPA Politeknik Negeri Padang. The author wishes to express her gratitude for the support given to this work.

References

- Ahad, R., Ara, S., & Shah, S. A. (2016). Self-concept and aggression among institutionalized orphans of Kashmir. *The International Journal of Indian Psychology*, 3(2), 104-116.
- Daiute, C. (2017). The rights of children, the rights of nations: Developmental theory and the politics of children's rights. In *Children's Rights* (pp. 405-427). Routledge.
- Fatima, A., Iqbal, A., Hayat, U., Javed, S., Khan, K., & Zahra, K. (2023). Comparison of Meaning in Life and Self-control between Orphans and Non-orphans. *Bulletin of Business and Economics (BBE)*, 12(3), 811-814.
- Gilburt, H., Rose, D., & Slade, M. (2008). The importance of relationships in mental health care: A qualitative study of service users' experiences of psychiatric hospital admission in the UK. *BMC health services research*, 8(1), 1-12.
- Hailegiorgis, M. T., Berheto, T. M., Sibamo, E. L., Asseffa, N. A., Tesfa, G., & Birhanu, F. (2018). Psychological wellbeing of children at public primary schools in Jimma town: An orphan and non-orphan comparative study. *PloS one*, 13(4), e0195377.
- Harker, R. M., Dobel-Ober, D., Lawrence, J., Berridge, D., & Sinclair, R. (2003). Who takes care of education? Looked after children's perceptions of support for educational progress. *Child & Family Social Work*, 8(2), 89-100.
- Research, T. S. P. U. O. (2008). The effects of early social-emotional and relationship experience on the development of young orphanage children. *Monographs of the Society for Research in Child Development*, 73(3), vii.