



SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT



Christopher Joseph



**Muniandy
Vestanathan**

The Bar Council Legal Aid Centre Selangor (BCLAC Selangor) provides legal assistance to individuals who are unable to afford legal representation, upholding the fundamental principle that access to justice should not be constrained by socio-economic status. Complementing this mandate, BCLAC and Yayasan Bantuan Guaman Kebangsaan (YBGK) delivers legal aid services in criminal matters, ensuring that persons facing criminal charges receive adequate legal representation regardless of their financial circumstances.

Beyond its service to the community, BCLAC Selangor plays a significant role in the professional development of pupils-in-chambers through a structured legal aid programme conducted in collaboration with non-governmental organisations and other relevant agencies. These initiatives instil a strong sense of professional responsibility among pupils while

enhancing their appreciation of the vital role legal aid plays within society.

The core programmes of the LAC are:

- (i) LAC Walk-in Clinic;
- (ii) Law Awareness and Outreach Programme; and
- (iii) Pupils-in-Chambers compulsory legal aid duty.

As at 31 December 2025, LAC Selangor had assisted a total of 5,642 clients. Further details are set out in the table appended at the end of this report.

LAC PROGRAMMES FOR 2025

This report highlights the achievements and initiatives undertaken by Selangor LAC over the past year, reflecting our unwavering commitment to delivering impactful legal aid services to the community at large.

(1) Pupil Introductory Session

The orientation programme, organised in collaboration with the Selangor Bar Young Lawyers & Pupils Committee, is designed to equip pupils-in-chambers with a comprehensive understanding of the requirements, roles, and expectations associated with their 14-day compulsory legal aid duty. The programme also introduces pupils to the various non-governmental organisations and legal aid clinics to which they will be assigned during their training period.



Throughout the year, a total of seven (7) orientation sessions were conducted in person at the Selangor Bar Auditorium, involving 586 pupils-in-chambers.

(2) Court Observant Programme

Introduced in 2023, the Court Observant Programme was designed to provide pupils-in-chambers with meaningful exposure to criminal legal practice and courtroom advocacy. Through this programme, participants received hands-on guidance and structured training from YBGK lawyers on duty, particularly in relation to remand proceedings, mitigation, and bail applications. This practical exposure equipped pupils with essential legal knowledge and advocacy skills relevant to criminal practice.

The programme also enabled pupils to assist in the provision of legal aid services to Orang Yang Disyaki (OYDS) and Orang Kena Tuduh (OKT) across various courts. In doing so, the initiative not only contributed to the professional development of pupils-in-chambers but also supported the broader objective of enhancing access to justice for members of the public. To date, approximately 530 pupils have participated in the programme.

The Legal Aid Committee (LAC) facilitated the implementation of this programme with the support of YBGK lawyers on duty at the Shah Alam, Klang, Petaling Jaya, Selayang, Ampang, Bangi, and Kajang Courts.

No.	Date
1	20 - 24 January 2025
2	24 - 28 February 2025

3	21 - 25 April 2025
4	26 - 30 May 2025
5	21 - 25 July 2025
6	25 - 29 August 2025
7	29 - 31 October 2025
8	24 - 28 November 2025

(3) Hari Bantuan Guaman

Hari Bantuan Guaman is an initiative by the National Legal Aid Centre to provide free legal advice and assistance to the public. In support of this initiative, the Selangor Legal Aid Committee (LAC) set up Free Legal Aid Counters at 12 courts across Selangor.

Volunteer lawyers and support staff assisted members of the public on various legal matters, including criminal, land, contract, and family law cases. The programme also aimed to raise public awareness on touting activities within court premises. Approximately 60 pupils participated in this initiative, gaining practical experience while serving the community.

No.	Date	Court Location
1	2 January 2025	Petaling Jaya

No.	Date	Number of Pupils
1	6 February 2025	96
2	17 April 2025	94
3	15 May 2025	93
4	12 June 2025	85
5	10 July 2025	58
6	13 November 2025	100
7	17 December 2025	60

2	5 February 2025	Kuala Selangor
3	5 March 2025	Klang
4	9 April 2025	Ampang
5	4 June 2025	Kajang



6	2 July 2025	Bangi
7	6 August 2025	KKB
8	1 October 2025	Shah Alam
9	5 November 2025	Sepang
10	5 December 2025	Telok Datok

(4) LAC Outreach Programme

Community Event – SULAM Project

Date: 25 May 2025

Location: PPR Lembah Subang 1

These community outreach programmes were organised to enhance public legal awareness, particularly among communities in rural and underserved areas. The initiatives focused on the provision of free legal advice, basic legal education, and improving public understanding of legal rights and responsibilities.

One such initiative was the Community Event under the SULAM Project, conducted in collaboration with Universiti Malaya (UM) at PPR Lembah Subang 1. Through direct community engagement, pupils and volunteer lawyers provided guidance on common legal issues, thereby promoting accessible, inclusive, and community-focused legal support.



Pupils and volunteer lawyers providing legal advice to residents.

Program Perasmian Kampung Angkat Madani – Kementerian Pertahanan STRIDE

Date: 13 December 2025

Location: Batu Arang, Selangor

The Program Perasmian Kampung Angkat Madani STRIDE, held in Batu Arang, Selangor, further strengthened engagement between the legal community and the public. Organised in collaboration with the JKKK and STRIDE, the programme integrated legal awareness activities directly within the community, ensuring that essential legal information reached individuals who may otherwise face challenges in accessing legal aid services.

Collectively, these initiatives play a vital role in fostering a more informed and resilient society by empowering community members to understand their legal rights, seek appropriate assistance when necessary, and support one another within their local community framework.





Volunteer lawyers and staff in attendance at the Kampung Angkat MADANI Programme.

(5) Legal Awareness Campaign

The Bar Council Legal Aid Centre (Selangor) conducted a series of Legal Awareness Programmes throughout 2025 at schools, universities, and correctional centres. These programmes were aimed at educating students, youth, and detainees on their legal rights and responsibilities, with a focus on promoting awareness and prevention.

At the school level, the programmes concentrated on issues such as bullying and early sexual awareness among students, with the objective of fostering early understanding of appropriate behaviour and the legal consequences of misconduct.



Volunteer lawyers attending a talk and forum as part of the School Legal Awareness Programme.

At correctional centres, participants were provided with basic legal information and guidance to help them better understand court processes and available legal options, thereby supporting informed decision-making.



Datuk Allaudeen Abdul Majid, former Kuala Lumpur Police Chief, as a guest speaker.

Meanwhile, programmes conducted at universities focused on encouraging legal volunteerism among law students. Through these outreach initiatives, LAC Selangor continues to promote early legal awareness, strengthen access to justice, and cultivate a legally informed, responsible, and empowered community.



LAC Selangor Co-Chairperson receiving an appreciation plaque at the UIAM Pro Bono Alliance Programme 2025

- i) Correctional Center Puncak Alam
Date: 6 February 2025*
- ii) Maahad Tahfiz An Nabawi Shah Alam
Date: 15 October 2025*
- iii) MRSM Law Awareness Programme –
MRSM Sg Besar & MRSM KKB
Date: 27 October 2025*
- iv) UIAM Pro Bono Alliance Programme
2025
Date: 1 November 2025*

(6) Prison Visit

The Prison Visit Programme is designed to extend legal representation to accused persons who are held under remand at Sungai Buloh Prison. Through this initiative, access to legal aid is made available to detainees who may otherwise face significant barriers in obtaining legal representation.

Pupils, together with BCLAC staff, conduct client interviews and means testing to assess eligibility for free legal aid. This

hands-on engagement provides pupils with valuable practical training, including interviewing detainees, assessing financial eligibility, understanding custodial procedures, and developing professional communication skills in a controlled and sensitive environment. The programme also exposes pupils to the realities of criminal justice administration and enhances their understanding of the legal challenges faced by remanded persons.

In 2025, the Bar Council Legal Aid Centre (BCLAC) and YBGK Selangor received a total of 305 prison applications for legal representation through this programme, reflecting its continued relevance and impact.



(7) UTC Legal Aid Clinic

Building on the success of the pilot project in the previous year, the Bar Council Legal Aid Centre (Selangor) continued to operate the UTC Legal Aid Clinic on a monthly basis throughout 2025. Located at UTC Selangor, a central and highly accessible public service hub, this initiative enhanced public access to legal aid services by bringing legal assistance closer to the community.

The continued collaboration with UTC Selangor enabled Selangor LAC to maintain a consistent monthly legal aid counter, reflecting a sustained commitment to



making legal support accessible, inclusive, and responsive to the needs of the public.



(8) Law and Leisure

The Law and Leisure programme continued in 2025 as part of Selangor LAC's ongoing efforts to strengthen engagement and build a closer working relationship between pupils, young lawyers, and the Legal Aid Committee. Building on its introduction in the previous year, the programme provided a platform for knowledge-sharing sessions on current legal issues, professional development, and community service.

The programme has played an important role in fostering stronger bonds between young lawyers and BCLAC Selangor. Notably, it has encouraged increased participation and continuity, with more young lawyers returning to volunteer in various programmes organised by the BCLAC Selangor. This reflects the programme's positive impact in nurturing long-term commitment to legal aid work and reinforcing a culture of volunteerism and service within the legal community.

Date: 26 July 2025

Number of participants: 30



Young lawyers and staff in attendance at the event.

(9) YBGK Training (Part I, II & III)

As part of its continued efforts to enhance accessibility to legal aid services, the BCLAC Selangor continued to conduct YBGK training programmes for lawyers interested in being enlisted as YBGK lawyers.

Attendance at the YBGK Training, organised by the Legal Aid Committee (LAC), is a mandatory requirement for lawyers seeking enlistment under the YBGK scheme. The training is structured into three parts. Part I and Part II focus on the administration of the YBGK scheme, as well as substantive and practical aspects of criminal practice, including the law of arrest, remand proceedings, bail applications, and mitigation.

Part III consists of a two-day advocacy training programme, providing participants with practical skills in criminal trial and appellate advocacy. Through this comprehensive training framework, BCLAC Selangor continues to strengthen the capacity and readiness of YBGK lawyers in delivering effective and competent legal representation.

No.	Date	Training
1	11 & 12 October 2025	Part I & II
2	22 November 2025	Part III



YBGK lawyers with the YBGK trainer during the session.

Acknowledgment

As we conclude this year's report, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the dedicated staff of the Legal Aid Committee Selangor for their continued commitment, professionalism, and unwavering support in ensuring the effective delivery of our programmes and services throughout the year.

I also extend my heartfelt gratitude to all volunteer lawyers who have generously contributed their time, expertise, and guidance. Their dedication remains vital to the success of our legal aid initiatives and plays a significant role in advancing access to justice, as well as in mentoring and inspiring the next generation of legal professionals.

It is our hope that the collective efforts of all involved have made a meaningful and lasting impact on the lives of those we serve. As we move forward, let us remain

steadfast in our commitment to ensuring that access to justice continues to be a reality for all.

Thank you for your continued support and for making this year another successful chapter for LAC Selangor.

Thank you.

Report submitted by,

***J Christopher Joseph
Muniandy Vestanathan
Co-Chairpersons
Bar Council Legal Aid Centre Selangor***



STATISTIC REPORT BY BC LAC & YBGK SELANGOR

Table 1: Number of LAC Client

No	Clinic / Programme	Number of Clients in 2024	Number of clients in 2025
1	Legal Aid Centre (walk-in)	818	1,304
2	LAC / NGO	N/A	4,024
3	LAC / Legal Aid Clinics	18	28
4	LAC / Prison Programme	27	278
5	LAC / Outreach Programme	N/A	8
	Total	863	5,642

Table 2: Number of YBGK Client

No	Clinic / Programme	Number of Clients in 2024	Number of clients in 2025
1	YBGK (walk-in)	136	790
2	Prison visit	136	305
3	Arrest	Suspended	Suspended
4	Remand	24,601	26,115
5	Bail	8,100	11,327
6	Mitigation	12,800	17,068
	Total	45,773	55,605

Table 3: Number of LAC Files

No	Category	2024			2025		
		Opened	Assigned	Unassigned	Opened	Assigned	Unassigned
1	Criminal	6	3	3	10	10	-
2	Employment	6	2	4	7	6	1
3	Family	41	27	14	21	21	-
4	Syariah	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	Others	-	-	-	16	15	1
	Total	51	32	19	54	52	2



Table 4: Number of YBGK Files

No	Category	2024			2025		
		Opened	Assigned	Unassigned	Opened	Assigned	Unassigned
1	Trial	210	144	66	254	176	78
2	Appeal	60	55	5	52	50	2
3	Non-Citizen Underage	2	2	-	-	-	-
	Total	272	201	71	306	226	80