

The background of the page features abstract, flowing lines in shades of red and pink, creating a sense of movement and elegance. The lines are layered and vary in opacity, giving the design a dynamic and artistic feel.

PRESIDENT'S
VOLUNTEERISM &
PHILANTHROPY
awards
2015



**HONOURING AND
CELEBRATING
THOSE WHO
CONTRIBUTE TO
MAKING SINGAPORE
A GIVING NATION**



NVPC.ORG.SG



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This year will be especially memorable for all of us. Celebrating Singapore's Jubilee birthday has served as a reminder of how far we have progressed from a backwater fishing village to the bustling economic powerhouse it is today. At NVPC, we rejoice over the success of our nation in a different way - by paying tribute, at the annual President's Volunteerism & Philanthropy Awards (PVPA), to the individuals and groups who have been positive role models for creating change in the world which they want to see.

Giving is an expression of a desire to make a positive difference in society. The impact of giving is more far-reaching and important than its expression; whether this is in terms of time, money or in-kind, or championing for a specific cause or need. As a result, we have adjusted the categories of this year's PVPA to encompass both the volunteerism and philanthropy components for all the categories. To inspire people to embrace giving throughout their lives, the individual categories have been expanded to cover the youth, adult and senior demographic groups.

I am happy to share that we have received a record number of nominations for this year's awards; the quality of submissions was impressive. Whether it's rising above their personal circumstances to pay it forward, having an established corporate giving programme or a strong volunteer / philanthropic management model, this year's PVPA winners are united by a common goal - devoting their time, treasure and talent to create the kind of society we dream of. Selecting the

six finalists was not an easy task as all the nominees deserve to be appreciated for contributing in their own respective capacities.

While we applaud the winners for their generosity of spirit, we acknowledge that it is not merely the size that counts but the impact of our giving and love that will touch the lives of others. On this note, we would like to invite all of you to join us for Giving Week (1 to 7 December 2015) - a week dedicated to giving. Whether you are a company, individual or non-profit, you can do your part through donating, volunteering, fundraising or pledging.

A giving nation is created through a community of engaged and compassionate citizens. NVPC's upcoming giving portal, GIVING.SG, will do this by connecting people and organisations with opportunities to make a difference. We want to invite and welcome all of you to embark on your giving journeys, and join us in becoming a giving nation.

Blessings,



MELISSA KWEE
CEO, NATIONAL VOLUNTEER & PHILANTHROPY CENTRE (NVPC)



ON BEHALF OF NVPC,
WE WOULD LIKE TO
EXPRESS OUR DEEPEST
APPRECIATION TO
PRESIDENT TONY TAN
KENG YAM, MINISTRY OF
CULTURE, COMMUNITY
AND YOUTH, AND THE
NATIONAL COUNCIL
OF SOCIAL SERVICE,
ESTEEMED JUDGES,
VALUED SPONSORS AND
ENTERTAINMENT ARTISTES
FOR SUPPORTING THIS
PRESTIGIOUS AWARDS.

- MILDRED TAN, CHAIRMAN,
NATIONAL VOLUNTEER &
PHILANTHROPY CENTRE (NVPC)



AWARD CATEGORIES

INTRODUCTION TO THE PRESIDENT'S VOLUNTEERISM & PHILANTHROPY AWARDS 2015

The annual President's Volunteerism & Philanthropy Awards (PVPA) presents the highest honour for those who have set benchmarks of excellence in the spirit of giving in the arts, environment, social services, sports, education, healthcare, and other worthy causes in Singapore. Held on 14 October this year, the awards aim to encourage and inspire others to bring about a higher level of volunteerism and philanthropy in Singapore.

The Awards are conferred by the President of the Republic of Singapore and is organised annually by the National Volunteer & Philanthropy Centre (NVPC), with support from the Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth (MCCY) and the National Council of Social Service (NCSS). Winners are selected by panel judges, comprising representatives from the private, non-profit and public sectors.

This year, there are six award categories in total. Each category represents a unique sector (Group categories) or life stage (Individual categories), and comes with its own set of criteria. Yet, all the winners share a common trait - an appetite for excellence in giving back to the community. The winners are selected based on best practices in volunteerism and philanthropy; the innovativeness of ideas and their inspirational value; and the impact the winners' efforts have created.

THE PVPA 2015 CATEGORIES ARE:

GROUP

- President's Award for Volunteerism and/or Philanthropy **(Corporate)**
- President's Award for Volunteerism and/or Philanthropy **(Non-profit)**
- President's Award for Volunteerism and/or Philanthropy **(Informal Group)**

INDIVIDUAL

- President's Award for Volunteerism and/or Philanthropy **(Youth)**
- President's Award for Volunteerism and/or Philanthropy **(Adult)**
- President's Award for Volunteerism and/or Philanthropy **(Senior)**

HOW PVPA DEFINES GIVING

Giving can be in the form of time (volunteerism), money or in-kind (philanthropy) or advocating for a cause or need which results in the promotion of volunteerism and/or philanthropy. As we recognise that giving is a holistic experience, the categories for this year's PVPA have been adjusted to encompass both the Volunteerism and Philanthropy components for each of the individual and group categories. To inspire people to continue giving throughout their various life stages, the individual categories now identify exemplary giving by covering youth, adults and seniors.



GROUP // CORPORATE

CapitaLand Limited

WHILE MANY COMPANIES BELIEVE CHILDREN ARE THE FUTURE, FEW INVEST TIME, EFFORT AND MONEY IN THEM THE WAY CAPITALAND DOES. THIS YEAR'S WINNER OF THE CORPORATE CATEGORY MAY BE BEST KNOWN FOR ITS GLOBAL REAL ESTATE BUSINESS, BUT IT IS THE COMPANY'S CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY (CSR) EFFORTS THAT ARE TOUCHING THE MAN (OR IN THIS CASE, THE CHILD) IN THE STREET.

Ten years ago, CapitaLand crystallised its commitment to its cause by launching the CapitaLand Hope Foundation (CHF), the philanthropic arm of the company which donates up to 0.5% of CapitaLand's net profit every year to supporting the needs of underprivileged children.

CapitaLand believes helping underprivileged children at the early stages of their development will have a multiplier effect on their families and the community, and will ensure their social mobility in the future. As such, all of the company's corporate giving programmes are dedicated to improving the lives of disadvantaged children, particularly in the areas of education, healthcare and shelter.

PROGRAMMES MAKING A DIFFERENCE

1. The CapitaKids Programme is a 10-year programme that provides long-term financial support for promising underprivileged children beyond their primary school education with the objective of tracking the growth and development of these children and to ensure their access to education will not be compromised by their disadvantaged family backgrounds. CapitaLand staff volunteer to be CapitaKids' mentors, to meet and interact with them regularly and to ensure that they are doing well.
2. My Schoolbag is CapitaLand's signature CSR programme that provides underprivileged children with schoolbags containing school and daily necessities. CHF has donated about S\$2.6m in support of it since 2009. CapitaLand staff volunteer to accompany the children during the outings at CapitaLand's shopping malls.
3. To bolster CapitaLand's community development efforts in China, CHF (China) partnered the China Foundation for Poverty Alleviation (CFPA) and set up in 2013 a special fund of RMB3.5m (S\$735,000). This is China's first comprehensive special charity fund set up by a foreign real estate company to support underprivileged children of up to 16 years old in areas of education, healthcare and shelter.





What sets CapitaLand's programmes apart is the focus on education. Take for eg, the Kids' Food Fund, a nutritional education programme that provides underprivileged children healthy and balanced meals. Apart from the Fund having donated over S\$1.5m over the past five years to fulfill various children's food needs, kids of local beneficiaries were brought on a food and nutrition trail earlier this year, to educate them on making the right dietary choices. This stems from the belief that healthy eating contributes to a child's overall health and enables better learning.

It is long-term assistance that CapitaLand aims for with every programme, not just short-term relief, and education is what the company believes will help children break out of their poverty cycle eventually.

BUILDING PEOPLE. BUILDING COMMUNITIES

"Building People. Building Communities" is the CapitaLand credo that guides its CSR efforts and the company goes to great lengths to grow the heart of its work force so that it may in turn benefit the communities it operates in. Mr Lim Ming Yan, President & Group CEO of CapitaLand Limited, said: "For a company to be successful, we need to have good people who are not just professionally competent but also have good character. Donations

aside, we believe volunteering makes a difference not just to the beneficiaries, but to the volunteers as well. Volunteering gives our staff a certain perspective of their role in society beyond being a professional.”

This active involvement is seen across staff at all levels at CapitaLand. Junior and senior staff members volunteer together at various events, such as CapitaLand Volunteer Day and the company's biannual International Volunteer Expedition. The top management of CapitaLand sits on the Board of Directors of CHF, serving on a pro bono basis to ensure there are systems governing annual budgets, work plans and incentive schemes.

One of CapitaLand's boldest moves yet is formalising a three-day Volunteer Service Leave (VSL) and expanding its leave policy to allow staff to apply for Volunteer No-pay Leave and Volunteer Part-Time Leave. In addition, when a staff member has taken all three days of VSL, CHF will donate S\$500 to a registered Singapore charity or RMB1,000 to a China children's charity of the staff's choice.

CapitaLand is committed to being a good corporate citizen in the communities where it operates. This is supported by conscious effort to build a culture of giving within the company. CapitaLand puts into action policies and plans on a page, and this is definitely what most sets the company apart. ✨

VOLUNTEERING
GIVES OUR
STAFF A CERTAIN
PERSPECTIVE
OF THEIR ROLE
IN SOCIETY
BEYOND BEING A
PROFESSIONAL.

- MR LIM MING YAN,
PRESIDENT & GROUP CEO,
CAPITALAND LIMITED



GROUP // NON-PROFIT

HealthServe

MIGRANT WORKERS - WE SEE THEM AT ALMOST EVERY TURN AND CORNER OF SINGAPORE THAT IS UNDER CONSTRUCTION YET THIS IS THE COMMUNITY MOST OVERLOOKED BY VOLUNTEER ORGANISATIONS.

Well, one voluntary welfare organisation is making them a priority and it is the winner of this year's Non-profit category.

HealthServe is a community development organisation that launched in 2006. It started with one clinic in Geylang that provided (and still provides) highly-subsidised healthcare to foreign workers. Since then, almost 3,000 patients have come through its doors.

Today, HealthServe has developed into an organisation that provides more than medical assistance. Legal advice, social assistance, and counselling services are just some of the areas in which volunteers at HealthServe contribute to. Casework, in particular, has seen a three-fold increase from 2012 to 2014, where injured migrant workers and workers with salary-related issues are given assistance and advice on their rights and entitlements.



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HEALTHSERVE
HAS HONED MY
APPRECIATION
OF THE DIVERSE
COMMUNITIES IN
SINGAPORE.

- MR JOSHUA TAN,
VOLUNTEER MEDICAL STUDENT,
NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE

”

Says Mr Colin Chia, Executive Director of HealthServe, “What motivates the volunteers at HealthServe is the desire to recognise the contributions of low-wage migrant workers and to give back to the often marginalised community who helped build our nation. Their working environments are often unsafe and many are left helpless without basic healthcare and financial support. These migrant workers are the true unsung heroes.”

BREAKING DOWN WALLS

It is not just the migrant worker community that is benefitting from HealthServe's programmes; HealthServe believes that the community that gives also receives. Many volunteers who have given and cared for the migrant workers have received bountiful life skills and education in return.

SHOWING THEM SOMEONE CARES

- HealthServe runs free monthly orthopaedic and dermatology clinics and physiotherapy sessions for foreign workers. Consultations rose 29% from 2013 to 2014. HealthServe also conducts health screenings and education talks regularly at dormitories. These gestures show migrant workers someone cares about their welfare.
- The Geylang Food Project was launched by HealthServe in 2011 to ensure daily meals for workers awaiting the outcome of their work injury compensation and who are not able to work to support themselves. In 2014, the total number of meals provided by this programme was 18,222.
- HealthServe provides casework and social assistance for migrant workers who are injured or may have salary related issues. HealthServe works closely with hospitals, Ministry of Manpower and other agencies to provide effective advice and solutions to the workers.

One of HealthServe's bold and challenging goals is to bridge the socio-economic gap between volunteers and beneficiaries. HealthServe believes in encouraging interaction and integration between institutions and volunteers with foreign workers in settings that remove cultural and economic barriers so that we may start to see one another as members of a common humanity.

Various educational institutions such as universities, polytechnics, junior colleges and secondary schools have come through HealthServe to

co-organise educational outreach activities and fun events for migrant workers.

Such events provide a platform for two-way sharing of ideas and life experiences, and it is HealthServe's hope that societal attitudes among Singaporeans will change through sustainable empathy formed over their community partnership. This influence must grow to impact and transform our society of its prevailing prejudices and indifference against these vulnerable group of migrant workers.



CHARTING NEW TERRITORY

Another innovative programme by HealthServe is NUS (National University of Singapore) "Selective", where the organisation involves 200 third-year medical students from the Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine annually in voluntary work. In addition to providing affordable medical services to patients, the programme also challenges the students to operate beyond the standard biomedical model and to get them thinking about their responsibility to the community as future medical practitioners.

Says Mr Joshua Tan, a volunteer medical student from NUS, "HealthServe has honed my appreciation of the diverse communities in Singapore. I have been inspired to consider how we can best meet the various needs of our beneficiaries through innovative collaboration with all our volunteers and the various abilities they bring with them."

To date, HealthServe's advocacy work has resulted in the publishing of a paper on Work Safety while a partnership with NUS-CARE has seen the release of a white paper on Food Insecurity and Health of Bangladeshi Workers in Singapore.

Ultimately, this is what HealthServe aims to do - to go where no organisation has gone before. Fuelled by a truckload of passion, HealthServe aims to make Singapore a country with not just economic opportunity, but also one with a large beating heart. ✨



GROUP // INFORMAL

Keeping Hope Alive

THE NAME OF THIS ORGANISATION SAYS IT ALL. THE OVERRIDING AIM OF KEEPING HOPE ALIVE, SAYS FOUNDER MS FION PHUA, IS TO RESTORE THE HOPE OF PEOPLE WHO FIND THEMSELVES IN VARIOUS MARGINALISED CIRCUMSTANCES - WHETHER IT IS BEING OUT OF WORK OR PHYSICALLY UNABLE TO CLEAN THEIR OWN HOMES.

Founded in 2007, Keeping Hope Alive has since grown from a one-woman charity to what it is today - a structured organisation with sustainable support systems. Yet, what powers Keeping Hope Alive is still the individual volunteer.

Every Sunday, over 50 committed volunteers, who hail from all walks of life, gather to provide immediate help and assistance to those in need,

namely the poor and elderly living in one-room and two-room HDB rental flats who struggle with daily life. Says Ms Phua, "My motto in helping is to assist people with their immediate needs instead of merely helping the poor at large. By helping them find solutions to their urgent life problems, people are able to pick themselves up and move on, instead of spiralling downwards."

“

MONEY IS INDISPENSABLE
BUT SO IS EMPATHY AND
COMMUNICATION, WHICH ARE
LACKING IN THE FAST-PACED
SOCIETY THAT WE LIVE IN.

• MS FION PHUA,
FOUNDER,
KEEPING HOPE ALIVE

”

Keeping Hope Alive tries to be all-inclusive. Once beneficiaries qualify for help, even if their needs are not met by Keeping Hope Alive's standard list of services and programmes, Keeping Hope Alive tries to get them the unique help they require. Conversely, whatever your volunteer ability is, Keeping Hope Alive tries to find you an avenue to contribute meaningfully.

This is what defines Keeping Hope Alive. It is a facilitator of volunteerism.

BUILDING A STORE OF HEARTWARE

In fact, Keeping Hope Alive believes in hands-on volunteerism so much that the organisation encourages it more than it does monetary donations.

Financing is important in the world of philanthropy but Keeping Hope Alive's

philosophy is that when you roll up your sleeves and literally help someone in need, it tells that person you care, and that in turn gives them hope the way a cold cash donation cannot.

“Actions speak louder than words,” says Ms Phua. “Money is indispensable but so is empathy and communication, which are lacking in the fast-paced society that we live in.” She calls it “heart labour”. It is this form of labour among volunteers that Keeping Hope Alive seeks to grow week upon week.

The organisation's current list of programmes runs long but one common thread unites them all - thoughtfulness. It is obvious that personal interaction with beneficiaries has allowed Keeping Hope Alive to create programmes that target their specific needs, like its nail trimming

activity for the elderly and handicapped that has become an indispensable service. As Ms Phua explains, "These are personal acts that cost nothing but provide the residents with a valuable warm touch."

HOPE MULTIPLIES

The miracle of hands-on giving is that it is addictive and infectious. Keeping Hope Alive may have initially depended on a handful of generous volunteers but through each of their heartfelt appeals and actions over the years, other individuals and companies have felt compelled to give similarly.

Take for instance trained nurse May Hwee who started off volunteering by distributing porridge on Sundays but who, after seeing first-hand the suffering of an elderly resident at Geylang Bahru, gathered other medical service providers and formed a network that now provides basic medical care to the needy.

Large companies such as Goodwood Park Hotel and ATC Painting & Trading Pte Ltd are just two of many corporate organisations that have pledged their help to KHA through food and paints donations.

This coming together of people to give hope to and strengthen our fellowmen is what Keeping Hope Alive believes is the formula for a society's success. Ensuring every person in society is able benefits not just that individual; it benefits society as a whole. Ms Phua sums it up perfectly with a Chinese saying that she subscribes to: "人人自强 国家跟强" When individuals are strong, they make up a country that is unbreakable. ✨





HUMBLE ACTION, BIG IMPACT

The following are just a few of the many Keeping Hope Alive programmes that target specific needs of the poor and elderly:

- **Porridge and Fruit Distribution**
Porridge is the meal of choice as it is easily digestible for the elderly and fruit provide much needed roughage.
- **Nail Trimming Services**
Volunteers who are also experienced manicurists trim the nails of residents with physical and/or mental disabilities.
- **Lasting Power of Attorney Service**
Volunteers help to connect lawyers with elderly individuals who may not have thought about the need for this legal document.
- **House-painting Service**
Using their own painting equipment, Keeping Hope Alive volunteers give older flats a bright, new coat of paint, giving the underprivileged a fresh new environment that represents renewed hope.



INDIVIDUAL // YOUTH

Mr Mohamed Faizal s/o Mohamed Abdul Kadir

"WHEN IT COMES TO GIVING, NO CONTRIBUTION IS TOO SMALL AND NO TIME IS BETTER THAN NOW." THIS GIVING PHILOSOPHY IS WHAT PROMPTED PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION MEDAL RECIPIENT MR MOHAMED FAIZAL TO START GIVING AT AN UNEXPECTED TIME IN HIS LIFE.

PAYING IT FORWARD

The 35-year-old may have graduated a decade ago with First Class Honours from the National University of Singapore and subsequently from Harvard Law School but his educational journey before that did not necessarily suggest such a promising end.

Mr Faizal hails from a modest background and as a student, had

a first-hand understanding of the struggles that many face to overcome the educational obstacles that stem from a lack of finances and the lack of available funding sources prior to tertiary education.

Motivated to ensure that secondary and junior college education served as more a stepping stone than a stumbling block for the next generation of students in their quest

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“I WAS VERY HAPPY TO HAVE RECEIVED THE SCHOLARSHIP AS IT HELPED TO RELIEVE THE BURDEN OF SCHOOL EXPENSES. I ALSO FELT VERY PROUD AS MY HARD WORK WAS RECOGNISED. IT IS A GOOD FORM OF ENCOURAGEMENT FOR ME TO CONTINUE TO WORK HARD TO ACHIEVE MY DREAMS IN THE FUTURE.”

- MS CHARLYN POH ZHI QI,
SECONDARY THREE STUDENT AND RECIPIENT OF THE BEDOK VIEW SCHOLARSHIP

”

to develop their fullest potential, Mr Faizal approached his alma mater in 2006 with a view to setting up and funding the Bedok View Scholarship Programme. He did this just after graduating, barely months into his career as a legal service officer in the Singapore Legal Service and while still discharging the student loans taken to fund his university education.

He worked hand-in-hand with Bedok View Secondary School through the operational aspects of the scholarship programme including the development of a structured selection and shortlisting process and characterising the scholarship in a way that would reflect its underlying values of hard work, perseverance and encouraging those with the ability to rise above challenging circumstances.

Said Mr Jeffrey Low, principal of Bedok View Secondary School, "Over the years, Mr Faizal has worked closely with the school to further

refine the scholarship through increasing the quantum of the award from S\$1,500 to S\$2,500 annually as well as reviewing the award criteria to include consideration of a student's financial background."

A LARGER VISION

Buoyed by the tangible impact of the Bedok View Scholarship Programme, Mr Faizal launched a similar programme last year at Tampines Junior College. Over the years, the programmes have disbursed many thousands of dollars to the cause of educating the current generation of students, monies disbursed in the form of scholarships, awards and other financial incentives to high-potential students facing financial constraints.

Armed with a broader vision, Mr Faizal hopes to consider how he can work with the stakeholders to jointly develop a "many helping hands" systematic and principled framework that would allow other members of society to contribute easily to



the educational cause and to play a meaningful role in shaping the futures of the next generation of Singaporeans.

To many, Mr Faizal's contributions may seem admirably altruistic but to the man himself, these are merely responsibilities that he is fulfilling. He says, "The support that was extended to me in the course of my educational journey has informed my belief that those, like myself, who have had the

benefit of a good education bear the responsibility of paying it forward to the wider community."

Beyond the financial assistance that it provides them, Mr Faizal hopes that his actions would have a catalytic and multiplier effect on the programme's beneficiaries by inspiring them to become enablers and facilitators of success, after having experienced the profound joy of receiving. ✨



PRESIDENT'S AWARD FOR VOLUNTEERISM AND/OR PHILANTHROPY // ADULT

INDIVIDUAL // ADULT

Mr Toh Soon Huat

MR TOH SOON HUAT IS NOT AN UNKNOWN NAME. A SERIAL RECIPIENT OF AWARDS AND ACCOLADES, HE HAS CLEARLY DEMONSTRATED A KNACK FOR PICKING THEM UP ALONG LIFE'S WAY. WHAT IS LESSER KNOWN, THOUGH, IS HIS BACKSTORY AND HOW IT HAS MADE HIM THE UNLIKELY PHILANTHROPIST HE IS TODAY.

FROM RAGS TO RESPONSIBLE GIVING

The seventh child in a family of 12 children, Mr Toh's beginnings were humble. The son of a taxi driver and a housewife, he secured a place in the prestigious Chinese High School

through excellent academic results, but this path that was supposed to springboard his life into a more favourable trajectory only served to throw into starker contrast his family circumstances and that of his



wealthier classmates. After months of struggling to hand in his school fees, the young Mr Toh decided to drop out of school in Secondary Three and started doing odd-jobs to contribute to the family income.

A determined man does not stay defeated for long though and at age 24, Mr Toh started a small furniture shop that eventually become the public listed Novena Holdings Limited company.

Through the years, philanthropy work remained a priority in Mr Toh's life and unbelievably, in 2009, he sold his company to pursue philanthropic work

fulltime through Novena Foundation Ptd Ltd which he established in 2007.

PIONEERING FOR THE PIONEER GENERATION

When Mr Toh's mother passed away unexpectedly from a heart disease at age 60, it strengthened his resolve to make his life about contribution, gratitude and compassion.

Spurred on by this life mantra, Mr Toh agreed, without remuneration, to take over the running of the 112-year-old Sian Chay Medical Institution (SCMI) in 2008 that was at the brink of closure. The medical institution existed for the

benefit of the sick, elderly and needy, and Mr Toh was unwilling to see it perish.

"I convinced a group of committed associates to join me in the rescue of Sian Chay," he reminisces. "From a century-old clinic with only four staff members facing a financial crisis, we transformed it into a large network of eight clinics and two wellness centres, with a healthy reserve of S\$4m."

Over the past seven years, through his team's aggressive fund-raising plans, SCMI has garnered the support of numerous high-profile organisations and foundations including Mediacorp, Singapore Power and the Lee Foundation. To date, almost S\$8m has been raised for the expansion of SCMI.

This expansion is felt most by the beneficiaries. A new TCM clinic was set up in Hougang in 2012 and a second one shortly thereafter in Punggol South. Today, SCMI has eight TCM clinics across Singapore, serving almost 100,000 beneficiaries. Patients

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“SEEING PATIENTS RECOVER FROM STROKE, PHYSICAL DISABILITY AND OTHER MEDICAL CONDITIONS GIVES ME A SENSE OF PERSONAL SATISFACTION AND ACHIEVEMENT. I WON'T BE GIVING UP SO SOON.”

- MR TOH SOON HUAT,
CHAIRMAN,
SIAN CHAY MEDICAL INSTITUTION

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below the age of 60 pay only S\$2 for a day's medication while senior citizens above the age of 60 pay only S\$.050 cents per day for medication. More recently, Mr Toh has spearheaded Medifund for the Pioneer Generation that provides subsidies for TCM expenses. The Lee Foundation helped with the setting up of this fund with a S\$1m grant.

Mr Toh was conferred the Public Service Medal and Public Service Star

in 2005 and 2009 respectively but it does not look like he is anywhere near slowing down. Mr Toh's ultimate aim? To develop an integrated TCM network with a franchise system that works as a social enterprise that will engage and empower TCM clinics to raise productivity and their profiles in the community. Says Mr Toh, "If we could have 100 TCM franchisees serving over one million beneficiaries a year in Singapore, that would be terrific!" ✨

MR TOH'S GIFT OF GIVING - BIG AND SMALL

- Mr Toh's personal and corporate donations to charities since 2002 amount to over S\$5m.
- For over 15 years, he has hosted Chinese New Year lunches for senior citizens in the Boon Lay area and distributed angpows to those in need.
- In 2010, Mr Toh was applauded for his involvement with and guidance of new Chinese immigrants into Singapore. His concern for their local welfare earned him a place in a publication's Top 50 Chinese Philanthropists list.
- For the past 11 years, Mr Toh has been actively involved in various donation drives in Singapore that have raised a total of S\$44m for 28 civic, community and charity organisations.
- In response to the Sichuan Earthquake in 2008, Mr Toh successfully organised the Sichuan Earthquake Relief Fund TV Charity Show that raised S\$10m to finance the rebuilding of seven schools that served 7,000 students and a bridge that served as a symbol of recovery.



INDIVIDUAL // SENIOR

Mr Ngiam Tong Yuen

IT HAS BEEN OBSERVED THAT IT IS THE FORTUNATE WHO ENJOY THE COMFORTS OF LIFE WHO FIND IT HARDEST TO GIVE OF THEIR TIME AND MONEY. THANKFULLY FOR MANY BENEFICIARIES ACROSS SINGAPORE, MR NGIAM TONG YUEN BUCKED THE TREND.

GIVING BACK TEN-FOLD

A former Colombo Plan scholar in Engineering and subsequently a Director at a multi-national corporation, Mr Ngiam has never been one to have a sense of entitlement. "I volunteer because I want to give back to the country that has given me so many opportunities, including a scholarship for my tertiary education," he says. "I have been much luckier than others. So I have much to give."

This humility and sense of generosity is what drives Mr Ngiam to volunteer at a long list of professional bodies - the Professional Engineers Board, Institute of Engineers, Singapore, the Society of Loss Prevention, PUB's Water Network, SPRING Singapore's Management Systems and Standards Committee, just to name a few. However, it is Mr Ngiam's work at RSVP that motivates him most.

RSVP Singapore is an organisation of senior volunteers at which Mr Ngiam has served on the Board of Management for over 10 years. Mr Koh Juay Meng, President of RSVP Singapore, has this observation: "Mr. Ngiam believes so fervently in the value of volunteerism that he regularly conducts public talks on this topic. He has inspired many to join RSVP with his message that retirement is not the end of a productive life but rather, the onset of a new and more meaningful one."

TAPPING INTO A RICH RESOURCE

He believes the senior volunteer pool to be a huge and valuable resource. Baby boomers getting ready to retire today are qualified and healthy individuals with many years of productive life to offer. Most come with rich life experiences that arguably make them more suitable counsellors than their junior counterparts.

The programmes run by RSVP benefit a wide spectrum of society. Its Mentoring Programme, of which Mr Ngiam was Chairman for two years, is run in partnership with schools. Through the programme, senior volunteers impart wisdom to the younger generation and ensure the safety of at-risk "latchkey" kids. The RSVP ProGuide social enterprise on the other hand provides reasonably priced consultancy and training services to clients such as government agencies like the Ministry of Foreign

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I HAVE BEEN
MUCH LUCKIER
THAN OTHERS.
SO I HAVE
MUCH TO GIVE.

- MR NGIAM TONG YUEN,
BOARD MEMBER,
RSVP SINGAPORE

”



Affairs and SMEs. The profits are channelled back to RSVP for its community programmes.

While Mr Ngiam strategises and plans each initiative together with the RSVP board members, being a hands-on volunteer is second nature to him. You would sooner see him hitting

the streets on Flag Day holding a tin can selling flags than sitting behind a desk delegating. This, says Mr Koh, is what makes Mr Ngiam a standout individual. He sums it up perfectly, "Mr Ngiam never hesitates to raise his hand and volunteer his time and skills. That makes him an icon and role model of senior volunteerism." ★



EXPANDING THE HORIZONS OF SENIOR VOLUNTEERISM

For the past three years, Mr Ngiam has been involved in RSVP's Senior Volunteer Week (SVW). It was introduced as an annual affair to raise awareness of senior volunteerism and provide members as well as non-members the opportunity to bond and socialise through various volunteering activities. This year, in line with SG50, RSVP's Board expanded SVW into the National Senior Volunteer Month. It is an ambitious undertaking that requires substantial time and commitment. Once again, this challenge did not faze Mr Ngiam who, as Mr Koh recalls, agreed without hesitation to lead this islandwide project.

PVPA 2015 PANEL JUDGES

NAME OF PANEL JUDGE	DESIGNATION, ORGANISATION
Ms Trina Liang-Lin (Co-Chairperson of panel)	President, Singapore Committee for UN Women
Mr Zainul Abidin Rasheed (Co-Chairperson of panel)	Non-Resident Ambassador to Kuwait, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Mr Eugene Seow	Executive Director, TOUCH Community Services
Mr Ronny Tan	Former Vice Chairman, Deutsche Bank AG (Singapore)
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TONIGHT'S ENTERTAINMENT

Learn all about the artistes and entertainers who will make this evening a memorable one.

“

I realised that I had gone from feeling like a victim of the vocal condition in 2011 to now collaborating with new friends to share hope to others. And it was in giving to others that I found my “Voice” – a new voice that could speak of hope. This happened when I started to use my voice (even in its broken state) to serve not just myself but others in pain.

- CRYSTAL GOH,
DIAMONDS ON THE STREET

”

CRYSTAL GOH, DIAMONDS ON THE STREET

In 2011, singer-songwriter Crystal Goh found herself in sudden need of hope. She woke up one day and simply lost her voice due to a rare neurological condition called Spasmodic Dysphonia. When Crystal wrote a song to remind herself about the importance of hope, her friends thought this message should be heard by more and so, they set up Diamonds on the Street.

Diamonds on the Street went on to work with girls living in a shelter and the children of prison inmates to produce inspiring songs that are now part of a song album. Proceeds from the group's performances and album sales support the organisation's mission.

Today, Diamonds on the Street continues to empower at-risk youths, ages 13 to 21, and encourage them to express themselves creatively and to turn their personal reflections into art. Through guided reflection on their circumstances, participants learn to derive meaning from crises and craft new narratives about their lives and possibilities.



D'ARTISTES

D'Artistes is a charitable organisation run by a group of dedicated parents, all with the common goal to bring out the best in their intellectually-challenged children in the area of performing arts such as drama, dancing and singing.

It is a group of 20 children and youth members who suffer from Down's Syndrome, Autism and other intellectual disabilities. Together with a small group of the members' mainstream siblings, the group has performed before a wide spectrum of audience that includes various dignitaries and MPs, the Rainbow Centre, Trinity Christian Church, Queenstown Baptist Church, Shinnyo-en Singapore, schools, community clubs, private companies, and social clubs. In addition, D'Artistes performs for charities such as The Straits Times School Pocket Money Fund and the Rainbow Centre for children with multiple disabilities. All these achievements are the result of all its years of persistent hard work and diligent training.





DANCE DYNAMICS

Dance Dynamics was established in 2006 by its founder and artistic director, Mr Yu Shu Huai, with the key objective of promoting Chinese dance, ethnic dance and ballet at the grassroots level for the community as a beautiful, expressive and healthy art form. The dance group also aims at promoting arts education and appreciation through its training programmes.

Dance Dynamics held its inaugural dance showcase in 2007 at Victoria Theatre. The showcase presented a programme that included dances of great variety, including Chinese Dance, Modern Dance, Act 2 of Swan Lake and a finale performance that involved four generations of dancers.

Dance Dynamics has been actively involved in community and charity performances such as the Lunar New Year River Hong Bao Show, Racial Harmony Day Concert, the National Day Celebration, the annual Mid-Autumn Festival, Active Aging Day as well as the National Arts Council's inaugural Silver Arts programme in 2012 and Silver Arts 2015 - Celebrating Seniors and the Arts.

“

Dance Dynamics consist of members who are all volunteers and we are very honoured to have an opportunity to perform at PVPA at this age. The spirit of volunteerism is inculcated by our Founder and Artistic Director, Mr Yu Shu Huai.

- SUM SUI CHENG,
DANCE DYNAMICS

”



DUO DIVO

This jazz band features two Singapore-based jazz musicians who have been performing together for over 10 years and bringing their unique mix of contemporary Jazz, Jazz Standards as well as funky and Latin tunes to audiences across Singapore.

Pianist Joshua Wan has been a familiar face in the local music circuit for the past 20 years. A graduate of the Berklee College of Music (1989), he has been involved in the studio recording scene as producer/arranger for artistes as wide-ranging as Tracy Huang, Sandy Lam, Kit Chan, Dick Lee, and Jackie Cheung.



On Double Bass is Tony Makarome, who is active in the Singapore jazz circle and has performed with many leading jazz musicians in Asia and America. He studied music at the University of South Carolina and Berklee College of Music (Boston), and is currently an Assistant Professor for Music Theory at the National University of Singapore.

MELISSA HYAK

The host for this evening's PVPA ceremony is Melissa Hyak who is no stranger to the media scene. Melissa's career in broadcast journalism started when she joined Mediacorp News, in 1997. Since then, she has anchored many of Channel News Asia's live programmes covering significant Singapore and world news events, including the 9-11 terror attacks, the Afghanistan and Iraq Wars (2001/2003), the SARS and H1N1 epidemics, as well as the Asian Tsunami. Melissa also moderated a series of fora focused on the Singapore General Elections, including the groundbreaking debate in 2011 that brought together members of the ruling and opposition parties on television.

Melissa is currently the Head of Communications at ACR Capital Holdings Pte Ltd. and remains active as a programme host, both on stage and in front of the camera. She has continued to emcee and chair select awards presentation events and conferences for both the public and private sectors.





**JOIN US
IN OUR
GIVING
JOURNEY**



ABOUT NVPC

The National Volunteer & Philanthropy Centre (NVPC) is an independent not-for-profit organisation that advocates giving in Singapore. Our vision is to be a Giving Nation by growing a culture of giving in Singapore. We work closely with other non-profit organisations, corporates, public sector agencies, institutions as well as the community to build a robust ecosystem to make giving simple, fun and meaningful.

We enable and amplify giving by exercising our roles as:

AUTHORITY

We create and curate knowledge and resources on giving; so that any individual or organisation can learn to give and give well.

BRIDGE

We connect givers with giving opportunities by building online and offline giving platforms, so that giving is a simple, fun and meaningful experience for everyone.

CHAMPION

We champion people and organisations who make Singapore a more engaged, giving and compassionate society.

NVPC'S GIVING INITIATIVES

Being a national body that promotes the culture of giving, the National Volunteer & Philanthropy Centre (NVPC) wants to inspire Singaporeans to give freely and transform Singapore into a nation of givers.

■ BUILDING GIVING UPON GIVING THROUGH STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

At NVPC, we believe in growing the culture of giving through a concerted effort. We invoke systemic change in the way people give through collaborations and partnerships that include people, the public and the private sector (what we call the three Ps) to make giving simple, meaningful and fun for all.

■ THE GIVING WEEK IN DECEMBER

In the midst of growing a culture of giving, we must not forget to celebrate it too. There is no better way to spread the joy of giving than to participate in NVPC's Giving Week - a week that abounds with giving from 1 to 7 December 2015. Everyone from all walks of life, companies from the public and private sector and non-profit organisations can be part of this national movement by pledging and promoting its giving initiatives or campaigns throughout the week. The Giving Week will also mark the launch of a revolutionary online portal that shapes the giving landscape.

■ GIVING.SG - RAISING A COMMUNITY OF GIVERS

In re-energising the giving landscape, NVPC's new online portal, launching 1 December 2015, Giving.sg (that replaces the current SG Gives and SG Cares portals) will be a game-changer. Not only does the interactive site connect donors and volunteers to giving opportunities, the participatory platform also allows users - individuals and registered charities - to share their giving stories with others and raise funds for causes or campaigns in the same giving space, thus enlivening a community of givers.

■ HOLISTIC GIVING THROUGH SECTOR ENGAGEMENT

Giving is not one-dimensional. NVPC believes in harnessing collective intelligence and data across sectors in arts and heritage, education, environment, healthcare, sports and social services, providing in-depth insights and a holistic picture of the giving landscape from ground-up so that people are informed and hence able to give better and more effectively to causes that are close to their hearts.

■ MAKING CORPORATE GIVING COUNT BEYOND WORK

The NVPC's Individual Giving Survey (IGS) 2014 on Employee Giving found that the senior management of any organisation plays a big role in promoting a culture of giving at the workplace. One in three people have volunteered through their employers, and one in two employees have expressed interest in employer-organised volunteering activities in the next 12 months.

The NVPC corporate giving programmes are designed to guide and facilitate networking opportunities for corporate practitioners including top decision-makers from the private or public sector. The programmes encourage them to engage with one another and start a conversation in giving back to society. Employees can potentially give through skills-based volunteering to meet the needs of the charities that are often lacking in skilled professionals.

.....

Giving is a never-ending journey that unites people. If you wish to find out how you can give or give better, we welcome you to drop us an email at advocacy@nvpc.org.sg

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to extend our special gratitude to:

- **His Excellency President Tony Tan Keng Yam** for conferring the Awards as our Guest-of-Honour for the evening,
- **Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth**, and the **National Council of Social Service** for their support and presence for the evening,
- **Our Sponsors: Harvard Singapore Foundation-Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, Keppel Care Foundation, NTUC Income Insurance Pte Ltd, PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP,**
- **Our awards judging panel** for thoughtfully selecting the winners,
- **Ms Melissa Hyak**, our outstanding volunteer emcee,
- **Ms Crystal Goh of Diamonds on the Street, D'Artistes**, and **Dance Dynamics** for their rousing performances,
- **Duo Divo** for serenading us and jazzing up the night,
- **Hock Tong Bee-Cornerstone** for generously sponsoring the wine this evening, including the special red pour for the wine pairing,
- **Samsui Supplies and partners** for their delectable canapés and customised door gifts for the evening,
- **Gatehouse Publishing** for sponsoring the design of the invitation cards and programme booklets,
- **KHL Printing** for sponsoring the production of the invitation cards and programme booklets,
- **Visual Studio Singapore** for being our professional event organiser;

And everyone who helped make this evening a fitting tribute to Singapore's giving heroes.

ORGANISED BY



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EVENT MANAGED BY



BY THE NUMBERS

10

Age of tonight's youngest performer, Belinda Lim. Dancing has improved her concentration skills and hand-eye coordination, and enhanced her physical health.

73

Age of this evening's oldest performer, Wan Ah Lin. She has been taking ballet lessons for 15 years and currently practises with Dance Dynamics - a society established in 2006 which promotes Chinese dance, ethnic dance and ballet for the community. Learning ballet has improved her posture and increased her self-confidence.

104

RECORD NUMBER OF NOMINATIONS RECEIVED FOR THIS YEAR'S PVPA

450

NUMBER OF CANAPES PREPARED BY OUR SPONSOR SAMSUI SUPPLIES AND SERVICES PTE LTD. THIS SOCIAL ENTERPRISE IS ALSO WORKING TO ACHIEVE A TARGET OF DISTRIBUTING 50,000 MEALS TO BENEFICIARIES FOR 2015.

12

NUMBER OF YEARS THE PRESIDENT HAS BEEN PRESENTING THE AWARDS TO OUR GIVING CHAMPIONS

ACCORDING TO NVPC'S INDIVIDUAL GIVING SURVEY 2014 RESULTS...

SGD \$1.25 BILLION

WAS DONATED BY INDIVIDUALS IN SINGAPORE IN 2014



AVERAGE VOLUNTEER HOURS GREW FROM

72 TO 93



1 IN 2 RESPONDENTS EXPRESSED INTEREST IN EMPLOYER-ORGANISED VOLUNTEERING



1 IN 5 EMPLOYERS IN SINGAPORE ORGANISED VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES