

## OUR STORIES

You made the **difference**

*Community Chest raises funds on a yearly basis to meet the needs of the social service programmes that we support. As fund-raising and other operating costs are covered mainly by Tote Board and Singapore Pools (Private) Limited, every dollar raised by Community Chest will be made available to social service programmes under its care.*

*Your continued support to Community Chest has helped to nurture children to succeed, dignify the lives of the elderly, keep families together and help people with disabilities lead independent lives.*

*Here are just 3 of the 330,000\* people who have benefitted from critical social service programmes supported by Community Chest in FY2009.*

*\*includes direct clients, caregivers and public education numbers reported by VWOs as at Apr 2010*

### Mdm Wan:

*You gave her medical and emotional support*



Many of us have friends and family to help comfort and support us during times of need. But we often forget about the many frail and needy in our midst who do not experience the warmth of a family.

Mdm Wan Law Lui is one of them. Mdm Wan who is 84 and single, lives alone and has difficulties fending for herself due to health problems such as high blood pressure, diabetes and difficulty in walking.

Fortunately, through Lions Befrienders, a programme supported by Community Chest, she is provided with emotional support, escort services to the doctor and weekly exercise sessions. Mdm Wan has also successfully obtained Public Assistance with the help of the programme.

Your help will ensure that Mdm Wan and other needy elderly continue leading a dignified life.

### Lai Siew Kuan:

*You helped him weather life's difficulties*



Being retrenched and embroiled in financial difficulties did not stop Mr Lai Siew Kuan from seeking treatment for his son's mild hyperactive condition.

Mr Lai used to work as a mechanical designer but was retrenched in March 2008. He tried working as a freelance property agent to support his family but was unable to earn enough to pay the bills. He had difficulties finding a full time job. His wife is physically handicapped and depends on crutches to move around. Because of the family's financial difficulties, she had to work part-time at a coffee shop stall to help support the family.

He has 2 sons, who turn 8 and 10 this year. Two years ago, his elder son's teacher alerted Mr Lai about his child's learning difficulties.

"He couldn't sit still in the classroom and would ask to go to the toilet, and not return to the classroom after that. The school counsellor advised us to bring him to a child psychologist," Mr Lai said.

Consulting a psychologist was a big financial strain. The child psychologist diagnosed Mr Lai's son as having a mild hyperactive condition and advised him to send the boy for behavioral therapy.

Wanting to help his son but lacking the financial means, Mr Lai approached Fei Yue Family Service Centre (Bukit Batok) last year to apply for the School Pocket Money Fund.

"He was failing his exams. I hoped that with the extra money, I could send him for tuition too," He said.

Fei Yue Family Service Centre (Bukit Batok) offered him more than financial aid. He attended the centre's parenting and financial planning workshops and picked up useful tips. The counsellor at the family service centre also encouraged Mr Lai in his search for a job. Mr Lai eventually picked up driving and has found a job as a delivery man.

"I know that I would eventually have to depend on myself to support my family," said Mr Lai, "but it was heartwarming to have the support of others during these difficult times and know that help is present when you really need it."

### Beatrice Kweh:

*You helped her voice her needs*



Most children are able to put on their own socks by the age of 3. Beatrice Kweh learned that at 7, and it took her three months.

Beatrice was born with Down Syndrome and comes from a single-parent family. Her mother, Ms Shirley Poh, is the sole breadwinner and has to work long hours to support the family.

Ms Poh said: "She was unable to express herself and would wet her pants. But now, she would let us know if she needs the toilet. She'll go to the toilet by herself and wash her hands after that."

Due to the lack of necessary skills to teach a child with special needs, even teaching Beatrice simple life skills, like requesting for food, was a daunting task to Ms Poh initially.

"She would just grab food from the table when she was hungry. I used to get so frustrated that I would cry and lose my temper," said Ms Poh.

After being in MINDS Towner Gardens School's programme for about six months, Beatrice became more independent and learned important social skills. She was able to use short phrases and sign language to indicate her feelings.

Said Ms Poh: "When she's hungry, she'll say 'me' and pat her tummy. And she no longer grabs food from the table."

The school also gave Ms Poh home teaching kits to help reinforce the skills Beatrice had learnt in school. Ms Poh was able to apply the simple techniques and faces less frustration now in helping Beatrice.

Expressing her hope for the future, Ms Poh said: "The school's programme has really made a positive difference to our lives. I hope she can learn to be more independent and take better care of herself."

# OUR NEWS

## Heart of our Fund-Raising Action

### Fundraising Events Rally the Hearts of the Community

Our fundraising events do more than raise funds – they have also helped to increase public awareness of the needs of our community. We received overwhelming support from corporations, foundations and individual donors during the events.



**\$880,000 raised by children and youths for Children's Day and Youth Day despite economic downturn**

Close to \$880,000 was raised through the Children's Day and Youth Day Appeals through schools. Schools were more creative in their fund-raising efforts by creating art pieces and organising funfairs, going beyond collecting donations through our donation envelopes.

In appreciation of their efforts, Peter Draw, a local artist, conducted art workshops for more than 1,300 students from the top fund-raising primary schools.



**Give A Hand, create an art piece**

The annual Give A Hand! roadshows were held at Parkway Parade and Tiong Bahru Plaza in March 2010. The public viewed inspiring art pieces created by 12 beneficiaries of all ages and learnt to create their own art piece at the roadshows. The campaign raised more than \$500,000 from the public and corporations, and was supported by NTUC FairPrice Foundation, Singapore Airlines, Hewlett-Packard Singapore (Private) Limited, Rudi's Fine Food Pte Ltd and Xilinx Asia Pacific Pte Ltd.



**Unity in Diversity drums up support for people in need**

The Singapore Armed Forces and Singapore Police Force joined hands for the first time in a charity concert - the 'Unity in Diversity' Charity Band Concert - on 28 December 2009. More than \$180,000 was raised through ticket sales and corporate donations from Aurigin, Lee Foundation, Fu Lu Shou Si Mian Fo and Singapore Turf Club.

"Our company and staff have always been committed to help the less fortunate in society by giving our time and money wherever possible," said Mr Lim Ee Teoh, Managing Director, Aurigin Technology Pte Ltd.

# DONATION BREAKDOWN

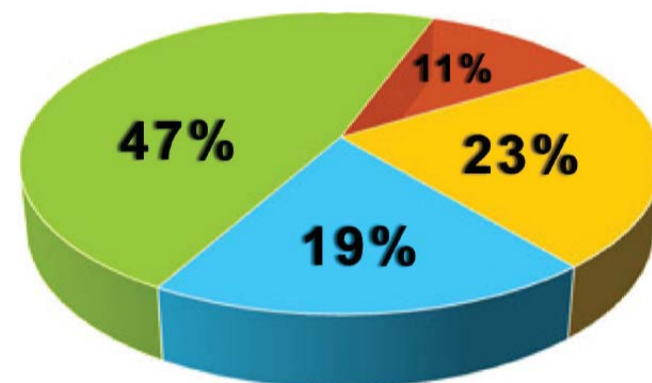
Every dollar helped

**\$52.6 million Raised Helped 330,000\* People Weather the Storm**

Despite the economic downturn in 2009, your generous support for Community Chest has enabled us to meet the community needs. A total of \$52.6 million was raised in FY2009, of which \$51 million was disbursed to help more than 330,000\* people in 157 social service programmes provided by 70 charities.

\$24.2 million or 47% of total funds went towards services that nurture children to succeed, including therapy and education that is tailored to the individual needs of children with special needs. Funding for helping people with disabilities lead independent lives accounted for \$11.5 million or 23% of the total funding, and this went to programmes that provide physiotherapy, training in life skills and jobs for people with disabilities. \$9.8 million or 19% of the total funding was channelled towards supporting families in need, which includes counselling to help such families deal positively with financial hardship, child delinquency or marital problems. Last but not least, funding for dignifying the lives of the elderly accounted for \$5.5 million or 11% of the total funding, which provides the elderly with care, shelter and warm meals.

\*includes direct clients, caregivers and public education numbers reported by VWOs as at Apr 2010



**FY2009 FUND DISBURSEMENT**

- Nurturing Children to Succeed \$24.2m (47%)
- Helping People with Disabilities Lead Independent Lives \$11.5m (23%)
- Keeping Families Together \$9.8m (19%)
- Dignifying the Lives of the Elderly \$5.5m (11%)

# SHARE PROGRAMME:

## Hoteliers champion a good cause through Share Programme

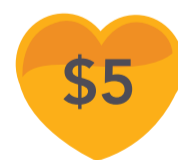
SHARE is a monthly donation programme that encourages companies and employees to make a collective effort to help the less fortunate by making monthly contributions through Community Chest.

Currently, it relies on about 200,000 corporate and individual donors to generate a steady source of income to help fund the programmes supported by Community Chest.

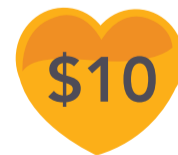
At the annual SHARE networking session in June 2009, the SHARE Ambassador Network was expanded to include Chief Executives and senior management of companies to tap on their influence and contacts to promote the SHARE programme at their workplace. The event saw 18 companies taking the pledge to support the programme

The CEOs from the hotel industry on the SHARE Ambassador Network also introduced the "Hoteliers with a Heart" campaign to promote SHARE in their industry.

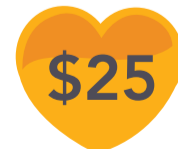
### No Contribution is Too Small



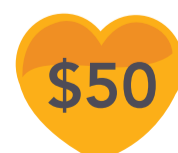
A magazine could allow a child below 6 years old with developmental delays to receive a day of subsidised therapy to improve gross motor skills such as walking and climbing.



A movie ticket could provide a frail elderly with 2 warm meals for the day.



A manicure session could provide a single-parent family with casework and counselling sessions to cope with grief and loss.



A meal at a restaurant could provide a person with disability a day of accommodation in a Home, and enables him/her to acquire basic independent living skills.

A CSR PROGRAMME SUPPORTED BY:

