



Viriya Community Services

Annual report for the year ended 31 December 2008

ROS registration No	110/2001/WEL																		
Date of registration as a society	08 March 2001																		
Charity registration No	1511																		
Date of registration as a charity	03 July 2001																		
UEN	T01SS0059B																		
IPC status	CF/0322/01052006135933 - till 30 September 2009																		
Management committee	The management committee was elected at the annual general meeting held on 24 March 2008																		
	<table> <tr> <td>President</td> <td>Chia Eng Soon (aka Ven Sek Meow Ee)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Vice President</td> <td>Lim Yin Nee, Jenny</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hon Secretary</td> <td>Tham Khuan Heng</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hon Treasurer</td> <td>Wong Thin Hee, Alan</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Members</td> <td>Ho Kok Pooi Han</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Lim Kah Hoe, Desmond</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Sim Eng Kiang</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Ng Mui Siang</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Koh Ming Feng, Abner</td> </tr> </table>	President	Chia Eng Soon (aka Ven Sek Meow Ee)	Vice President	Lim Yin Nee, Jenny	Hon Secretary	Tham Khuan Heng	Hon Treasurer	Wong Thin Hee, Alan	Members	Ho Kok Pooi Han		Lim Kah Hoe, Desmond		Sim Eng Kiang		Ng Mui Siang		Koh Ming Feng, Abner
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Bankers	United Overseas Bank Limited DBS Bank Limited																		
Auditors	CS Choong & Co																		

Objectives: Our Society's principal activities are aimed at bringing joy and enhancing the quality of life by providing care and assistance to families and individuals in need of support regardless of race and religion. These were rendered through its community projects including Children's Club @ My Centre, Dreams @ Kolam Ayer, LHCST-NKF Dialysis Centre, Lights of Hope Centre, My Centre @ Moulmein, sharing and caring for you, Viriya Children's Welfare Fund, Viriya-KK Children's Hospital HomeCare

Programme, Whispering Hearts Family Service Centre, Whispering Hearts Infant & Child Care Centre and Whispering Hearts Student Care Centre.

Finance and funding: The Society receives funding from the government and the public in the form of donations. The public includes corporates, foundations and individuals. In addition, two of its centres collect school fees for provision of child or student care services but the families receive subsidy from the government depending on their household income. The Society also collects nominal fees from participants.

Financial results:

Receipts

Donations received – tax exempt *	402,000
- non-tax exempt	103,000
Government funding	310,000
Programme fee	42,000
School fee	260,000
Investment income	52,000
Miscellaneous	112,000
	1,281,000

Expenditure

Direct charitable expenses	1,046,000
Fund raising expenses	5,000
Operating & administration expenses	11,000
Depreciation	97,000
	1,159,000

Surplus for the year **122,000**

Reserves

Restricted funds	0
Unrestricted funds	1,706,000
Endowment fund	2,553,000

Total reserves as at 31 December 2008 **4,259,000**

Unrestricted funds / total operating expenditure **1.5 years**

* - excludes a sum of \$114,296.93 donated to an endowment fund

It is the Society's desire to build up a reserve to meet five years' operating expenditure.

Society's assets: The Society does not own any properties. The Society operates the Lights of Hope Centre (which is owned by Leong Hwa Monastery) and in the year under review, it commenced running programmes, which aim at promoting active aging and thus, allow the elderly to continue to engage with the society.

The Society owns a van used largely to provide transport to our chronically ill children under the Viriya-KK Children's Hospital HomeCare Programme.

Activities and events: It was a year of consolidation. We continue to run programmes which focussed on the second part of our mission, namely “*to enhance the quality of life*” of the people whom we served. In this way, we hope to have a positive impact on the lives of these people who are less fortunate than us.

Highlights for the year:

Children

Viriya-KK Children’s Hospital HomeCare Programme

- Organised bi-annual gathering for the beneficiaries in June and December sponsored by Applied Materials and Sanofi-Aventis respectively
- About 200 people from 30 families and volunteers took part in each gathering
- In the year 2008, contributed another \$240,000 to KK Children’s Hospital in support of Viriya-KKH HomeCare Programme, making a cumulative donation of \$1.48 million.
- Since our adoption in February 2004, 270 chronically-ill children had benefited from the programme

Whispering Hearts Infant & Child Care Centre

- Implemented developmentally appropriate curriculum to promote well-rounded learning for our full capacity of 66 infants and children from 2months to 6 years of age.
 - Full range of developmentally appropriate activities to promote infants’ physical, cognitive and emotional development
 - Minimum of 3 learning centres in each class
 - Reading programme for children aged 4 to 6 years old
 - Experiential learning activities
- Initiated programmes to involve parents
 - Fortnightly reports and quarterly newsletter for parents
 - Half-yearly parents teachers conferences
 - Parents resource corner
- Organised the following events to enrich the learning of our children
 - National Day Celebrations
 - Children’s and Teachers’ Day Celebrations
 - Chinese New Year Celebrations
 - DeepaRaya Celebrations
 - Christmas Day celebrations
 - Field Trip to ‘HealthZone’
 - Field Trip to ‘Underwater World’
 - K2 graduation ceremony

Whispering Hearts Student Care Centre

- Served 110 children, with 35% of these children coming from underprivileged families.
- 85% of the students shown improvement in their school results with supervised study time. 8 students were awarded Viriya-Shih Ping Scholarship.
- 50% of the students showed improved emotional management, social and life skills after attending out life skills programmes.
- Reading programme and Newspaper Chat to encourage reading habits.
- Variety of enrichment activities:
 - Creative Writing, E-mentoring, IT programme, and group project work
 - Character building and education workshops
- In-house educational activities

- In-door and out-door fitness and wellness programmes
- Holiday programmes including camps, educational field trips, games and physical exercises.

Youth

Dreams @ Kolam Ayer

- Organised 130 activities totalling 850 hours and reached out to 1,300 youths.
- Recruited 200 members and served 200 youths in our structured programmes.
 - 25 children in PACE
 - 20 children in Dreams Children Club
 - 17 youths in Project New Leaf
 - 25 youths, 50 needy families in Sharing & Caring
 - 31 youths in Out-of-school youths programmes
 - 200 youths and 10 teachers in STEP-UP @ Bendemeer
 - 90 youths in performing arts performances competitions
- Served 1,000 needy individuals through the involvement of 1,000 volunteers in 6 community projects.

Senior citizens

My Centre @ Moulmein

- Organised 400 activities totalling 1,200 hours and reached out to 400 elderly.
- Recruited 429 members and served 100 elderly in our structured programmes.

Active Hearts, Active Minds

- 200 participated in Day Tours & Outings
- 100 participants in Free Monthly Talks/ Hi-Tea & Bingo Sessions
- 16 elderly participated in Aqua Aerobics Classes
- 12 elderly participated in Swimming Classes
- 10 elderly benefited from the weekly Foot Reflexology & Acupuncture sessions
- 12 elderly participated in the handicraft and daily brain game sessions
- 12 elderly participated in weekly Ah Gong Ah Ma Programme
- 500 participated in the “My Happy Kampong” Event in December
- 27 elderly participated in strength training exercise
- 40 elderly participated in brisk walk club
- 60 elderly participated in Festive celebrations

Learn My Dialect Programme

- 50 elderly volunteers in the Learn My Dialect Programme
- 1,140 students and adults participated in the dialect lessons
- 8 schools participated in the programme
- 5 VWOs and Organisations participated in the programme

Children’s Club @ My Centre

- Official Open House on the 6th Dec 2008
- Recruited 129 members and served 150 children in our structured programme
- 10 children participated in the weekly Study Partner Programme
- 10,000 children’s books available for members to read and loan
- Other services and programmes include ; usage of computer and internet services, educational games and weekly movie screening

Lights of Hope Centre

- 300 participated during the Open House on the 17th January 2009
- Over 1,000 packets of 5kg rice were given out during the Open House as part of Singapore Red Cross “Project Rice”
- Fully refurbished all five levels of the building which includes the lobby area, bedrooms for resting, multi-purpose cum Karaoke room and the Buddhist Library
- Over 1,000 Chinese and English books on ‘Buddhism’

Families

Whispering Hearts Family Service Centre

- Information and Referral Service: 699 referrals
- Casework and Counselling: Total no of cases opened for the year: 379. Total no of closed cases: 430 with 202 of satisfactory closure
- School Pocket Money Fund Assistance: 435 beneficiaries
- School Social Work – one primary school, one youth talk at Jurong West Secondary School and one parenting talk at Tanglin Secondary School
- Outreached to 200 couples for Marriage Preparation Course at "The Wedding Planner" @ Vivo City and Marina Mandarin Hotel.
- 15 pairs of couples participated the “Synchronized Couple hood”@ Garden-Asia
- 33 couples participated in “Racing for Love” event

- Preventive Developmental Programme (Youth)
Club Fidentia (aged 13 - 18): 40 youths
 - 26 youths participated in Social Emotional Learning Workshops 1 “I am who I am”
 - 28 youths participated in Social Emotional Learning Workshops 2 “Conflict Management”
 - 22 youths participated in Treetop Walk @ Mac Ritchie
 - 31 youths participated in Amazing Race @ NIE Campus & Dragon boat Race @ Bedok Reservoir (Collaboration with NIE student teachers)
 - 16 youths attended a 3-day Career Explorer Workshop in June
 - 7 youths took part as designers/games facilitators in “Zappy Zoo Race” family event
 - Collaborated with Dreams @Kolam Ayer in setting up a stall “Music Box: Express your Dreams!” during NCSS 50th Anniversary Carnival which attracted 450 members of the public to visit the stall.

- Preventive Developmental Programme (Children)
Tree House Club (aged 7-8): 20 children
 - 1st experiential outing: Visit to the National Museum
 - 2nd experiential outing: Garden-Asia Kids
 - 3rd experiential outing: Bo Tien Home for the Aged
 - 4th experiential outing: Singapore Flyer Read and Ride
 - Ad hoc outings: Festival show: RawkZ!, NLB Nickelodeon Birthday Party, Khong Guan Biscuit Factory, NUS Raffles Hall Camp X'Posure and Singapore Science Centre

- Bright Owl Club (aged 9-12): 62 children
 - Family bonding: Family games at Jurong West park, Movie screening and Fireworks Event at US Naval Base
 - Educational outings: Tour to Biscuit factory, zoo, Science Centre and Hay Dairies
 - Holiday events: CityCare Wonderland and Christmas Make-A-Wish
 - Experiential Learning Workshops and Outings: SMART Workshop, Puzzlethon at Students' Care Services and NUS Raffles Hall Camp Xposure

- Preventive Developmental Programme (Family) – Enhance Positive Change
 - 23 participants attended March “Money Is Enough” Workshop
 - 22 participants attended May “You & Your Family” Workshop
 - 15 participants attended July “Positive Parenting” Workshop
 - 20 participants attended August “Parenting Styles” Workshop
 - 16 participants attended November “Honey, We need to Talk” 2 day Workshop.
 - 250 participants attended the “Zappy Zoo Race” family bonding event
- 60 families and 40 elderly participated in intergenerational games day in June.
- Needs Assessment implemented in November

Corporate Governance: The management committee met three times during the year under review. In addition to reviewing and refreshing its strategic thrusts, the committee also assessed its compliance with the code of governance for the evaluation period from 1 April 2008 to 31 March 2009. As at date of this report, the Society had substantially complied with the various areas required in the governance evaluation.

With regard to conflict of interest policy, the Society adopts the NCSS paper of October 2005, requiring Management committee members and staff to disclose areas of conflict and abstention from discussion and decision – making on the matter. During the year under review, there were no such conflicts that required disclosure and action.

During the year, in the absence of an executive director, both the President and the Vice President (in their honorary capacity) rendered much support to the centre managers in the daily running of their respective centres.

Future commitments: Our 2nd three-year adoption of the HomeCare programme from KK Children’s Hospital (KKH) will end in January 2010. We will do a review with KKH later in the year. A sum of about \$120,000 is required to fully equip our medical clinic at Katharagama, Sri Lanka.

The road ahead: We will continue to focus on our community projects, to enhance the quality of the lives of the people whom we serve. More importantly, we will adapt and keep pace with the needs of the community and in the face of extreme challenges in the current economic downturn, we remain guided by the teachings of Budhha, in particular in serving the community in need.

Acknowledgement: We are very grateful to many of you who support our mission and goals. In particular, we appreciate the advice and guidance from Dr Yaacob Ibrahim, Patron of Dreams @ Kolam Ayer, Mr Lui Tuck Yew, Patron of My Centre @ Moulmein and Mr Cedric Foo, Patron of Whispering Hearts Family Service Centre.

Report by: Venerable Sek Meow Ee
President

10 March 2009

Our Mission

Viriya Community Services aims to bring joy and enhance the quality of life by providing care and assistance to families and individuals in need of support regardless of race and religion.

Corporate office

***72 Shrewsbury Road
Singapore 307837***