

**BUDDHIST COMPASSION RELIEF TZU CHI FOUNDATION (SINGAPORE)**  
(UEN: S93SS0148C)

**ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015**

Buddhist Compassion Relief Tzu Chi Foundation (Singapore), thereafter called "The Foundation" was registered with Register of Societies on 20/09/1993, and registered under the Charities Act as Charity on 26/01/1994 respectively.

Charity Registration Number : 1000  
ROS UEN Number : S93SS0148C  
IPC Number : IPC000620  
Registered Address : 9 Elias Road, Singapore 519937

The Board of Directors comprises the following:-

<b>Name</b>	<b>Designation</b>
1) Toh Kim Kiat	President
2) Teo Chee Seng	Secretary
3) Chang Chung Kuei-Chen	Assistant Secretary
4) Boh Shuhui	Treasurer
5) Chang Horng Lin	Member
6) Lin Pi-Yu	Member
7) Lin Su-Yin	Member
8) Ong Wee Heng	Member
9) Sim Hee Chew	Member
10) Koh Cheng Hwa	Member
11) Liu Ming Ta	Member

Sector Administrator : Ministry of Social and Family Development (MSF)

Bankers : UOB, FCB, OCBC, and CIMB

Auditor : RSM Chio Lim LLP  
Public Accountants and Certified Public Accountants, Singapore

## **OBJECTIVES**

The Foundation is founded by Dharma Master Shih Cheng Yen, based on the Buddha's "all loving and all merciful" great compassionate spirit. The Foundation's missions focus on giving material aid to the needy and inspiring love and humanity in both givers and receivers.

In its *Charity* Mission, the Foundation's guiding principle is to "Help The Poor and Educate The Rich (济贫教富). In addition to *Charity*, the Foundation dedicates itself in the areas of *Medicine*, *Education*, and *Environmental Protection*. It also promotes humanistic values and community volunteerism. Through helping those in needs, the Tzu Chi volunteers take on the path of bodhisattva practices, to spread the spirit of selfless Great Love.

## **POLICIES**

### **Finance & Funding**

The Foundation is funded by public donations. Most donors contribute their monthly donations to the Foundation through Commissioners, who are commissioned personally by Dharma Master Shih Cheng Yen. All donations collected are used in accordance to the specified purpose(s) stated by the donors. They are namely; Local Relief Fund, General Fund, Designated Fund, International Relief Fund (if applicable), and Local Building Fund (if applicable).

The Foundation has set up strict procedures on Conflict of Interest. Board members, management and staff, including volunteers are required to make full declaration and disclosure on any situations that may give rise to conflict of interest. This is to ensure that all parties will act in the best interest of the Society.

## **COMPLIANCE OF IPC GOVERNANCE EVALUATION CHECKLIST**

The Foundation has fully complied with the guidelines of the Code of Governance Evaluation Checklist for the Institutions Of A Public Character (IPC). Full Checklist is available at [www.charities.gov.sg](http://www.charities.gov.sg)

## OUR TEAM

As at 31 December 2015, our team comprised of both paid employees and full time volunteers as follows:

Current Designation	Number of Staff	Nationality
CEO*	1	Singaporean
Deputy CEO*	3	2 Singaporean / 1 Singapore PR
Administration Manager*	1	Singaporean
Head of Videography & Publication & Community Education *	1	Singapore PR
Head of Pre-School*	1	Singapore PR
Head of Free Clinic Medical Consultant**	1	Singaporean
Head of Free Clinic cum TCM Physician	1	Singaporean
Head of Charity Section	1	Singaporean
Head of IT cum Graphic Designer	1	Singaporean
Finance Manager	1	Singaporean
Senior Finance Executive	1	Singaporean
Finance Executive	3	1 Singaporean / 1 Singapore PR / 1 Malaysian
Data Entry cum Clerical Account Assistant	3	2 Singaporean / 1 Malaysian
Administrative Secretaries	4	2 Singapore PR / 2 Malaysian
HR Administrator cum Procurement	1	Singaporean
HR Administrator	1	Singaporean
General Affairs Administrator	1	Singaporean
General Worker	2	Singaporean
Social Worker	2	1 Singapore PR / 1 Malaysian
Social Service Administrator	2	1 Singaporean / 1 Malaysian
IT Administrators	2	1 Singapore PR / 1 Malaysian
Jing Si Culture Administrator	2	Malaysian
Community Education Administrator Assistant	1	Singaporean
Videographers	4	1 Singapore PR / 3 Malaysian
Journal Editors	1	1 Singapore PR
Documentary Administrator	2	1 Singaporean PR / 1 Malaysian
Medical Doctor	1	Singapore PR
Physiotherapist	1	Singapore PR
Staff Nurses	6	3 Singaporean / 3 Singapore PR
Chinese Medicine Pharmacist	1	Singaporean
Free Clinic Assistant	1	Singaporean
Free Clinic Administrators	4	1 Singaporean / 3 Singapore PR
Free Clinic Procurement/General Affairs Assistant	2	1 Singaporean / 1 Malaysian
Pre-School Principal	1	Singaporean

Pre-School Teacher	11	9 Singaporean / 1 <u>PROC</u> / 1 Malaysian
Pre-School Infant <u>Educarer</u>	2	Singaporean
Pre-School Administrators	2	1 Singaporean / 1 Malaysian
Pre-School Chef	1	Malaysian
Pre-School Cleaner	1	Singaporean
<b>Total</b>	78	
<p>Total Headcount: Paid Employees: 71 / * Full Time Volunteers: 07  ** Staff with annual remuneration above \$100,000.00 per annum: 01</p>		

## **REVIEW OF FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND EXPLANATION OF MAJOR FIANANCIAL TRANSACTIONS.**

In FY2015, the Foundation has reported a surplus of \$1,904,119; of which a surplus of \$1,917,415 from Unrestricted Funds, and a deficit of \$13,296 from Restricted Funds.

During the year, our fund generating has generated a total income of \$4.08 million; of which \$0.95 million was for Local Relief Fund, \$0.13 million was for General Fund, and \$2.99 million was for International Relief Fund.

The following fund generating activities were conducted with permits obtained from Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth (MCCY) and National Council of Social Service (NCSS).

### **1. Chinese New Year Charity Fair**

The foundation has collected a total of \$873,305 (net proceeds \$684,366) for Local Relief Fund from our Chinese New Year Charity Fair. [NCSS Approval no. 2014120358].

### **2. Flag's day**

A total of \$81,458 (net proceeds \$79,093) was collected for our Local Relief Fund in our Flag's day in September 2015. [NCSS Approval no. 2015090235].

### **3. Placement of Donation box**

During the year, a total of \$128,189 (net proceeds \$127,119) was collected for our General Fund from the placement of donation box. [NCSS Approval no. 2014120320].

### **4. Malaysia Flood Relief**

The Foundation has raised a total of \$938,566 from 04/01/2015 to 04/02/2015 for International Relief Fund via Street Collection, Pledge cards, and general public/ institutional donations for the victims affected by major flood in Malaysia. After deducting the related expenditures of \$3,400, a net proceed of \$935,166 was donated to **Taiwan Buddhist Tzu Chi Foundation Malaysia (KL & Selangor Branch)** and **Buddhist Tzu Chi Merits Society Malaysia** for the flood relief purpose. [NCSS Approval no. 2015010001, and MCCY Approval Ref no. 0001/2015]

## 5. Nepal Earthquake Relief

The Foundation has raised a total of \$2,054,715 from 04/05/2015 to 15/06/2015 for International Relief Fund via Street Collection, Pledge cards, and general public/ institutional donations for the victims affected by the major earthquake in Nepal. After deducting the related expenditures of \$3,973, a net proceed of \$2,053,741 was to **Buddhist Compassion Relief Tzu Chi Foundation Taiwan** for disaster relief purpose. [NCSS Approval no. 2015010135, and MCCY Approval Ref no. 0023/2015]

## **STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS**

Statement of Accounts for the financial year ended 31 December 2015 is attached.

## **2015 CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

Routine Events of the Month		
Category	Time	Event Name
Charity	Every 3rd Friday afternoon	Voluntary service to Hospice Care Association
Charity	Every 4th Sunday afternoon	Voluntary service to Institute of Mental Health
Medical	Every Sunday morning	Free Medical Consultation and Dental Service at Tzu Chi Free Clinic (Redhill)
Medical	Every Monday-Friday, 9.30am-12.30pm, 1.30pm-5pm. Every Sunday, 9am-12.30pm	Free Traditional Chinese Medical Services (General Consultation and Acupuncture Treatment)
Education	Every 3th Sunday morning	Parent-Child Bonding Class
Education	Every 4th Sunday morning	Teenagers Enrichment Class
Culture	Every Monday afternoon	Flower Arrangement Class
Culture	Every Monday evening	Yoga Class (Elementary 1)
Culture	Every Monday evening	Gu Zheng Class (Elementary 2)
Culture	Every Monday evening	Chinese Ink Painting Class
Culture	Every Tuesday morning	Gu Zheng Class (Elementary 1)
Culture	Every Tuesday evening	Chinese Calligraphy Class
Culture	Every Tuesday evening	Guitar Class
Culture	Every Wednesday afternoon	Chinese Calligraphy Class (2st term start)
Culture	Every Wednesday afternoon	Jing Si Tea Art Class (Elementary 1) (2st term start)
Culture	Every Thursday morning	Yoga Class (Elementary)
Culture	Every Thursday afternoon	Patchwork & Quilting Class
Culture	Every Thursday evening	Yoga Class (advanced)
Culture	Every Thursday evening	Jing Si Flower Arrangement (2st term start)
Culture	Every Thursday evening	Singing Class
Culture	Every Friday afternoon	Healthy Vegetarian Cooking Class
Culture	Every Friday afternoon	Yoga Class (elderly)
Culture	Every Friday evening	Chinese Ink Painting Class
Culture	Every Friday evening	Jing Si Tea Art Class (Elementary 1) (2st term start)
Recycling	Every Thursday	Recycling Activities at Bukit Ho Swee recycling point
Recycling	Every 2nd Thursday Evening	Recycling Activities at Tiong Bahru recycling point
Recycling	Every 2nd Sunday morning	Recycling Activities at 31 community recycling points
Others	Every 4th Sunday afternoon	Sharing Session (English)
Others	Every 2nd Saturday evening	Sharing Session (Mandarin)
Others	Every 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday evening	Daytime Sharing Session (Mandarin)



## Major Events

Month	No	Event
January	10	Tzu Chi Year End Blessing Ceremony 2014
	25	2015 Year End Care Recipients Distribution (Charity)
February	7&8	Festive Charity Fair
	28	Volunteer Appreciate Event
	1	Commissioner Training Day
	6	Volunteers Training Course (1st Intake)
	6-8	TIMA Conference(Singapore) 2015
March	8	Humanitarian Medicine Talk by Dr Lin Jun Long and Dr Chien Shou Shin
	21	Seeds of Hope Finance Assistance Scheme Presentation Ceremony 2015
	22	English speaking Volunteer Training(1 <sup>st</sup> Take)
	22	Introductory Media Course
	26-31	Educational Tour for Local Entrepreneurs to Taiwan
	29	Commissioners Trainee Training (1st Intake)
April	3	Charity Volunteer Training Session (Home Visit)
	5	Commissioner Training Day
	10	Parental Education Talk
	11	Cultural Talk & Educational Exchange by Tzu Chi Taiwan Veteran Educators.
	12	Monthly Care Recipients Distribution(Charity)
	25	Volunteers Training Course (2nd Intake)
	26	New Recruitment Training Course (1st Intake)
May	3	Commissioner Training Day, Operation We Clean Up
	10	Tzu Chi 49th Anniversary celebration cum world peace interfaith prayer ceremony at Singapore Expo
	12	Tzu Chi Anniversary – Morning Assembly via VMeet with Taiwan
	23-24	Graduation Ceremony for Continuing Educational Programs (Term 1)
	26	Inspirational Talk by Bro Alfredo
	31	Commissioners Trainee Training (2nd Intake)
June	1	Vesak Day – Movie Screening
	7	Commissioner Training Day
	13	Medical Talk on Knowledge and Awareness of Organ and Body Donation
	20	Seeds of Hope Character Development Camp
	28	Volunteers Training Course (3rd Intake)
July	5	Public Health Screening at Yuhua Community Centre
	11	Medical Talk on Bone Marrow Donation
	12	Monthly Care Recipients Distribution(Charity)
	20-21	Cultural Talk by Taiwan Tzu Chi Veteran Educators.
	26	English speaking Volunteer Training(2nd Take)
	1-2	Tzu Chi Collegiate Youth Retreat Camp
August	7-9	In House Training for Volunteer Group Facilitator

Month	No	Event
	22-23	Lunar 7th Auspicious Month Awareness
	30	Commissioners Trainee Training at Jing Si Tang (3rd Intake)
September	4-5	Cultural Talk & Educational Exchange by Tzu Chi Taiwan Veteran educators
	4-6	Educational Tour for Local Entrepreneurs to Taiwan
	6	Commissioner Training Day
	12	Talk on Advance Care Plan
	13	Mid-Autumn Festival Care Recipients Distribution (Charity)
	26	Flag Day
	27	Volunteers Training Course (4th Intake)
	27	New Recruitment Training Course (2nd Intake)
	25-29	2014 Global Tzu Chi International Medical Convention at Taiwan
October	3	Clean & Green SG50 @ North West Carnival
	4	Commissioner Training Day
	11 & 18	Public Health Screening at Senja Cashew Community Centre
	31/10~1/11	Clean and Green SG50 Main Carnival
	1	Commissioner Training Day
	8	Monthly Care Recipients Distribution(Charity)
November	10	Charity Volunteer Training Session (Home Visit)
	14	Talk on What everyone should know about Chronic Kidney Disease
	22	English speaking Volunteer Training
	29	Commissioners Trainee Training at Jing Si Tang (4th Intake)
	6	Commissioner Training Day
	12-13	Seeds of Hope Presentation Ceremony
December	19	Volunteers Training Course (5th Intake)
	19	Talk on Advance Care Planning
	20	Sungei Api-Api Neighbourhood Eco-Awareness Fair
	23	Tzu Chi Great Love Pre-School Graduation

## **FUTURE PLANS AND COMMITMENTS**

### **CHARITY MISSION**

#### **A) Financial Assistance & Befriending Supports**

We have been working closely with the government and non-government parties involving in providing relief to the poor and needy, be it financial assistance or befriending supports. The financial assistance consists of Monetary, Medical, Education and Emergency Relief.

In year 2009, we extended our Medical Relief to Singapore Changi Prison (Cluster A, Cluster B and Changi Women Prison), assisting in-mates with their HIV medication. Besides medical relief, we have also conducted HIV Awareness Talk to pre-release in-mates.

In 2015, an estimated no of 50-55 (monthly) in-mates have benefited from our HIV medication assistance, with an approximate amount of S\$123,500 was utilized to aid this group of in-mates. For HIV Awareness Talk to pre-release in-mates; with an average of 340 in-mates benefited for year 2015.

In 2005, we started the Interim Dialysis Assistance, since 2015, we handled total numbers of 363 cases, an approximate amount of S\$1,099,000 has been utilized to aid the patients. There is sign of increasing patients monthly and it take a longer period before the replacement to NKF/ KDF for long term funding.

#### **A1. Hearing Aid Program for Needy Patients**

In 2012 research shown there were about 8000+ patients registered for hearing loss test but, less than 2000 patients can effort to pay for the devices or implant. Medical Social Worker from Tan Tock Seng Hospital approached our Foundation for Hearing Aid Devices Assistance for needy patients.

In year 2013, we worked with TTSH、SGH、CGH to provide **Hearing Aid Program** for needy patients, the program will be based on a one-time assistance to supplement the hearing aid or partial funding for the , follow by monthly befriending service for three months before case termination.

For year 2015, government started the funding for hearing aid cases been referred to our foundation had reduced to 2 and approximate amount of S\$3,800 has been utilized to aid the patients.

## **A2. Pregnancy Antenatal Care Program**

The importance of antenatal checkup is to prevent Complications of pregnancy, and diseases being detected to affect the pregnancy. Benefits from the care will improve the survival and health of babies directly by reducing stillbirths and neonatal deaths, and promote and establish good health before childbirth, and the early post-natal period. As there was no public funding for this program, many pregnant women will choose to skip this antenatal checkup.

In year 2013, we worked with KKH to provide **Pregnancy Antenatal Care Program** to needy family. This program will be divided into three Trimester; First Trimester (1-12 week of pregnancy), Second Trimester (13 –27 weeks) and Third Trimester (28 weeks to birth), total assistance would cost about \$800 per patient. Case will be reviewed and/or terminated upon the 1<sup>st</sup> month celebration of the newborn.

For year 2014, after MOH started funding the Singapore citizen, cases referral to our foundation are those PR, case reduced to 3 and approximate amount of S\$1340 has been utilized to aid the patients.

Year 2015 Distribution Day gathering events was held every quarterly. Through the event we provide social and physical support to all our recipients so to improve their quality of life. An average of 190 families were attend the gathering with approximate of 280-300 people each time.

## **B) The “Seeds of Hope” Financial Assistance Scheme (SOH)**

The program was launched in June 2009 to provide transportation and meal subsidies to needy students. Since 2011, we have also accepted referral from schools for their students’ families that require further financial aids. Our charity home visit team would then follow up with assessments and conduct monthly visits to keep tab of the families’ condition.

Since 2009, Tzu Chi Singapore has been offering the “Seeds of Hope” Financial Assistance Scheme to help needy children with their education. A total of 15,848 students an approximate amount of S\$6,636,643.72 has been utilized to aid these students.

In year 2014, we expanded the program by introducing the “Seeds of Hope Meritorious Awards” project, which aims to encourage character development and a wholesome attitude of learning in students. The Meritorious award recognizes and affirms needy students. For year 2015, we focused on secondary students coming from underprivileged family or single family backgrounds that have potential of any progress through the regular home visits with both students and parents hope to empower the youth from needy families: to rise above their challenging circumstances & to promote their development of wholesome character. The Befriending Programme consists of 6-month regular home visits and a Motivation Camp. Success student will be granted S\$500 for Secondary School.

## **C. Tzu Chi-SMU Bursary Scheme**

Education is the very tool that lifts the human spirit and betters society, and for the poor, it is a promise of a better life. Tzu Chi hopes that even as our volunteers care for students from less privileged families, they can encourage them and inspire in them the courage to face adversity and to achieve their own personal triumphs, and that society as a whole can benefit from the nurturing of more selfless and compassionate individuals. The objective of the bursary is to ensure students from financially challenged families do not slip through the cracks, and it hopes to assist students in lessening the burden of their study loans. In addition, it also aims, with the help of accompanying volunteers, to encourage students to rise above hard times and challenging circumstances, develop positive habits and attitudes, and grow to contribute and give back to our society and our country.

Since year 2014 this project had started and 2015/8-2016/8 a total of 15 SMU full time students were successfully awarded with S\$8000 each under this project, with an approximate amount of S\$120,000.

## **D) Befriending Care Services**

Every month, our volunteers provide regular befriending services at 2 different institutions (HCA Hospice Care, IMH). We also conduct regular training sessions for our charity home visits volunteers to enhance their case assessment/management and befriending abilities. In total, our Charity Mission has executed an approximate amount of \$3.38 million in 2015 for the above endeavour

## **E) NEW PROJECTS**

### **E1. Partnership with Community Agencies**

Continue to partner with Social Service Offices (SSO), Chinese Development Assistance Council (CDAC), and Family Service Centers (FSC) for monetary relief to disadvantaged families, and with all public hospitals (TTSH, NUH, SGH, CGH, KTP, KKH) for both medical and monetary relief to needy patients. We would also explore new opportunity and better collaboration with other NGO and/or VWO to join forces and share the resources so as to provide better assistance to the needy community.

### **E2. Plan in Eldercare sector**

Moving towards aging population, there is need for mentally, socially and physically active basic level of care and support for the seniors to age in place. Planning to set up the Senior Activity Centre to improve quality of life, prevent social isolation and outreach to isolated seniors to ensure wellbeing. Understand there will more and more dementia cases with caregiver support needed in how to create a Dementia Friendly Community is also one of the plan.

### **E3. Plan to expend Bursary Scheme to other Local University**

In Singapore, a university education has long been seen as a key springboard out of poverty and towards a better standard of living. While we see an increasing number of university applicants over the years, also seen a growing number of applicants for bursaries as the cost of education and cost living have gone up. In Year 2007, a basic degree course fee for Singaporean undergraduate under NUS was \$6,110. And in Year 2015, the fee for a basic degree is \$7,950, an increase of 30%. Therefore in commemoration of SG50, we believe the potential partnership between our Foundation and Local University would allow more students from low-income families to receive help and ultimately improving the financial conditions of their families.

Year 2016 there will be two Universities: SIT & SUTD will be participate in the project. They are:

**SIT:** Singapore Institute of Technology

**SUTD:** Singapore University of Technology and Design

### **E4. Plan in Palliative Care and End-life Support**

Patients who were once able to self-care or collaborate with their carers, have become totally dependent for their activities of daily living (showering / toileting) towards the end of days.

Patients / Caregiver are overwhelmed by the rapid and overwhelming change in care needs. And institutional care then seems the natural safety net or default "choice" of care.

Both groups have observed to be reliant on community programmes for practical care assistance. The intervention is deemed necessary / beneficial to support patient if preferred place of care is home.

Partnering with HCA (Hospice Care) to provide Auxillary Caregiver financial assistance to HCA's home hospice patient with financially strapped and/or unable to afford the recommended care and support at home because of emotional, psychological, and /or social reasons.

## **MEDICAL MISSION**

Due to costly healthcare, middle and low income groups often face difficulty paying for medical treatment, which frequently lead to some delay in getting treatment. Regular health checks are thus crucial in improving disease detection and prevention. In 2007, our foundation set up a free medical clinic at Blk 90, Redhill Close #01-400, and subsequently in 2010, a health screening centre at Blk 328 Jurong East Street 31 #01-138. Both the clinic and the centre provide medical and/or health screening services for Singapore citizens, Permanent Residents and long term visit pass holders.

In July 2012, Tzu Chi Free Health Screening Centre expanded its range of services and was renamed Tzu Chi Free Health Screening and Medical Clinic.

### **Tzu Chi Free Health Screening and Medical Clinic – Free Health Screening Service**

To promote early intervention, Tzu Chi Free Health Screening and Medical Clinic started providing free health screening for the public in August 2010. Through the blood tests conducted, the public would be more aware of their current health status.

### **Tzu Chi Free Health Screening and Medical Clinic – GP Services**

After conducting health screening for the public, some were diagnosed with chronic illnesses and needed medical attention. In July 2011, with the hiring of a medical consultant, Dr Edwin Lim, Tzu Chi Health Screening Centre expanded its services to include clinic consultations and medication dispensary for patients who qualify financially. In April 2012, the clinic joined Singapore's nationwide Community Health Assistance Scheme (CHAS) to reach out to more beneficiaries.

### **Tzu Chi Free Health Screening and Medical Clinic – Dental Services**

In January 2012, Tzu Chi Free Health Screening and Medical Clinic partnered with the National Kidney Foundation (NKF) to provide dialysis patients with dental services. Many dialysis patients were found to be undernourished because of poor dentition. For this reason, our TIMA dental surgeons, volunteered to lead the formation of a dental team at Fuhui Clinic, providing services such as making dentures, scaling, filling and extraction. Gradually, we also extended our services to the needy patients. In 2015, we also open our service to Blue CHAS card and PG card patients.

In March 2013, seeing that homebound patients face difficulties travelling to dental clinics and being transferred to the dental chairs, our clinic also started providing home dental services to homebound patients, bringing portable dental units to patients' homes and providing dental care in their most comfortable environment. The dental health of patients in nursing homes is the least taken care of, however that is also one of the many causes of serious illness. In October 2013, Ren Ci Hospital and Tzu Chi signed a memorandum for the TIMA dental team to regularly visit these inpatients and provide dental services to them. The dentists also educate

the nursing attendants on how to provide oral hygiene for inpatients. The first Nursing Home dental service was held in March 2014. The dental team provides dental screening for all the patients in the nursing home and subsequent dental treatment on a monthly basis.

### **Tzu Chi Free Health Screening and Medical Clinic – Eye Screening**

In August 2012, Tzu Chi Free Health Screening and Medical Clinic extended its health screening services to include eye screening for the elderly and for patients who needed a detailed eye examination after seeking medical consultation. A group of TIMA opticians, optometrists and ophthalmologists now volunteer regularly at the clinic to assist in vision checks and screening patients for glaucoma, cataract, retinopathy, and other eye diseases.

In May 2014, we also collaborated with Singapore Polytechnic School of Optometry. Every week, the school will arrange students in their final year to shadow their lecturers during our service. This provided the students with more exposure.

### **Tzu Chi Free Health Screening and Medical Clinic – Home Medical and Nursing Services**

Due to an increasing aging population, there is a growing demand for home care services, especially in the southwest area of Singapore, where there are fewer home care service providers.

Hospital care management model has also changed towards caring for patients in their home environment. To meet the increasing needs, we started to provide basic home care services, such as changing of feeding tube, changing of catheters, wound management and medication management.

Hospital medical social workers will refer cases to Tzu Chi and the TIMA medical team, together with a few volunteers, will visit these patients in their homes and give them the needed care.

Some of the charity assistance cases can also benefit from this service.

In April 2014, Tzu Chi joined the AIC Tote Board Funding Scheme to establish a team with more manpower to cater to the growing aging population in the Southwest district. With this funding, we are able to provide all-rounded and holistic care to home care patients and work even closer with the hospitals in the Southwest area to provide better step-down care for needy families.

In October 2014, Tzu Chi Home Care Services extended to include home therapy for patients who cannot afford therapy services and for bedbound patients. Through this combination of services (home nursing, medical care and therapy), patients can receive a more holistic care.



### **Tzu Chi Free Health Screening and Medical Clinic – Mobile Clinic Services**

In Feb 2014, Tzu Chi started extending medical services to the trainees at SMEDC (SIA-MINDS Employment Development Centre); and to WEDC (Woodland Employment Development Centre) in Dec 2015. These intellectually challenged individuals usually have difficulties expressing their health issues and often miss out on regular health checks. With this service, trainees at the centre are screened regularly by volunteer doctors, giving their caregivers and also the staff at the centre a peace of mind.

In April 2015, Tzu Chi, further extended this mobile clinic service to the Blue Cross Thong Kheng Home, which is home to about 100 intellectually challenged residents. TIMA doctors and nurses visited residents monthly to provide routine health checks.

### **Tzu Chi Free Clinic – General Medicine**

In November 2008, the clinic moved from Chinatown to Redhill, where it serves low income residents by providing them with free medical and dental services. The services is held on every Sunday, and supported by TIMA volunteers and zone volunteers.

### **Tzu Chi Free Clinic – Traditional Chinese Medical Services (General Consultation and Acupuncture Treatment)**

In October 2012, our clinic extended its free Traditional Chinese Medicine services from half a day on Sunday mornings to five and a half days (Monday to Friday & Sunday morning). The beneficiary group was also expanded from Tzu Chi's aid recipients to the public. A team of Traditional Chinese Medicine physicians volunteer regularly at our clinic to provide general consultation and acupuncture treatment.

In July 2013, Tzu Chi began providing Traditional Chinese Medicine home care services. TCM physician(s), together with a few volunteers, will make home visits to these patients and provide consultation and treatment to them. The patients are Tzu Chi's aid recipients who need TCM treatment and have difficulties travelling to the clinic to receive treatment. Referrals are made by Tzu Chi's Charity Department.

## **SUMMARY OF MEDICAL SERVICES:**

### **Tzu Chi Health Screening Services and Medical Clinic (Jurong East):**

- Targeted Health Screening (Monday to Fridays & Sunday morning; 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays)
- Free Clinic Services (Monday to Fridays & Sunday)
- Dental Services (Every Monday and Wednesday)
- Eye Screening (for patients 50 years old and above) [Optometrist: Every Wednesday and Friday during Poly school term and 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month. Optician: Every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month. Ophthalmologist: Every 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month]
- Home Care Services (referrals from hospital through AIC, Agency for Integrated Care or Tzu Chi's Charity Department, Community etc)

### **Tzu Chi Free Clinic (Redhill):**

- Medical Clinic Services (for CHAS card holders/ PA card or Community Medical Benefits card holders/ NKF patients/ HOME patients/ Tzu Chi care recipients/ patients who meet our financial assessment criteria) [Every Sunday morning]
- Dental Services (for patients who meet our financial assessment criteria / Tzu Chi care recipients) [Every Sunday morning]
- Traditional Chinese Medical Services – General Consultation and Acupuncture Treatment (for Singapore citizens, PRs, and work/student/long-term visit pass holders) [Every Monday to Friday morning and afternoon, and Sunday mornings]
- Home TCM services (referrals from Tzu Chi's Charity Department)

### **Community Services**

- Tzu Chi continues to work closely with the Singapore Red Cross to organize community blood donation drives to meet the local blood demand.
  - ✓ Blood donation drive on the last Tuesday of every quarter at Tzu Chi Free Health Screening and Medical Clinic
  - ✓ Tri-monthly blood donation drives at JMC, Jing Si Hall and various neighbourhood community clubs
- Collaborations with grass roots organizations in the community to provide public health screening twice a year – test for blood sugar level, cholesterol, and blood pressure, pulse check, and body temperature, height, and weight measurement etc. Information counters for both western and Chinese medicine are also made available.
- Collaboration with NUS Medical School for Neighbourhood Health Screening Programme twice yearly

## **EDUCATION MISSION**

Tzu Chi Great Love PreSchool aims to nurture young children through a holistic education programme and imparting the teachings of Jing Si Aphorisms. Alongside the inculcation of sound academic knowledge and wholesome character development, a selfless spirit and humanistic values are also emphasized.

Tzu Chi Great Love PreSchool is a child-care institution registered with the Early Childhood Development Agency. The PreSchool started operation on 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2014, with an allocated capacity of 95 students (9 infants and 85 pre-schoolers). In December 2015, a total of 87 students are enrolled with us.

### **Vision**

We aim to nurture the next generation into compassionate and responsible people who can contribute their skills and talents for the greater good of society.

### **Mission**

We are committed towards providing a conducive learning environment where children can undergo a holistic educational experience. We accompany your child through the process of learning various daily living skills, helping them to develop independence and initiative, while giving them a sturdy foundation in life education and character building.

### **Core Values**

Gratitude, Respect and Love

### **Programme**

The Pre-School provides an infant and child care programme from ages 2 months to 6 years. It follows the preschool curriculum framework of the Singapore Ministry of Education while designing, planning and implementing a developmentally-appropriate curriculum and assessment to support and promote children's learning and development. Children will acquire the necessary knowledge, skills and dispositions through the following six learning areas:

- Aesthetic and Creative Expression
- Discovery of the World
- Language and Literacy
- Motor Skills Development
- Numeracy
- Social and Emotional Development

## A Learning Journey

The field trip to the Kok Fah Technology Farm Pte Ltd on 17<sup>th</sup> March, 2015, enhanced our children's learning about plants, on top of the topics that were discussed in the classroom. This learning experience provided them the opportunity to learn in a more engaging and stimulating environment. They were able to use all their senses to learn and participate. Teachers also took this opportunity to observe the children's behaviour, as well as their responses in an outdoor setting, so as to gain a better understanding of them.

On the 29<sup>th</sup> July, 2015, N2, K1 and K2 children went to the butterfly park experience first-hand how the metamorphosis of a butterfly takes place. The aim of this programmed was to boost the student's knowledge by allowing them to experience a closer touch with the nature. The hands-on approach towards learning also able to help the students absorbed the information better, but have fun through their learning process as well.

To enhance our children's knowledge about animals, a field trip to River Safari was held on the 21<sup>st</sup> August 2015. This learning experience provided them the opportunity to learn in a more engaging and stimulating environment. They were able to use all their senses to learn and participate. Teachers also took this opportunity to observe the children's behaviour, so as to be able to guide them to behave appropriately in public.

In addition, on the 29th September, 2015, N2, K1 and K2 children went to the Science Centre to view the exhibition, to highlight the importance of inventions, which have made significant changes and impacts in our life. Besides that, the children also learned science through fun-filled interactive and experiential play. As they walked through the science centre, interaction helped to enhance closer bonding between both the teachers and the students.

## Events – 2015

Date	Day	Time	Events	Objectives
12/02/15	Thu	10am - 11am	Dental care health talk by Dr. Chee	To promote awareness on good dental care
17/02/15	Tue	10am - 11am	Celebrate CNY	To learn about Chinese culture & customs
17/03/15	Tue	9am - 11.30am	Kok Fah Veggie Farm	To learn about farming and vegetables
27/03/15	Fri	10.30am- 11.30am	Talk on Mr. Lee Kuan Yew-K1 & K2 chn only	To promote awareness on the life history of Mr. Lee Kuan Yew
29/04/15	Wed	10.30am- 11.30 am	K2 Field-trip to Chong Pang Market	Children will learn about community helper jobs in a real-world settings
05/05/15	Tue	10.30am- 11.30 am	N1 Field-trip to Chong Pang Market	Children will learn about community helper jobs in a real-world settings
06/05/15	Wed	9.30am - 11.00 am	PG neighbourhood walk	Neighbourhood walk increases children's interests and understanding of their immediate environment
13/05/15	Wed	4.20pm - 5.30 pm	K1 Field-trip to Chong Pang Market	Children will learn about community helper jobs in a real-world settings

19/05/15	Tue	10.30am-11.30am	N2 Field-trip to Chong Pang Market	Children will learn about community helper jobs in a real-world settings
30/05/15	Sat	8am-1pm	PTM	Parents meet the teachers so as to discuss about their progress
16/06/15	Fri	4.30pm-5.15pm (PG)	Parents' Day	Children serve tea to their parents and use this opportunity to thank and show gratitude towards them.
		10am-11am (N1)		
		4pm-5pm (N2)		
		2pm-4pm (K1)		
		10pm - 11am (K2)		
30/06/15	Tue	9am-1pm	Eye screening by HPB	To check K1 & K2 children myopia.
11/07/15	Sat	9am - 11am	Parenting Talk by 施淑娟博士	Parents are able to use positive parenting techniques in educating & nurturing their chn
16/07/15	Thu	9.30am - 11.30 am	Celebrate Hari Raya Puasa	To learn about Malay culture & customs
29/07/15	Wed	12am- 4pm (N2-K2)	Field-trip to Butterfly Park & Insect Kingdom	To boost the children's knowledge of Butterflies & Insects by allowing them to experience a closer touch with the nature.
06/08/15	Thur	9.45am - 12pm	Nat. Day Celebration	To raise the awareness of patriotism.
21/08/15	Fri	9am-2pm (N1,N2, K2)	River Safari	Let children embark on a journey of discovery into one of the world's largest repositories for river dwelling animals & also visit Giant Panda Forest.
03/09/15	Thur	10am - 11.30am - 1.30pm - 4pm	Teachers' Day Celebration	Children serve tea to teaching & non-teaching staff and use this opportunity to thank and show gratitude towards them.
21-23/09/15	Mon Tue Wed	Curriculum period	Mooncake festival	To learn about Chinese culture & customs
30/09/15	Wed	9.30am - 1pm	Field trip to Changi Airport	To learn air transportation
08/10/15	Thur	10am - 11am	Children's Day	To respect & value children
13/10/15	Tue	9.30am - 11am	Class & Graduation photo taking	Yearly event
29/10/15	Thur	9.30am -	Field trip to Science	Children can learn science through fun-

		1.30pm	Centre	filled interactive and experiential play.
28/11/15	Sat		PTM	Parents meet the teachers so as to discuss about their progress
04/12/15	Fri	9am - 12.30pm	Rehearsal – Graduation Day	Yearly event
		3pm - 5.30pm	Training day	Conduct late as chn went back at 2pm & some teachers were still at JST
05/12/15	Sat	10am - 12pm	Graduation Day	Yearly event

### **Promoting the Core Values of Gratitude, Respect and Love**

Gratitude, respect and love are among the top values that children must develop. These values are to be learned rather than taught. They have to be demonstrated by their parents and teachers first before the young ones can learn them. The preschoolers are given opportunities to practice these values with their parents, teachers and volunteers on Parents' Day (16<sup>th</sup> June 2015) and Teachers' Day (3<sup>rd</sup> September 2015) Children are guided to serve tea to their parents, teachers and to the volunteers who come to the Preschool either once or twice a week to assist the teachers in taking care of them.

### **Promote Social Awareness**

In light of the spirit of Great Love, the preschool celebrates the different ethnic festivals in Singapore. Children are encouraged to wear traditional outfits of different races during the festivities to have a better appreciation of cultural designs and motifs. The festivals are celebrated in different ways. The children learn about practices of different ethnicity through the celebrations.

Children are exposed to different topics which include current affairs in the world. Through videos and newspaper articles such as the Syrian refugee crisis in Europe, global warming, and earthquake in Taiwan etc. Through this exposure, paired with the teachings of Jingsi Aphorisms, children are then guided to empathize with victims and discuss what they can do to help others in need.

### **Using our Clapping Hands to do Recycling**

In our continuous effort to promote environmental awareness, the preschool holds its monthly recycling day every 2nd Friday of the month. The children were encouraged to bring different types of recyclable materials to school. Teachers guided the children in sorting the materials into different categories. In the long run, we hope that the children will be able to influence their families and also start recycling at home as well.

Another environmental friendly initiative the preschool has taken is to use handkerchief. Children will bring a personal handkerchief to school to dry themselves after outdoor play as well as wipe their hands dry after washing their hands.

Another initiative we have taken is encouraging vegetarianism. Besides serving vegetarian meals in school, the preschool has also encouraged children to observe vegetarianism outside of school as well, to reduce our carbon footprints.

### **Encouraging Children to take Charge of their Learning**

A shift in the academic focus of the school is children are encouraged to take charge of their own learning. Using the project-based approach, the Kindergarten children are first given a broad topic and as a class, the children will decide what they want to know from that topic. They will source information on their own through books. This gives children the incentive to learn to read and process information.

### **Using the Environment as a Third Teacher**

Children spend more time in the neighbourhood, observing nature, learning about road safety, stranger danger as well as displaying civil minded behavior in public such as being polite to the neighbours. Through experiences in real settings instead of just role playing in class, children will better learn life's important lessons and be ready for life after preschool.

### **Parent Involvement**

To foster a strong home-school partnership, parents are more involved in school's activities. Parents are not only invited to in a tea ceremony for children to practice filial piety during the Parent-Teacher Meeting in May, parents are also invited to share their knowledge with the children. Parents have given feedback that the changes that the preschool has been rolling out in stages such as change in teaching approach, more field trips and talks for parents have been beneficial.



Low Swee Seh  
Chief Executive Officer

Date: 18 April 2016

