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NCC RESEARCH FUND
NCCS CANCER FUND

FY2018



National Cancer
Centre Singapore
SingHealth

Messages

FROM OUR CHAIRPERSON OF THE FUNDS



It has been a busy year for the Board of Trustees of the NCCS Cancer Fund and the NCC Research Fund, with a meaningful line-up of activities scheduled throughout the year.

We couldn't have launched many of these initiatives without the wonderful support and contributions from our donors. I'm deeply thankful that so many of you have committed to making a difference to those in difficult circumstances. We look forward to your continued support.

In the spirit of robust governance, we will continue to ensure that all gifts, donations and grants are effectively and efficiently managed and used in the areas of greatest need.

I am pleased to report that the NCCS Cancer Fund was successfully integrated into the SingHealth Fund as of 1st April 2018. We will continue to work diligently as we progressively dissolve the fund and transit over to the SingHealth umbrella body.

Finally, I'm thankful to our board members for their contributions and their strong and varied experience in the corporate world. It has certainly made my job lighter since taking over as Chairperson of the funds in September last year.

Mdm Ho Geok Choo
Chairperson, NCC Research Fund

FROM OUR MEDICAL DIRECTOR



2019 is a significant milestone for NCCS as we celebrate our 20th Anniversary. This is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on how far cancer care has come.

It has been an eventful 20 years and there are many things to be thankful for. In the past, cancer was almost a death sentence – cure rates were low and mortality rates were high. Scientific discoveries in recent years have allowed cancer research to make strides in the fight against cancer with many significant advances. None of this would have been possible without the generous support from our donors who believe in the work that NCCS does. As a team, we at NCCS are encouraged that our patients are now surviving longer and suffering fewer side effects from treatment. With new treatment modalities such as immunotherapy and proton therapy, we are able to offer more improved treatment options and hope to those affected by cancer.

Our doctors and clinician scientists who do research have done well on the national stage, with awards from the National Medical Research Council (NMRC), such as the Clinician Scientist Award (Investigator Category) and the Transition Award. Prof Lim Soon Thye and his multi-centre team clinched a substantial \$10 million open fund – large collaborate grant for their ground-breaking research in Lymphoma. These awards speak volumes about the quality of cancer research we undertake here at the National Cancer Centre Singapore.

While we take the opportunity to look back and reminisce on the past, I would also like to look ahead and envision the future. The most obvious physical embodiment of the future is the upcoming new NCCS building which is currently being constructed and well on track to be ready by 2022. We also expect to finish the installation of the proton therapy gantry in the Goh Cheng Liang Proton Therapy Centre this year, a milestone and another step towards providing better cancer treatment. Proton Therapy brings much hope to those suffering from cancers that are difficult to treat with radiotherapy such as brain, lung or paediatric cancers.

Sadly, despite the advances so far, cancer is still the leading cause of death in Singapore and cancer incidence is rising. There is still much work to be done to face this 'cancer tsunami'. We will continue to work hard to pursue research advances and hope to partner even more like-minded individuals and corporations who want to get involved.

To our many loyal supporters, donors and friends who have lent support over the years, we are truly grateful and thank you for the positive impact you have made to the lives of our patients and beneficiaries. We look forward to your continued support.

Professor William Hwang
*Medical Director,
National Cancer Centre Singapore*

MAKE MORE SURVIVORS CAMPAIGN



In June 2018, NCCS launched the “Make More Survivors” fundraising campaign to raise \$150 million for patient care, education and research. The objective is to create more cancer survivors and strengthen the resolve of those living with a cancer diagnosis to look ahead with a new attitude, mind-set and an undaunted spirit for life.

Ms Goh Chiat Jin represented Mr Goh Cheng Liang as Guest-of-Honour at the event. The Goh Foundation has donated \$50 million towards the proton therapy facility at the new NCCS building, which will be named the Goh Cheng Liang Proton Therapy Centre.

The launch event also featured eight campaign ambassadors who are cancer survivors. One is 20 year old Ms Chong Hui Min, bone cancer survivor and one of the campaign ambassadors. “Every day is a gift. Every time I do scans and the doctors tell me I’m cleared, I’ve just earned another four months of life.” Encouraging those with cancer, Hui Min said, “Your value doesn’t decrease just because you are diagnosed with cancer. You are beautiful, you are loved.”

NCCS CHARITY GALA



President Halimah Yacob with NCCS Make More Survivors campaign ambassadors and their family members

National Cancer Centre Singapore (NCCS) held its signature charity dinner at The Ritz-Carlton Millenia Singapore on 3 November 2018 under the banner ‘Make More Survivors’, the theme of its five-year campaign to raise \$150 million for cancer care, research, education and prevention. The banquet at Ritz-Carlton was generously sponsored by Pontiac Land Private Limited.

At the event, Professor William Hwang, Medical Director of NCCS highlighted the importance of philanthropy and expressed his appreciation for the longstanding supporters of the Centre, “As the leading voice for oncological care and research in Singapore and the region, NCCS is committed to caring for cancer patients. We could not have forged new frontiers in the past 19 years without like minded donors. Philanthropy is one of the cornerstones of NCCS and will continue to be vital for us to scale greater heights.”

The charity dinner which was graced by Guest-of-Honour, President Halimah Yacob, saw over 700 guests and supporters in attendance.

“It is heartening to know that many are rallying behind the cancer community. This shows that our society is built on the foundations of unity, compassion, and care and concern for one another. It is vital that we uphold these values that form the bedrock of our society. I urge volunteers and contributors to support the National Cancer Centre Singapore to help patients lead better and more fulfilling lives,” said President Halimah Yacob.

The charity dinner featured a silent auction with donated art pieces. Speaker of Parliament, Mr Tan Chuan-Jin donated personal sunrise and sunset photo prints, which were auctioned for a total of \$24,000. Other items included art pieces by Cultural Medallion award winners Mr Iskandar Abdul Jalil and Mr Henry Chen KeZhan as well as Mr Benny Ong, a contemporary textile artist.

\$1 million donation towards lymphoma research and set-up of interactive education hub

New Century International Pte Ltd donated \$1 million to advance research on lymphoma, one of the top ten causes of cancer death in males and females in Singapore between 2011 to 2015. In addition to funding research, the donation will go towards building an interactive education hub at the new NCCS building, which will be ready in 2022.



Opening performance by Singapore Chinese Girls School



A total of \$1.8 million was raised at the NCCS Charity Dinner 2018

JEANS FOR GENES CAMPAIGN



Guests share a light hearted moment at the exclusive dinner



NCCS Staff supporting the campaign



Celebrity Chef Heman plating his dishes with finesse

Jeans For Genes was first established in 1992 by the Chronic Granulomatous Disorder (CGD) Society in the United Kingdom to fundraise for a diverse group of hereditary diseases. Today, countries around the world use this campaign tagline as an appeal for funding for revolutionary research that helps diagnose, understand and find cures or treatments for various genetic conditions.

On 25 April 2019, also known as World DNA Day, the National Cancer Centre Singapore (NCCS) launched Jeans for Genes in Singapore. Jeans for Genes aims to increase awareness for hereditary causes of diseases such as cancer as well as other hereditary conditions and raise funds for research and treatment. Several fundraising and awareness activities were organised, such as a curated 'omakase'-style dinner with the ironman chef – Chef Heman. The campaign also garnered support from companies such as Denizen, who created t-shirts which were sold to raise funds at Denizen outlets across Singapore.

"1 in 10 cancers diagnosed are hereditary, and most cancers can be cured if detected early. Through genetic testing and counselling, families with a history of cancer can better understand their risks and take active steps to manage and potentially prevent themselves from developing cancer," explains Associate Professor Joanne Ngeow, Head of the Cancer Genetics Service in NCCS. "We are thankful for our like-minded partners who believe in the work of the Cancer Genetics Service and look forward to sharing the cause with many others."

Staff and supporters also dressed in jeans or wore blue in support of the campaign on 25th April 2019. On social media, the #J4GSG campaign reached out to more than 18,000 people.

ADOLESCENT AND YOUNG ADULT (AYA) SUPPORT GROUP



AYA support group participants enjoying a sharing session

Dealing with a cancer diagnosis is already such a difficult challenge. Yet for some, cancer can strike when one is in the prime of youth. Compared to older adults, adolescents and young adults who are aged between 16 and 39 years old, have distinct needs which remain underserved. That is why in 2018, NCCS set up the first support group for adolescents and young adult (AYA) oncology patients in Singapore.

Unfortunately, clinical outcomes of this group have not improved significantly in recent times. The physical, financial and psychological challenges of this disease are compounded by the significant changes and life events associated with this age group. These factors add substantively to the distress of cancer treatment and negatively impact health-related quality of life. The AYA support group serves as a safe space for patients to share their concerns and experiences, and address issues such as survivorship, fertility, sexuality and relationships, body image, morbidity and mortality and reintegration to society.

"Often, patients feel alone and isolated when they get the diagnosis. With a specific targeted support group, we hope to be able to better address their concerns," said Dr Eileen Poon, Consultant Medical Oncologist, NCCS and Advisor to the AYA patient support group. NCCS sees an average of over 500 AYA patients every year and is now working towards building a dedicated service for AYA patients to provide them with holistic and individualised care.



Enjoying an intricate art session

NCCS— SCS MOU SIGNING

In February 2019, the National Cancer Centre Singapore (NCCS) and Singapore Cancer Society (SCS) inked a partnership that will provide Singaporeans greater access to integrated cancer care. Signed by Mr Albert Ching, CEO of SCS and Professor William Hwang, Medical Director of NCCS, the partnership will see Singaporeans benefit from a seamless experience when managing their cancer and hopefully reduce cancer incidence through an enhanced genetics screening programme championed by both parties.

The partnership epitomises the Ministry of Health's "3 Beyonds" strategy to provide sustained quality care to patients, survivors and their family beyond treatment by leveraging on each other's expertise and resources for community outreach, screening efforts, advocacy, acute rehabilitation and patient care support amongst other programmes and services. To further strengthen seamless integrated care to the community, SCS will be co-locating to the new NCCS building in 2022.



Professor William Hwang (second from left), Medical Director, National Cancer Centre Singapore and Mr Albert Ching (second from right), Chief Executive Officer, Singapore Cancer Society, inking the partnership.

NCCS ONCOLOGY CLINIC @ SKH

We are proud to announce a collaboration between the National Cancer Centre Singapore (NCCS) and Sengkang General Hospital (SKH) with the launch of the NCCS Oncology Clinic @ SKH. The aim is to bring cancer

treatment closer to patients living in north-eastern Singapore. Patients now have greater convenience as they no longer need to travel to NCCS' flagship facility in Outram for treatment.



NCCS NEW BUILDING UPDATE



Site photo of the NCCS New Building

We are pleased to report that the NCCS New Building construction is proceeding smoothly. We have recently installed the massive Proton Gantry to the Goh Cheng Liang Proton Therapy Centre. Construction continues safely and with good progress.



Proton Gantry 1



Installation of the Proton Gantry



Hoisting of the massive gantry ring

DONOR SPOTLIGHT - MR CHUA WAH ANN



(From right to left) Professor William Hwang, Medical Director, NCCS presents Mr Chua Wah Ann (middle) with the handmade dining set made by Celebrity Chef Heman (left)

"I've always believed in doing good and helping others." That is the simple lifelong value that regular NCCS donor, Mr Chua Wah Ann lives by. He often makes small donations in response to regular annual giving appeals.

He first discovered the intrinsic joy of giving some thirty years ago. It started when a friend who was selling encyclopaedias approached Mr Chua to be his first customer. Mr Chua was faced with a dilemma: His wife had already bought a set of encyclopaedias for their son and they did not need another.

"If I had brought it home, my wife would have scolded me!" joked Mr Chua. Still, he bought a set and decided to donate it to a primary school for reading and research – a boon to the students living in an era without the internet. Hearing from the Vice Principal about how his one act of generosity touched the lives of so many students made him experience firsthand the true joy of giving.

“The more good you do, the more you feel good. It's a natural feeling.”

At a "Dine to Make a Difference" charity event organised by NCCS, Mr Chua once again demonstrated his heart for others. Celebrity Chef Heman had personally handmade a rice bowl and serving bowl for his own father. With his father's blessings, Chef Heman donated this personal item for a charity

auction at the event. Mr Chua bid for the bowls and emerged the highest bidder, with the proceeds of his bid going to the cause. In a heart-warming turn of events, Mr Chua then chose to gift the dining set back to Chef Heman and his father. It was a surprise to all in attendance, and a gesture which moved Chef Heman to tears.

“What's important is your life – what you do now, this very moment. How you can make a difference to those around you.”

In addition to being NCCS' regular donor, Mr Chua also gives regularly to many hospice initiatives. He has also started a private initiative called "Project Starfish" three years ago to befriend single, elderly persons within Kebun Bahru estate in Ang Mo Kio. All expenses and programmes for the initiative are funded out of his own pocket.

When it comes to charity, Mr Chua believes in leading by example and cultivating the next generation. He shares a simple message: "To all donors, present and future: Give and you shall receive. For charity is the key to the heavens."

FY2018 STATISTICS AT A GLANCE



2521 Donors



\$15 MILLION

raised to support essential cancer research, academic clinical programmes, as well as care programmes for cancer patients

124 Volunteers

593 Knitted 'Knockers'

718 Knitted Hats

distributed to NCCS patients



133 high risk patients

supported by the Lee Kong Chian Cancer Genetics Service to undergo genetic testing services

\$3.4 MILLION to support

39 cancer research programmes



S.N.A.C.K.S Programme

114 volunteers contributed

1180 hours serving hot beverages to comfort cancer patients



\$1.3 MILLION

raised to support Academic Clinical Programmes



HONOURING OUR DONORS

\$10,000,000 and above

- Goh Foundation

\$1,000,000 to \$9,999,999

- Lee Foundation
- New Century Foundation Ltd

\$100,000 to \$999,999

- AETOS Holdings Pte Ltd
- Chiu Teng Group Pte Ltd
- Lee Kim Tah Holdings Ltd
- Mr Tan Yong Keng
- Tessa Therapeutics Pte Ltd
- Estate of Mrs Williams Tryntje Dina Margaretha

\$50,000 to \$99,999

- Mr Tan Wu Hao
- Dr Tay Miah Hiang

\$10,000 to 49,999

- | | |
|--|---|
| • Dr Peter Ang Cher Siang | • Ms Christina Leong |
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| • Bengawan Solo Pte Ltd | • Narason's Agencies Pte Ltd |
| • Mr Cayden Chang and Family | • Mr Mark Nelligan |
| • Ms Cheah Bee Chew | • Mr Ng Yoke En |
| • Mr & Mrs Choo Chiau Beng | • A/Prof Joanne Ngeow |
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| • Mr Chua Wah Ann | • Ms Pang Kok Lian |
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We have made every effort to correctly list the names of all donors and to honour the requests of donors who wish to remain anonymous. If you have any questions or comments, please contact the Community Partnership office at 6236 9440.



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To make a gift online, please visit: www.nccs.com.sg/Giving

For more information or to make your donation today, please contact:

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