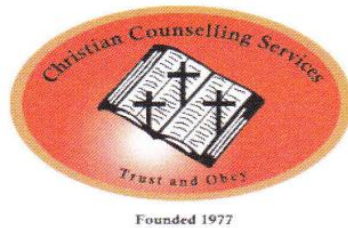


# Christian Counselling Services



## Annual Report 2017

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## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

2017 has been a year of consolidation. After the rapid growth during the past few years, Christian Counselling Services (CCS) has enough resources to meet the manpower and financial demands of the ministry now. The focus in 2017 has been on the improvement in the quality of our services to our main stakeholders.

In the area of in-care ministry, we continued the preaching curriculum where we want to provide a comprehensive coverage of Christian discipleship and responsible citizenry to the inmates. Responding to the feedback from our volunteers, we have also included reference materials in the curriculum to assist volunteers in their preparation of their preaching.

Aftercare work continues to be the main focus of development in our CCS programs. A pilot run of the 'Meet-and-Greet' program has been launched at the Changi Women Prison in late 2016. Volunteers will meet inmates at the prison gates when they are released. Subsequent follow-up sessions with these inmates have also been planned. However we were not able to have any "clients" in 2017, the project only took off in February 2018.

We continue to hold the fortnightly Thursday aftercare fellowship meetings. These evenings were catered for the work schedule of the ex-offenders. These meetings are well attended by ex-offenders, which they can find mutual support and encouragement.

As we continue to develop programs to reach out to these ex-drug dependents and ex-offenders, we reminded ourselves of the importance for us to serve God and to bring the lost to come to know the saving grace of our Lord Jesus.

" Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding;  
in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

(Proverbs 3:5-6)

**Philip Lim**

President

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

### 2017 – 2019 Executive Committee

		Appointed on
President	Mr Philip Lim	)
Vice President	Rev Darren	)
Vice President	Mr Lemuel Ho	)
Honorary Secretary	Pst Freddy Chng	) 28 April 2017
Honorary Treasurer	Mr Michael Liu	)
Committee Member	Ms Eleanor Wong	)
Committee Member	Mr Charles Lim	)
Committee Member	Mr. Roger Wong	08 May 2017
Committee Member	Mr Terrence Teo	08 May 2017
Committee Member	Mr. Yuri See	06 Nov 2017

## **ACTIVITIES REPORT**

### Membership

As of January 2018, CCS has 83 voting members as we mourned the loss of our long time volunteer Mdm Loh Kim Hwee. We have another 39 volunteers actively involved in the in-care ministry. Fifteen new volunteers join us during 2017.

### In-care

In 2017, CCS continues to conduct 15 Christian counselling sessions per week. Chapel services are conducted during the weekends while bible studies and Christian group counselling programmes are run during weekdays. Alpha and post-Alpha programmes are conducted on Saturdays for the male inmates.

A structured preaching curriculum for our chapel services since 2016. The structured curriculum provides our volunteers an annual guide to cover the various pertinent aspects of Christian discipleship and responsible citizenry. Our aim is to ensure that those inmates who attend our chapel services will have a comprehensive coverage of the various topics in Christian living during their stay there.

In December, CCS continued our annual project of delivering Christmas gifts to 114 inmates' families this year. The objective of this project is to provide the inmates a means to reconcile with their families during this time of festivity.

### After-care

Our aftercare fellowship for newly released male ex-offenders continues to grow since 2015, on Thursday evenings monthly to cater to the working times of our overcomers. They meet fortnightly for a time of worship, sharing of God's word and testimonies and prayers. A typical session sees between 10 to 15 ex-offenders with similar number of volunteers in attendance.

Our fortnightly Monday evening Bible study class was stopped as the members were busy and requested a much deserved break.

Grace Fellowship, which aims to provide a platform for both volunteers and overcomers to come together to fellowship and encourage one another, was held four times in 2017.

### Training

We have conducted our in-house Orientation and Basic Training Course for 10 volunteers in August 2017. This course shares with the participants the mission, vision and values of CCS and provides them with the basic knowledge in counselling and mentoring drug offenders.

In 2017, 19 CCS volunteers attended training courses in the area of prison and aftercare counselling conducted by SACA and other agencies. These courses include "Effective People Helping Skills (II)", "Working with Difficult Offenders (II)", "Journeying with the Incarcerated in their Grief" and many others. These training programmes enhance the knowledge and skills of our volunteers and enable them to help the inmates or ex-offenders more effectively.

### Publication

Three issues of the tri-annual CCS newsletter, C-link, have been printed in 2017. They were distributed to churches, volunteers, sponsors and our supporters.

Other Notable Events in 2017

The annual CCS Appreciation Dinner was held on 6 February 2017 at the Ban Heng Pavilion Restaurant to thank volunteers for their contributions. The Commissioner of Prison Desmond Chin, was our guest of honour for the event.

At the 2017 Singapore Prison Service Volunteer Award ceremony in September, a total of 45 of our volunteers received their long service award:

3 years	25	10 years	1
5 years	4	15 years	4
16 – 20 years	3	21-25 years	4
26 – 30 years	4		

Our annual CCS Christmas Celebration for volunteers and after care group was held on 14 December 2017.

We have not forgotten about our counselees who were incarcerated. We held two days of celebration on Easter (1 and 2 April) and on Christmas (16 and 17 December)

## **NOTE FROM TREASURER**

The results of CCS for the financial year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017 was a net deficit of \$ (36,607) against previous year's net deficit of \$(34,487). The deficit was attributed to increase overhead during the year.

As of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017, the accumulated fund totalled \$ 253,530

### **Donation**

For the year 2016, total cash contributions from direct donors and collections received from CCS fellowship activities amounted to \$47,246. Direct donations amounted to \$ 42,075 and collections totalled \$5,171

Direct Donations includes for Christmas gift project valued at \$10,000.

No fund raising activities were held in 2017.

### **Expenditure**

Total expenses amounted to \$89,312 for 2017.

As the core services of CCS are focused on counselling activities through the effort and time of CCS volunteers, expenses were mainly incurred in the administrative support of counselling activities and training of volunteers. Such administration work involves co-ordination of various programs between prison, volunteers and ex-offenders undergoing rehabilitation. Please refer to the 'Summary of 2017 expenditure' for more details.

### **Reserve Policy**

CCS reserves target is at least 1 year of total operating expenditures.

As of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017, the reserve ratio was 2.84. The reserves will be critical for the future development of new after-care initiatives, and for any exigencies such as the need for a new premises should the building in which CCS presently resides be slated for redevelopment.

**Summary of 2017 expenditure:**

General Administration           \$61,934

Rental (\$16,200) and staff costs (\$42,586) make up the majority of general administrative expenses. CCS employed one full-time staff for the entire year whose responsibilities include co-ordination of various programs between prison, volunteers and ex-offenders undergoing rehabilitation, as well as all other administrative work required in the running of CCS operations.

In-care                   \$10,344

In-care expenses include purchase of bibles and instructional materials for prison inmates, Christmas hampers for families of inmates, and refreshments for special events held inside prison.

After-care           \$3,586

Expenses to conduct bonding and counselling activities between ex-offenders and volunteers, including maintenance of visual and audio equipment needed for such activities

Training               \$506

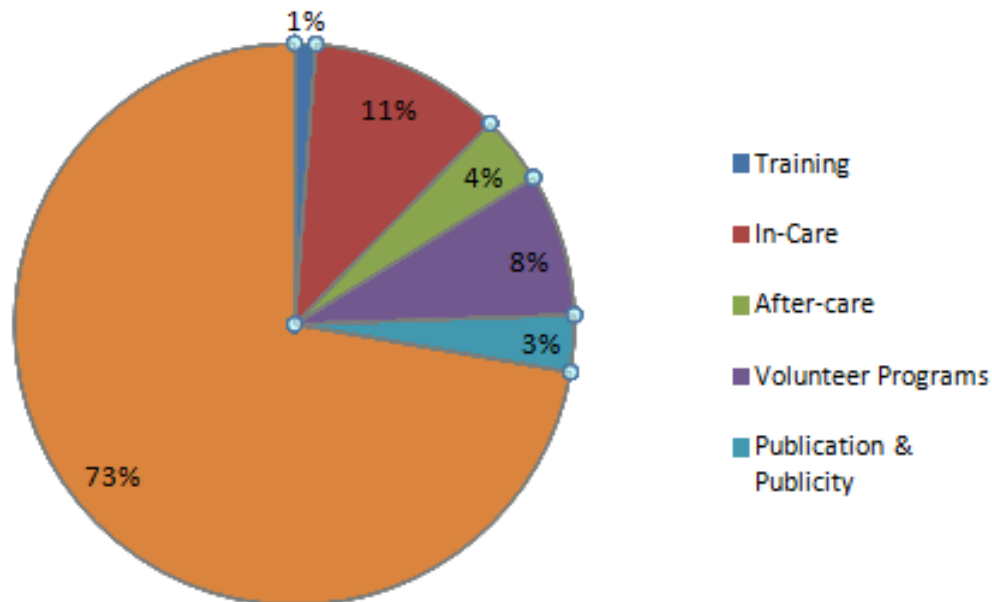
Training expenses incurred to train new volunteers in the counselling of ex-offenders.

Publication and Publicity       \$2,401

Printing and distribution charges for the publication of the CCS newsletters (C-link)

Volunteer Programs           \$6,697

Activities to promote volunteer interaction and bonding, including volunteer sessions to share and discuss challenges encountered while assisting and counselling ex-offenders.



**Michael Liu**  
Hon Treasurer