

# Christian Counselling Services



## Annual Report 2018

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## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

2018 has been a year of blessings from our Heavenly Father. We have been praying for more volunteers in our Tamil Ministry. Our prayer has been answered. Bro Benedict jumped in to help up when we needed help badly. We also have two new volunteers and another three or more joining us after their Basic Prison Training in April and May. With His Blessings, Christian Counselling Services (CCS)'s will have five or six of our own pool of overcomers (from our aftercare fellowship) serving in the Prisons Ministry (non Tamil) after their training in April and May 2019.

We are also working with churches: Blessed Grace Church and also the likelihood of New Creation Church. We would have a total of 20 new workers joining our Prisons Ministry after their training in the coming months.

In the area of in-care ministry, our preaching curriculum continues to provide a comprehensive coverage of Christian discipleship and responsible citizenry to the inmates. We continue to feed our volunteers with reference materials in the curriculum to assist in their preparation of their sharing.

CCS EXCOs met with Commanders Clusters A and B during 2018 with a view in increasing our in-care programs and more sessions to more serving inmates. Praise God, we are beginning to see the fruits of our discussions. More need to be done in second half of 2019, with the possibility of sessions in another Cluster A housing unit.

Aftercare work continues to be the main focus of development in our CCS programs. With the success in the 'Meet-and-Greet' Ministry that was launched in 2016 at the Changi Women Prison; we are planning to implement this program with Cluster A. Volunteers will meet inmates at the prison gates when they are released. We will open up this initiative in the near future to our members and volunteers for their support and participation.

Under the leadership of Rev Darren Lim and his team, attendance at our fortnightly Thursday aftercare fellowship meetings have grown. In 2018, mission trips were organized to Tanjong Pinang's IMC church as part of our outreach program. Most of the participants were our overcomers who had the opportunity to share their testimonies. Some of our overcomers were invited to other churches to share too. They do it at their own expenses and take ownership of their walks with the Lord.

We will continue to develop new programs to reach out to serving inmates, ex-substances abusers and ex-offenders. We are constantly reminded of the importance for us to serve God and to bring the many who do not know the saving grace of our Lord Jesus.

" Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, for His mercy endures forever"

(Psalms 136:1)

**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 Charles Lim	) 5 December 2018
Committee Member	Ms Eleanor Wong	) 28 April 2017
Committee Member	Mr Michael Liu	)
Committee Member	Mr Terrence Teo	08 May 2017
Committee Member	Mr. Yuri See	06 Nov 2017
Committee Member	Mr. Roger Wong	resigned 1 June 2018

## **ACTIVITIES REPORT**

### Membership

As of March 2019, CCS has 82 voting members as we mourned the loss of two of our faithful volunteers- Sister May Chew and Dr Peck Hock Cheng. We have another 38 volunteers actively involved in the in-care ministry and another 40 new volunteers join us during 2018.

### In-care

In 2018, 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 128 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.

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 2018.

### Training

In CCS we believe in equipping our volunteers with knowledge and experience. We have conducted in 2018 4 of our in-house Orientation and Basic Training Course. A total of 37 participants attended the training in May, Aug and November ( 2 classes) . 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 2018, 19 CCS volunteers attended training courses in the area of prison and aftercare counselling conducted by SACA and The Helping Hand. These courses include in the area of "Anger Management, Addiction" and Drug Abuse and Treatment.

We arranged a learning journey to NAMS in May 2018. Our 18 participants were keen to learn more about the addiction and treatment plans available.

These training programmes enhance the knowledge and skills of our volunteers and enable them to help the inmates or ex-offenders more effectively.

Publication

We published one issue of our CCS newsletter, C-link as we prepared to go on-line in second half of 2019

Other Notable Events in 2018

The annual CCS Appreciation Dinner was held on 26 February 2019 at the Ban Heng Pavilion Restaurant to thank volunteers for their contributions. Our guest include SAC Terrence Goh of SPS and partners from Half Way Houses and pastors. Ten volunteers received their CCS 5 years long service award at this event.

Ukulele Class

In July CCS conducted 8 lessons for ukulele for overcomers and volunteers as a pilot project in preparing for future volunteer-overcomer outreach to the communities.



2018 Singapore Prison Award

At the Singapore Prison Service Volunteer Award ceremony this year, a total of 40 of our volunteers received their long service award:

3 years	13	10 years	1
5 years	15	25 years	1



Some of the CCS Award recipients at the SPS Volunteers Appreciation Ceremony, on 23 Nov @ Singapore EXPO

Yellow Ribbon Run 2018

CCS volunteers and their families also supported and participated in the Yellow Ribbon Run on 9 Sept 2018.

**CCS Christmas and Thanksgiving Dinner**

Our annual CCS Christmas Celebration for volunteers and after care group was held on 17 December 2018.

Celebration for the Inmates

We have not forgotten about our counselees who were incarcerated. We held two days of celebration on Easter (23 and 25 Mar) and Christmas (15 and 16 December) in Cluster A.

## **NOTE FROM TREASURER**

The results of CCS for the financial year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2018 was a net deficit of \$ (63,299) against previous year's net deficit of \$(34,487). The higher deficit was attributed to decreased donations received during the year.

As of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2018, the accumulated fund totalled \$ 190,231

### **Donation**

For the year 2018, total cash contributions from direct donors and collections received from CCS fellowship activities amounted to \$19,970. Direct donations amounted to \$ 16,471 and collections totalled \$3,499

Direct Donations includes for Christmas gift project valued at \$12,000.

No fund raising activities were held in 2018.

### **Expenditure**

Total expenses amounted to \$97,120 for 2018.

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 2018 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 2018, the reserve ratio was 1.96. 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 2018 expenditure:**

General Administration                    \$66,896

Rental (\$16,200) and staff costs (\$42,198) telecom ex( 2708) 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                    \$9,048

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

After-care                    \$1,912

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

Training                    \$    11,686

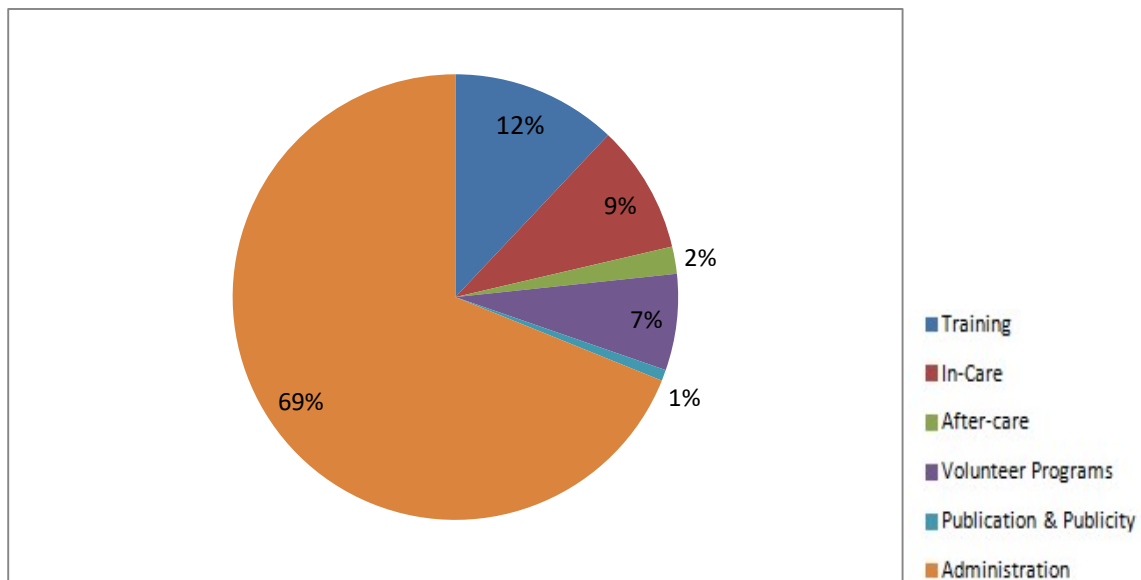
Training expenses incurred to train new volunteers in the counselling of ex-offenders and Exco members.

Publication and Publicity                    \$785

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

Volunteer Programs                    \$6,793

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



**Charles Lim**  
Hon Treasurer