

Christian Counselling Services



Annual Report 2019

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

God continues to be gracious to us in 2019. He provided us with resources, good working relationship with SPS and a new premise for CCS in Upper Lebar Road after a long search.

As mentioned in last year's report about our collaboration with churches, we now have 14 new volunteers from Blessed Grace Church and 9 new volunteers from New Creation Church.

During the year we had meetings with the Commander of Cluster A and Cluster B. As a result, we were able to start a new Alpha Program in A4 and a Motivational Talk series in A3. This talk is a secular program. This talk was very well received by inmates as informed by A3 Officers.

Our focus in 2020 will continue as in 2019 on sustainability and future growth of CCS. The areas we are focusing on will be:

- Disciple-making within prison
- Growth in our Aftercare ministry
- New slots in Cluster A
- Programmes such as motivational talks to be conducted in Cluster B

CCS was invited by Cluster A in January 2020 to conduct religious programme for inmates in A1. Unfortunately, due to the COVID19, our proposal was put on hold. COVID19 also interrupted the implementing of Alpha programme for A3 scheduled in March 2020.

We continue to concentrate on Aftercare work. Rev Darren Lim led two mission trips to Impact Community Ministries (ICM) in Tanjong Pinang, bringing along brothers and sisters from our Aftercare community. The mission trip involved visits to some homes arranged by ICM.

A new CCS fellowship group – The CCS-Alpha Life Group was scheduled on the first week of 2020. It was postponed due to COVID19 and expected to be launched after Circuit Breaker.

Currently our volunteers are following up with some 90 overcomers. Our volunteers meet them personally or keep in touch with them through phone calls or messaging (SMS, Whatsapp or Messenger). During the Circuit Breaker period, this group maintain communication through on-line means.

Since SPS's initiation of e-letters, many of our volunteers have used this facility to share with our brothers and sisters from the various clusters.

Due the COVID19, all religious counselling services in Singapore Prisons were cancelled. However, we were permitted to send in sermons through VCDs and worksheets for the benefit of our brothers and sisters.

CCS is grateful to our Spiritual Advisor Rev. Dr. David Lee for coming to our rescue in producing the sermon VCDs and worksheets for our brothers and sisters. With the help of SPS Officers, Alpha VCDs were also screened for their viewing.

One day to commemorate for CCS was our volunteer David Siow sharing his life transformation with Radio 958 on 6 Dec 2019.

We are grateful and are constantly reminded of serving God, to humbly help the lost and bring them to our loving and holy God.

Philip Lim

President

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – 2019-2021

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| President | Mr Philip Lim |
| Vice President | Rev Darren Lim |
| Vice President | Mr Lemuel Ho |
| Honorary Secretary | Pst Joseph Peck |
| Honorary Treasurer | Mr David Daniel Siow |
| Committee Member | Ms Eleanor Wong |
| Committee Member | Mr Terrence Teo |

ACTIVITIES REPORT

Membership

As of March 2020, CCS has 93 member volunteers and another 52 regular volunteers actively involved in the in-care ministry. Another 12 new volunteers joined during 2019.

In-care

In 2019, 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.

Our structured preaching 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 while serving out their sentence.

In December, CCS continued its annual project in delivering Christmas gifts to 120 inmates' families. The objective of this project is to provide inmates a means to reconcile with their families during this time of festivity.

After-care

Our Aftercare fellowship for newly released male ex-offenders has been ongoing since 2015. They are held on two Thursday evenings each month to cater to our overcomers. They meet for a time of worship, sharing of God's word and testimonies and prayers. A typical session has 10 to 15 ex-offenders with equal 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 three times in 2019.

Training

In CCS we believe in equipping our volunteers with knowledge and experience of others. As many of our volunteers have already attended CCS in-house training, only one in-house Orientation and Basic Training Course was held for 8 volunteers in October. This course shares with participants the mission, vision and values of CCS and provides them with the basic knowledge in counselling and mentoring of drug offenders.

In 2019, 7 CCS volunteers attended training courses in the areas of prison and aftercare counselling courses. 8 volunteers attended two courses each from SACA and SSI.

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

Publication

In 2019, CCS discontinued the publication of its in-house newsletter C-Link. A new website will be developed in its place to provide regular updates of CCS.

Other Notable Events in 2019

CCS Annual Appreciation Dinner- The event was held on 18 February 2019 at Ban Heng Pavilion restaurant to thank volunteers for their contributions. Our guests include SAC Terrence Goh of SPS and partners from various halfway houses and pastors. 11 volunteers received CCS 5-year service award at this event.

2019 Singapore Prison Award - At the Singapore Prison Service Volunteers Appreciation ceremony, a total of 40 volunteers from CCS received their long service award. There were 8 for 3 years, 19 for 5 years and 1 for 10 years.



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

Yellow Ribbon Run 2019 - CCS volunteers and their families supported and participated in the Yellow Ribbon Run on 15 September 2019.

CCS Christmas and Thanksgiving Dinner - CCS Christmas celebration for volunteers and Aftercare community was held on 10 December 2019.

Celebration for the Inmates - We have not forgotten our counselees who remain incarcerated. CCS volunteers celebrated with them on Easter (23 and 25 March) and Christmas (14 and 15 December) in Cluster A.

NOTE FROM TREASURER

The results of CCS for the financial year ended 31st December 2019 was a net surplus of \$36,459 against previous year's net deficit of \$(63,299). The surplus was attributed to increased direct donations received during the year.

As of 31st December 2019, the accumulated fund totalled \$226,690 against \$190,231 in 2018.

Donation

For the year 2019, total cash contributions from direct donors and collections received from CCS fellowship activities amounted to \$125,390. Direct donations amounted to \$122,250 and collections totalled \$3,141.

No fundraising activities were held in 2019.

Expenditure

Total expenses amounted to \$92,801 in 2019 against \$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 2019 expenditure' for more details.

Reserve Policy

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

As of 31st December 2019, the reserve ratio was 2.44. The reserves will be critical for the future development of new Aftercare initiatives, and for any unforeseen exigencies.

Summary of 2019 expenditure:

General Administration \$65,974

Rental (\$13,761), staff costs (\$44,425) and telecom expenses (\$2,984) 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 \$8,641

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 \$4,429

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

Training \$1,195

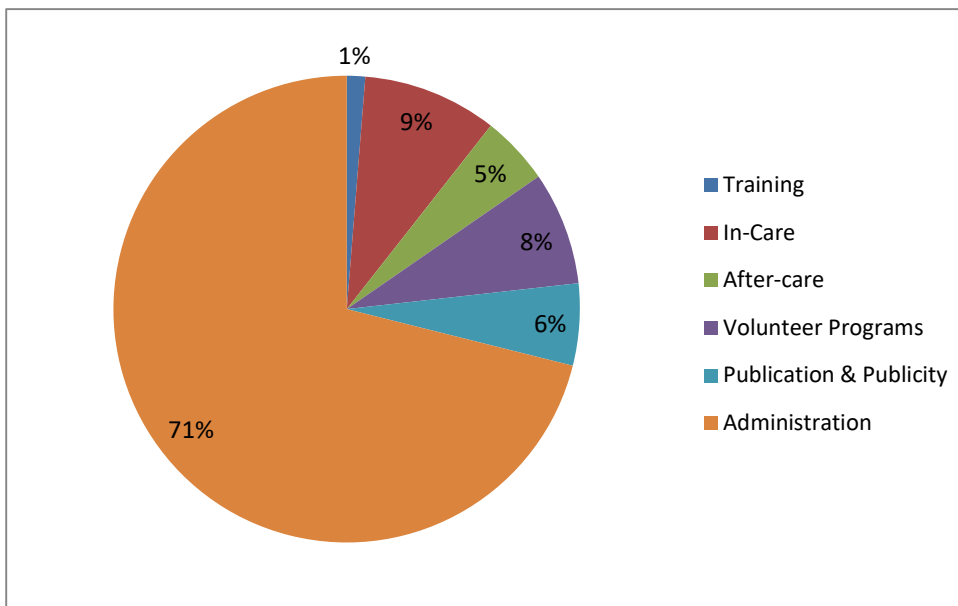
Training expenses incurred to train new volunteers in the counselling of ex-offenders and Exco members.

Publication and Publicity \$5,282

Expenses are for development of a new CCS website development together with maintenance costs.

Volunteer Programs \$7,280

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



DAVID DANIEL SIOW
Hon Treasurer