

Christian Counselling Services



Annual Report 2020

CONTENTS

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE 03

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 04

ACTIVITIES REPORT 05

NOTE FROM TREASURER 07

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Year 2020 was a challenging year for Christian Counselling Services (CCS). However, despite the COVID19 pandemic, God continues to be gracious to CCS with provision of resources and a good working relationship with Singapore Prison Service (SPS).

During the COVID19 lock-down, in-care and after-care services were suspended. CCS was however able to submit sermon VCDs and worksheets to our brothers and sisters in prison in place of the regular counselling sessions. Special thanks to Rev Dr David Lee for furnishing the VCDs and worksheets to CCS over this period. Our after-care volunteers were also able maintain contact with overcomers through phone calls and texting messaging. The introduction of E-letters by SPS was also a good facility for volunteer interaction with our brothers and sisters in prison.

A COVID19 restrictions were progressively lifted, in-care and after-care services resumed in a more restricted fashion in terms of limiting attendance capacity and the conduct of worship services, including the Easter and Christmas celebrations in prison. There was no disruption to CCS's annual Christmas Gift project where CCS volunteers were able to reach out to a total of 143 families of inmates. Faith Fellowship also resumed with restricted capacity in the later part of 2020.

By the end of 2020, CCS was able to resume all in-care services conducted during pre-COVID19. In addition, CCS was able to initiate Crossroad Bible Institute (CBI) courses in December 2020.

Currently in 2021, as the COVID19 situation improves, more services are expected to resume. In after-care, CCS-Alpha Life Group is expected to start in May and Grace Fellowship is expected to resume in June this year. CCS training has also resumed to cater to new volunteers who joined recently.

CCS will continue to press on in areas of sustainability and growth in collaboration with SPS.

Focus areas will include:

- Disciple making within prison
- Grow CCS's after-care ministry
- Continue ongoing discussions with SPS Directors and Officers in Rehabilitation and Integration
- Increase in-care opportunities through requesting more counselling slots and to include motivational talks within the prison clusters
- Succession planning through growing CCS volunteer pool and new EXCO members

I would like to thank our volunteers for their ongoing commitment and contribution in serving our brothers and sisters in their rehabilitation journey. We are grateful and are constantly reminded of serving God, to humbly help the lost, and bring them to our loving and holy God.

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

(Psalms 136:1)

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 December 2021, CCS has 99 voting members, with 106 volunteers involved in in-care ministry. Another 8 new volunteers joined CCS during 2020.

In-care

CCS in-care programs were suspended when Singapore went into Phase1 of Covid19 Circuit Breaker.

However, CCS was permitted to provide Christian brothers and sisters in prison with sermons on VCDs and worksheets. CCS is grateful to its Spiritual Advisor, Rev Dr David Lee, for providing CCS with the sermon VCDs and worksheets. With the help of SPS Officers, Alpha VCDs were also provided for viewing but without facilitation by volunteers.

As Covid restrictions were relaxed in the later part of the 2020, CCS in-care programs resumed in limited capacity, allowing a limited number of volunteers for each program session.

By the end of 2020, bible study, chapel services, CBI and Alpha program resumed but with restricted capacity of prison volunteers to conduct the programs.

In December, CCS was able to continue its annual project of delivering Christmas gifts to 143 families of inmates. The objective of this project is to provide inmates a means to reconcile with their families during this time of festivity.

After-care

During the Covid lock down, volunteers were still following up with some 90 overcomers, keeping in touch with them through phone calls or text messaging in place of physical meetings.

Since SPS started the E-letters, many of CCS volunteers have been using this facility to exchange emails with brother and sister inmates in the prison clusters.

Faith fellowship resumed in limited capacity when the nation entered Phase3 of Covid Circuit Breaker. CCS-Alpha Life Group fellowship which was originally scheduled for April 2020 had to be suspended indefinitely. CCS-Alpha Life Group fellowship is scheduled to start in May 2021.

Grace Fellowship was also suspended and scheduled to resume in June 2021

Training

CCS training was suspended in 2020 due to Covid19.

CCS in-house training was however able to resume in February 2021 through virtual means.

Publication

CCS revamped website is currently up and running. The website is undergoing further upgrade of new features and content.

Other Notable Events in 2020

Due to Covid19, CCS Annual Appreciation dinner and Christmas celebration were cancelled.

This year's Singapore Prison Service Volunteer Award ceremony was held via Zoom video conferencing. A total of 20 volunteers received their long service award through Zoom with guest-of-honour Mr Desmond Tan, Minister of State for Home Affairs, presenting the awards.

Recipients of the award include 3 volunteers for 3-year award, 12 for 5 years, 1 for 10 years, 2 for 15 years, 1 for 20 years and 2 for 30 years.

CCS would like to congratulate Ms Florence Ng and Ms Khew Swee Ling for receiving their SPS 30-year award, Pastor Tan Mui Ho for receiving his 20-year award and Rev Darren Lim for 15-year award.

CCS also congratulates Mr Philip Lim for receiving his 2020 National Day Award from the Ministry of Home Affairs for dedicating many years of his life to the rehabilitation of offenders through Yellow Ribbon Project, CCS, SPS and SANA.



Pastor Tan Mui Ho with his SPS 20-year long service award

NOTE FROM TREASURER

The results of CCS for the financial year ended 31st December 2020 with a surplus of \$53,246 against previous year's net surplus of \$36,459. The increase in surplus was attributed to a decrease in expenditures for the year.

As of 31st December 2020, the accumulated fund totalled \$279,936.

Donations

For the year 2020, total cash contributions from direct donors including collections received from CCS fellowship activities amounted to \$123,240. Direct donations amounted to \$121,495 and collections totalled \$1,745.

Other Income

CCS received other income from Job Support Scheme, Wage Credit scheme and rental rebates, totalling \$19,784.

Expenditures

Total expenses amounted to \$91,515 for 2020.

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 such counselling activities and training of CCS volunteers.

Such administration work involves co-ordination of various programs between prison, volunteers and ex-offenders undergoing rehabilitation.

For 2020, expenditures were lower against previous year due to a reduction of activities arising from Covid19 restrictions.

Please refer to the 'Summary of 2020 expenditure' for more details.

Reserve Policy

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

As of 31st December 2020, the reserve ratio was 3.06.

Summary of 2020 expenditure:

General Administration \$67,928

Rental (\$9,602), staff costs (\$51,453) and telecom expenses (\$2,556) make up the bulk 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 \$6,260

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 \$3,350

Expenses to conduct bonding and counselling activities between ex-offenders and volunteers, including maintenance of visual and audio equipment needed for such activities. Most after-care activities were reduced due to Covid19 restrictions.

Training Nil

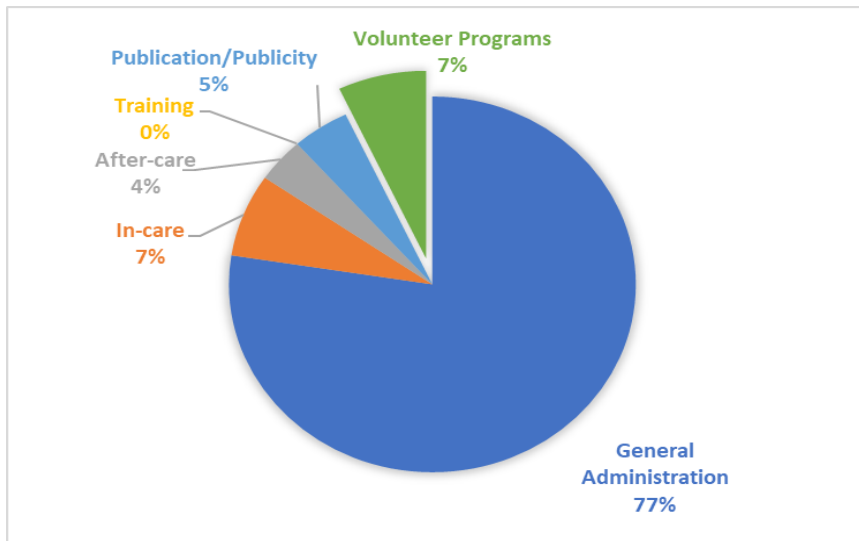
Training expenses incurred to train new volunteers in the counselling of ex-offenders and Exco members. No training was held for 2020 due to Covid19.

Publication and Publicity \$3,988

Expenses were incurred to enhance CCS website.

Volunteer Programs \$6,155

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 (Honorary Treasurer)