

Christian Counselling Services



Annual Report 2021

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

2021 continued to be a challenging year for Christian Counselling Services (CCS). Despite the challenges, God continues to be gracious to CCS with provision of resources and good working relationship with Singapore Prison Service (SPS). CCS was able to partner Watchman Home to provide a shelter for brothers who do not have a place to stay and with GEM to provide the same for our sisters. By God's grace and mercy, our volunteer strength grew from 129 in 2017 to 185 in 2021. CCS currently have 17 sessions in clusters A2 and A4. CCS motivational talk will resume in May 2022 in cluster A3. SPS has offered A5 for the same motivational talk.

Although there were some relaxations of the Covid restrictions, only 2 volunteers were permitted to serve in the Housing Units. Due to the uncertainties of Covid, CCS has contingency plans of sending sermon VCDs and worksheets for our brothers and sisters in prison in place of the regular counselling sessions in the event Covid restrictions get imposed again. Special thanks to Rev Dr David Lee for furnishing the VCDs and worksheets to CCS over this period. Our volunteers were also able maintain contact with overcomers through phone calls and text messaging. The introduction of E-letters by SPS was also a good facility for volunteer interaction with our brothers and sisters in prison.

As 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 112 families of inmates. Faith Fellowship continued with restricted capacity.

By the end of 2021, CCS was able to resume In-care services conducted pre-Covid19 which include chapel services, bible study and Crossroad Bible Institute (CBI).

Grace Fellowship is expected to resume in February 2022. CCS training will resume to train new volunteers.

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

Focus areas will include:

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

CCS EXCO would like to congratulate our brothers and sisters who were recipients of Yellow Ribbon 2nd Chances Award for year 2021.

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

Philip Lim

President

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – 2021-2023

President	Mr Philip Lim
Vice President	Rev Darren Lim
Vice President	Mr Lemuel Ho
Honorary Secretary	Mr Terrence Teo
Honorary Treasurer	Mr David Daniel Siow
Committee Member	Ms Eleanor Wong
Committee Member	Ms Eileen Leow

ACTIVITIES REPORT

Membership

As of December 2021, CCS has 99 voting members and a total of 185 volunteers. There were 32 new volunteers who joined in 2021.

In-care

CCS in-care programs continued in 2021 in fits and starts.

As Covid infections were later detected among prison inmates and staff, in-care programs were disrupted until the situation stabilized together with testing protocols being implemented for visiting volunteers.

As most programs were suspended, CCS continued to send teaching and sermon materials in digital format to prison for viewing by the inmates. CBI programs also took traction in 2021.

In December, CCS was able to continue its annual project of delivering Christmas gifts to 112 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

Faith fellowship resumed in limited capacity in 2021 in adherence to Covid restriction rules.

Grace Fellowship remain suspended and is scheduled to resume in 2022.

Despite disruptions in in-care programs, CCS volunteers were still able to reach out to ex-offenders pending release through e-letters and with help of prison co-ordinators. As many as 26 ex-offenders were received and connected with CCS volunteers upon their release and subsequently followed up by CCS volunteers.

Potential partnership was also discussed with a women's half-way house (GEMs) for future collaboration.

Training

CCS in-house training resumed in February 2021 through virtual means.

Publication

CCS website is still undergoing further upgrade of new features and content.

Work on this is still pending subject to availability of resources.

Other Notable Events in 2020

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

SPS Long Service Awards were granted to several volunteers for their dedication as prison volunteers. Chua Gim Hin received his award for 20 years of service while Lawrence Kong, Florence Cheong and Khong Phoi Kheng received 15-year awards.

CCS congratulates them and appreciates their dedication in helping ex-offenders.

CCS also moved to its current premise in November 2021.

NOTE FROM TREASURER

The results of CCS for the financial year ended 31st December 2021 with a deficit of \$76,939 against previous year's net surplus of \$53,246. The deficit was attributed to a temporary pause in fund raising as funds were deemed sufficient.

As of 31st December 2021, the accumulated fund totalled \$202,997.

Donations

For the year 2021, total cash contributions from direct donors including collections received from CCS fellowship activities amounted to \$2,690.

Other Income

CCS received other income from Jobs Support Scheme and Wage Credit scheme, totalling \$4,235.

Expenditures

Total expenses amounted to \$84,403 for 2021.

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 2021, expenditures were lower against previous year due to a reduction of program activities arising from Covid19 restrictions.

Please refer to the 'Summary of 2021 expenditure' for more details.

Reserve Policy

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

As of 31st December 2021, the reserve ratio was 2.41.

Summary of 2021 expenditure:

General Administration \$72,113

Rental, staff costs and telecom services 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 \$5,700

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 \$5,320

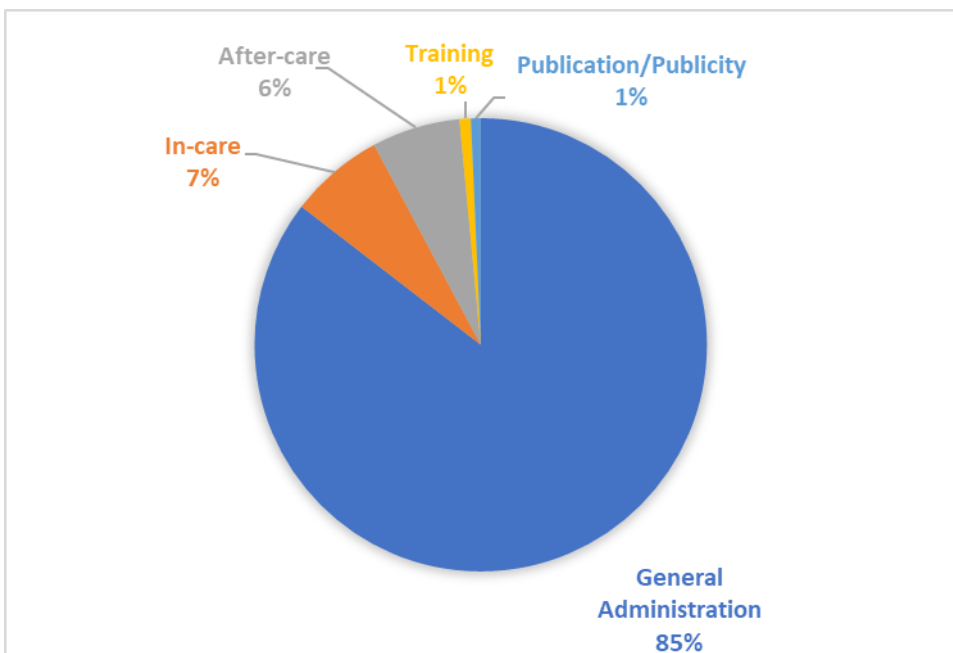
Expenses to conduct bonding and counselling activities between ex-offenders and volunteers, including rental of premises for such activities. Most after-care activities were reduced due to Covid19 restrictions.

Training \$680

Training expenses incurred to train new volunteers in the counselling of ex-offenders and Exco members. Training resumed in 2021 and was conducted virtually.

Publication and Publicity \$590

Expenses were incurred to maintain CCS website.



David Daniel Siow (Honorary Treasurer)