

The Crossroads

The Crossroads is a quarterly e-newsletter from Chen Su Lan Methodist Children's Home, specially crafted for our volunteers and supporters. We hope to keep you updated on the latest news and developments at our Home.



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S FOREWORD

Willy Ong

Dear Partners and Friends,

Do you remember what school holidays were like during your school days? What were your best memories? For many of our residents, the annual CSLMCH Camp during the June holidays was THE significant highlight. Research has shown that positive camp experiences can strengthen a child's confidence, resilience, social skills and sense of belonging. As many of our residents have experienced childhood adversity, the CSLMCH Camp helps them to build positive friendships, overcome challenges and build resilience in a safe environment.

In this issue, I invite you to read the story of Angie, a former CSLMCH resident whose journey reflects the transformative power of care and support. Many years after leaving our Home, Angie continues to carry with her the values and encouragement she received during her

time with us. Her story is a powerful reminder that when a child is given the right support at the right time, the impact can last a lifetime.

As we reflect on stories like Angie's, we are also looking to ensure that CSLMCH remains future-ready. A new Strategy and Capability Development (SCD) Department was established in early 2026 to undertake longer-term strategic planning, enhance governance and strengthen the care milieu for our residents. Ultimately, our hope is that we can continue to nurture and support many more "Angies" in the years to come and deliver the best possible outcomes for those entrusted to our care.

"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." — Galatians 6:9

Activity Report

Learning Together with MOE CPDD Delegates



Connecting Through Dialogue

On 22 April 2026, CSLMCH had the privilege of hosting officers from the Ministry of Education (MOE) Curriculum Planning and Development Division (CPDD) for their ExCEL Day learning journey.

Through a tour of the Home and a dialogue session, our team shared insights from our work on the ground, including trauma-informed and inclusive education practices, intervention frameworks and approaches to supporting residents. The exchange also provided an opportunity to discuss innovation, workforce development and creating caring workplaces.

Building Partnerships in Care

The visit created space for valuable conversations as both sides exchanged perspectives on supporting children with different needs across various settings.

Mr Mason Chia, Associate Psychologist, reflected: **“It was meaningful to hear from the delegates about the thought and care invested in shaping an education system that supports the holistic growth of the next generation.”**

One delegate also shared: **“The learning journey allowed us to ask questions, better understand the work of CSLMCH and reflect on how some of the practices shared could be applied in different school contexts.”**

As the visit concluded, both teams left encouraged and united by a shared commitment to better support children and youth in reaching their fullest potential.



In one of the dormitories, Mason shared about the interventions and systems CSLMCH has in place to support residents not only in healing, but in thriving.



Mr Willy Ong, Executive Director, welcomed the delegates to our Home and expressed gratitude for our meaningful partnership with MOE CPDD.

Activity Report

Camp S.P.U.R. 2026: A Journey of Growth and Connection



From 10 to 12 June, residents of CSLMCH came together for Camp S.P.U.R. 2026, our annual three-day, two-night holiday camp centred on the values of Service, Perseverance, Unity and Respect.

Learning Through Adventure

The camp kicked off with an exciting Amazing Race that spanned locations from Ang Mo Kio to Pasir Ris Park. Residents worked in groups to complete a series of games, with activities ranging from charades to a water balloon challenge. The stations encouraged communication, trust and teamwork among residents.

Reflecting on his experience, *Sean, 10, shared: **"I had lots of fun playing games with my friends. My favourite part was the building structure game during the Amazing Race!"**

Beyond Comfort Zones

On the second day, residents participated in a range of team-building activities facilitated by Camp Challenge. One highlight was the opportunity to build and test their own rafts at the beach, requiring problem-solving and perseverance.

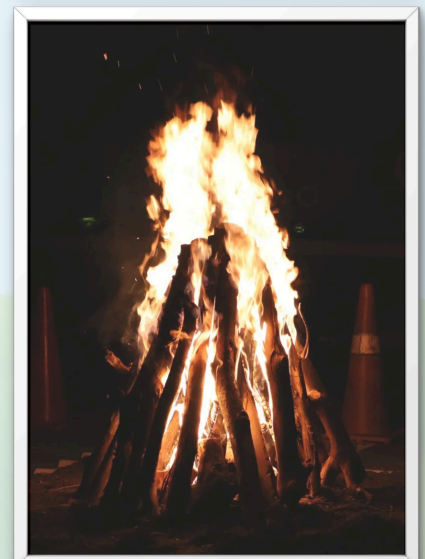
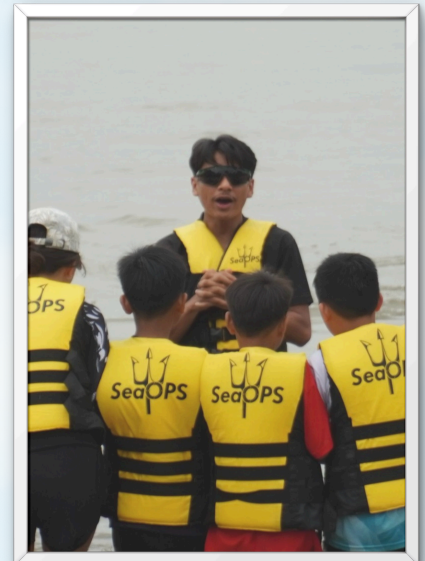
For Ms Karthika Kumaran, Youth Work Associate, who served on the camp committee for the first time, the experience was equally meaningful. She said: **"As this was my first time serving on the camp committee, it gave me a new perspective on the amount of planning and coordination that goes into organising a camp. While there were challenges along the way, it was rewarding to see the programme come together for our kids to enjoy the experience."**

Moments to Remember

The camp concluded with a lively campfire night back at CSLMCH. Residents cheered one another on as they performed skits, dances and songs in their groups, creating an atmosphere of encouragement and camaraderie.

The three-day experience concluded with an award presentation recognising residents who demonstrated the values of Service, Perseverance, Unity and Respect throughout the camp. As we celebrate the success of Camp S.P.U.R. 2026, we thank all staff and partners for their dedication in making it a meaningful experience for our residents.

*Name has been changed to protect the resident's identity.



Activity Report

Young Changemakers, Lasting Impact: YMCA Youth For Causes (YFC) Teams



Raising Awareness and Support

This year, CSLMCH is pleased to partner with five teams through YMCA Youth For Causes (YFC), a programme that empowers young people to drive meaningful social impact. By choosing to support our Home, these teams receive training, seed funding and mentorship to spearhead projects that raise awareness, mobilise volunteers and support our work in providing a safe and nurturing environment where residents can heal, grow and thrive.

Turning Passion into Action

Through creative fundraising initiatives such as the sale of handmade crochet items and customised merchandise, the teams have rallied support from their communities for our residents. They have also spent time at our Home, engaging directly with residents through sports, games and other activities that foster meaningful connections.

These young changemakers have shown that age is no barrier to creating meaningful impact. Their enthusiasm, compassion and commitment remind us that every contribution, no matter how small, can help make a positive difference in the lives of our residents.



Project Polaris, Anglo-Chinese Junior College and Singapore Polytechnic



Project Lumière, Cedar Girls' Secondary School



Project Stella 2.0, Hwa Chong Institution



Project Bunnytales, Eunoia Junior College



Team Sirius, Nan Chiau High School

Activity Report

Painting New Possibilities: Creative Upcycling with DHL Express



Transforming Old into New

On 16 June, our younger residents spent an afternoon transforming donated paintings into unique works of art alongside volunteers from DHL Express Singapore. Through this creative upcycling activity, residents explored their imagination while learning how existing items can be repurposed into something new and meaningful.

Creativity, Sustainability and Self-Expression

Residents experimented with colours, shapes and designs to bring their ideas to life. The activity introduced the concept of upcycling, helping residents appreciate the value of sustainability while encouraging creative thinking and problem-solving.

*Nathan, 10 years old, shared: **"I liked changing the painting and adding my own drawings to it!"**

Reflecting on the experience, a volunteer from DHL Express Singapore said: **"Each child approached the activity in their own way. Every artwork reflected a unique perspective."**

We are grateful to DHL Express Singapore for choosing to spend their Community Engagement Day with our Home and for creating a meaningful experience for our residents!

*Name has been changed to keep the child's identity confidential.



Department Highlight

Shaping the Future: Strategy and Capability Development



Looking Ahead with Purpose

Behind every service and initiative at CSLMCH is thoughtful planning that helps the Home meet the evolving needs of residents and families. The Strategy and Capability Development (SCD) Department plays a key role in guiding this work and preparing the organisation for the future.

Led by Head of Department Mr Clinton Galistan, the team also includes Project Coordinator Ms Everlyn Tan and Executive, Data Protection and Governance Mr David Hong. Together, they support strategic planning, organisational development and governance across the Home.

Building a Stronger Organisation

The team works closely with departments and stakeholders to review strategies, processes and culture, helping ensure that everyone remains aligned towards shared goals.

Clinton shares: **"We see ourselves as a support unit that is given the time and opportunity to look at what we do, why we do and how we do it as an organisation to ensure that we are functioning optimally."**

Turning Insights into Action

Beyond strategic planning, the SCD Department oversees areas such as data protection, risk management and business continuity planning.

Everlyn adds: **"A large part of our work is bringing people together, gathering feedback and turning insights into improvements that strengthen the way we work."**

Though the SCD Department is one of the Home's newer teams, its work plays an important role in shaping the future of the organisation. By strengthening planning, governance and organisational effectiveness, the department helps ensure that CSLMCH is better equipped to support the residents in our care, today and in the years ahead.

From left: Clinton, Everlyn and David. Their combined expertise in social services, human resources and governance supports the Home's continued growth and development.



Staff Profile

Where Operations Meet Care: Behind the Scenes with Raj Elamaran



As the Head of Facilities and Support Services at CSLMCH, Mr Raj Elamaran oversees the operations that keep the Home running smoothly. Drawing on his experience in facilities and building management, he leads the team responsible for maintaining a safe and comfortable environment for residents and staff.

Creating a Safe and Supportive Home

Having joined CSLMCH three months ago, Raj has quickly settled into its warm and welcoming culture. His days are spent coordinating maintenance works, monitoring facilities and working closely with colleagues and partners to support the Home's daily operations.

He shares: **"CSLMCH has given me the opportunity to directly support the well-being of children and those caring for them. This is something I find very fulfilling and meaningful."**

Finding Meaning in Everyday Moments

For Raj, the most rewarding moments come from seeing the impact of his team's efforts on the everyday lives of residents and staff. He adds: **"Working with a supportive and dedicated team has also been a highlight. Everyone plays their part, and that sense of teamwork really makes the job enjoyable."**

Some residents have even shared their favourite foods and fruits with him, which he keeps pinned at his desk. As someone who helps oversee the meals and essentials that support daily life, these notes serve as a source of motivation and a reminder of the residents at the heart of his work. Looking ahead, Raj hopes to continue making improvements that help create a place where everyone feels supported and cared for.



Volunteer Spotlight

Serving with Grace: Volunteer Care Group Leader Candice Chia



For Candice, what began as an opportunity to volunteer has since become a meaningful part of her faith journey, deepening her dependence on God's grace.

Responding in Faith

Ms Candice Chia, a retired school teacher and member of Paya Lebar Methodist Church, has served at CSLMCH for more than 10 years, both through her church and in her personal capacity.

Candice began serving as a Care Group Leader in 2015. Every fortnight, she meets with two female residents, beginning each session over a simple, often home-cooked meal where the girls share openly about their lives. This is followed by a time of reflection and Bible study, where they learn and grow together.

Growing Through the Journey

Over the years, Candice has witnessed meaningful growth in the lives of the girls. Reflecting on one resident whom she has accompanied through different seasons of life, she shared: **"I have witnessed an insecure girl grow into a joyful and confident young lady who now loves God and His Word."**

Each session ends with a prayer and a warm goodbye hug, small but meaningful moments Candice continues to treasure. Although one of the girls has since been discharged from the Home, the bonds built through the years remain close to her heart.

When Candice first began volunteering, she often felt inadequate. However, someone reminded her: **"No matter how insufficient we may feel, God is still able to use us in ways far beyond our expectations."**

Today, Candice believes that volunteering is not about having perfect skills or all the answers, but about being willing to show up with a loving and teachable heart. She has learnt the importance of being a safe and consistent adult who walks alongside them with patience and respect. In these moments, she is reminded that volunteers are simply vessels and that God is the One who truly transforms hearts.



Children's Voices

*Name is changed to protect the child's identity

What is something you have been proud of recently?

I took initiative to help another dorm with their chores.



Jeff*, 13



My fellow dorm mate taught me how to cycle and helped me to gain confidence.

Bob*, 11



I managed to pass my exams.

Patrick*, 15

I worked together with my teammates to solve a puzzle.



Woody*, 13

I helped my teacher carry a basket from Level 4 all the way to Level 1.

Sally*, 15

I went to school everyday.



Alice*, 19

I won an award for my floorball competition.



Sarah*, 10

I have lasting close friendships with my peers.



Amy*, 12

Partners' Appreciation

Empowering Youth Through Financial Literacy



Exploring the World of Money

On 23 June, our older residents participated in a youth financial literacy programme organised in collaboration with Metropolitan YMCA and Unicorn Financial Solutions.

Through interactive games, group activities and simulated real-life scenarios, residents explored key financial concepts such as budgeting, saving, investing, insurance and distinguishing between needs and wants. Guided by volunteers and mentors, they learnt practical money management skills and gained confidence in making informed financial decisions.

For *Kelly, 13, one of the programme's highlights was a board game that encouraged participants to think carefully about their spending choices. She shared: **"I had fun playing the board game with my group. It taught me that before spending money, it is important to think about whether something is a need or a want."**

Building Confidence for Tomorrow

Residents were also introduced to concepts such as interest rates and inflation, helping them understand how financial and economic trends can affect everyday life.

Reflecting on his learning, *Russell, 15, said: **"I learnt how interest rates work and how global market trends can influence inflation. It helped me understand how these changes can affect the cost of things in everyday life."**

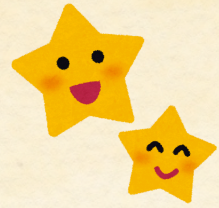
We are grateful to Metropolitan YMCA, Unicorn Financial Solutions and all the volunteers who generously shared their time and knowledge to create a meaningful learning experience for our residents!



Residents put their financial decision-making skills to the test through an interactive board game that simulated real-life situations such as earning an income, making investments and managing expenses.



Light a Life Today



Scan to donate!

Aged 38, Ms Angie Tan is a dedicated nurse caring for persons with intellectual disabilities, as well as a loving wife and mother to her son.

She was once a resident of our Home.

At 8 years old, Angie was admitted to CSLMCH, where she found stability, care and hope. With CSLMCH's support, Angie also received financial assistance from a church community to complete her polytechnic education.

Angie's story is a testament to what care, support and opportunity can do. There are still children who need the same chance to thrive. Give a child the foundation to shape a brighter future today!



Watch Angie's interview here!



How you can help



Meal Sponsorships

Donors have the opportunity to sponsor tea breaks, lunches or dinners. Visit www.cslmch.org.sg/sponsorship.



Volunteer Opportunities

Join us! We're seeking dedicated volunteers. Learn more at www.cslmch.org.sg/volunteers.



Fundraising Initiatives

Start a fundraising project with your friends and colleagues. We welcome support from groups, corporations and individuals. Visit www.cslmch.org.sg/fundraise.



Activity Sponsorships

Sponsor and organise activities for the children. Discover more at www.cslmch.org.sg/partners.



Donations-In-Kind

Head over to www.cslmch.org.sg/needs-list to directly contribute essential items for the children's needs.



Monetary Donations

Support our Home by making a donation through our website. Check out <https://bit.ly/cslmchdonate>.



Legacy Giving

Leave a lasting gift through your will, CPF nomination or insurance policy. Learn more at www.cslmch.org.sg/Leave-A-Legacy.

Get in touch!

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