Cover photo taken at Mamre Oaks’ second anniversary party at Agape Village.
Mission: To collaborate and provide leadership within the Catholic community in Singapore in fulfilling the Catholic Church’s social mission especially for the most vulnerable in society.

Vision: To be the visible sign of God’s love for humanity demonstrated by Catholics living the principles and values of the Catholic Social Teaching (CST).

‘Caritas’ means ‘charity’ in Latin, and this reminds us to live our faith through social mission work.

Caritas Singapore works on the ground in Singapore. We are a member of Caritas Internationalis, a global confederation of 165 humanitarian organisations.

Caritas Singapore is the official social and community arm of the Catholic Church in Singapore, and the umbrella body for 25 Catholic charities and organisations whose work impacts over 50,000 beneficiaries regardless of race, religion or nationality.

The Caritas Singapore Board developed a set of strategic priorities to steer the social mission work from 2015 to 2018.

The member organisations under the umbrella of Caritas Singapore offer a wide array of services to beneficiaries and clients such as the poor, children, youth-at-risk, families, prisoners, elderly, sick, people with life-limiting illnesses, people with HIV/AIDS, those with disabilities, migrants, and people with legal and medical needs.

There are more than 70 programmes run by these organisations aimed at helping people in need. Programmes and services include financial assistance, residential care for seniors and children, shelters, befriending, counselling, palliative care, student care, and skills training.

Caritas Singapore is about people; we serve the community through our services and programmes, and we welcome you to join us in this effort.
Doing the Work of God

Charity – an honourable work of service to society and community is that which defines us as true followers of Christ. We become the visible presence of God through our acts of service. As Jesus in Matthew 5:16 says, we are the light of the world. And the only way our light can shine is through our good works.

As the social mission arm of the Church, Caritas Singapore and the charitable organisations under her stewardship have continued to devote time, resources and energy to respond to this call to do God’s work on earth.

The stories you will read in this Annual Report demonstrates Caritas Singapore and her member organisations’ positive impact on the lives of individuals, families, and the community at large. Agape Village, a one-stop integrated social service hub, is Caritas Singapore’s effort to show God’s love more visibly. The 14 member organisations housed under one roof reach out to the wide strata of society, including the young, the old, the vulnerable, and the under-served in Singapore.

Our work was affirmed by the President of Singapore, Mdm Halimah Yacob, during her visit to Agape Village in September this year.

Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we remain ever conscious that everything we have done and will continue to do is for the “glory of God.” (1 Corinthians 10:31). Our Lord Jesus Christ “… the Son of Man [who] came not to be served but to serve” (Matthew 20:28) is our greatest role model. His sacred ministry was not only in prayer and preaching; He was also present in the homes of people, eating, drinking, or on the streets, walking with them. He showed us how to listen and be one with whom we serve. This mission to show and spread God’s love is what motivates and distinguishes us from other social service organisations.

The Church expresses its deepest gratitude to all who have lived out this social mission. Caritas Singapore’s staff, volunteers, member organisations as well as donors and partners have contributed generously to make Christ known to the poor and vulnerable.

Much has been done, but more remains. As we strive to fulfil our role, we should not feel anxious or worried. After all, success or failure is in the hands of God. Let us trust Him and leave everything in His hands. As our beloved Mother Mary instructed the disciples of Jesus, “Do whatever he tells you.” (John 2:5). When we live in firm and humble obedience to this golden rule, we shall always succeed in our work of God.

Yours in Christ,

Most Rev William Goh, DD
Archbishop of Singapore
Patron, Caritas Singapore

“In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.”

- Archbishop William Goh
2017 has been another year blessed with encounters of faith, hope and love as the staff, volunteers and partners of our 25 Caritas member organisations share in the journeys of the 50,000 clients we work with.

A Year in Reflection
It is Caritas’ vision to be the visible sign of God’s love for humanity. I am heartened to witness this vision being made real and would like to share a few highlights in 2017.

God’s love for the elderly especially the elderly poor radiates the new St Joseph’s Home (SJH) that was re-built by the Catholic Welfare Services. And, on Dec 1, 2017, a “light shone brightly” on the new building of Assisi Hospice on its official opening.

The Catholic Business Network organised two Community Employability Day job fairs that resulted in 61 persons getting a job.

The Caritas Roundtable V continues to be a platform for dialogue and collaboration among stakeholders in the social sector. This year, we had an enriching discussion on mental health issues, including an intimate sharing by a person with mental illness.

Every week, about 200 senior citizens are at Agape Village, in Toa Payoh, to participate in the “Share-A-Pot” programme, IT classes or “YAH (Young-at-Heart)” talks.

In her first week in office, Singapore’s first woman President, Madam Halimah Yacob, visited Agape Village. Madam President is herself sensitive and empathetic to the needs of the community and she engaged with the Caritas and member organisations’ staff, volunteers and clients and affirmed the impact of the work we do.

2017 has been a challenging year for many but with the support of our generous benefactors, Caritas raised $8.6m enabling us to continue serving the poor and disadvantaged.

Moving Ahead
In the coming year, we are commissioning a research to study the needs of the under-served in our midst. We look forward to our biennial Social Mission Conference to be held on 21 July 2018.

We continue to provide enriching volunteering experiences for our volunteers as well as supporting our member organisations with a smarter volunteer management system. We will also actively engage Catholic communities in parishes to increase awareness of the needs of our society and every Catholic’s mission to live out the Catholic Social Teaching (CST) of the Church.

With Thanksgiving
It is with a grateful heart that we close 2017. On behalf of the board and trustees, I would like to thank all staff and volunteers for their commitment and dedication to our Caritas mission and vision, and in living out the principles and values of CST.

I sincerely appreciate the generous donations, big and small, by individuals and corporations – may you be blessed richly for sharing what you have with the poor. And I am grateful to our partners and clients for giving Caritas the opportunity to share in your journey.

I ask for your continued prayers and support for all of us at Caritas Singapore that we work with faith, hope and love, to partner the poor out of their “poverty” by re-discovering their own greatness.

May God’s Peace be with you.

Yours in Christ,

Janet Ang
Chairman
Caritas Singapore

“Go and live among the poor in spirit and they will heal you.”
– Henri Nouwen (Reflections on Christian Leadership)
Board of Directors

Chairman:
Janet Ang
wef January 2015
serving since 2013
Member, Board of the Agape Fund Trustees
Chairman, Executive Committee
Chairman, Nominations Committee
Vice President, Industry Solutions & Smarter Cities,
IBM Asia Pacific

Benedict Cheong
serving since 2013
Chairman, Audit Committee
CE, Temasek Foundation International

Jane Foo
serving since 2011
Chairman, Volunteer Resources Committee
Member, Advocacy and Research Committee
Director, Compliance and Ethics, American Express International Inc

Rev Monsignor Ambrose Vaz
serving since 2013
Member, Executive Committee
Member, Nominations Committee
Vicar General (Pastoral), Catholic Archdiocese of Singapore

Friar John-Paul Tan, OFM
serving since 2011
Chairman, Parish Engagement Committee
Member, Executive Committee
Member, Nominations Committee
Chancellor, Catholic Archdiocese of Singapore

Rev Fr Christopher Soh, SJ
serving since 2014
Spiritual Director, Young Adults Committee
Member, Formation Committee
Regional Superior, Region of Malaysia-Singapore, Society of Jesus

Sr Maria Lau, IJS
serving since 2011
Chairman, Formation Committee
Provincial, Infant Jesus Sisters, Singapore

Alan Lim
serving since 2017
Chairman, Communications Committee
Member, Fundraising Committee
Head, IBM Blockchain & Cloud Garage, ASEAN
Board of Directors

Deputy Chairman:
Anthony Soo
wef January 2015
serving since 2011
Vice Chairman, Formation Committee
Member, Executive Committee Member, Nominations Committee
Member, Volunteer Resources Committee
President, Catholic AIDS Response Effort

members

Tan Cheng Han
serving since 2013
Member, Communications Committee
Professor and Chairman, NUS
EW Barker Centre for Law and Business

Sabina Soh
serving since 2015
Chairman, Membership Committee
Member, Volunteer Resources Committee
Consultant, Wee, Tay & Lim, LLP

Teo Jin Lee
serving since 2015
Chairman, Agape Village Management Committee
Managing Director, ODE Consulting

Joachim Toh
serving since 2015
Chairman, Finance and Grants Committee
Member, Agape Village Management Committee
Chief Operations Officer, NUS

Jeremy Khoo
serving since 2015
Chairman, Advocacy and Research Committee
Manager, Communications & Community Engagement, Alzheimer’s Disease Association

Paul Beh
serving since 2017
Chairman, Fundraising Committee
Member, Agape Village Management Committee
President, Asia Pacific Reed Exhibition

Mark Tang
serving since 2017
Chairman, Young Adults Committee
Member, Membership Committee
Product Manager, M-DAQ Pte Ltd

Pius Lee
serving since 2017
Vice-Chairman, Young Adults Committee
Member, Agape Village Management Committee
Member, Parish Engagement Committee
Research Engineer, SMU
Board of Trustees of The Agape Fund

Chairman:
Frank Wong
wef January 2013
serving since 2007
Vice Chairman, Asia Philanthropic Ventures Pte Ltd

members

Janet Ang
serving since 2015
Vice President, Industry Solutions & Smarter Cities, IBM Asia Pacific

Rev Deacon
Clement Chen
serving since 2015
Permanent Deacon, Catholic Archdiocese of Singapore

Willie Cheng
serving since 2006
Chairman, Singapore Institute of Directors

Dr Lim Cheok Peng
serving since 2007
Chairman, Ophir Ventures Sdn Bhd

Jane Foo
serving since 2011
Director, Compliance and Ethics, American Express International Inc

Laurence Lien
serving since 2015
Chairman, Lien Foundation

George Lim
serving since 2006
Senior Counsel and Mediator, Consultant, Wee, Tay & Lim LLP

Ng Kok Song
serving since 2013
Chairman, Avanda Investment Management Pte Ltd

Christina Ong
serving since 2015
Chairman, National Parks Board
Board Infrastructural Committees

Audit Committee
Chairman
Benedict Cheong
Members
Yvonne Chu (until 17 May 2017)
Elizabeth Sulistio
Francis Wan

Finance and Grants Committee
Chairman
Joachim Toh
Members
Thomas Goh
Edwin Lee
Juliana Ng
Thomas Teo
Belinda Young
Paul Teo
Agnes Liew (from 25 Jul 2017)

Nominations Committee
Chairman
Janet Ang
Members
Rev Monsignor Ambrose Vaz
Friar John-Paul Tan, OFM
Anthony Soo

Executive Committee
Chairman
Janet Ang
Members
Rev Monsignor Ambrose Vaz
Friar John-Paul Tan, OFM
Anthony Soo

Board Programme Committees

Agape Village Management Committee
Chairman Teo Jin Lee
Members
Ong Hoon Meng
Theodore Chan
Joachim Toh
Alan Lim (until 9 March 2017)
George Lim
Irene Loi
Mark Wettasinghe
Jason Rodrigo (from 2 Feb 2017)
Paul Beh (from 9 March 2017)
Pius Lee (from 9 March 2017)
Paul Long* (from 25 April 2017)
Esther Chia* (from 18 May 2017)
Gordon Pinto (General Manager)
Chaplain Sr. Elizabeth Lim, RGS

Advocacy and Research Committee
Chairman Jeremy Khoo
Members
Jane Foo
Roland Yeow
Fred Cordeiro
Esther Chia
Jeremy Yeo (from 1 July 2017)

Formation Committee
Chairman Sr Maria Lau, IJS
Vice Chairman Anthony Soo
Members
Rev Fr Christopher Soh, SJ
Rev Fr David Garcia, OP
Fang Swee Im
Goh Han Serm
Stephanie Ng
Francis Tay
Nicholas Chee (from July 2017)

Organisational Development Partner Network
Winifred Loh
Leonard Lee
Yvonne Low
Denise Pang

Fundraising Committee
Chairman Paul Beh
Members
Michael Seow
Kris Sidharta
Adrian Tan
Theresa Foo
Perita Tiro
Alan Lim (from 24 April 2017)

Membership Committee
Chairman Sabina Soh
Members
Cheong Cheng Guan
Patrick Chua
Sherlyn Khong
Leong See Yee
Jennifer Lim
Francis Mane
Damien Ooi
Mark Tang

Parish Engagement Committee
Chairman Friar John-Paul Tan, OFM
Members
Gabriel Fok
Jean Zee
Merissa Goh
Pius Lee

Volunteer Resources Committee
Chairman Jane Foo
Members
Michelle Lee
Sabina Soh
Anthony Soo
Michael Charles Loh

Young Adults Committee
Chairman Mark Tang
Vice Chairman Pius Lee
Spiritual Director
Rev Fr Christopher Soh, SJ
Members
Michelle Lee
Hannah Lee
Bernadette Sandra
Alina Chia
Celeste Wee
Charmaine Liu

IT Committee
Chairman Ong Hoon Meng
Members
Samantha Fok
Philip Yeap
Steven Tan
Wang Wei Lung (from May 2017)

* (co-opted member)
Caritas Internationalis is a confederation of over 160 member organisations spread over seven regions across the globe.

Caritas Internationalis is made up of seven regions. Members of each region work together on common issues, strengthening each other and contributing to global action. They are Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, the Middle East and North Africa (MONA), North America, and Oceania.

Every four years, representatives from Caritas member organisations worldwide meet in the Vatican City to review the work carried out and approve a strategic framework and a budget. The most recent gathering of the General Assembly was in May 2011.

The current President Cardinal Luis Tagle (in picture below) is the global representative of Caritas Internationalis.

Caritas works in rich countries and not so well-off ones, in the Northern hemisphere and the global South. Caritas considers integral human development as the guiding principle for longer term projects, and responds efficiently and effectively to sudden onset emergencies as well.

Due to its vast grassroots network, Caritas is often the first on the scene to help, and stays on after other humanitarian agencies have left.

The Caritas internal communications platform, BAOBAB, is a useful resource that helps Caritas members around the world communicate better with each other in service of the poor.

The latest version of BAOBAB comes with enhanced usability and features. It also offers options for easier uploading of stories, galleries (images here are from BAOBAB), reports and also improved working group coordination, chats and calendars.

In 2017, Pope Francis launched Caritas Internationalis’ Share the Journey campaign from St Peter’s Square, Vatican City. The aim of the 2-year global campaign is to promote a ‘culture of encounter’ by increasing the spaces and opportunities for migrants and the local community to meet and engage.

In Singapore, our key 2017 partner on the campaign was ACMI.

Through the campaign, we brought greater awareness of their programmes such as the Migrant Sunday Mass, Skills Training and Language Courses at Agape Village, and their signature Bread Basket programme that reaches out to migrant workers.

www.caritas.org
Caritas Asia is one of the seven Regional Offices under the Confederation of Caritas Internationalis (CI).

The mission of Caritas Asia is to lead and build the capacities of Caritas organisations in Asia to address a range of programmatic issues from emergencies to advocacy for the most vulnerable communities. To do this, Caritas Asia hosted numerous workshops and training sessions led by Caritas Internationalis in Thailand.

In 2017, Caritas Asia elected Bishop Isao Kikuchi of Niigata, Japan, as its new president.

Caritas Asia is the umbrella to 24 Member Organisations. There are four Caritas Asia sub-regions; Central, East, South and Southeast Asia.

Caritas Singapore is in the SEA group together with the Caritas teams from Cambodia, Indonesia (Karina KWI), Myanmar (KMSS), Malaysia, Philippines (NASSA), Thailand, Timor-Leste, and Vietnam.

In 2017, Caritas Singapore participated in the following training sessions and workshops hosted by Caritas Asia.

1. Asia Regional Strategic Plan
2. Asia Regional Advocacy training and Planning workshop
3. Asia Regional Baobab II and Communication Training

www.caritas.asia
The Caritas Singapore Board on a Mission ‘to lead as Jesus did’

Growing as a community of faith leaders, 2017 saw the Caritas Singapore Board members at two significant formation and capacity-building events.

The Spiritual Formation Retreat was conducted by Sr Linda Lizada (Cenacle Sisters) in March 2017. Themed ‘To Lead as Jesus Did’, Sr Linda led the Board into a spiritual encounter of Jesus as a companion leader.

During the retreat, the Board reflected on how they have allowed Jesus to stand close to them and how they have walked with Him through their life’s joys and sorrows, and in their leadership roles and tasks.

Activities and sharing helped the Board to deepen their relationship and friendship with Jesus and with each other.

As a community of Board members, they also reflected on how to lead as Jesus did in the light of their responsibilities in the mission, vision, and strategic objectives and direction of Caritas Singapore.

The retreat ended with a time of offering of their talents, desires and wishes as they look forward to continuing the mission of Christ in the world and to grow the social mission of the Church in Singapore.

At the capacity building workshop, the Board embarked on their first pulse check survey to measure, improve and enhance their effectiveness as a board. They partnered Centre for Non-Profit Leadership (CNPL) by utilising the CNPL Pulse Check Effectiveness diagnostic tool.

The Board completed an assessment tool prior to the workshop on 19 August 2017. The day started with praise and thanksgiving for all the blessings and achievements. Facilitators from CNPL and Caritas Organisational Development subcommittee shared the survey findings and led the Board into an identification of needs and areas for improvement.

Focus Areas for Action

1. Rules of engagement as a Board
2. Development of the Board leadership style
3. Building better relationship and engagement with member organisations

The result was enhanced clarity and alignment in the different areas of work to better balance empowerment with governance and accountability.

Capacity building and growing in effectiveness as a board continues with discussions and the implementation of action points the rest of the year.
Agape Village

We see you

Mdm Lee*, 50, lived in a 2-room HDB flat with her husband and six children. Her husband had a history of substance abuse and domestic violence. Mr Lee worked odd jobs as he was on long-term medical leave due to a chronic health condition.

Although Mdm Lee held several odd jobs, she barely earned $1,000 a month, certainly not enough for necessities such as food, clothing and medical care for her family.

In early 2017, Mdm Lee was referred to Agape Village after a particularly bad domestic abuse incident. A case worker from Catholic Welfare Services (CWS) was assigned to Mdm Lee. Despite advice from the social worker, she refused to file a Personal Protection Order. Her case was also reviewed with other member organisations, and a care plan was developed.

Catholic Welfare Services
Regular meetings with a dedicated social worker helped to improve Mdm Lee’s parenting and communication skills. This helped her manage her emotions and improve her relationship with her children. Mdm Lee was given interim financial assistance. She received necessary food rations. CWS appealed successfully to external agencies to reduce Mdm Lee’s outstanding housing and utility bills.

Society of St Vincent de Paul
Mdm Lee has a friend, a listening ear in the way of befriending service. She is also receiving medium to long-term financial assistance.

Mt Alvernia Hospital
The outreach clinics at Agape Village offered Mdm Lee and her family subsidised rates for the basic medical and dental needs, as well as health screening.

Now, Mdm Lee is in a better place; both mind and spirit. There is more to do in partnering with her, but she has come a long way by taking that first step into Agape Village.

*Some details have been changed to protect the identity of the client
Bishan-Toa Payoh Partners Networking Sessions

Since April 2016, Caritas Singapore has been collaborating with National Health Group, Care Corner and TOUCH Community Services on the Bishan-Toa Payoh Partners Networking Sessions.

The quarterly sessions see professionals from the social service and medical sectors around the Bishan-Toa Payoh region networking, building skills, knowledge and expertise, and collaborating to serve clients better. The sessions also feature talks and sharing by speakers from different Healthcare and Social Service organisations. The Share-A-Pot @ Agape Village is an experiential learning programme, providing participants of the network a good insight into its effectiveness, and encourages fellow organisations to explore implementing the programme as well.

ED of Clarity Singapore Fred Cordeiro shared in a session on their counselling services, group psychotherapy services, mental wellness workshops and maintenance groups. He also highlighted their referral process, public talks and collaborations with the community.

In another session, Sr Sylvia Ng, FMM, from the Archdiocesan Commission for the Pastoral Care of Migrants and Itinerant People (ACMI), touched on the cases of abuse which came through ACMI. Her sharing provided deep insights and learning points for participants.

An average of 79 participants from 24 organisations attended each session.

Tuition Programme for Ex-Inmates

In collaboration with Catholic Welfare Services, a tuition programme was initiated for ex-inmates taking their ‘A’ Level Examinations upon their release.

Held at Agape Village, volunteer tutors offered to tutor subjects such as General Paper, Principles of Accounting and Management of Business.
Since 15 June 2016, Agape Village has collaborated with National Health Group (NHG) to hold Share-A-Pot @ Agape Village, a community-based project aimed to build bones, brawn and brain, through broth, for community dwelling seniors and to transform neighbourhoods into communities.

The weekly Wednesday sessions reach out to over 100 seniors, who meet old friends and make new friends over a nutritious bowl of soup and also during the exercise sessions. At the sessions, their health status is assessed, monitored and reported to NHG for further studies.

As of 25 October 2017, 300 seniors have participated in the programme over six cycles (each cycle has 10-12 sessions).

The sessions are run by a professional fitness instructor and over 60 volunteers.

The programme has received overwhelming response and the continuous improvement of seniors’ well-being remains the main motivation for the team.

Anna (left) pulled a tendon in her leg three years ago while doing chores at home. She was subsequently hospitalised and had problems with climbing stairs. After attending Share-A-Pot @ Agape Village, she is nimbler and climbing stairs is much easier now. At her latest medical check-up, Anna’s doctor assessed that Anna only needs a yearly review. Almost 40 friends and neighbours are attending Share-A-Pot thanks to Anna’s recommendations.

Stella had pulled a shoulder muscle while carrying a heavy bucket of water. She was unable to lift her arm, making simple tasks like turning off a switch painful. She suffered from pain in her legs as well. This resulted in diminished appetite and many sleepless nights. Stella started slowly at Share-A-Pot @ Agape Village, and by the end of six months, the pain in her shoulder and legs significantly reduced, thus making her effectively mobile. She could even keep up with the fitness instructor! Now, Stella continues to exercise at home with her aged mother.

Caritas Singapore plans to embark on an outreach programme to residents in 14 HDB blocks in Toa Payoh in collaboration with member organisations and community partners.

The outreach programme aims to raise awareness of services, programmes and activities at Agape Village.
Agape Village

32,639 Visitors
403 households served
295 registered participants
5 completed cycles
60 volunteers
316 participants

Montfort Care - Big Love
310 child protection cases served

Mt Alvernia Hospital Outreach Clinic
Medical
591 patients
Dental
494 patients

ACMI
1,491 enrolled beneficiaries who attended classes at AV

Family Life Society
Counselling and para-counselling cases
82

Catholic Lawyers Guild
138 clients served at pro bono legal clinic

Clarity
160 clients served over 615 hrs of counselling

Pregnancy Crisis Service Data
Hotline calls
275 served
Cases (Face to Face)
34
Babies saved (AV)
17

Community and employability fairs
Jobseekers
515
Shortlisted for interview
247
Offered jobs
61

Rehabilitation centre
60 clients

Respite centre
61 Family Caregivers and 49 Care Recipients

ABLE

Boys’ Town (YouthReach)
New youth reached
63
Youths under regular follow-up
18
Caritas Singapore was honoured to receive Mdm Halimah Yacob, President of Singapore, at Agape Village on the morning of 22 September 2017.

During her visit, President Halimah interacted with over 100 committee members, staff and volunteers from Caritas Singapore’s 25 member organisations and other partner organisations.

President Halimah was greeted warmly in each of the various training rooms and centres used by the member organisations. Here President Halimah got a glimpse of the impact of work done every day to reach out to clients and to serve the community.

Before she left, President Halimah shared on the added value of having a one-stop centre such as Agape Village, where persons in need can be supported without having to go to so many places for services – an affirmation and encouragement to the Caritas family!

President Halimah with the Caritas Singapore family
## Financial Highlights

### Financials

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>FY 2017 ($)</th>
<th>FY 2016 ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Donations and Fees</td>
<td>8,268,190</td>
<td>9,104,746</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government Care &amp; Share Matching Grant</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2,000,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sponsorships</td>
<td>361,591</td>
<td>173,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>756,731</td>
<td>574,222</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Income (Incoming Resources)</strong></td>
<td><strong>9,386,512</strong></td>
<td><strong>11,852,768</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Costs of Charitable Activities</td>
<td>8,852,253</td>
<td>7,185,593</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising and Sponsorship Costs</td>
<td>308,030</td>
<td>261,754</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Governance Costs</td>
<td>254,907</td>
<td>181,682</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenditure (Resources Expended)</strong></td>
<td><strong>9,415,190</strong></td>
<td><strong>7,629,029</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Income (Incoming Resources)</strong></td>
<td><strong>(28,678)</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,223,739</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Ratios

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>FY 2017 (%)</th>
<th>FY 2016 (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising Ratio(^1)</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
<td>2.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Fundraising and Sponsorship Costs</td>
<td>308,030</td>
<td>261,754</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Total Funds Raised (Donations and Sponsorships)</td>
<td>8,629,781</td>
<td>11,278,546</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programme Ratio(^2)</td>
<td>94%</td>
<td>94%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Expenses spent on charitable programmes (including grants)</td>
<td>8,852,253</td>
<td>7,185,593</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Total Expenditure</td>
<td>9,415,190</td>
<td>7,629,029</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reserves Ratio(^3)</td>
<td>2.19 years</td>
<td>2.71 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Reserves</td>
<td>19,915,665</td>
<td>19,944,343</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agape Village Building Fund(^4)</td>
<td>15,056,083</td>
<td>15,627,494</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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3. Measures number of years of reserve. Computed based on the formula: Reserves ÷ Total Expenditure (excluding Fundraising and Sponsorship Costs).
4. This is donations raised for the construction of Agape Village. As the building construction have just been completed, these funds will be transferred to a sinking fund for the purpose of maintenance and operational costs of Agape Village going forward.
Funds raised by Caritas Singapore are disbursed through a formal grant making process that covers stages of early engagement, application, evaluation, approval, agreement, disbursement, and monitoring.

### 2017 Grants Disbursement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organisation</th>
<th>Amount ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Abilities Beyond Limitations and Expectations (ABLE)</td>
<td>570,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archdiocesan Commission for the Pastoral Care of Migrants &amp; Itinerant People (ACMI)</td>
<td>520,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assisi Hospice</td>
<td>10,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Boys’ Town Singapore</td>
<td>950,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canossaville Children’s Home</td>
<td>10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canossaville Children &amp; Community Services</td>
<td>142,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catholic Aids Response Effort</td>
<td>300,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caritas Humanitarian Aid &amp; Relief Initiatives Singapore (CHARIS)</td>
<td>280,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clarity Singapore</td>
<td>200,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catholic Welfare Services</td>
<td>397,782</td>
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<tr>
<td>Family Life Society</td>
<td>740,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infant Jesus Homes &amp; Children’s Centres</td>
<td>411,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mamre Oaks</td>
<td>300,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montfort Care</td>
<td>570,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morning Star Community Services</td>
<td>742,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roman Catholic Prison Ministry</td>
<td>200,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parish Charitable Works</td>
<td>217,292</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>6,560,674</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Parish Engagement

The Parish Engagement committee works to engage, collaborate and support parish groups to live their social mission by reaching out to the vulnerable in our society.

Agape Experience (AE) is a one-day programme opened to youths in all parishes who will be receiving the sacrament of Confirmation. Through AE, confirmands learn about Caritas Singapore and social mission work. AE also serves as a meaningful collaboration for Caritas Singapore with parishes.

Held on Saturdays, AE consists of:

- Welcome through praise and worship
- Ice-breaker
- An introduction to the history of the Catholic Church in Singapore
- A skit for confirmands to step into another person’s shoes
- Introduction and awareness of Catholic Social Teaching
- Introduction to ‘Care for Creation’ or ‘Laudato Si’
- Awareness of the work done by Caritas Singapore and our member organisations, and the work at Agape Village
- Reflection and paraliturgy

With more volunteers coming on board to serve, the Parish Engagement team hopes to increase the pool of young Catholics who are ready to be servant leaders.

Formation

The Formation committee promotes awareness of Catholic Social Teaching (CST) and its application in daily living as Christ’s disciples.

Workshops

Staff and MOs

1. Induction exercise for new staff in Caritas Singapore and our member organisations as an introduction to Caritas, and to inculcate Caritas’ principles of service derived from CST
2. Discipleship Retreat involves faith formation of staff and volunteers by Msgr Ambrose Vaz. Participants are led into a deeper reflection on the biblical aspects of discipleship.

Community

1. Catholic Social Teaching workshops for individuals interested in CST and its application in daily life
2. Living Our Faith in Community workshops for small Catholic communities to integrate life and faith, introduce CST and its application in their lives
3. Personal Moral Compass is a 42-week course (six modules) exploring topics on morality such as ethics of sex, bioethics, and social justice
4. Building the Kingdom Together is a flagship CST programme for the formation of leaders and staff. This year, leadership teams from other Catholic organisations also participated.
Advocacy and Research

The Advocacy and Research committee continues its mission to give voice to the vulnerable through

- increased outreach on social media;
- further research into issues faced by the underprivileged; and
- organising Caritas RoundTable V on mental illness with Clarity Singapore.

1. Daily posts on the Singaporeans Against Poverty (SGAP) Facebook page features both local and overseas stories of individuals and families living in poverty, as well as heartwarming initiatives by society to help those in need.

   Results show an eight times increase in reach from July to September 2017 as compared to the same period in 2016.

2. The ‘Lenten $5 Challenge’ campaign was launched with Catholic student associations in tertiary institutions to encourage them to fast and use the $5 saved to buy a meal for an underprivileged person. The $5 campaign was featured in the January 2018 edition of Social Space – a publication of Lien Centre for Social Innovation.

3. A researcher has been commissioned to conduct the Caritas Research Study. Officially starting in 2018, the research aims to understand the work of our member organisations and to elucidate under-served needs in the social sector.

   The Caritas RoundTable V on 11 November 2017 drew 70 participants together to discuss issues faced by people recovering from mental health issues.

   The infographic below provides a visual overview of various vulnerable groups in Singapore. The committee will continue to advocate with and on behalf of these vulnerable groups, particularly those who are under-served in our society.

Vulnerable Groups in Singapore (as of 11 December 2017)

- 1,39 million migrant workers
- 651,300 people with disabilities
- 9,660 students with disabilities
- 135,360 people with mental illness
- 4,000 had salary disputes
- 1,411 stateless people
- 82,000 single-parent families
- 4,834 children of divorce
- 41,000 persons aged 65 and above live alone
- 11,229 incarcerated
- 3,120 youths arrested in 2015
- 7,548 living with HIV

The Membership committee organises regular events, retreats, and formation workshops for the 25 member organisations to dialogue, build stronger ties and to collaborate on key work areas.

Relationship Managers also meet regularly to network and participate in the key events of the member organisations.

1. Three Leaders’ Council Meetings (November 2016, April 2017, and September 2017) looking at
   • research objectives and data
   • social mission in Singapore and CST efforts in dialogue with Archbishop William Goh
   • various aspects of volunteer management,
   • update on the Board Pulse Check

2. Staff appreciation lunch (February 2017) to affirm good work, and to promote networking and community spirit

3. Collaboration with the Formation team to identify, develop and provide staff and leaders with formation programmes, e.g. Building the Kingdom Together workshops

The Fundraising committee works to raise a common pool of funds to support the charitable work undertaken by Caritas Singapore and our member organisations in service of the needy.

1. Down Memory Lane 6 Charity Dinner brought together member organisations, partners, sponsors and beneficiaries for an evening of Faith, Hope and Love. The evening’s event raised $358,000.

2. From 1 October 2016 to 30 September 2017, $937,949 was raised through Caritas Singapore’s main online donation portal, giving.sg.

3. Each Lent, Caritas Singapore collects donations through Charities Week. These donations will go towards enabling the work of our member organisations to help the poor and marginalised under their care.

This year, the money supported ABLE, ACM, Boys’ Town, Canossaville Children and Community Services, CARE, Catholic Welfare Services, CHARIS, Clarity Singapore, Family Life Services, Infant Jesus Homes and Children’s Centre, Mamre Oaks, Montfort Care, Morning Star and the RC Prison Ministry (see MO listings on pages 29-31).
## Fundraising Programmes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programme</th>
<th>Collections $</th>
<th>Direct Costs $</th>
<th>Indirect Costs $</th>
<th>Total Fundraising Costs $</th>
<th>Fundraising Ratio %</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Charities Week 2017</td>
<td>6,071,296</td>
<td>27,246</td>
<td>86,443</td>
<td>113,689</td>
<td>1.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sustained Giving (GiRO)</td>
<td>555,632</td>
<td>1,330</td>
<td>7,911</td>
<td>9,241</td>
<td>1.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>2,002,853</td>
<td>14,027</td>
<td>28,517</td>
<td>42,544</td>
<td>2.1</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>8,629,781</strong></td>
<td><strong>42,603</strong></td>
<td><strong>122,871</strong></td>
<td><strong>165,474</strong></td>
<td><strong>1.9</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Funds raised during Charities Week 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Parish</th>
<th>2017 $</th>
<th>2016 $</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>City</td>
<td>Cathedral of the Good Shepherd</td>
<td>1,112</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>St Joseph’s Church (Victoria Street)</td>
<td>261,131</td>
<td>261,219</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Church of Sts. Peter &amp; Paul</td>
<td>34,061</td>
<td>25,585</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Church of Our Lady of Lourdes</td>
<td>9,640</td>
<td>17,270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Church of the Sacred Heart</td>
<td>67,481</td>
<td>71,098</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Church of St Teresa</td>
<td>78,828</td>
<td>92,456</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Church of St Alphonsus (Novena Church)</td>
<td>3,650</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Church of St Bernadette</td>
<td>355,904</td>
<td>432,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Church of St Michael</td>
<td>58,051</td>
<td>56,090</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East</td>
<td>Church of the Holy Family</td>
<td>474,586</td>
<td>504,256</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Church of Our Lady Queen of Peace</td>
<td>132,983</td>
<td>149,899</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Church of St Stephen</td>
<td>56,490</td>
<td>71,502</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Church of Our Lady of Perpetual Succour</td>
<td>391,229</td>
<td>324,218</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Church of the Holy Trinity</td>
<td>67,591</td>
<td>119,367</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Church of the Divine Mercy</td>
<td>96,150</td>
<td>124,210</td>
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<tr>
<td>West</td>
<td>Church of St Ignatius</td>
<td>768,983</td>
<td>792,075</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Blessed Sacrament Church</td>
<td>105,187</td>
<td>69,322</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Church of St Mary of the Angels</td>
<td>132,249</td>
<td>95,662</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Church of St Francis of Assisi</td>
<td>48,435</td>
<td>36,481</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Church of the Holy Cross</td>
<td>579,268</td>
<td>685,442</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North</td>
<td>Church of St Joseph (Bukit Timah)</td>
<td>120,467</td>
<td>99,312</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Church of St Anthony</td>
<td>17,486</td>
<td>18,615</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Church of the Holy Spirit</td>
<td>367,682</td>
<td>287,995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Church of the Risen Christ</td>
<td>126,240</td>
<td>127,263</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Church of Our Lady Star of the Sea</td>
<td>42,052</td>
<td>58,280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Church of Christ the King</td>
<td>150,815</td>
<td>160,919</td>
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<tr>
<td>Serangoon</td>
<td>Church of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary</td>
<td>186,792</td>
<td>89,883</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Church of the Immaculate Heart of Mary</td>
<td>154,519</td>
<td>196,706</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Church of St Francis Xavier</td>
<td>277,986</td>
<td>243,142</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>St Anne’s Church</td>
<td>134,481</td>
<td>92,606</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Church of St Vincent de Paul</td>
<td>104,965</td>
<td>134,389</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Church of the Transfiguration</td>
<td>5,500</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>Schools</td>
<td>73,883</td>
<td>69,141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Business and other Donors</td>
<td>585,420</td>
<td>322,928</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>GRAND TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>6,071,296</strong></td>
<td><strong>5,830,231</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Volunteer Management

To better engage and manage volunteers, the Volunteer Management committee, in collaboration with the IT committee, launched the Volunteer Management System (VMS) in December 2016.

1. This initial phase saw five member organisations present at Agape Village (ABLE, ACMI, Clarity Singapore, Family Life Society and Mamre Oaks) coming on board the VMS.

   With the VMS, the shared pool of volunteers could be matched to volunteering opportunities based on preference and availability. Volunteers are also easily updated on upcoming programmes, new services, and training programmes. Web-integration of the VMS with the sign-up page on the Caritas Singapore website allows for easier capture of volunteer data and preference.

2. A Caritas Singapore Volunteer Handbook was published in August 2017. This allows member organisations to align and adopt similar practices.

3. The inaugural Volunteer Induction was conducted in September 2017 for 42 regular volunteers. They learnt more about the organisation, communities in need, and also deepened their understanding of Catholic Social Teaching.

Corporate Social Responsibility

Caritas Singapore collaborates with corporations and organisations to engage and enrich the lives of the different communities we serve.

- **22 November 2016**
  - HR Team of Experian Singapore and members of Mamre Oaks cooked lunch, baked cookies and made snowglobes. Funds raised from the sale of the snowglobes were donated to Mamre Oaks.

- **01 March 2017**
  - Regional executives from Johnson & Johnson joined residents at St Vincent Home in a Lala Workout session.

- **06 September 2017**
  - A team from Marsh Cares taught about 40 children from low-income families at Morning Star Primavera Centre to create an eco-terrarium.
The Young Adults team supports the integration of faith and social responsibility among Catholic young adults (ages 18 - 35 years) through the activities in 2017.

Our Work

Caritas Singapore and our member organisations strive to partner the marginalised and serve all who knock on our door.

The following pages highlight some heartwarming stories that show the impact of the work done by Caritas Singapore and our member organisations as we journey with our beneficiaries and clients from all walks of life.

We also pay tribute to our remarkable volunteers, some who have been with Caritas Singapore from the very beginning.
Students (from left) Chin Zi Rou, Tan Xiou Lin, Fatimah Nazeefa and Lim Xiao Xuan from Canossaville Children & Community Services (Canossaville) Student Care programme, were disappointed to learn that some of their friends would not be able to join in a planned visit to an old folks' home as it could not accommodate too large a group. This was especially so for one of the young ladies who had just lost her grandfather.

Undeterred, these resourceful young ladies aged 10 to 11 years, set about planning their own visit. Calling upon their experience from previous visits to nursing homes, they created a visit plan and set their sights on St Theresa’s Home. With guidance and encouragement from their teacher, they prepared a detailed proposal which was then presented to Canossaville’s management. Next, the young ladies had to identify and sell their project to a sponsor. Their plan found traction with Vistra Singapore, who came on board as a corporate sponsor.

Ms Valentina Chemodanova, Relationship Manager (Corporate & Private Clients) of Vistra Singapore said, “We were extremely impressed with the girls’ enthusiasm and how well organised they were from the presentation of the project, preparation of the materials for the event, and the visit to St Theresa’s Home itself. It was a great pleasure to support the kids in this project and we look forward to sharing many more activities with them.”

With logistics and budget in place, they started their preparations. The young ladies organised 40 students into small groups and ensured that all were familiar about their roles to make the visit to St Teresa’s Home a success.

Not surprisingly, everything ran smoothly on the day of the visit. The students mingled and chatted with the elderly, and helped them design and construct paper lanterns for the upcoming mid-autumn festival. They also joined the residents for refreshments.

Ms Amy Yuen, Communications Manager from Canossaville shared, “You could see they have put themselves in the shoes of the elderly whom they were visiting. I am happy that the girls have in them, the values shared with them through our Formation of the Heart programme.”

The young ladies are grateful to the people who supported and guided them to make this project a success – friends Katie, Irliya, Rachel and Joann who played a major part in the initial plans.

They also credited Vistra Singapore for their sponsorship and joining in as volunteers, teachers and staff of Canossaville Sr Marilyn Lim, teacher Ms Mang, Aunts Veron and Amy, Uncle Raymond, and St Theresa’s Home.

Canossaville offers preschool and student care centre that caters to mainstream, and children with mild to moderate special needs.
As a child, William had anger and relationship issues and was unable to focus. He was seven and among the first batch of students to attend Morning Star Community Services' student care centre in Hougang.

“My dad passed on early and my mum raised my sister and I singlehandedly. I spent all my allowance without care, not realising how hard my mother worked to support us.”

William admits that he often took things too seriously and got angry when other children made fun of him. They began to alienate him, and in turn, this made him wary of interacting with other children. He would often get into quarrels with his sister as well as children and facilitators at the care centre.

William was referred to the NOVA Learning Intervention Programme. At first, this little angry boy resisted the care, counselling and coaching of the facilitators, and was often rude and harsh with them.

The turning point came when William realised that despite his bad attitude, “the NOVA facilitators gave me lots of love that was undeserved and unearned. When we misbehaved, they corrected us and we had to face the consequences.”

By the time he was 12, William had turned around. He began to save his money and would even share his savings with his mother when the need arose. He is grateful to his mother for her unconditional love and is also thankful to his sister who cared for him.

With his counsellors’ support, William realised he could become a successful, joyful and caring person. They also helped his mother understand her children and manage conflicts at home. William credits his mother for being a good role model and aims to be the same for his children in future.

Now 25, William graduated in 2016 from Temasek Polytechnic with a Diploma in Mobile & Network Services and is currently serving his National Service. This one-time angry boy now advises others on their anger management issues, “Without the NOVA Programme, I would not have become what I am today and able to share these lessons with friends who need it.”

To sum up his journey, William quoted a Chinese saying, “If people have served you, you must return the good deed.” He is now paying it forward and volunteers with the Morning Star centre by helping children with their school work and sharing his experience as a beneficiary of Morning Star. He encourages the children to persevere and continue working towards achieving their life goals.

Morning Star Community Services aims to enrich and strengthen family relationships through upstream, preventive and early intervention family programmes, workshops and counselling.
The Warrior

A strong fighting spirit helped Stephanie rise above her adversities instead of admitting defeat.

A single lady in her early 60’s, Stephanie was an accounts assistant who enjoyed her independence. When she woke one Sunday to go to church, Stephanie was unable to move her limbs or stand. She was taken to a hospital and was eventually diagnosed to have suffered a stroke and hospitalised for a month. As a result, she was unable to bathe herself after her discharge due to weakness in her left arm and stiffness in her fingers, and could not return to work.

Stephanie’s fierce spirit of independence enabled her to be optimistic as she was determined to re-join the work force.

The staff at St Andrew’s Community Hospital told Stephanie about ABLE’s Return-to-Work (RTW) programme. Not letting this setback deter her, she sought help from ABLE and through their weekly therapy sessions, she worked to regain the strength she needed to be employable.

ABLE supported Stephanie in her recovery in various ways - providing assistance to get a motorised wheelchair, rehabilitation therapy and facilitating opportunities for her to attend job fairs and interviews.

A year and a half after her stroke, Stephanie was ready to return to work. With ABLE’s referral, she found a job as an accounting assistant with ABLE SEAS, a social enterprise funded by ABLE, which provides accounting services for charities.

Stephanie is grateful that she is again contributing to society. She shared some significant moments from this journey, “I believe that God was with me through this whole experience. He reminded me how precious life is, and that he wanted me to be strong and courageous in carrying my Cross. Every day is still a challenge, but now I have the resolve to face each and every day with courage. My niece calls me a warrior.”

Stephanie hopes that the public will be more sympathetic and patient towards wheelchair users within the community.

Stephanie is grateful for the support from her family and ABLE. As for her future, she intends to continue in her quest for selfimprovement and job skills upgrading. She is currently continuing with her rehabilitation and attending the LCCI certification training.

ABLE seeks to enable and empower persons with physical disabilities to live productive, meaningful and independent lives.
Cradled in God’s Love

Mabel, who is 38 years old, has suffered from epileptic fits since she was an infant. Part of her left brain was not well developed and hence the right side of her body is weaker. She depends largely on her left hand to do things, and a problem with balance makes it difficult for her to move around.

Mabel’s parents had wanted a normal life for their daughter. They worked shifts so that someone would be with her at all times. Initially Mabel was doing well in a mainstream primary school despite her slower speech. However, Mabel’s journey was one fraught with challenges.

Mabel’s first hurdle surfaced when she was unable to cope with the grind of the Primary 3 streaming examination. She was then enrolled in a Special School to allow her to develop at her own pace, and so she did. As she grew, Mabel was placed in various organisations but was unable to develop to her full potential.

Mabel was eventually enrolled in the Society for the Physically Disabled’s day activity centre. Sadly, a major upheaval happened when Mabel lost a friendship with someone in the Centre a few years later. She could not cope with the loss, and ran away from the Centre, refusing to return. She then developed separation anxiety whenever her mother left the house, making the situation at home uncomfortable. This was a really difficult time for her mother, Jenny, as her husband had suffered a stroke and was unable to move without assistance.

Fortunately, with the help of a psychiatrist, Mabel recovered from this episode after a few months. Mamre Oaks also came to her assistance, and Mabel was enrolled in 2015.

Although Mabel attended the first few sessions at the day activity centre with much trepidation, she has since grown to love the place and the people there. Now she looks forward to waking up early in the morning, taking the bus to Agape Village, and accomplishing her assigned chores at the Centre. She has proven to be skilful at cross stitching, and creates pillows and bags for sale. Mabel also enjoys the cooking and singing sessions with the Mamre Oaks members. She even helps to take care of some of the other members.

Jenny is proud of her and says that Mabel has changed over the past two years with Mamre Oaks. She is now more independent, confident and happy. She is also able to bring cheer to others around her. Jenny radiates happiness knowing that Mabel is well cared for at Mamre Oaks.

When asked to describe how she feels, Mabel cheerfully shared, “Proud!”

Mamre Oaks seeks to empower persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities lead meaningful lives with dignity through engaging activities at the day activity centre.
Her personal motivation and satisfaction is in training new volunteers while empowering them to be part of the counting team.

“At the beginning of every counting session, we pray for all the donors and volunteers. I also pray that God gives me the wisdom to ensure that everything will run smoothly. Even when we start off with insufficient volunteers, He always provides more to make a full counting team.”

Ms Frances Ng, Volunteer Coordinator at Caritas Singapore shares, “Volunteers are important partners and enablers for the work we do at Caritas Singapore and our member organisations. They bring with them gift of time, talents and love.”

It is a pleasure and privilege for Caritas Singapore to have its many volunteers and supporters.

Since Advent 2006, Michael has supported the annual Charities Week as part of the counting and collection team. Madeleine who started in the counting team, now serves as coordinator for the team.

Michael volunteers “for the love of God and His Church”. He describes his journey of service as one filled with “joy, camaraderie, and fellowship” with the people he meets from the churches and Catholic schools.

Michael’s wife, Catherine, supports him in his volunteering work. “She encourages me, and she’s my good friend and confidante.” Catherine added, “God has given us so much, and volunteering is a small way of giving back.”

Michael reminisced about the early years. “There were five or six volunteers and we would count money manually well into the wee hours. I would often pack dinner for the volunteers as they work past midnight.”

Not many of Michael’s friends are aware that he has been volunteering for the past 10 years. He said, “This work is confidential between the Lord and I. I just do it with full commitment and I enjoy it.”

Each year the counting team pitches in to help Caritas Singapore reach its fundraising target. The way Madeleine sees it, “donations, whether big or small, all help towards achieving the social mission of the Church.”

Madeleine described how everything was done manually in the early years while ensuring transparency and adherence to audit requirements. She expanded her involvement to include assignment of volunteer duties and ensuring that everything runs smoothly.

Madeleine also coordinates volunteers for other events such as Charity Golf and Social Mission Conferences.

Our Stories
Member Organisations

POOR & DESTITUTE

**Catholic Welfare Services** has been the backbone of the Church’s charity efforts since 1959. CWS runs six homes for the aged; Villa Francis Home, St Theresa’s Home, Gift of Love Home, St Joseph’s Home, St Vincent Home, and Good Shepherd Centre.

**Society of St Vincent de Paul** is a lay Catholic organisation committed to offer person-to-person help to those in need. Funded by donations and collections from churches, the core work of the members involves regular home visits and organising activities based around the love of neighbour and bringing Christ’s light to the poor.

FAMILIES, CHILDREN & YOUTH

**Boys’ Town** is a one-stop youth centre helping children and youth from disadvantaged and disengaged families who may have faced hardship resulting from difficult home situations, financial struggles, abandonment and abuse. YouthReach, an outreach programme, engages vulnerable boys and girls facing a range of issues through developmental programmes and counselling.

**Infant Jesus Homes & Children’s Centres** serves children and youth from diverse racial groups and religions. It helps them grow in motivation, maturity and confidence, to become positive, independent and responsible adults in the future.

**Canossaville Children and Community Services** offers a preschool and student care centre that cater to mainstream, and children with mild to moderate special needs, giving priority to the most needy. A Child Development Unit to meet the special needs of the children is in the plans for 2018.

**Montfort Care** runs a network of programmes committed to improving the lives of individuals, families and the community facing transitional challenges. Services offered include child protection service by its Big Love Child Protection Specialist Centre, cyber wellness programme for youth by its MeToYou Cyber Care programme, and GoodLife! and YAH! programmes to support active and frail seniors.

**Faith and Light Community** reaches out to persons with intellectual disabilities and their families through friendship and activities to help them realise that they are precious gifts from God despite their weaknesses and difficulties.

**Christian Family and Social Movement** works towards building good Christian families and assists all family members to live and fulfil their various roles in the family, workplace, community and nation.
Member Organisations

FAMILIES, CHILDREN & YOUTH

Family Life Society focuses on promoting understanding and respect for family and family life. FLS is active in pro-life, parenting and school family education, and runs a 24/7 pregnancy crisis service hotline and counselling services.

Morning Star Community Services aims to enrich and strengthen family relationships through upstream, preventive and early intervention family programmes, workshops and counselling. It also offers NOVA, a learning support programme for discouraged and under-achieving children.

Mamre Oaks’ vision and mission is to empower persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities to lead lives of meaning, dignity and fulfilment through engaging activities at its day activity centre in Agape Village.

PHYSICALLY & MENTALLY CHALLENGED

Abilities Beyond Limitations & Expectations seeks to enable and empower the physically challenged to live productive, meaningful and independent lives, and contribute to the community. ABLE also provides respite care to family caregivers to achieve self-care and empowerment. ABLE SEAS, a social enterprise was set up to provide accounting and payroll services.

Clarity Singapore Limited is a Catholic mental health charity that provides counselling services and conducts mental wellness workshops and talks.

PERSONS WITH TERMINAL ILLNESSES

Assisi Hospice is a Catholic charity providing compassionate, personalised and quality palliative care to adults and children with life-limiting illnesses through inpatient, home and day care services.

PERSONS WITH HIV/AIDS

Catholic Aids Response Effort provides care to people living with HIV/AIDS and their families. CARE provides befriending services, counselling and support through various programmes.

THE INCARCERATED

Roman Catholic Prison Ministry offers befriending and spiritual support services for prisoners and their families during incarceration as well as their after-care needs. It provides counselling and fellowship services that help promote their human and spiritual development.

MIGRANTS

Archdiocesan Commission for the Pastoral Care of Migrants & Itinerant People looks after the pastoral needs of migrants in Singapore with casework, breadbasket programme, befriender networks, skills development and integration courses.
Member Organisations

**GUILDS & OTHERS**

**Mount Alvernia Hospital** operates the Outreach Medical Clinic and the Outreach Dental Clinic at Agape Village. The two clinics provide subsidised primary medical care and dental services respectively to the wider community, especially to the poor, the vulnerable and the marginalised.

**Catholic Lawyers Guild** provides mutual support and encouragement among lawyers for the sanctification of their professional work, as well as the provision of legal assistance to the Church and persons in need.

**Catholic Medical Guild** is where Catholic doctors come together to examine social and ethical issues in the light of Church teachings, and also conduct humanitarian missions overseas together with other organisations.

**Catholic Nurses Guild** is an association of nurses promoting professional and spiritual growth of its members, participates in many Church activities to help the sick, handicapped and elderly.

**Catholic Business Network** was set up with the mission to bring together Catholic business owners, Catholic professionals and executives for the advancement of Catholic values and ethics in their work, and to serve the broader community. CBN also offers career counselling and job matching services.

**OVERSEAS MISSIONS**

**CHARIS (Caritas Humanitarian Aid & Relief Initiatives, Singapore)** coordinates the Archdiocesan response to disasters and humanitarian needs overseas.

**acts 29** is a youth organisation of the Catholic Church that evangelises through mission and dialogue.

**Jesuit Refugee Service, Singapore** is an international Catholic organisation whose mission is to accompany, serve and advocate for refugees and forcibly displaced people.
Caritas Singapore Community Council Limited (Caritas Singapore) is a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity.

**Registration No:** 200613504D (ACRA)
**Charity No UEN:** 200613504D
**Company Secretary:** Vivienne Lim

The CSCC Agape Fund is a trust with Institution of a Public Character (IPC) status and a registered charity.

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